



May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Romans 15:5-6 NIV

THE BODYBUILDER

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A Passion Check-up

This last week, President Obama told the Justice Department to no longer defend the "Defense of Marriage" Act. My reasons for referring to this do not include getting us angry at our government. I do want to use this action as a springboard to remind us of five ideas.

First, we cannot depend on our culture to reveal and protect what is right and wrong. Our world – not just the United States – has lost its moral bearing. The messages coming from the press, from the government, from the entertainment industry and from our educational system, define ethics and morality much differently than the Word of God defines it.

Second, we need to connect more and more with other believers. The writer of Hebrews commands us to assemble together, exhorting one another "so much the more as you see the Day approaching" (Heb. 10:25). The downward spiral of our culture reminds us that the day is, in fact, approaching. We need one another to help us better understand God's Word and how to apply it in a world that keeps getting darker. If our culture cannot reveal and protect what is right and wrong, we desperately need to learn the truth and live with truth in the company of other believers committed to the same vision. Jesus said, John 8:31-32, "If you abide in My word... you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Third, we need to learn how to be salt and light in our world (Matt. 5:12-16). We know that Jesus and His Word will offend people (remember Jesus being called a "stumbling block"?). As our culture darkens, we need to remember that "the darker the dark, the brighter the light." The hard part for us is representing and standing for the truth. The source of stumbling is the truth itself, not the way we treat those who do not hold to the truth.

Fourth, we need to redouble our efforts within the church (the entire church, not just Burlleson Bible) and within Christian homes. We must teach our children the truth and show them through our lives how to live out the truth. Children in today's world will grow up in a different world than I did. Things that were not even thought of when I was a teenager are now topics of conversation, leaning towards the norm. By the time today's toddlers are teens, these same things will be accepted as normal and practiced in the world around us (barring a major move of God in our culture!)

And fifth, I need to remember that no matter what happens in our world, God is still sovereign. I need to pray for our politicians, I need to engage our culture with His truth, but I must remember my ultimate citizenship is not here (as much as I love the United States), but heaven.

I am convinced more than ever that we as the Christian community need to add a sense of urgency to our walk with God. I want us to develop a love and passion for God. I want us to be bright lights for His kingdom purposes in our homes and in our world. How bright is your light? How passionate is your passion? And what next steps do you need to take to be brighter and more passionate?

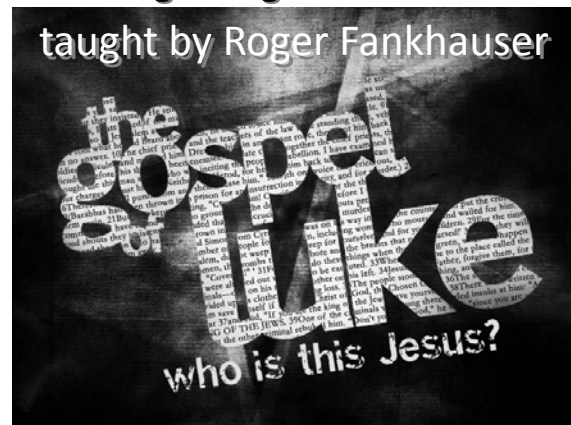
Roger

BBC Family Update

- Praise the Lord for a successful teaching ministry in India. Welcome home Charlie!
- Praise the Lord! 29 women went to the women's retreat at Pine Cove this year.
- Pray for a quick and complete recovery for Ashton Fitzgibbon, he broke his collarbone.

New Sermon Series beginning March 20th

taught by Roger Fankhauser



Join us for paintball!

March 13th from 2-4pm

Bring: paintballs, guns and CO₂



Join us weekly at our regular meeting time every Thursday from 6-7:30PM

For more information please contact Rick Bartmas at 903.241.0772 or Roger Jones at 817.707.5363



PLEASE submit newsletter items to the church office no later than Monday, March 28th.

Baptism Service March 20th

If you or someone in your family is interested in baptism, please contact the church office.



Join one today...

fellowship



community bible study groups

friendship

support

...and take that next step!



DOO WOP & beebop

MARCH 12TH 6:30 PM

COME FOR GREAT MUSIC, GREAT FOOD and a GREAT TIME!

\$ 3.50/PERSON



Evening of Prayer

Monday, March 7th at 7:00PM. Join us in the fellowship room as we spend time with the Lord, praying for our church family!