

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sept 2, 2012



Is It a Sin to Joke?

by Kevin Pendergrass

Ephesians 5:3-4 reads, "...fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks." Does this passage imply that all joking is sinful?

The Bible is its best interpreter. For example, other passages of Scripture indicate that "joy" and "laughter" are authorized practices of the faithful child of God (Proverbs 17:22; Luke 6:21; 1 John 1:4). As Christians today, we should bear the fruit of the Spirit, including joy (Galatians 5:22). Ecclesiastes 3:4 mentions that there is a time to laugh (sechoq is the original Hebrew word meaning "joke"). The question therefore is not "is joking authorized?"—but what kind of joking is authorized?

According to the Bible joking should not: (1) Offend the hearer (Romans 14:13; Ephesians 4:29b); (2) be filthy, foolish or coarse (vulgar, involving sexual content, Ephesians 5:3-4); (3) take place at an inappropriate time (Ecclesiastes 3:4); (4) nor should it be anything of which Jesus Himself would not approve (1 Peter 2:21).

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

**VISITORS,
WELCOME!**

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for
all ages & Pew Packers
each Sunday at 12:30

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Jim Jackson

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

Ten Ways to Love

1. Listen without interrupting.

(Proverbs 18:13) He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.

2. Speak without accusing.

(James 1:19) Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

3. Give without sparing.

(Proverbs 21:26) He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not.

4. Pray without ceasing.

(Colossians 1:9) For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

5. Answer without arguing.

(Proverbs 17:1) Better is a dry morsel, and quietness therewith, than an house full of sacrifices with strife.

6. Share without pretending.

(Ephesians 4:19) Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

7. Enjoy without complaint.

(Philippians 2:14) Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

8. Trust without wavering.

(1 Corinthians 13:7) Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

9. Forgive without punishing.

(Colossians 3:13) Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do you.

10. Promise without forgetting.

(Proverbs 13:12) Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

***Adapted from “Standing in the Gap”, Nesbit, MS.

This Week's Daily Bible Reading:

Sunday:	Ezekiel 13 – 15
Monday:	Ezekiel 16 – 17
Tuesday:	Ezekiel 18 – 20
Wednesday:	Ezekiel 21 – 22
Thursday:	Ezekiel 23 – 24
Friday:	Ezekiel 25 – 27
Saturday:	Ezekiel 28 – 30

Special Thanks:
To those that helped with the Lock-In and for the youth being there and bringing friends. We had a great night!

Sermon Review

God: He is Self-Sufficient

(Acts 17:25)

- I. He Needs Nothing (25a)
- II. From Him, I Need Everything (25b)

Jesus Christ, Our Advocate

(1 John 1:5 – 2:2; Heb. 9)

(Outline by Dan Winkler)

- I. Some Basic Principles of Forgiveness
- II. A Beautiful Parable of Forgiveness

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Claire Easely has been having some tests run concerning her heart.

Wiley & Betty Tuggle; Nora Boling; Sara Norris; Herbert & Helen Bowman; Sue Cobern

**OpenDoor Ministry
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions**

Family & Friends

Lauren Jackson, daughter-in-law of Jim & Mischel, the removed tumor was cancerous and she is going to have to have radiation. **Wadsworth Family**, in the loss of Russell's grandmother. **Jimmie Hill** family, his memorial service was yesterday. "**Chubby**" **DeLoach**, brother of Betty Culbreath, is in a coma as result of a stroke. **Carla Carlson** and her battle with cancer. **Curtis A. Cates**, battling leukemia. **Mickey Knockart**, Jim's mother. **Paul Perkins**, Mischel's dad, recovering from a mini-stroke. **Gema Winchester** has stage 4 stomach cancer and is not doing well. **Matthew Canada** (5), has down syndrome, but was also diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. **Eli Williams**, and his battle with cancer. **Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler, cancer; **Ray Maples; Wayne Collinworth; Andrew Hagewood; Janie Brister; Chuck Tharp; Renee Loya; Aubree Harris; Virginia Mayfield; Peyton Harville; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg.**

September Birthdays

9/5 Jake Sutton
9/11 Molly Ratliff
9/14 April Kinney
9/26 Bren Burdsal

September Anniversaries

9/5 Jake & Milba Sutton
9/19 Tim & Lynn Wilkes
9/27 Wiley & Betty Tuggle

Get Involved!

Daily Bible Reading Calendar 2012

Let's continue to read and study together!!

Sunday Afternoon for the Savior -- TODAY

Bible Bowl -- Sept 8

10:30 am at Looxahoma building

Acts 23-25; Study Guide on back table

We are looking forward to an exciting new format;
Parents & Children, study hard!

Providence Place Devo -- Sept 9 -- 2PM

Ladies Day at Looxahoma -- Sept 15

See invitation on Bulletin Board

Area-Wide Gospel Meeting in Corinth

Sept. 23-25, Crossroads Arena, Dan Winkler

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, September 2

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Wiley Tuggle
Announcements	Billy Bland
Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Seth Daniel
	Caleb Baker
Assist	Ron Johnson
	Payton Jackson
Opening Prayer	Jerry Davis
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Joe Owen

Evening

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	Jim Jackson
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Caleb Baker
	Payton Jackson
	Jason Bayless
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, September 5

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.