

**Clarksville Church of Christ**  
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy  
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649  
 (812) 944-2305  
[www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org](http://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  
 Mark Maudlin.....502-523-0479

**Editor**  
 Stephen W. Nale.....502-727-7559  
 Email: [info@clarksvillechurchofchrist.org](mailto:info@clarksvillechurchofchrist.org)

Goals For 2021  
Theme  
 A Church with a Mind to Work  
Attendance: Sunday Bible Study: 40;  
Sunday AM: 50  
Sunday PM: 40; Wednesday Bible Study: 30

Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget

Invitations: 130

Every Member Committed To Daily Bible Reading

Every Member Committed To Daily Prayer

Every Member Committed To Be At Every Service

Support the Work in Vincennes, Indiana  
Hold A Men's Training Class

Hold One Gospel Meeting

-Like us on Facebook-View us on YouTube at Clarksvillechurch

Sermon and Bible Class videos now on our website

***We are now in week #6 of our Bible Reading.***

**Prayer List**  
 Barry Martin, Kay Thompson  
 Ruth Butt: Vivian's mother  
 Sharon Nale  
 Les & Novema Dunn  
 Debby Spears (Roseann's sis)  
 Sharon Thompson  
 The Wards & Beth McFarland  
 Dale Kahl, Brooke Thomas  
 Ron Shively: bro.'s recent death

**"Teaching"** 2 Tim. 2:2  
 Matt. 28:19-20  
***Each member a teacher!***

**Who Have You Invited To Services This week?**

**Lord's Supper Reading**  
 Heb. 9:16-28

**Scripture Reading**  
 AM: Matt. 28:18-20  
 PM: James 1:12-15

**Encouragement Tally**  
 Invites this month: 0  
 Invites last month: 8  
 Visitors YTD: 0

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Place Stamp Here



The  
**Clarksville Beacon**  
 www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

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**TEACHING SHOULD BE A CONGREGATIONAL PRIORITY**

**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.

**Introduction**

A. The "Great Commission" was a commission to TEACH - Mt. 28:19,20.  
 B. To be sure, teaching was not an end in itself (cf. 1 Tim. 1:5), but we should never forget that the great goals of the gospel cannot be realized without teaching.  
 C. If we neglect the work of teaching, we should not expect that the Lord's work is going to prosper. I

**MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF TEACHING**

A. The word teaching covers a wide range of activities.  
 1. Public + private teaching - Ac. 20:20.  
 2. Spoken + written.  
 3. Group teaching + one-on-one.  
 4. Evangelism to non-Christians + edification of Christians.  
 5. Teaching we do + teaching we support someone else to do.  
 6. Teaching + being taught.  
 B. A church that has "a mind to work" will want to do as much teaching as it can in every way possible.

**THREE EXAMPLES**

A. Jerusalem. Teaching, studying, and spreading the gospel were the focus - Ac. 2:42-47; 4:4,20; 8:4; etc.  
 B. Antioch. Everything we read about this church tells us it was a beehive of teaching activity - Ac. 11:19-26; 13:1-3; etc.  
 C. Thessalonica. From this group, Paul said, "the word of the Lord has sounded forth" (1 Thess. 1:8).

**HOW MUCH OF A PRIORITY IS TEACHING IN THIS CONGREGATION?**

A. What does our church building say about our priorities? Would it be obvious to a visitor that this building was designed primarily to be a "teaching facility"?  
 B. What does our congregational budget say about our priorities?  
 C. What provision are we making to prepare additional teachers, the teachers of the future? Cf. 2 Tim. 2:2.

**CONCLUSION**

A. With regard to teaching, we need to be constantly asking: how can we do more?  
 1. How can we multiply the amount of teaching that is being done?  
 2. How can we increase the quality of the teaching that is being done?  
 B. May we aspire to be like Thessalonica: a church from which the Lord's word "sounds forth" (1 Thess. 1:8).

**-Gary Henry**

# SIN: WHAT HAPPENS BEFORE AND AFTER

## Introduction

- A. The progress of sin in our lives involves a chain of events.
- B. By God's grace, we are capable of stopping this sequence before it goes any further — we are not helpless victims.

### I. BEFORE

- A. Temptation.
  - 1. Temptation itself is no sin - Gen. 39:7-9; Hb. 4:15. It is simply the devil's enticement — or "offer" — to sin.
  - 2. It is, of course, extremely foolish to expose ourselves unnecessarily to temptation - 1 Tim. 6:11.
- B. Failure to reject temptation.
  - 1. Our great failure is in not saying a decisive No! — we entertain the temptation in our minds, letting it take root.
  - 2. Unarrested, temptation then leads to sin - Jas. 1:14,15.

### II. SIN

- A. Thoughts. We can sin in our thoughts even if the thoughts never surface outwardly - Mt. 5:21,22.
- B. Words & deeds.
  - 1. In most cases, sinful thoughts that are not dealt with rightfully are going to show up in our words and deeds.
  - 2. As the old saying goes, "What's down in the well is going to come up in the bucket." Cf. Mt. 12:35.
  - 3. If we've obeyed the gospel, sin need not result in our eternal death (Ac. 8:22,23; 1 Jn. 5:16,17), but much depends on what our "next step" is.

### III. AFTER

- A. Refusal to repent. When we refuse to repent, we put ourselves into a deadly downward spiral. Cf. Cain in Gen. 4:3-11.
- B. Hardening of conscience. Habitual sin hardens our minds against God and turns sin into an ingrained habit. Cf. Prov. 28:14.; Mt. 23:37.

### Conclusion

- A. "Sow a thought and you reap an action; sow an act and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character; sow a character and you reap a destiny" (Ralph Waldo Emerson). Cf. Rom. 2:5,6 ; Gal. 6:7,8.
- B. Hell will be the outcome if we refuse the opportunities given us to turn around and go back in God's direction.
- C. But one of the worst things we can do is to think we can procrastinate and break the chain of events "later."
- D. We need to show more defiance against our adversary. We must resist him and say no - Jas. 4:7; 1 Pt. 5:8,9

**-Gary Henry**

## The Battlefield of the Human Heart

*"If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it" (Genesis 4:7).*

IN THE AGE-OLD CONFLICT BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG, IT IS OUR VERY HEARTS THAT ARE AT RISK. The tempter seeks to destroy us by deceiving us and drawing our will away from God. And to the extent that we allow our hearts to be turned against God, we allow evil to gain another unfortunate victory. We become yet another name on Satan's long list of victims.

Our hearts are under attack on all fronts. There is not a single dimension of our thinking where we are not challenged by evil and confronted with crucial choices. In our intellect, the choice is between truth and deception. In our affections, we must decide between love and hatred. In our will, the stark alternatives are obedience to God and disobedience. Unless we determine not to let it happen, wrongheadedness, and even wrongheartedness, will overwhelm us in each of these realms and wipe out every good thing we were created to enjoy.

These truths are sobering, to be sure. We have an obvious need for humility and vigilance in everything that pertains to our spiritual welfare. But it is also possible for us to have courage and hope. Endeavoring to strengthen the backbone of his young friend Timothy, Paul wrote, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7). We are caught up in a cosmic struggle, but the Creator of this cosmos is far greater in power and wisdom than all the forces of evil combined. The rightful King reigns from His powerful throne!

The devil can tempt us and test us, but he does not have the power to overrule our choice. On the other hand, God could overrule our choice, but He will not. Having given us the freedom to choose, He exhorts us to resist the devil's deception and to hold onto the truth. He invites us to find in Him that which is real life. So the basic issue is easy to understand and dangerous to forget. Moses captured it in his historic words to Israel: "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live" (Deuteronomy 30:19).

"The devil wrestles with God, and the field of battle is the human heart" (Feodor Dostoevsky).

**Gary Henry – WordPoints.com + AreYouaChristian.com**