

Clarksville Church of Christ
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649
 (812) 944-2305
www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

Sundays
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM
 Worship.....10:30 AM
 Worship.....6:00 PM

Wednesdays
 Bible Study.....7:30 PM

Elders
 Stephen W. Nale.....812-948-9917
 Allen L. Morris.....812-967-4536

Deacons
 Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766
 Elbert Metcalf.....812-246-5938
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295

Evangelist & Editor
 Brian Anderson.....317-442-9507

Goals For 2017

Theme
 Sowing The Seed

Attendance
 Sunday Bible Study: 40
 Sunday AM: 50
 Sunday PM: 40
 Wednesday Bible Study: 30

Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget

Invitations: 100

Add Additional Pews

In Home Bible Study

Bible Classes For All Ages

-Like us on Facebook

-View us on YouTube at Clarks-villechurch

We are now in the 37th week of our Bible Reading.

Prayer List

Harry & Martha Croninger
 Sharon Nale
 Les & Novema Dunn
 Mary McAfee
 Jean Hume (Anita's Sister)
 Betty Adams (Don's Sister)
 Shirley Mitchel (Don's Sister)
 Debby Spears (Roseann's sis)
 Sharon Thompson
 Sandra Anderson (Brian's Mom)
 Jerry Maudlin (Mark's Dad)
 Kara Morris (surgery)
 Allen Morris

Lord's Supper Reading
 Heb. 9:22-28

Scripture Reading
 AM: John 10:1-16
 PM: Matt. 23:13-28

Encouragement Tally
 Invites this month: 12
 Invites last month: 104
 Visitors YTD: 33

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Place Stamp
 Here



**The
 Clarksville Beacon**

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The Good Shepherd

Welcome!
 If you're visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we're interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. The truth He's talking about is God's word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth." John 17:17. Therefore we hope you'll appreciate that we'll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, I Pet. 4:11.

Read John 10:1-16. Jesus calls Himself the good shepherd. Let's look at the qualities that make Jesus the good shepherd this morning.

I. He Dies For His Sheep

Jn 10:11; 15:13, Is 53:4-5, Rom. 5:8, Jn 3:16, Heb. 2:9 Rev. 1:5

II. He Knows His Sheep

Jn 10:3, Lk 12:7, Rom. 14:15, I Cor. 8:11, Gal 2:20

III. He Leads His Sheep

Jn 10:3, Lk 9:23, I Pet. 2:21, Phil. 2:5ff

IV. He Gives Life To His Sheep

Jn 10:10, 1:4; 14:6; 6:36, I Jn 5:11; 2:25

V. Provides Unity For The Sheep

Jn 10:16, Eph. 2:11ff

VI. He Seeks His Lost Sheep

Jn 10:15:3-7, Lk 19:10

Choices

Man has no choice but to choose! We are by nature creatures of choice and there is no way to live in this world without making choices.

Joshua challenged the Israelites to "fear the Lord, serve him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord! And if it seems evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Josh 24:14,15). Some kind of choice was inevitable. Joshua did not say "make a choice or remain neutral," for that was impossible. Furthermore, Joshua could not make the choice for them. He really could not make it for his family, but he could lead them in making the right choice.

When people try to get us to make right choices they are not taking away our power to choose. Ultimately, each one must answer for himself. God said, "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself" (Ezek. 18:20). In verses 5-13 of this chapter, Ezekiel discussed the fact that a righteous father may have a wicked son; then in verses 14-18, he discussed the wicked father having a righteous son. In both cases, the blame or credit was given to the one who made the choice. Others may influence our choices but each is accountable to God for his own decisions.

Choices con'

In man's determination to pass the blame, he may say, "I couldn't help it; I had no other choice," but that is not the truth. A person who is tempted to drink has at least three choices. He may submit to the temptation, refuse to drink, or tell others that they should not be drinking and urge them to stop. The person who is tempted to commit fornication has several choices. He can flee the scene. (While I was in Romania, a young man said that if you are alone with a girl in her home and she begins to take off her clothes, that is not a good time to preach to her! It is time to get out!) He can tell the person that he "cannot sin against God," as Joseph did (Gen. 39:9), or he can give in to the temptation. Every temptation demands a choice.

Before we choose, we should also consider the possible consequences of that choice. The power to choose does not mean that we have the power to choose the consequences of the choice! A person who jumps from an eight story building has very little choice about the consequences. When Moses looked at the choices and consequences, he chose to suffer with God's people (Heb. 11:24-26). When Joseph considered the consequences of adultery, he chose to run. I am sure that Moses' mother would have been proud of her son's choice, and surely Joseph's parents would have been pleased with his choice, but each had to make his own choice. Parents cannot make moral choices for their children, neither can children make the choices for their parents.

The power of choice is a God-given right. No man can take it away from us. We may hurt, or please others by our choices but ultimately the choices as well as the consequences are personal.