

THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

May 17, 2015

"BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT"

PLEASANT PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST, JACKSON, TENNESSEE

It's Time for Christians to Get Radical!

"Suppose every follower of Jesus of Nazareth were as obedient to His commands as the Jihadists are to Muhammad and Allah?" This question was raised in a recent transcript by columnist Cal Thomas. It's a thought-provoking question. An intriguing question. A challenging question. Of course, Thomas was not advocating the use of violence or terrorism to advance the cause of Christ. He was speaking to the issue of commitment. Obviously, Islamic extremists are very committed to their cause. They are willing to die for their misguided beliefs as they commit Jihad in the name of Allah.

Too often Christians have the mistaken idea that commitment is about going to church every week, singing hymns, listening to a sermon and giving a token financial contribution when the plate is passed! Commitment to Christ is more than giving thanks before we eat or daily Bible reading. Commitment goes beyond listening to "religious music" in the place of secular songs. Nor is it supporting your favorite conservative candidate for a political office!

Real commitment to Christ involves a change in attitude and actions. It is developing "the mind of Christ" (**Phil 2:5**). An attitude of compassion, consecration, and courage. It's more than just saying, "Lord, Lord!" It's actually doing what the Lord requires of us (**Matt 7:21**). It's about obedience. Self-sacrifice. And personal involvement in the lives of others. It's about getting our hands dirty in service of our Savior!

While we look at Muslims who are ready to die for Allah as radicals, Jesus calls Christians to a radical faith in a world that renounces religion and repudiates spiritual values. Consider some the "radical" teachings of Christ. The sermon on the Mount (**Matthew 5-7**) has been called radical. Jesus challenges his followers to a higher standard. To do more than abstain from adultery, to refrain from lust. To do more than love our friends, to love our enemies. To bless those who curse us and to do good to those who hate us. Yes, even Jihadists who want to kill us! Jesus' timeless message confronts us where we live. He addresses our critical attitudes, our materialistic goals, and our needless worry. He even dares to point out the problem of hypocrisy in our religion. And he reminds of the danger of divided loyalty and the serious consequences of mindlessly following the majority. His teaching sounds radical when he says, *"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it."* (**Luke 9:23-24**)

We rejoice with the angels in heaven for the decision of Bobby Giles to obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ through faithful baptism this past Thursday afternoon! Let's pray for and encourage our new brother!

We are so grateful that you have made the decision to join our family, today, as we worship our Almighty God! If you have any questions or inquiries, please feel free to ask any of our members and we would be more happy to answer as best we can! Please accept our invitation to join us, again, when you have the opportunity.

And if that's not enough, Jesus confidently proclaims that His way is the only way! The right way! The way to God! To the questioning Thomas, Jesus affirmed, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."* (**John 14:6**) The truth about Jesus is extremely unpopular today in our secular society. But it is the Truth! Maybe, it's time for Christians to learn a lesson from the Jihadists and get radical. No, not in violent revolution. But in powerful faith. Passionate testimony. Persistent good works. And personal commitment to Christ.

Are you ready to get radical?

- Ken Weliever, thepreachersword.com



Speaker:

NICK ANGEL

Sunday AM Notes 5-17-2015



Some will _____ and _____.

_____ isn't fun.

Sometimes, we need to _____ on to the _____.

Some will _____ to _____ again, _____.

Some use this response simply as an _____.

Others use this response because they need to sit down and _____ the cost.

Some will _____ and _____ the _____.

Our initial obedience is not the _____ of our journey to faith.

Our obedience is the _____ of our faith.



Speaker:
NICK ANGEL
Sunday PM Notes 5-17-2015

GUARDING the Flock

_____ is always on the _____ (vv.28,29)

_____ is always looking for ways to _____ God's people.

He wants to _____ that which is in God's _____.

The _____ must _____ on _____. (vv.29-31)

The church's _____ have the primary responsibility to guard the flock.

The church shouldn't be naive and think that _____ can't come from among it's own number.

God's _____ is the _____. (v.32)

The _____ can _____ up the church.

The _____ possesses the key to our _____.

_____ for _____ must be the _____. (Rev. 2:1-5)

The church at Ephesus was commended for their ability to _____ out false teachers.

However, they were admonished for forgetting their first _____ for _____.

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Times of Worship & Bible Study

Sunday:

9:30 AM Bible Study

10:30 AM Worship Service: You can expect heart felt singing, reverent prayer, preaching from the Word of God, a focused and reverent observance of the Lord's Supper, and an opportunity for the saints of Pleasant Plains to give back to the Lord.

5:00 PM Worship Service

Wednesday:

7:00 PM Bible Study and Worship

Weekly Attendance

Last Sunday AM Worship.....99

Last Sunday PM Worship.....67

Last Wednesday Bible Study.....##

In Our Prayers

RECENT ADDITIONS/UPDATES:

-Christian Shadburn...20 yr. old Christian at Western Ky U. was recently diagnosed with a very rare and serious stage 4 cancer. Please pray for this young man, his family, and the doctors.

-Eloise Keltner (Juanita Atherton's sister)...suffered a heart attack last week, but she is recovering well.

-Stephanie Still (Becky Waddell's cousin)... has been struggling with health issues recently and is recovering from another surgery to remove even more of her leg.

-Faye Spence...recovering from sinus surgery and complications from it.

CONTINUED PRAYERS:

-Lisa Paul (Amy Gateley's sister) suffering from numerous health issues and was recently diagnosed with cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.

-Janice Williams (Becky Waddell's sister)...Hospice has been called in. Let's be praying for Becky and family during this difficult time.

-Robin Hill..... battling cancer.

-Jamie Neal and family (Nancy Phillips' friend)...Battling Melanoma.

-Ashley Pickens (Brent Holt's cousin)... Battling Cancer.

-Louise Stitt (Amy Gailey's mother) ... Battling leukemia.

-Barbara Leonard...Battling cancer and COPD.

-Pray for the work of this church. The fields are white and we need to be hard at work to spread the Gospel to as many lost souls as possible.

-Men and women making the sacrifice to protect the freedoms of this country.

If you have any updates or additions to the prayer list, please see Nick (in person, phone call, text, or email) so we can keep the bulletin up to date.

Pleasant Plains News

Upcoming Bible Studies & Events

Men's Bible Class - June 6th at 7:30AM at Panera Bread. Our subject of study is "Do Things Well." Please read chapter 6.

Teen Devo - No Devo for May. We will resume in June.

Couples Class - May 30th. Location and material TBD.

Ladies Class - June 2nd here at the building at 10:00AM. Lesson 10 will be covered.

Vacation Bible School- June 15-19. Please be making your plans to have your children here for this great event!

Area Gospel Meetings & Events

● **Gospel Meeting at the Elliott Street Church of Christ in Humboldt.** Joel Plunkett will be speaking May 24-29. Sunday at 9am, 10am, & 5pm. M-W at 7pm each night.

● **Vacation Bible School and Adult Class at the Oak Ave. Church of Christ in Dickson.** June 1-5 from 10am-11:30am

● **Vacation Bible School at the Bartlett Church of Christ.** June 1-5 from 9:30am-11:00am. The topic is Secret Sayings of Jesus.

● **Middle Tennessee Song Leader Workshop.** July 23-25 in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Registration can be done at www.songleaderworkshop.com

Daily Bible Reading For This Week: II Samuel 6-12; I Chronicles 13-20; Psalms 32, 51, 60, 89; Acts 23-27
Please make an effort to be in daily reading and meditation of God's Word! It's never too late to join your brothers and sisters of Pleasant Plains as we dive into God's Word. Read the Old Testament, Psalms, New Testament or any combination of the three and glorify God in your study and growth in 2015!