

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day

"The Eternal Security of Believers" (Part 2)



Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

Charles Barry will lead our **Bible Class** and **Kerry Johnson** will lead us in **Song**, **Paul McCollum** will present the **Lesson**.

Our Lord's Day Plan... may God bless their efforts!
~ **Happy Lord's Day** ~

...nd when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?

Mark 10:17

We are praying for you!

Charmin Barry - for curing of her vertigo symptoms.

Charles Barry - for good health and God's blessings as he labors for the church.

Charmin and Annette Barry - for a safe journey to Virginia and a productive week.

Rosemarie Johnson - for healing from her back and Siatic nerve problems and other health issues.

The Lord's Church - for sharing the Word and being a living example.

God's Blessings to Everyone!

"YOU SMELL LIKE SHEEP"

Raymond Elliott

The brother and his wife were about to leave our house when I said these words to my Christian friend, "You smell like sheep". You see, he and his wife have been helping to buy some of our groceries since the spring of 2020 when the Pandemic began in our nation. My brother in Christ is one of our six shepherds who serve and lead our congregation. I could safely say that all of our shepherds 'smell like sheep'. The reason I make that statement is that I have observed them visiting the sick, staying with families in the hospitals when a loved one is in surgery, or visiting the sick whether in their homes, nursing homes, or in hospitals. I know they have carried in their cars the sick to doctors locally or in another city. They also encourage weak members to be more faithful to the Lord. They will also visit those who have fallen away from Christ and His church and encourage them to repent and come back to the Lord. To 'smell like sheep' you have to be among the sheep to lead, protect, feed, keep watch over them, and endeavor to know them.

There are other terms that are in the New Testament regarding the work of those who are chosen to care for the flock which is under their oversight. They are elder (presbyter), overseer (bishop) in addition to shepherd (pastor). Here are a couple of passages of Scripture in which we find these terms.

In Acts 20:17-28 we find the apostle Paul at Miletus on his way to Jerusalem. It was while he was there that he sent for the elders in Ephesus to meet him in Miletus. In verse 28, we read what he said to the elders, "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood." In 1 Peter 5:1,2, we read, "The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers,, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, being examples to the flock" (Emphasis, mine, re). The only time the term "pastor" is used in Ephesians 4:11. And that is to be understood for one to "shepherd the flock of God which is among you" (1 Peter 5:3).

...continued on back page

...continued from inside

Of course, God’s design is for men of age and wisdom to oversee the work of a congregation and I know personally there are times when ‘business meetings’ are needful, having served as an elder for eight years ; however, I appreciate so much the term ‘shepherd’ which involves moving among the sheep in a personal way as a shepherd would be involved in caring for the flock in his care. The apostle Peter gives faithful shepherds this assurance: “And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away” (1 Peter 5:4).

.....

A Great Weapon Against Temptation

Jay Launius

We all face temptation, Satan is going to make sure that none of us are exempt. We read in 1 Corinthians 10:13 that it is a common challenge for all people but those who are in God’s family will be provided ways to resist and eliminate temptation. One great weapon we can use against the devil and his enticements is wisdom. Wisdom is available to every Christian who asks God for it (James 1:5) and can help us make good choices when we’re tempted. But this is nothing new, long ago the wise man of Proverbs wrote about the advantages of using wisdom against evil (Proverbs 2).

When wisdom enters our hearts (minds) and we use knowledge wisely, discretion will be key to keeping us from sinful things. Wisdom will help us recognize social pressure which gives the desire to “go along with the crowd” and participate in things not pleasing to God. Wisdom shows us that resisting physical desire contrary to wholesomeness (substance use, sex, dishonest behavior) will only give temporary pleasure that can lead to more trouble down the road.

James 1:6-7 warns us that the Christian who doesn’t tap into the free offer of wisdom will be “wishy-washy” in their struggle with temptation and sin. Doubting ourselves and God can and will have devastating results in one’s spiritual life. But we can happy to know that asking God for and receiving wisdom can lead us down the path of righteousness and a life that is pleasing to God.

October 30, 2022



Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

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

church of Christ at Alisal

67 Eucalyptus Drive

Salinas, California 93905-2728

Paul McCollum, preacher

pulpitpaul@razzolink.com

(831)424-9800 or 206-5568

www.churchofchristalisal.com/