A Preacher’s Perspective

Not conformed. Transformed. The incentives to fit in and get along are great. With these choices come social acceptance, peer approval, and a more likely climb to the top of whatever particular ladder you are trying to climb. But it’s a bad strategy from a spiritual point of view.

Jesus, Himself, said, “What is highly valued among men is detestable in God’s sight.”

Luke 16:15

We have become pretty aware of the scale on which God judges and evaluates. The fruit of the Spirit list is a pretty good place to start. The “Christian Graces” of 2 Peter 1 are also a great model for our ambitions.

But Paul’s wonderful expression of it in Romans 12 is one of the clearest:

1 I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

2 Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:1-2 (RSV)

One of the important ideas in this text is the idea of being renewed. The meaning of the word translated “transformed” is the idea of metamorphosis, like a caterpillar becoming a butterfly. But here, the active agent is not the chemical work of a cocoon, but is rather the work of the Holy Spirit in changing us from the inside out. We have a new mind - the mind of Christ. That new mind cannot flourish and become strong without feeding on the word of God and meditating on it. The association with like-minded believers is a vital part of that process, as well.

If we set our mind on the world, we will reflect it in our thoughts and our manner of life. Only by an intentional turning of our minds over to Jesus can we become the disciples He so longs for us to be.

Chuck Miller
Welcome to the West Chicago Church of Christ

If you are visiting with us, we especially want to welcome you. We pray our time together worshiping our Father in heaven will be uplifting and encouraging. You are an honored guest and we want to thank you for being a part of our worship this morning.

Bible classes begin at 9:30 and are available for all ages. Babies can be taken to the nursery located at the back of the auditorium. Pre-school and elementary-age children meet in classrooms downstairs. Teens meet in the teen room at the back of the auditorium. The adult class meets in the fellowship room.

Our Community Groups meet every Sunday throughout the year, except for the last Sunday of each month. The last Sunday of each month, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. for a time of praise and fellowship.

A weekly web-cast of our Sunday morning worship services is available by following these instructions:

http://wcfamily.viewnetcam.com
Username: wcfamily
Password: 6302312062
Click “SINGLE” tab
Allow any Active X controls

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our Elders:

Don Brewster     Jay Hearn
Chuck Miller      Rick Root

Our Deacons are:

John Day          Brian Gifford
Jon Miller        Curt Robinson

Sunday Morning Bible Class .......................... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship ............................ 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening (last Sunday of each month) ... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Class ..................... 7:00 p.m.

This Morning ...

Please take a moment this morning to fill out an attendance card, especially if you are a guest. Prayer cards are also available in the pew rack. You may choose to have prayers by the elders, a prayer warrior or by the whole church family. If you choose “whole church family” it will be announced following the sermon.

Worship Order
Welcome, Announcements, Birthdays .......... Paul Mullins
Kids Connection ................................. Jon Miller
Praise Songs ............................... Dewayne Smith
#662 All to Jesus I Surrender
#51 Father of Mercies
#684 Nearer, My God, to Thee
#26 God Moves in a Mysterious Way
#337 Hallelujah! What a Savior

Communion Message ................. Donnie Lemley

Prayers, Pass Emblems & Collection

Sermon ........................................ Chuck Miller
#948 I Am Resolved

Prayer Cards ............................... Don Brewster
#3 Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah

Birthdays & Anniversaries
May 26 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Paul Mullins
May 28 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Tom & Nancy Doggett (anv.)
May 31 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Esther Miller
May 31 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . John & Becky Pedersen

Dates to Remember
TODAY ................................. Praise Sunday
May 28 ............................... Tuesday Ladies Work Day
May 29 ............................... Sinners Anonymous
May 29 ............................... Wednesday Bible Class
May 31 ............................... Mens Prayer & Pancakes
June 1 ............................... Boyd Celebration
June 6 ............................... Food Pantry Delivery
June 17-21 ......................... Vacation Bible School
June 21-23 ......................... RCC Young Adult Retreat

Records You Helped Make
Sunday Morning Bible Class ............... 46
Sunday Morning Worship .................. 80
Contribution ................................ $3,313.10

Nursery Workers
Sandy Boyd, Lynette Root

Collection Counters
Mike Henkel, Paul Mullins
In Our Prayers...

Betsy, Bob Voigts’s supervisor, has breast cancer. She is finished with her treatments.

Shanan Cobb, the daughter of former members Don & Mary Conley, has a spot on her thyroid. They reside in TX.

Al Dorsey is in a rehab facility in St. Charles.

Betty Frazier, Linda Vantreese’s friend, is suffering with several health issues and some depression.

Kathy, Dana Howard’s friend, has cancer. Kathy Mandas, Dana’s co-worker, is going through therapy for her knee which was injured when she fell. Continue to pray for Sylvia Atten, Waseem James, her aunt, Pat Johnson and her parents.

Cory Malloy, Marion & Pat Lake’s nephew, was killed in a motorcycle accident recently. He is Darlene’s oldest son. His wife is Erin and they have two children.

Henry Phillips, the minister from the Rockford Church of Christ, continues to suffer with several health issues. He is undergoing therapy which takes quite a lot of time throughout the week, which is difficult with his family and job responsibilities. He is the son-in-law of former members and deacon, Sid & Sherry Fryer.

Liz Pritchett, a friend of Joe Voigts, has mouth cancer.

Jackie Robinson had foot surgery recently. She is doing well, but has to stay off that foot for 6-8 weeks.

Billy Steele, the minister at Sally Hearn’s hometown, is suffering with cellulitis, a staph infection and a blood clot in one of his legs.

Heidi Wesner, the wife of the vice president of Service Company, is recuperating from meningitis. She finally got home from the hospital this week but has quite a way to go.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman – Bobbie Whitman’s brother
Paul & Judy Bertrand – Lynette Root’s parents
Nancy Brewster
Pat Brewster
Bob & Phyllis Cissne – Cindy Drumheller’s parents
John Day
Doug Dorsey – Al’s son
Brad Fowler – Joan Lockett’s nephew
Josephine Haggerton
Lauren Helton – Josephine Haggerton’s nephew
Kathy Huml – John Pedersen’s sister
Mason Hutchins – friend of Alec Boyd & Rourke Mullins
Sue Lake – Marion’s sister-in-law
John Mark Lango, son of former members Keith & Kim
Debbie Lawrence – Bobbie Whitman’s niece
Don Lemley
Jack Lockett – father of Charlie, Mike, Julie Chavez, Shelley Prosser, Missy Kissane, & Becky Pedersen
Mike Lockett – Joan’s son
Nadine McCormick
Joan Mullins – Paul’s mother

Josh Otte – Chris Czernik’s nephew
& the son of Marion Lake’s cousin
Scott Robinson – Curt’s brother
Kay Schrader
Phyllis Sitler
Rose Stirrup – Kelly Ieler’s mother
Bruce Snyder & Cindy Stewart – Bob Voigts’ cousins
Jim Whitman

Moms-to-be:
Fred & Elizabeth Dock – Dana Howard’s niece
Sarah Rentschler – Sally Hearn’s niece
Sarah Tincher – Twins!
Katie Weishaar – Sally Hearn’s niece

Armed forces:
Josh Aultman – Bobbie Whitman’s grand-nephew,
Ryan Gleason – Dana Howard’s nephew, staying in U.S.
Kristen Hauser – a friend of the Avey’s, Afghanistan
Jacob Headteke – U.S. Marines, RCC alumni
Joey Wertz – the friend of Lynette Root’s friend, Iraq
Jonathon Young – a Warrant Officer in the army

Missions:
City of Children – Ensenada, Mexico
Obadiah Doka – Nigeria
Living Room Café – Chicago
Mission Lazarus – Honduras & Haiti
Shults-Lewis – the teens, their families, the workers
Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt – Taiwan
Teen Parent Connection - West Chicago
Joe & Allison Voigts – Korea
Students of Joe Voigts – China
Ayodele Waleola – Nigeria

May 26, 2013 • Page 3
**Today is Praise Sunday!**

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
6:00 p.m. Worship/Singing/Finger-food/dessert fellowship

*The elders and deacons are meeting at a different time this month.*

**Bible Class Teachers!**

**Teachers are needed** for several Bible school classes for the summer quarter, which begins on Sunday, June 2.

**Sunday Mornings:** two teachers  
– one for Grades K-2 and one for Grades 3-6.

**Wednesday Evenings:** two teachers  
– one for the Younger Kids and one for the Older Kids.  
Let Cindy Drumheller know ASAP if you are interested.

**Tuesday Ladies Class**

This Tuesday, May 28, the Ladies Class will meet from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. to work on several sewing projects and VBS projects. See Frances with questions regarding the sewing projects. Bring a salad to share for lunch, drinks and dessert will be provided.

**VBS Volunteers**

Vacation Bible School is quickly approaching and we need your help! Please let Cindy or Sally know if you are available to be a teacher’s assistant or help with crafts.

**Pepperdine Lectures**

The Pepperdine Lectures are on iTunes University. To access, you must have an iTunes account, which you can download for free at [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com). You will need to create an ID and password.

Once you have iTunes, go to iTunes University (iTunesU tab), select Pepperdine University under “Universities & Colleges.” Click on the “Can I Get a Witness?” Bible Lectures 2013 icon. All the available lectures are there to listen to for no charge.

**A GATHERING of the Jesus Freaks**

Rockford Christian Camp sessions are quickly approaching – yippee! Be sure to check the website, [www.rockfordchristiancamp.org](http://www.rockfordchristiancamp.org) for important and **new registration information.** Mark the following dates on your calendar. Please note that the grade listed is the “Last Grade Completed.”

- May 24-27 Memorial Day Retreat (Grade 7-12)
- June 21-23 Young Adult Retreat (Post H.S. to 35)
- July 12-20 Senior Week (Grade 9-12) starts Friday
- July 20-27 Intermediate Week (Grade 6-8)
- July 27-Aug 3 Junior Week (Grade 2-5)
- Aug 30-Sept 2 Labor Day Retreat (Grade 7-12)

Be sure to visit the RCC Cabin Keepers Foundation section of the website to join us in this “locust” project. A small monthly donation from you helps us to build up our facilities and keep fees as low as possible.

**Congratulations!**

**Please join us as we Celebrate Alec’s Graduation and Say, “So Long”**

Before our move to Huntsville over the summer, we would like to take time to gather with our friends to celebrate Alec’s high school graduation and to say goodbye to our Illinois friends who have meant so much to us.

**When? Saturday, June 1, 2013**  
Noon - 5 p.m.

**Where? Big Woods Park Pavilion**  
(At the end of Chillem Drive in Batavia)  
Come ready to eat and play!  
(tennis, basketball, playground, Frisbee and more!)  
**Hope to see you there!**  
Tim and Sandy Boyd

**Sinners Anonymous**

Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. at the West Chicago Church of Christ  
See Dan Vantreese or Bob Voigts.