

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day
"We Preach Christ Crucified"
(Part 2)



Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

Paul is with us to present the **Lesson**. **Charles Barry** will lead our **Bible Class** and **Kerry Johnson** will lead us in **Song...** may

God bless their efforts!

*Our Lord's Day
Plan...*

~ **Happy Lord's Day** ~

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:2

We are praying for you!

Judy McCollum -for asafe and enjoyable visit to Idaho and Oregon - Happy travels!

Gollapalli Sunil Raju - for the work he is doing to spread God's Word to the lost.

Glenda Rowland - for healing from her neck surgery. She is now able to talk.

LexyReed - for rher return and diedication to the Lord's church.

Luke Holzwart - for growing out of his diabetic condition amd his seizures.

David Z - for biblical guidance and understanding of how we are saved.

The Alisal Congregation - for all of us living more faithfully.

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

"How Not to Lead"

[Jesus continued talking to the crowds and his disciples about the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees:] "They crush people with unbearable religious demands and never lift a finger to ease the burden.

"Everything they do is for show. On their arms they wear extra wide prayer boxes with Scripture verses inside, and they wear robes with extra long tassels. And they love to sit at the head table at banquets and in the seats of honor in the synagogues. They love to receive respectful greetings as they walk in the marketplaces, and to be called 'Rabbi.'

"Don't let anyone call you 'Rabbi,' for you have only one teacher, and all of you are equal as brothers and sisters. And don't address anyone here on earth as 'Father,' for only God in heaven is your Father. And don't let anyone call you 'Teacher,' for you have only one teacher, the Messiah."

— Matthew 23:4-10

Thought:

I've heard a whole bunch of lessons on how to be a good leader, but I've never heard a more powerful lesson on how NOT to be a good leader than Matthew 23. Later in this chapter Jesus pronounces seven woes — seven "What sorrow awaits!" statements. In these statements, he denounces the religious leaders of his day for their selfish, misguided, abusive, arrogant, contemptible, and condescending leadership.

Unfortunately, many of the abuses by religious leaders that Jesus denounces in this chapter are actively and widely practiced today by some religious leaders. Anyone longing to be a spiritual leader of any kind must routinely revisit this chapter to be warned about the dangers of distorted leadership. Jesus takes very seriously the way his followers lead in his Kingdom. Of course, when the hero of a movement is willing to die a sacrificial death for his followers, it tends to stand leadership styles upside down. Maybe that's what Jesus had in mind when he said that in his Kingdom, "The last will be first, and the first will be last!" (Matthew 20:16 NIV)

What tp remember: Leaders must be helpful to those they lead, not so they will be seen and honored, but so those they serve will be blessed and God himself will be pleased!

Train Up a Child

Kevin L. Moore

“Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6, NKJV). The book of Proverbs is a collection of wise sayings intended to convey general truths, and heeding these words of wisdom will surely help guide one’s life in a positive direction. However, the overabundant variables and uncertainties of this world preclude taking each proverb in an absolute sense as though the wise sayings were meant as inflexible rules with definitive outcomes and no possible exceptions.

Note, for example, Proverbs 10:4, which states, “He who has a slack hand becomes poor, But the hand of the diligent makes rich.” While this principle is generally true, mitigating circumstances could result in a lazy person being rich (e.g., by way of inheritance) and a diligent person being poor (e.g., via drought or stock market crash). Nevertheless, potential exemptions do not discount the wisdom of the stated proverb.

Proverbs 22:6 affirms a general truth that ought to be heeded, although the freewill choices of each individual child means there will almost certainly be exceptions (cf., Genesis 4:1-7; Isaiah 1:2). Remember that the Bible is comprised of a variety of literary categories (historical, instructional, legislative, poetic, etc.), and not all are meant to be read and applied the same way. The books of Proverbs and Leviticus, for instance, represent very different types of literature and, therefore, should be interpreted accordingly.

Parents, let us ensure that the Lord’s ways are always upheld and observed in our homes and that our children are brought up in His training and admonition (Ephesians 6:4), by which we encourage other parents to do the same. May the seeds of truth planted with discipline and love in impressionable hearts conquer stubborn, rebellious spirits. Let us be grateful when our children cooperate and the words of Proverbs 22:6 play out in our families. Yet, may we be sympathetic and supportive of mothers and fathers and grandparents and guardians whose hearts are otherwise broken, praying that implanted seeds take root and guide straying loved ones back to the faith (Luke 15:11-32).

Octob31 2021



‘Madame Alfred Carriere’

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

Wednesday (via Zoom) Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:00 pm

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