

Service Opportunities

Announcements: Ted Wheeler
Usher: Dale Schwartz

RECORD

Attendance **82**
Contribution \$ 2750.00
Weekly Budget \$ **2854.00**

Thought for The Day

It is better to sleep on what you plan to do than to be kept awake by what you've done.

Church of Christ of Venice

4301 SR 776
Venice, FL 34293

MORNING SERVICES

Opening Prayer: Bill Burnside
Songs: Tim Simmons
Sermon: Ted Wheeler

Closing Prayer: Marvin DeMeester

EVENING SERVICES

Opening Prayer: Wayne Vowell
Songs: Tim Simmons
Sermon: Warren-Flew Debate
Closing Prayer: Delbert Leavens

COMMUNION

Kerry Keathley Chris Dorris
Kaden Simmons Thomas Wise

Church of Christ of Venice

"A friendly church, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ"

March 16, 2008

Volume 19, Number 11

No Regrets

Life has great moments of joy which we cherish in our memory as long as we live. There are also experiences which we would like to forget. Almost everyone remembers certain events with regret. These regrets may be only mildly disturbing. In some cases, however, they may so frustrate a life that they lead to mental breakdown or illness. We may think that it would be grand if we could go back and undo the mistakes of the past, but we can't. However, while we are unable to erase what is past, we can determine to live now so that there will be no regrets in the future.

In Genesis 25:29-34 we read that when Esau was hungry he sold his birthright to his brother Jacob for something to eat. This was a rash, thoughtless act. In that ancient society the "birthright" of the oldest son provided for great advantages. Even though Esau was over-whelmed with hunger, there was no excuse for having dealt so lightly with something so valuable. How he came to regret this is described in the New Testament. *"Lest there be a fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected; for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears."* (Heb. 12:16-17)

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Please fill out a blue visitor card so that we might have a record of your visit. If needed, there is a nursery available at the rear of the auditorium. Bible classes for all ages are available Sundays at 10:00 am and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. We hope that you will join us for these studies. Please come and worship with us again soon.

Elders
Delbert Leavens
Wayne Vowell
Ted Wheeler

Minister
Ted Wheeler

Sunday Services
Bible Study-10:00 am
Worship-11:00 am
Evening Worship-6:00 pm

Wednesday
Bible Study-6:30 pm.

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This story illustrates the need of making decisions and taking actions which will not later be the cause of regret. Esau could not change what he had done, though he tried diligently. No doubt the memory of his folly troubled him as long as he lived. A children's nursery rhyme illustrates this reality.

"Humpty Dumpty had a great fall;

And all the king's horses and all the king's men

Could not put Humpty Dumpty back together again."

It is a certain and obvious truth that we reap as we sow. ^(Gal. 6:7-8) The notion, however, that somehow the consequences can be avoided accompanies every temptation. Satan would have us believe that we need never regret our transgressions. But there will be regrets in the day of Judgment. There are also regrets that come in this life.

One of the harvests which follows the fruition of sin is a lifetime of remembrance and shame.

Some are plagued by memories of dishonesty or of worldliness. Some look back with regret to periods of heavy drinking and of the lax behavior which attended such license. Others look back to immorality with great shame. Still others — near the end of life — remember years spent with too great a concern for material possessions, only to realize finally that they have thought little about spiritual things. The regret of some is that they know they have been self-centered and selfish.

Still others are disturbed, not by what is considered a major sin, such as lying, stealing, or adultery, but by the fact that they have failed to live their lives to the glory of God. They had the least concern for the things that mattered most.

As we have said, there is no way that the fact of our mistakes can be changed. We can, however, live henceforth so that there be no regrets. Memory of foolish deeds may disturb us, but that memory can be a useful tool in helping us make better choices now. If we have memories of regret about the past, think of the inward shame of future regrets when we realize that we learned nothing by our mistakes.

We don't want to leave these thoughts without this assurance: No matter what our regrets may be — and even though we cannot undo the past — we can find perfect *for-giveness* through our Lord Jesus Christ. *"Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson they shall be as wool."* (Isa. 1:18)

David R. Pharr



Our Deepest Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to Steve Sais and family, at the passing of his nephew. Services were held Saturday.

Steve Sais
60 Spyglass Alley
Cape Haze, FL 33946



10 Things You Will Never Regret

1. Showing kindness to an aged person.
2. Destroying a letter written in anger.
3. Offering an apology that will save a friendship.
4. Stopping a scandal that was ruining a reputation.
5. Helping a boy or girl find themselves.
6. Taking time to show consideration to parents, friends, brothers and sisters.
7. Refraining from gossip when others around you delight in it.
8. Refusing to do a thing which is wrong, although others do it.
9. Living according to your convictions.
10. Accepting the judgment of God on any question.

Pulpit Helps, 05/91

Remember in Prayer

MARY GLOSTER
JAMES BAGWELL
SCOTT BROWN
STEPHENY BENNETT
CLARENCE RIGGENBACH
FRANK SMALL
IVA & LEM TURNER
JEANETTE THOMPSON
PATRICIA FORD
VALERIE PARENT
BENNIE HOUSE

Mark Your Calendars

- ✓ Mar 21: Movie @ 6:30
- ✓ Mar 23: Bring a Friend
- ✓ Apr 6: Fellowship Meal
- ✓ Apr 29: Song Service
- ✓ Jun 15-21: Weeki Wachee Bible Camp.

Guest Speaker

Trent Wheeler will be speaking during our Sunday Bible Class on *"The Bible in a Terrorist World."*

TODAY'S SERMONS

Abraham's Faith #3
Hebrews 11:11-16
Warren-Flew Debate
on the Existence of God
Video