

Privileged to Serve

Speaker ... Andy Duncan (am); Tom Fair (pm)
 Announcements/Prayer..... Randy Rives
 Song Leader Tom F. (am); Andy D. (pm)
 Attendance.....

Morning

Scripture/Opening Prayer
 Lord's Supper

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Closing Prayer.....

Evening

Opening Prayer
 Lord's Supper

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Closing Prayer.....

Communion Preparation

Month of April
 Month of May.....

Nursery Attendant; Backup

April 18 Angela Duncan; Lara King
 April 25 Glenda Rives; Brandie Madison

Wednesday Evening - April 21, 2021

Prayer/Announcements.....
 Song Leader.....
 Devotional.....

Service Times

SUNDAY

Bible Study..... 9:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship..... 10:00 a.m.
 Evening Worship..... 5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study..... 6:00 p.m.

Elders

ANDY DUNCAN (662) 416-2222

TOM FAIR (601) 681-8293

Deacons

LAMAR KING (601) 604-2656

BUILDING/GROUNDS

RANDY RIVES..... (601) 513-4785

EDUCATION & WORSHIP

ALBERT ST. CLAIR (601) 626-7815

Works Supported

Robert Martin

Stacey Ferguson

South Pacific Missions

Pine Vale Children's Home

Corinth, Mississippi

Attendance Last Week

Sunday Bible Class	cancelled
Sunday Morning Worship	30
Sunday Morning via Live-Stream	16
Sunday Evening Worship	12
Sunday Evening via Live-Stream	18
Wednesday Bible Study	14

Contributions & Other Income

Contribution Last Week \$ 2,200.00

* Figures Unavailable



April 18, 2021

Meridian Messenger

Welcome Visitors!

"WHO IS YOUR BEST FRIEND?"

~ John 15:13-14 ~

An artist painted a picture of a boy playing chess with Satan. The boy has the light pieces. Satan has dark pieces. If the Boy beats Satan then he would be free. If Satan wins, then boy becomes his slave. In the painting the boy is in check. Paul Morphy figured out a way that the young man can win. Paul, looking at the painting, said, "MAKE THAT MOVE!" As hard as Paul Morphy wanted the kid to make the right move, he could not. It was just a painting.

God's Character is just like Paul Morphy... God will not make any one obey Him! You see, God operates with an emotion called love. If God really is love (1 John 4:8) then he cannot force people to do His will. Forced love is not love at all. God just wants people to CHOOSE to love Him back.

Jesus said, "If ye love men keep my commandments" (John 14:15). "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him" (John 14:21).

God is a God who wants and needs friends. Remember, that when man sinned in the garden, God came looking for Adam (Genesis 3:8). How would you like to be called God's friend? James wrote, "And the scripture was fulfilled which saith: Abraham believed God and it was imputed unto him for righteousness and he was called the friend of God" (James 2:23).

The writer would like to discuss in this article what God offers us when we become the friends of Jesus Christ. Jesus tells His followers what is involved in being friends with Him. Notice the text under consideration: "Greater love hath no man than this: that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you" (John 15:13-14). The writer would like to notice four points from the text under consideration in this article, which are as follows: As the friends of Jesus, God offers: (1) COMMITMENT, (2) COMPASSION, (3) CONDITIONS, and (4) COMMANDMENTS.

Notice first that God offers COMMITMENT. The text reads as follows: "Greater love hath no man than this..." God is committed to anyone who desires to be in a relationship with Him. God has already gone the extra mile to make sure we know how committed He really is. John wrote, "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins" (1 John 4:9-10).

Rodney is 4 and is walking down the beach with his brothers and sisters. He stops and asks a lady, "Are you a Christian?" She answered, "Yes." Rodney asked another question, "Do you read your Bible every day?" Again she answered, "Yes." Rodney asked yet another question, "Do you pray often?" She answered this, "Yes." Then he asked his final question "Will you hold my dollar while I go ... ~continued inside~

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