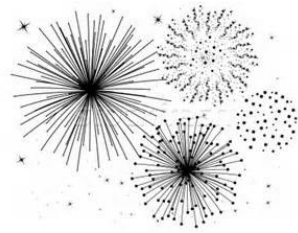


## Youth NEWS



### TODAY!

The Jr./Sr. High Devotional will be hosted by Adrian and

Melissa Cannady today following evening services. Food will be provided. Please bring lawn chairs and fireworks.



**Peach Valley Christian Youth Camp**

July 16-21

- The next area-wide Thursday Summer Youth Series "Putting God First" will be July 6 at Weber Road.

## Education NEWS

### In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, July 2 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "A Servant's Heart." I love the song many young people sing, which begins, "Give me the heart of a servant." While many want to live for their own pleasure and love calling the shots, Jesus chose the heart of a servant. We too need the heart of a servant.

### SUNDAYS

**Bible Classes .....9:00 AM**  
**Morning Worship .....10:00 AM**  
**Evening Worship ..... 5:00 PM**

*Tuesdays (September through May)*

**Men's Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM**  
**Ladies' Bible Study..... 10:00 AM**

### WEDNESDAYS

**Midweek Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM**

### EVANGELIST

Ronnie Scherffius

### SUPPORTED WORKS

James and Emily Cammock  
*Hamilton, New Zealand*

John Moore  
*Bible Land Passages*

Cecil Shaw  
*Ocho Rios, Jamaica*

Student Support  
*Southwest School of Bible Studies*

THE MIDTOWN MESSENGER IS THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST, 5901 N. MAIN, VICTORIA, TEXAS 77904 . 361-573-0030  
[www.midtowncoc.org](http://www.midtowncoc.org)

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR MID-TOWN MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

# The Midtown CHURCH OF CHRIST Messenger

JULY 2, 2017

## "BETTER TO HAVE INTEGRITY"

by Ronnie Scherffius

Integrity though often used to describe men, is a word that is about as understood as it is a quality that is possessed. Webster's defines *integrity* as "The state or quality of being entire or complete; wholeness; entireness; unbroken state" (Webster's Dictionary, 1913). In this sense, integrity might especially be used of a structure or of a foundation. If a foundation has lost its integrity, the structure resting on that foundation will not stand because its lack of wholeness has deprived it of full strength. When used of men, integrity often refers to one's character and reputation. In this sense the meaning is similar to that of a building or a structure. A man who has no integrity is a man who is lacking; he is a man who is incomplete; he is a man who has no soundness; he is a man without a strong foundation. His character is in a broken state and there is no wholeness in him.

"Better is the poor who walks in his integrity, Than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich"

Prov. 28:6

Solomon wrote, "Better is the poor who walks in his integrity, Than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich" (Prov. 28:6 - NKJV). Better, Solomon says, is that man whose character is sound and whole (the man who walks in *moral uprightness*), than one who is perverse, even

and prosperity. There is perhaps no better picture of integrity than Job. After enduring great loss, Job maintained his integrity (Job 2:3), that is to say that Job continued to be a man of moral uprightness; a man complete in God. Considering that Job *maintained* his integrity we conclude that a picture of Job's life and character best demonstrates a man of integrity. That being understood consider that Job lived a life free from immorality and deceit (Job 31:1-11), he was considerate and benevolent to the needs of those of a lower station than himself (Job 31:13-23), he did not trust in wealth and possessions (Job 31:24-25), he did not practice idolatry but worshiped only the God of heaven (Job 31:26-27), he hoped for the good of others and not evil—even if they

though the perverse man is a man of wealth

hated him (Job 31:29-30), he showed hospitality to strangers (Job 31:31-33), he never engaged in theft or oppressing others (Job 31:38-40), and above all Job was willing to confess his wrong rather than hide it in hopes of maintaining a good name (Job 31:33). Job was a man of integrity—a man who did what was right even when no one was looking. We often refer to Job as a man who had everything and then lost everything, but that is not exactly true, for Job never lost his integrity!

Solomon posited integrity above riches. Job maintained his integrity even at the loss of great possessions. Truly it is better to have integrity than possessions, power, or position. A man of integrity is a man who is trusted, respected, and whose name alone stands for all that he is. Such is the case with Job. When we hear the name *Job* we think of a man who lost everything, but moreover we think of the man inspiration identifies as “blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil” (Job 1:1 NKJV); a man of whom God said, “there is none like him in the earth” (Job 1:8). How much better to enjoy the praise of God than the praise of man! How much better to have integrity!

It is better to have integrity than riches because the man of integrity is in truth the richer man. The man of integrity has a name/reputation of great value. On two occasions Solomon spoke of the value of a good name: “A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold” (Prov. 22:1); “A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one’s birth” (Eccl. 7:1). The importance and value of a name is seen in the reputation of such names as Jezebel, Adolf Hitler, Nero, and Benedict Arnold—what mother would name their child after such historical figures? Compare the historical reputation of those names to names like Washington, Franklin, and Jefferson; Douglas, Parks, and King.

One of the greatest figures of ancient Rome is Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus. According to

Records You Helped Make  
For the Week of  
JUNE 25, 2017

**Attendance**

Sunday Bible Class.....	117
Sunday Morning Assembly.....	158
Sunday Evening Assembly.....	94
Wednesday Attendance.....	109

**Offering: \$6,350**

Roman legend, Cincinnatus was appointed dictator for by the Roman Senate to lead his people in war against invading tribes. Victorious, Cincinnatus disbanded his army and returned to his farm rather than make himself dictator, and to this day stands as a legendary figure of Roman virtue. So impressed by the history of Cincinnatus was George Washington that he patterned his return to Mount Vernon after the legend of this great Roman. Not surprising, one of the most well known statues of George Washington is of him as Cincinnatus by Jean-Antoine Houdon.

“Better is the poor who walks in his integrity, Than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich” (Prov. 28:6). The riches of walking in integrity are far above the riches one may possess on this earth. The name of a man stands not only for all that he is, but for all that he is for all time. The praise bestowed upon a man of integrity is far greater than those given to the man of means, for when his wealth is passed so is the praise, but the man of integrity never loses his worthiness of our honor. The value of a good name that comes with from walking in our integrity is especially realized in the words of Jesus to His disciples, “rejoice, because **your names** are written in heaven” (Luke 10:20). Better to have integrity because the man of integrity has a name of great value, both among God and man.

## News & ACTIVITIES

Today, there will be a monthly  
Men’s Meeting at **3:30 p.m.** at  
the building.

**Sunday, July 23**  
There will be a Fourth Sunday Fellowship Meal following evening services. Also, a reminder to place bible questions in the “mailbox” in the foyer for the Q&A each fourth Sunday evening.

- Brookdale Team #1 will meet.
- Sunny Glen is requesting liquid laundry detergent and popcorn. Please place items in the hallway boxes.

**2017 MIDTOWN SUMMER SERIES**  
**“HEAVEN’S VOCABULARY:  
Words & Phrases of  
Spiritual Significance”**  
**ADULT WEDNESDAY CLASS**

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**7/5 Justin Guess of Mathis church of Christ, “Heaven/Hell”**

**7/12 Ronnie Scherffius, “Mystery”**

**7/19 Mark FitzSimmons, “Advocate”**

## Keep in PRAYER



We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of **Betty Mabe**, wife of Charlie Mabe.

### MidTown Members:

Buster Bailey  
Jeff Cannady  
Les Daltry  
Jan Farris  
Faye Henderson  
Dee Gilpatrick  
Betty Key

Kathy Laws  
Susie Mesa  
Betty Mabe  
Sandy Malone  
Ann Pantel  
Glenodine Pitts  
Mickey Tisue  
Clark Withers  
Billy York

### & Friends Family:

Victor Benitez,  
*brother of Virginia Escojido*  
Bert Haynes,  
*father of Pam Stryker*  
Kim Neel-Farthing,  
*daughter of Joyce*  
Gillette Ferguson,  
*brother in Vernal, Utah*  
June Green,  
*mother of Janice FitzSimmons*  
Amy Jamison,  
*daughter of Terry*  
Keith Lempa,  
*son-in-law of Larry Nuckles*  
Rose Leske,  
*sister-in-law of Sandra Marie*  
Barbara Lopez,  
*mother of Rosalba Barton*  
Liz Lopez,  
*friend of Nina Siegel*  
Janell Marshall  
*mother of Karon Barton’s*  
*sister-in-law*

Amanda Mueller  
*sister of Amy Harris*  
Fred Porter,  
*brother-in-law of Della Rampley*  
Madeline Posey,  
*family of Julie Posey*  
Sarah Randle,  
*mother of Steve*  
Polly Ray,  
*aunt of Connie Cleveland*  
Harish Reddy,  
*brother-in-law of Archana Verma*  
Scott Reeves,  
*son of Sam and Leta*  
*brother of Sherry Lynch*  
Gary Rush,  
*friend of the Arnots*  
Sammy Snead,  
*brother-in-law of Ronnie Scherffius*  
Carson Stickland,  
*friend of Cleveland Family*  
Prem Verma,  
*father-in-law of Archana*  
Kennedy Young, Sr.,  
*uncle of Naomi Flonnory*