

Family Focus

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

How can you tell a Christian from a non-Christian? If I described a man as very friendly, faithful to his wife, free of addictive habits, loving and kind to his family, honest and God-fearing - would you say he was a Christian? Some would say "yes". Others might say "perhaps". How can we tell?

I ask this question because many have come to believe that God's measure of a man's life is based upon what he does not do. If we do not steal, get drunk, or run-around on our mate then we must be pretty good in God's eyes. This is the attitude that many in the world and some in the church have developed for themselves.

What does God say about this attitude? Notice the importance He places upon action (doing) in the book of James:

- 1:27 "...visit orphans and widows in their distress, and keep oneself unstained by the world."
2:20 "...faith without works is useless."
3:13 "Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom."
4:17 "Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin."
5:20 "...he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death, and will cover a multitude of sins."

Our lives cannot be pleasing to God and devoid of good works. A salvation which is based upon negativism is no salvation. The reward for doing nothing is "outer darkness."



If you have looked into yourself and realized that there needs to be more "doing" in your spiritual life, you do not have to search far. Here at Fairview Road we have many ministry areas that you can choose to be involved in. They will allow you to

put your faith into action. If you need help in finding a work to utilize your "doing", just speak to one of the ministers or elders.

May God be glorified in all that we do!

In His service,
Dee Vanderburg

Shepherds' Vision Goals

Overall Goal:

To grow spiritually and numerically as "a family growing people to the glory of God".

Goals for the next 12 months:

1. Increase participation by at least 10% in these areas: Sunday Worship, Bible School, Ministry Works, and Small Groups.
2. Make a list of 5 folks to pray for & invite to Small Group or Worship.
3. Add 20 new teachers.
4. Total Congregational giving challenge - increase giving by 28%.

Want to learn more about specific plans to reach these goals? Ask an elder or minister or go to our website: www.fairviewroad.org.

Our Shepherds

Glen Godsey, Charles Martin, Britt Newby, Don Osburn,
Jerry Templer, James Treece, Dee Vanderburg