

February 11, 2018

# Clarifying Love

Love is one of the most misunderstood and abused words in the English language. Some of the most unloving things are done in its name. It is confused with lust, neglect, abuse, ignorance, and encouragement of evil. Even in religion, love is the banner of everything from hatred and terrorism to gross immorality and perversion. It is helpful to remind ourselves what constitutes love.

**LOVE DOES NOT ENABLE WEAKNESS.** Pretending that a loved one does not have a sin problem or character flaw is not loving. Protecting someone in a compulsive, addictive behavior from the consequences of their sin is extremely unloving. This is nurturing negative behavior.

**LOVE DOES NOT EXCUSE SIN.** Giving someone an out for sinful lifestyles may seem like the warm and fuzzy way to go, but God strongly condemns such validating (Rom. 1:32).

**LOVE DOES NOT ENCOURAGE PERVERSION.** Jesus condemns sexual relationships that fall outside the original marriage grid (Matt. 19:4-5). Whether we are speaking of "shacking up," "open marriages," "gay marriages," "alternative lifestyles," or the like, we are referencing things which condemn the soul. That some would even push and promote such things in the name of love certainly disgusts our God (Hab. 1:13).

**LOVE DOES NOT ENDORSE A LIE.** Lies are of Satan (John 8:44). God is love (1 John 4:8). Therefore, lying and love are incongruous. They are from opposite sources. Telling someone who is not right with God that they are is a lie rather than an act of love.

*continued inside...*

## MEN WHO SERVE

### MORNING SERVICE

Song Leader	Phil Forrest
Announcements	Rick Brown
Opening Prayer	Oscar Koontz
Scripture Reading	Daniel Forrest
Sermon	Claude Pharr
Closing Prayer	Matthew Brown

### EVENING SERVICE

Opening Prayer	Eddie Nuckols
Sermon	Claude Pharr
Closing Prayer	Edgar Markman
Lord's Table	Phil Forrest
Wed Song Leader	Phil Forrest

### LORD'S SUPPER

Tom Davenport	
John Davenport	Daniel Forrest
Matthew Forrest	Edgar Markman
Prepare	The Andersons
Clean Up	The Andersons
Bread	Betsy Forrest

## SCHEDULE of SERVICES

### SUNDAY

Bible Study 10AM
Morning Worship Service 11AM
Evening Worship Service 6PM

### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7PM
-----------------

## CHURCH LEADERS

### ELDERS

Matt Maurer	704-437-1498
Eddie Nuckols	336-492-7619
Claude Pharr	336-768-3172
Phil Forrest	336-751-0764

### DEACONS

Rick Brown (Worship Coordinator)	336-399-2201
Tom Davenport (Fellowship)	336-918-6448
Jered Markman (Teaching Program)	336-469-0976

### MINISTER Claude Pharr

Office	336-751-2866
Home	336-768-3172
Mobile	336-413-4892

## GOD'S PLAN of SALVATION

**Hear** the gospel (Romans 10:17)  
**Believe** in Jesus, God's Son (Acts 16:30-31, Heb 11:6)  
**Repent** of sin (Acts 17:30-31)  
**Confess** Jesus as God's Son before men (Acts 8:36-37, Matthew 10:32, Romans 10:9-10)  
**Be Baptized** (immersed) in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38)  
**Live Faithfully** (1 John 1:7, Rev 2:10)

NORTH MAIN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

605 NORTH MAIN STREET MOCKSVILLE, NC 27028 336.751.2866 NMCOFC@YADTEL.NET WWW.NMCOFC.ORG

To Submit Information for the Bulletin  
 Text 336-816-1509 or Email cblegolas@yahoo.com

Please remember to turn off your cell phone. Thank You!

**LOVE DOES NOT EXPECT PERFECTION.** In fact, Paul says that love "does not take into account a wrong suffered" (1 Cor. 13:5). It "covers a multitude of sins" (1 Pet. 4:8). In other words, love is not something we offer only on stringent conditions and unrealistic expectations. Thankfully, our loving God does not expect perfection from us. He knows we are incapable of it. If we, imperfect beings, cannot give a perfect God perfection, how could imperfect human beings give us, imperfect human beings, perfection? Think about it!

**LOVE DOES NOT END RESPONSIBILITY.** Love is not a substitute for performance. The abuser hopes that profuse profession of love will make his wife forget that he has beaten her. The liar hopes that verbal affirmation of love is enough to negate the hurt of the one harmed by his or her dishonesty. The person who has yet to obey the gospel will freely confess, "I love the Lord." That may well be, but it is an inadequate love that does not respond to God's great love in humble obedience.

The world will never get love "right." It is up to us to demonstrate it to them. We do this by loving one another (John 13:34-35). We do this by loving God enough to do His will (John 14:15).

Neal Pollard

## UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 24 SATURDAY LADIES DAY** at Cary Church of Christ.  
There is a signup sheet on the back board.

**MARCH 10 SATURDAY CAROLINA MEN'S FELLOWSHIP** at Gold Hill Road Church of Christ. There is a signup sheet on the back board.

**MARCH 23 FRIDAY AREA SINGING FELLOWSHIP** at Northwest Church of Christ

**MARCH 24 SATURDAY MEN'S RETREAT** at Northwest Church of Christ in Greensboro

**APRIL 8-12 74TH ANNUAL CAROLINA LECTURESHIP** at Highland Acres Church of Christ

**MAY 5 SATURDAY LADIES DAY** at Northwest Church of Christ

## UPCOMING NORTH MAIN EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 12 MONDAY JCM BIBLE STUDY** at 7pm

**FEBRUARY 22 THURSDAY MOMMY & ME DEVO**

## THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

**Steve Capps** is improving after his recent back surgery.

**Phil Forrest's father** was admitted to the hospital this past week, but is home now.

**Estelle Kluttz** is experiencing heart issues.

**Jerry Stanley** continues to recover from surgery.

**Sylvia White** is receiving radiation treatments.

**Kathy Cranfill**  
**Deborah Dull**  
**Glenn Koontz**

**Joe Koontz**  
**Nancy Koontz**  
**Oscar Koontz**

**Sara Koontz**  
**Belinda Nuckols**  
**Sylvia White**

## A Message from Annie Kinder

We are going to Cozumel Mexico again this year March 3-10 for our mission trip during spring break! We will be working all week at the orphanage La Ciudad de Angeles. It's an organization that I absolutely love helping because I believe in everything they strive for, their mission is to take in the unwanted and abandoned children of Cozumel, provide great Mexican Christian parents (that way they grow up in a realistic home like other kids) and raise them so that when they leave they are Christian people that are able to give back to their community. Boone church of Christ is super helpful in paying for our housing for the week so I just have to raise the money for the plane ticket, taxi costs and eating! It takes almost \$800 to go and any help will be greatly appreciated! Thank you guys so much! I miss everyone.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Carsyn Capps** Monday February 12

**Kim Kinder** Monday February 12

