



Calvary Christian Fellowship Mennonite Church

Welcome to our Worship Service!

September 11, 2016

Devotional:----- Jonathan Miller
 Message:----- Norman Yoder
 Offering:----- General
 SS Lesson:----- Revelation 6

Adult and Youth Verse: No memory verse this week

Intermediate Verse: And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. Revelation 18:4

Junior Verse: Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. Revelation 4:11

Primary Verse: Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin. James 4:17

Preschool Verse: "To obey is better than sacrifice" 1 Samuel 15:22

SS Lesson for next week: Revelation 7

Adult and Youth Verse for next week: For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. Revelation 7:17

CHILDREN'S CORNER

THE BEAUTY OF OUR EARTH

An astronaut is amazed by the beauty of our planet, reminding us that it is one of a kind! Spacewalking astronaut Michael Massimino was on board Space Shuttle Atlantis during its latest space flight (a mission to the Hubble Space Telescope). Massimino had these remarks on the beauty of earth: "I felt like I was almost looking at a secret . . . that humans weren't supposed to see this. This is not anything you're supposed to see. It's too beautiful. There are no words to describe how beautiful things are out there."

When Massimino first saw the earth from space on a space walk in 2002 he said, "I thought, I'm not supposed to be looking at this. This was too much to see. It was like looking into absolute paradise."

For all the people on earth who have not had the opportunity to view our planet from above (or below, since directions become somewhat meaningless in orbit!), Massimino's words give us a small glimpse at the emotional power of seeing the beauty of earth. It is especially unique when compared to all the other things in space. Space can seem like a very dark and dead place, but earth looks like a wonderful place to live. While earth certainly is not paradise (any longer), its ability to sustain life is an important evidence for the Creator's design. Perhaps Massimino, knowingly or not, caught the tiniest fraction of a fraction of a glimpse of what God saw in GENESIS 1:31 after He had created.

Would you like to be an astronaut and travel into space to see the earth from that perspective? <https://answersingenesis.org/kids/astronomy/the-beauty-of-our-earth/>

Announcements:

- This Evening: Free Evening
- Youth are invited to Michael Yoders for lunch today and will be singing at Morningside afterward.
- Wednesday Evening: Prayer Meeting 7:00
- Church Social Thursday at 6:30 PM.
- School devotions this week by: James Yoder

~BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES ~

Sept. 16, Happy Birthday! Wilson Yoder, 2010

Should We Submit to Our Church Leadership?

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you. (Hebrews 13:17, NASB)
Today's big question: should we submit to our church leadership?

In short, the answer to this question is "Yes." Of course, this would only apply if the church we attend is one that follows the Bible as the ultimate authority. Hebrews 13:17 makes it quite clear what we must do. So let's take a closer look at this verse and unpack it.

The first thing this verse tells us is to obey our leaders. What does it mean to obey our leaders? Well, if leaders of our church are following the precepts of Christ, it is as if we were obeying Christ Himself.

The Great Commission is something every pastor and church member needs to take seriously. And the second part is often forgotten. In the second half of the Great Commission, Jesus instructs His disciples to teach their followers "to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:20, NIV). So He commands all His followers to make disciples. We are also supposed to teach believers to obey the commands of Christ. And so the duty of our pastors and other church leaders is to ensure that the congregation is indeed following the Great Commission.

If our church leaders follow in the footsteps of

Christ, then their teachings should not be burdensome, because the commands of God are not burdensome (1 John 5:3).

In the next part of Hebrews 13:17, the author tells us to submit to our church leaders. Simply put, we are not to rebel against them and cause division within the church. Even though there may be times we do not agree with them completely, we still must learn to trust their judgment and decisions. If we believe they are in sin, then we must follow the biblical guidelines to resolve the situation set forth in Matthew 18:15-17, 1 Timothy 5:19, and other places.

Our church leaders must always keep in mind that they are charged by God to watch over our souls, and He will hold them accountable for their ministry. This is a huge responsibility, not to be taken lightly. Surely this responsibility weighs on their hearts day and night.

It is also profitable for the congregation to make sure that those in our leadership enjoy what they do. Although we may not profit in a material sense, we will profit spiritually from the joy they take in leading us. When the leader is joyous, so also will be the followers.

Today's big idea: be submissive to your church leaders.

What to pray: ask God to help your church leaders honor Him and to assist you in your submission to their leadership.

<https://answersingenesis.org/answers/biblical-authority-devotional/should-we-submit-to-our-church-leadership/>