



"This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast" - Hebrews 6:19

Welcome! We're glad you are here!

Sunday - February 19, 2023

A Defective Moral Compass

by Troy Spradlin

Does it not seem like we are living in a time where fewer people are operating with a good moral compass? I see behavior in so many people that appear to have no compass at all, or no real moral direction in their lives. So many believe they can just say or do anything they want and think it is okay, even without consequence. Have you noticed that too? It can be rather disheartening. Yet, while it can certainly be discouraging to see so much blatant immorality in our society today, we need to realize that people have always been this way. I know this because of what I find in the Bible. Specifically, this is seen among the people of Israel who were living during the times of the Judges, more than 3000 years ago. They had definitely lost their moral compass. They were going in the wrong direction. Their example can serve as a good reminder for us - of what NOT to do!

Look at the situation Judges 17:1-13. Here, we are introduced to a man named Micah and his mother, who apparently was wealthy. He had stolen eleven hundred shekels of silver from his own mother. But, she had placed a curse on the thief, not knowing it was her own son who had stolen from her. The curse was apparently severe enough to scare her son into confessing his crime! Yet, what followed wasn't a reprimand, or even an offer of guilt before God. Instead, her response was: "May you be blessed by the LORD, my son!" (17:2) Wait, what? Why would she say that? Why did she not correct, or punish her son and set things right? Yet, it gets worse!



Look what she says in V3 "I had wholly dedicated the silver from my hand to the LORD for my son, to make a carved image and a molded image." Unbelievable! In one breath, she consecrates the money to God and then wants to make an idol out of it to worship. This is paying lip service to God and then sinning against Him at the same time. All of this is completely outrageous - but it's true - these are real people and real events. She was oblivious to the irony of it all. Her moral compass was so far off, that she couldn't see that she was off course! Yet, it gets even worse.

After Micah makes the idols, he then installed one of his own sons as a priest! This is also against God's commands because only Levites were permitted to serve as priests (cf Deut 18:1). Micah was an Ephraimite. However, in V7 along comes a young Levite from Bethlehem, so Micah offers to pay him and house him as his own personal priest. This situation is a complete mess of corrupted morals and disobedience by a descendant of Israel - God's own people.

Here's how we can make application to us today. People still do this same thing, even in our society. They still set up their own religions, appoint their own priests, make their own idols, and espouse their own faith which is all completely against God's commands in the New Testament. They do it because they are just like Micah and the misguided Israelites. Why does this happen? The answer is within the same passage, "In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes." (Judges 17:6) In other words, when Jesus isn't one's Lord, then people will do whatever they want to do, thinking it is okay, instead of doing what God said.

The Apostle John wrote, "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." (1 John 2:3-4). So, the bottom line is, God expects us to obey Him. If we obey Him, then we have fellowship with Him and we can have assurance of eternal life. Therefore, just because people think they can say or do whatever they want without consequence, does not mean what they think is true! It certainly wasn't for Micah and it isn't for anyone who has ever lived, is living, or will live. Ultimately, Micah had to answer to God for his actions. All of us will too! (Heb 9:27; Rev 20:12) So, make sure you "moral compass" is properly calibrated and pointed in the right direction, by seeking out the will of God in Scripture and submitting to it through obedience. (cf. Eph 5:17, 6:6; Matt 7:21; Mark 3:35)

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Do You Believe In Yourself?

by Casey Bearden

When I was playing baseball in college, it was a common practice of our coach to sit us down, right before the game, and guide us through a time of visualization and meditation. The whole point of the simulation was for us to allow ourselves to see the plays and the routines we'd be going through during the game. We had practiced, prepared, and discussed the game-plan, and the moment right before we took the field was the time we needed to see it all transpiring in our minds. You see, it wasn't enough just to practice our skill, but rather be able to see it unfolding, believing that all of that preparation could actually happen the way we hope and prepare for it to. We needed to "see" ourselves being successful.

Often, I feel as if we need to incorporate the same type of simulation into our daily routines, in order to "see" ourselves being spiritually successful as we go about the day that we've prepared for. We pray and study about the types of Christians we want to be, yet when we "take the field of battle", it's the mental aspect that defeats us. Jesus spoke often about believing when you pray. Yes, we should believe that God is listening, and that He is working in that prayer, but I think it is equally important to believe in the role we will play in the aspect of that prayer. Can we see ourselves carrying out the courage we've prayed for, or do we just hope it will happen?

Take time to meditate and visualize yourself being the Christian you want to be, saying the things you want to say, talking the person you want to talk to, standing up for what you want to stand up for. See, and believe, it happening.

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



Upcoming Events / Info

February 26 – Workshop, PEARLS & Bible Bowl Tests

Also last day for Hotel changes



YG BIRTHDAY NIGHT

Wed. February 22
@ 5 pm in the FH



Gulf Coast AREAWIDE 2022-2023

- AUGUST 21 @ CREEKWOOD Community of Love & Life
- SEPTEMBER 11 @ SUMMERDALE A Place of Acceptance
- OCTOBER 16 @ MARGARET ST. A Place of Forgiveness
- NOV. 11-13 @ FUEL RETREAT Gulf Coast Bible Camp
- JANUARY 8 @ SCENIC HILLS A People of Sacrifice
- FEBRUARY 5 @ SPANISH FORT Restoring Strength
- MARCH 12 @ ROBERTSDALE Empowering personal value
- APRIL 16 @ REGENCY Support Through Struggles

March 17 – 19, 2023
SOAR YOUTH RALLY
WHAT IS TRUTH?
Prep Meeting on March 8

whatever. whatever.
CREEKWOOD GIRL'S DAY 2023

MOMS & MENTORS SPEAKERS:
TAMMY WISDOM
CATHY SHELburne
MARY BETH CLAYTON

GIRLS SPEAKERS:
SHELBY CAMP
ERIN MOODY
ANNA MAYNARD

GRADES 6-12 AND UP | MARCH 25TH
STAFFED NURSERY AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 5.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Special

- Patricia Ann* - prayers, health (MZL)
- Richard Allen - pneumonia (Pace*)
- Kandi Armand - surgery, recovery (Bostwick*)
- Terri Baker - recovery (Farley* daughter)
- David Black - Baptist, heart issues (McGriff)
- Josie Coons - leg/recovery (McReynolds*)
- Louise English's families - loss of Louise*
- Annie Godwin-hip dysplasia, harness 6 weeks
- Zeb Hamilton family* - loss of Zeb
- Lauren Kreis (Martin family) - prayers
- Donald McGriff* - health complications
- Richard McCool* - heart attack, recovery
- Jeffery Norman - lung transplant list (Nunes*)
- Faye Smith (Jeanna's mom) - Jay hosp., health
- Edith Sullins - surgery, recovery (Blisse's gma)
- Gloria Vonada - recovery, new tests

2023 Recently Baptized / Restored / Identified

- Brittany Parker* - Baptized
- Lanie Scott* - Baptized
- Laura Oliver* - Identified

Expecting Mothers

- Jennifer Cannon - March 2023

Mission Works

- Shanahans* - Mission Italy
- Eliezer Perez - San Lorenzo, Paraguay
- Trevor Smoot - Domestic Missions
- Sebastain Garcia - Brazil
- SRC Correctional Institute - Paul Discher

Students in College

- Seth Crider
- Stephen English
- Caitlyn Frizzell
- Jackson Lash
- Caleb Owens
- Nick Webb
- Reed Wilson
- Lexi Wildes

Other Requests / Health Issues

- Gerry Baldwin - health (J.Pace sister)
- Bob Black - health (Lipford*)
- John & Gale Broadfoot - health (past member)
- Winston Burnham* - health
- Sherryn Canniff* - health, pain
- WillieMae Cosby - health, recovery (McGriff*)
- Sherry Davis* - health
- Fatima Deem- pregnant, problems (Nunes)
- Keturah Dickey - MS (K. Longmire*)
- Laura Elliot - (S. Lee* mom)
- Madeline Farley* - broken wrist, recovery
- Steve Fulton - pain, health difficulties
- Dixie Gorham
- Edwina Harris - health (J.Pace sister)
- Barbara Helms* - health
- Chris Hollis - (McGriff)
- Kenna Jackson - (Kristina P's* friend)
- Marcia Jones - (Kenya's* friend)
- Yvonne Loomis - prayers, health (Nunes*)
- Eddie Longmire* - health
- Cindy Marotta - paralyzed (Nunes*)
- Vicente Martinez - kidney transplant
- Mary McGriff* - health, asthma
- Ron Miller- esophagus infection (Ina Ruth*)
- Ella Parker* - health
- Patsy Prince - (Burnham*)
- Otis & Eleanor Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Kara Ritchie - blood disorder (M.Scott*)
- Glenn Rose - heart problems (Garcia*)
- August Eugene Smith - cleft palate (J.English*)
- Zylar Thompson - rescheduled surgery
- Julia Torpey* - health
- Gloria Vonada*
- Jan Whitney*

Military

- Nick Bartell - Ft. Walton Beach
- John Bartell - Washington, DC
- Spencer Gable-New London, Groton, CT
- Amya Huey* - Italy
- Ni Mack - Kentucky
- Byron Solomon - San Diego

Cancer

- Kandi Armand - (Bostwick*)
- Justin Barnhart - former member
- Ron Bartanen* - cancer
- Darlene Baxley* - lung cancer (Baxley*)
- Mark Carlson - (C.Davis*)
- Tish Clark - surgery (Hatcher*)
- Pat Deforest*
- Brenda Dunham - (J.English*)
- Eddie English - (R.English*)
- Timothy Ezzell - former member
- Chris Hendrix - (Baxley*)
- Ricky Jenning - (McGriff*)
- Lisa (Dixon) Johnson - (McGriff*)
- Tierney Lancaster - rare blood (Baxley*)
- Marie and Jeff Lorentz - (J. Bartell*)
- Peter Machon - (Torpey*)
- Darrel Mason - (D.Hill*)
- Keith Pabst - (Webb*)
- Karen Parker - (Spradlin* friend)
- Karen Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Megan Sanders - brain cancer (Blisse*)
- Kevin Shanahan - operation (Scott's* dad)
- Al Sherdan - bladder/prostatic cancer (Coen)
- Brooks Ann Singley* - good news!
- Mary Lee Smith - (McGriff*)
- Marlene Smith - (Fulton*)
- Donnie Turner- cancer (Helms*)
- Reynold Voeltz - (Boughton's friend)
- David Walther - brain (English*)
- Kellie (Wiggins) Ward - (former mem.)
- Daisy Jean Williams - (J.Pace)

Assisted Living / Shut-Ins / Rehab

- Sherryn Canniff - homebound
- Donna Dudley-Life Care Center (S. Davis*)
- Annie Favorite - Shut In (Mary Lou's mom)
- Bobbie Garcia* - Arcadia Senior Living
- Betty Lee - homebound (D. Lee's mom*)
- Linda Mann* - Shut In
- Ina Ruth Miller* - Grandview Retire Center
- Ruth Phillips* - Shut In
- Jim Pitts - Daphne, AL
- Lillian Raines* - Victorian Manor
- Mary Salinas* - Victorian Manor
- Faye Smith (Jeanna's mom) - Shut In
- Troy Vonada* - Sodalis House, Hospice



SERVING WITH HONOR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

MORNING

Opening Prayer Steve Fulton
 Song Director Paul Lipford
 Sermon Troy Spradlin
 "The Jesus Type"
 Scripture Reading Rhett English
 1 John 1:5-2:6
 Closing Prayer Phillip Webb

Serving Communion:

Comments Joe Taylor
 Luke McReynolds Jim Loftin
 Bob Locklin Jake Armstrong
 Justin Davis

EVENING

Opening Prayer Casey Bearden
 Singing Mark Hitchcock
 Scripture Stephen Fulton
 John 20:30-31
 Comments Joe Taylor

Worship Service and Preparation:

Communion Prep Bozeman family
 PowerPoint Brooks Singley
 Greeters: Jak Gallagher
 Secure Building Doug Lee

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Song Director Brody Crider
 Opening Prayer Pete Pierce

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE REPORT:

Sunday Bible Class 175
 AM Worship 214
 PM Worship 119
 Wed. Night Bible Class 134
 Contribution \$10,157

TIMES OF SERVICES:

Sunday AM Bible Class 9:00 am
 Sunday AM Worship 10:00 am
 Sunday PM Classes, Worship ... 6:00 pm
 Wednesday PM Bible Class 6:30 pm

Visitors:

Thank you for coming!

You are our honored guest!

For more information about the church, spiritual topics, our classes, and activities, there is a tract rack at the entrance of the auditorium for your convenience.

Or, ask any member for assistance.

Please take a moment to fill out a visitors card, or sign our guest book so that we might have a record of your attendance. Thank you!

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADMINISTRATION

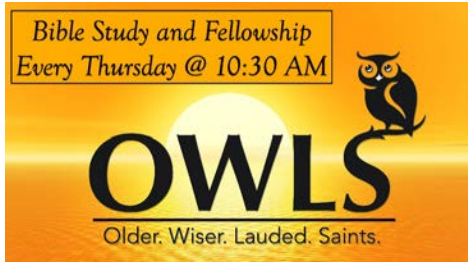
- Deadline for all bulletin items is Thursday, by noon.



Margaret Street CHURCH OF CHRIST FOOD PANTRY
 Food Pickup : 3/7 @ 9:30 AM
 Preparing Boxes: 3/9 @ 9:30 AM
 Distribution : 3/9 @ 2:30 PM
 Please consider donating travel size toiletries!!

EDUCATION

- Adult and Children Bible classes available on Sundays @ 9 AM and Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM.
- Willing to teach? See Chris Davis!



Bible Study and Fellowship
 Every Thursday @ 10:30 AM
OWLS
 Older. Wiser. Lauded. Saints.

WORSHIP

- Service Rosters are available on the Welcome Desk and Margaret Street website (listed under "Archives")
- "LISTEN" devices available in the foyer, located in the Armoire.

<WiFi Password posted in Foyer>



Scan this QR Code to open webpage for online giving

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CONTACT FOR FEBRUARY:

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 Secondary Rick Bird

DEACONS* & MINISTRIES

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 Benevolence..... Dennis Maduell
 Building & Grounds Paul Lipford*
 Education Chris Davis*
 Evangelism Troy Spradlin
 Finance
 Fellowship Jeff Scott*
 OWLS Stephen Fulton
 Involvement Joe Taylor*
 Lads to Leaders David English
 Missions Mike Scott*
 Visitation ... Bob Locklin & Rick Martin*
 Youth & Family Casey Bearden
 Worship Blake Hatcher*