

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day

“What Would You See?”



Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

Jordan Johnson 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** ~

You see that a person is justified by works
and not by faith alone.

James 2:24

We are praying for you!

Sweeti Parichha - for healing from her fever, cold and cough.

Kerry Johnson - for good health and God's blessings as he and his family labor for the church.

Jordan Johnson - for God to guide him in finding a job of service and dedication.

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

God's Blessings to Everyone!

Giving and Receiving

Joe Chesser

“What are you getting for Christmas?” “What do you want for Christmas?”

How many times have you heard these questions lately? Christmas shopping is in full swing. For the next two weeks many gifts will be given and received. Which do you enjoy the most – giving or receiving? Unfortunately, for many people, the truthful answer to that question conflicts with the answer they know they should give. Honestly, receiving gifts, especially the one(s) we've always wanted, brings a lot of pleasure and happiness. But there's no honor in receiving gifts (however, there can be dishonor in the way we act when we don't get the gifts we'd hoped for).

Several years ago, Calvin Coolidge, our 30th president, said, “No person has ever been honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave.” Can you think of an award or honor given to someone that received the greatest or most gifts? There may be, but nothing comes to my mind. On the other hand, there are numerous honors and rewards for those who excel at giving to an individual. Oscars and Emmys are given to the person who contributed the most to the music and entertainment industry. Athletics have their Most Valuable Player awards. Universities, governments, and even zoos have buildings named after major contributors.

This probably doesn't surprise you at all. No doubt you have heard many times the statement of Jesus: “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). The best known verse in the Bible honors God for what He gave, not for what He received (John 3:16). What does surprise many people is that when God honors giving, it has nothing to do with the amount of the gift. Generation after generation honors the poor widow who, even though it wasn't much, gave all she had (Luke 21:2). The Macedonians are also esteemed for their giving, even though poverty stricken themselves (2 Cor. 8:1-5). In contrast, very little is said about those receiving the gifts. What do you know about the poor saints in Jerusalem other than they were famine stricken and very poor? About the only thing we know about how to receive gifts is to do so with gratitude and in a way that glorifies God. Perhaps we need to work a little harder at becoming a generous

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giver, and spend less time hoping and dreaming about all the things we might receive. That's hard to do, especially at this time of the year, but by doing so, we will become a little bit more like the God we love and serve. Givers truly are more blessed than receivers.

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ops and Robbers

A young mother and her three extremely active young boys were playing "cops and robbers" one afternoon in the backyard when a neighbor stopped by. One boy aimed his pistol at his mother and yelled, "Bang! You are dead!" She slumped to the ground in a heap. When she did not get up right away the neighbor hurried to see if she had been hurt in the fall. As the neighbor bent over, the overworked mother opened one eye and whispered, "Shh. Do not give me away. It is the only chance I get to rest!"

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he Power of a Compliment

Helen Mrosla writes: Mark would often get in trouble for talking too much in class. Now he was one of my students in junior high math.

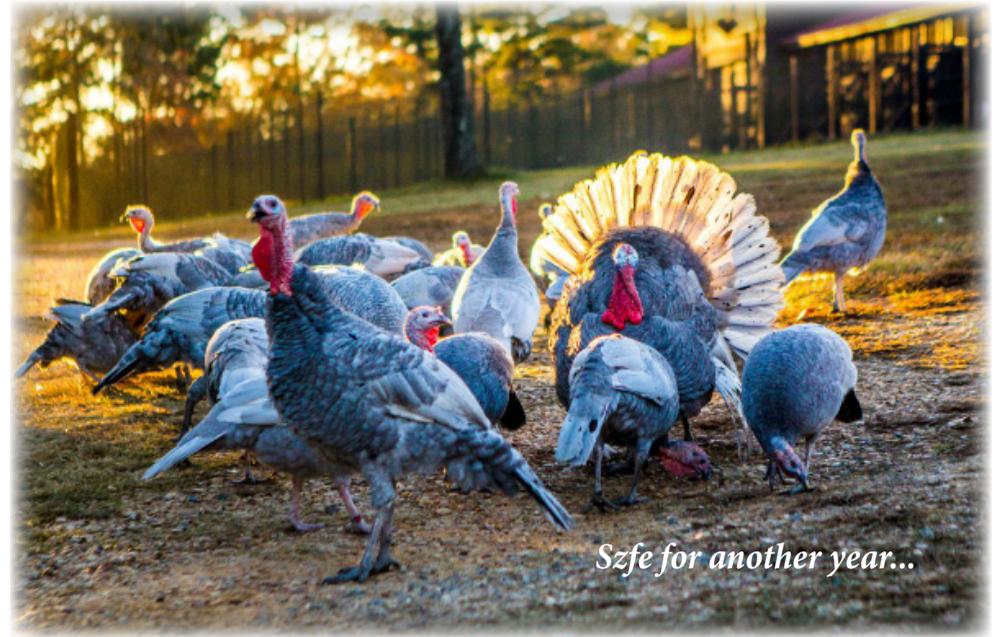
His class had worked hard all week. By Friday the students were getting cranky. So, for a break, I asked them to write the nicest thing they could about every student and hand it in. I compiled the results for each student and gave out the lists.

Several years later, Mark was killed in Vietnam. After the funeral, most of his former classmates gathered with Mark's parents and me for lunch. Mark's father took a wallet out of his pocket. "They found this on Mark when he was killed," he said. He carefully removed a folded, refolded, and taped paper—the one on which I'd listed the good things Mark's classmates had said about him.

Charlie smiled sheepishly and said, "I keep my list in my desk drawer." Chuck's wife said, "Chuck put his in our wedding album." "I have mine, too," Marilyn said, "in my diary." Vicky reached into her pocketbook and brought out her frazzled list.

Take time to compliment someone today.

November 27, 2022



Szfe for another year...

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/