

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

!Sermon for the Lord's Day
"The Church at Smyrna"



Worship today will be via Zoom @ 9:00am

Write and let us know if you would like an invitation.

Our Lord's Day Plan...

Bible Class -Jordan

Hymn- Kerry

Opening Prayer -Nito

Hymn- Kerry

Lord's Supper -Paul

Morning Lesson - Paul

Hymn - Kerry

Closing Prayer -Jordan

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And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

I know thy works,...

Revelation 2:8-9

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We are praying for you!

- Lisa McCollum** -for successful treatment for her Thyroid cancer.
- Rosemarie Johnson** -for her improved health and for all the help she gives others.
- Charles Barry** - for good health and healing from his fall down his stairway.
- Manuelito Navajo Children's Home** - for the children and Christian leadership.

We pray for all people to seek God and obey his commandments.

The Three R's of a Spiritual Education

Gary C. Hampton

School started this week. Parents either have, or will have, searched for all the items the school says their child will need to have a productive year. In the midst of the hustle and bustle of preparing for a physical education, I want all of us to remember the importance of a spiritual education.

We need to teach our children to hold God in reverence. The Almighty illustrated the futility of worshipping idols (Habakkuk 2:18-19). Then, He said, "But the Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him" (Habakkuk 2:20). Properly educated children will know the Creator and His limitless power (Genesis 1:1; Acts 17:24-25). Jesus' model of prayer begins with, "Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name" (Matthew 6:9).

Children must be taught the value of respect for authority. Paul said the first command with promise was, "Honor your father and mother." He preceded that with, "Children, obey our parents in the Lord, for this is right" (Ephesians 6:1-3). The wise man told his son to, "hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; For they will be a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck" (Proverbs 1:8-9). Rebellious children were a danger to society and were to be stoned so all would learn to have respect (Deuteronomy 21:18-21).

Successful people take responsibility for their actions. Children should be held accountable for chores, schoolwork and the study of God's Word. Everyone will have to give an accounting for his actions (Romans 14:12; 2 Corinthians 5:10). Paul urged his children in the faith, "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" (Philippians 2:12).

Both physical and spiritual education are important. Encourage your children to do well in school. Do not fail to teach them the three R's of reverence, respect and responsibility.

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Be a Christian First

Thomas Baxley

As Christians, we are to be godly examples to the world and to demonstrate that we are servants of Jesus. Everything we say and do should be guided by the principles Jesus taught and lead us to speak and to act according to His will. At home, in public or on social media, we must always be aware of the fact that we represent Jesus. Therefore, we should conduct ourselves in an appropriate manner. This also means that our priorities should be kingdom matters. There are far too many who busy themselves with the concerns of the world over the concerns of our Lord's kingdom. It is okay to worry about the government, but it is not okay to spend more time arguing about politics, and perhaps being ugly about it, than loving God and loving our neighbors. Christians, please, take time to do a self-evaluation from time to time to check and to make sure you are still walking the correct path (Matthew 7:13-14). Be concerned about government and other things, have hobbies, work hard and love your family, but be a Christian first.

March 7, 2021

Exodus 20:16

“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Speech is arguably man’s greatest gift and at the same time his most dangerous ability. It is impossible to estimate the good it has done when great men and women have truthfully instructed and inspired others. By contrast, we cannot measure how much evil the tongue has perpetrated, for falsehoods disguised as truth have destroyed reputations and even nations.

God devotes two of the Ten Commandments to the evils of false witnessing, the third and the ninth. These seem to be broken with impunity—sometimes even by those who are aware of their application—because the drives that motivate people to break them are so powerful.

God commands, “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor,” but liars and lying abound. Everybody knows that marketers lie about what products can do. Books, magazines, and movies feature liars of many different stripes. The media and the public have caught prominent government figures from presidents on down lying about important issues.

According to an article by Jan Mendenhall in the June/July 1997 issue of *Aspire*, college kids lie to their moms in 50% of conversations. Dating couples lie to each other a third of the time, and spouses deceive each other in about 10% of major conversations. Twelve percent of four million Americans lost their jobs for “misrepresentation.” A November 1997 survey conducted by the publishers of *Who’s Who Among American High Schools Students* reveals that 76% of the students listed in their publication (supposedly the elite achievers) admit having cheated. Two-thirds of these believe it is “no big deal” to cheat to get a good test grade—and 65% of their parents agree!

We use a large number of euphemisms to soften the act of lying. Some are: duplicity, fabrication, evasion, stringing someone along, inaccuracy, exaggeration, fudging, rationalization, falsehood, “whopper,” deception, misrepresentation, dishonesty, putting someone on, putting up a front, and fibbing.

— John W. Ritenbaugh



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Zoom Times...

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

Wednesday Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:00 pm

church of Christ at Alisal

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Paul McCollum, preacher

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