

“More Meaningful Worship”

During the week take a little time to pray for the worship service.

If you have any grudge, hatred toward your fellow man, or other sinful attitudes, correct them.

Upon entering the place of worship begin meditating on your need for God in your life and those great blessings He has bestowed already.

When the singing begins, join in heartily and sing with the spirit and the understanding.

When partaking of the Lord’s Supper, think of its purpose and meaning.

When giving, express thanks to God for prospering you.

When the service is over, be friendly first to visitors, then to others, before becoming involved with your own special group of friends.

Leave the service determined to walk a dedicated life with Christ.

Submitted by Carrie Puckett

“we love the lord and people”

Sometimes it is said, “Those ‘Church of Christ people’ are narrow-minded, bigoted, and conceited egotists. They draw a circle around themselves and keep everyone else out. They are against everything and everyone.” The impression is frequently left that we are not interested in those who are not members of the church of Christ.

Many who make the accusation noted above are people who have never taken the time to investigate. They may know very little or next to nothing about who we are, and what we teach. It may be that they have heard someone, who heard someone, say they thought... Others may know what is taught, but they are unwilling to subject their own “preconceived notions” or “pet theories” to the light of true investigation. Some may feel they can excuse themselves for their lack of accurate information by accepting the word of others they deem to be somewhat, and who discredit the church of Christ in an offhand way.

The fact remains that truth is not popular. Jesus said, **“Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.”** (Luke 6:26 NASB) The apostle Paul wrote, **“For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.”** (Gal. 1:10 NASB). The truth spoken in love (as evident in the following two verses in the Ephesians letter) **“but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,”** (Eph. 4:15 NASB) is the truth spoken plainly, **“So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is”** (Eph. 5:17).

Some people are honest and admit the incongruity of the accusation that we have no love for others while we are expending considerable effort and resources to get other people to study the Bible with us. We do love

all people, and this is a manifestation of our love that we want all who will do it to learn God's truth and obey it. WE LOVE THE LORD, ALSO. It was the Lord who said, "... ***If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.***" (John 8:31-32 NASB). He, also, said, "***If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.***" John 14:15 NASB) Then Peter wrote, "*Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,*" (1 Pet. 1:22 NASB).

PLEASE INVESTIGATE US TODAY! WE WISH FOR YOU, AND FOR ALL PEOPLE, THAT WHICH IS RIGHT AND GOOD, BECAUSE WE LOVE YOU! cab