

Sunday August 14, 2016

# The Exton Exhorter

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

## Regular Schedule:

**Sunday:** Bible Classes 10:00 am  
 Assembly 11:00 am  
 Assembly 6:00 pm

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes 7:00 pm

## Duty Roster

(08/14/16 – 08/017/16):

Duties	Sunday A.M.	Sunday P.M.	Weds. P.M.
Announcements	Dowell, P		
Lead Singing	Shreve, S	Richardson, B	Shreve, S
Read Bible	Lewis, M		
Preside Table	Mounst, J	O'Banion, P	
Serve Table	Andrews, C		
Serve Table	Shreve, N		
Serve Table	Lee, L		
Opening Prayer	Wisdom, M	Driedger, A	
Closing Prayer	Manganello, J	Driedger, T	Wisdom, M
Preach or Weds. Invitation	Smelser, J	Smelser, J	Andrews, C

Note. Check with Paul Dowell for changes. \* = Prayer service leader.

## Bible Classes

- Jeff's weekday classes have resumed. Check with him for schedule.
- The Wednesday 7pm adult bible class is studying Kings of the Old Testament.
- The Sunday 10am adult bible class is in the New Testament for the "Read Through the Bible in A Year" series.

## Prayer Requests

- Remember the new, on-going, and general prayer requests on Joe's prayer lists for August 13th that he distributed by email.
- Remember those mentioned during Wednesday and Sunday assemblies—especially the Gurtler family.

## WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

1. Hear the Gospel (Acts 15:7)
2. Believe in Jesus (Acts 8:12)
3. Repent of My Sins (Acts 3:19)
4. Confess Jesus (Acts 8:37)
5. Be Baptized in Water (Acts 22:16)
6. Remain Faithful (Acts 2:42)



*Exton*

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

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"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles."

-Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)

# Where Self-Discipline Comes From

By Gary Henry

Every day that we live in this world, we are tested. We are faced with choices that test our character. Deep down inside, what kind of people are we? When the *right thing* and the *easy thing* are not the same, we must choose between them. Do we have the character to do what we know is best, and to do that reliably and consistently? Are we made of strong stuff or not?

Most of us could use a little more self-discipline and a little more will power. We need the benefit of having trained our bodies to carry out the dictates of our conscience. Paul said, "I discipline my body and bring it into subjection" (1 Corinthians 9:27). But how do we do that? Where does self-discipline come from?

*Self-discipline comes from having a hope that means enough to us that we refuse to give it up. We find the strength to say "No" only when we have a powerful "Yes" burning within us. Like Jesus, who "for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross," we must endure our own crosses. The "joy set before us" is the key.*

Actually, self-discipline is a form of *courage* -- and courage is always born of *hope*. When we can see the light that comes from the lighthouse, fear of the darkness is lessened and we find the strength to make for the harbor. So John wrote, "Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure" (1 John 3:2, 3).

If we are to grow strong in our character, therefore, and if we are to acquire godly integrity. in our conduct, we must focus more on God. His glory must mean enough to us that the desire for Him to be glorified is a powerful force constantly calling us to higher ground. If God is to be glorified, there are some things that we must give up, it's true. But the question is really one of gaining things -- greater things that we should refuse to give up!

# When Silence Hinders

By David Phillips

God teaches His people wisdom for when and how to speak and when to refrain from speaking. He also teaches that keeping silent when something needs to be said can hinder the Christian just as much as saying the wrong things at the wrong times. The following are passages that describe situations in which it is not good for Christians to keep silent.

- When sins need to be confessed: Ps. 32:1-5; James 5:16
- When you have something against your brother: Matt. 18:15-17
- When one's brother has something against you: Matt. 5:23-24
- When error is being taught: Titus 3:10
- When anxious: Phil. 4:6-7
- When people need to hear the gospel: Acts 20:26-27
- When cheerful: James 5:13
- When sick: James 5:14-15
- When a brother is caught up in a trespass: Gal. 6:1-2
- When it is time to give thanks: 1 Thess. 5:18; Rom. 1:21
- When it is time to give praise to God: Heb. 13:15

# When Silence Helps

By David Phillips

God teaches His people wisdom for when and how to speak. When something needs to be said, God teaches us the importance of saying it, but there are also times when the best thing we can say is nothing at all. The following are passages that describe situations in which it is good for a person to keep silent.

- When tempted to make a promise (vow to do or give something) you cannot keep: Eccl. 5:5, 6
- When you don't know what you are talking about: 1 Tim. 1:7
- When you haven't given proper consideration to your words: Matt. 12:36 (Note: In this passage Jesus is responding to the Pharisees after they accused Him of casing out demons by Beelzebub. By this they were blaspheming the Holy Spirit by whom Jesus really cast out demons. They had not fully considered the ramifications of their words and Jesus here implies they would be judged for their thoughtless [idle] words).
- When receiving a command: Prov. 10:8
- When you don't have anything important to say (avoid multiplying your words): Prov. 17:28
- When tempted to curse a leader of the people: Eccl. 10:20; Acts 23:5; Jude 8
- When tempted to speak evil of another person: Titus 3:2; James 4:11
- When angry (lest you say something rash): Prov. 29:11
- When it is not your turn or place to speak in the assembly of the saints (that all things may be done decently and in order): 1 Cor. 14:26-28, 34