

“SETTING THE PROPER EXAMPLE”

Dad used to tell his sons, “Be leader, not a follower.” What us boys soon realized was that being a leader means setting the proper example, and how one sets that example will determine how others see you. Do we realize how many people are watching what we say or do? If not, just do or say something wrong in front of your spouse, family, or friends and you will soon find out. Yes, people are watching, and they are watching you most of all, because you claim to be a Christian, devoted to Jesus Christ. Someone once said, “No man is so insignificant as to be sure that his example can do no harm.” Let’s think about our need to do and say things that would make a worthy example for others to go by.

We don’t have to be perfect to provide a helpful pattern for those around us. We just have to provide a model of living that lifts others up and doesn’t pull them down. One part of our good example is the willingness to correct our mistakes when we become aware that our conduct has not been worthy of imitation. Absolute sinlessness is not the kind of consistency others expect of us. They will get that only from the Lord. What they do need from us, however, is very practical and possible, even in a fallen world: **a consistent willingness to admit our blunders and correct them.**

In a way, we owe others a godly example, and setting the proper example is the least we can do for them. There is no shortage of folks who will set the wrong example. That will be done no matter what our own actions are. But if we don’t set the right example, our friends and neighbors may not get it anywhere else. Doesn’t everybody deserve to have at least one person doing the right thing before them? Is it fair when we deprive our friends of what may be the only godly example they have a chance to be exposed to? It’s something to think about.

Throughout this week, let’s be mindful of our example and look for ways to improve it. If necessary, let’s bend over backward not only to do what is strictly and legally right, but also to go beyond that and choose the very best among the alternatives that are permissible. Being “example conscious” will prompt us to go the extra mile to make sure that others are seeing an unmistakable, unequivocal example of godliness in our lives. Of course, this will mean having to do some inconvenient things — and it will mean leaving off some things we might like to enjoy if we were the only people in the world. But we’re not alone in this world. Others are watching. And that’s why Jesus said, “Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven” (Mt. 5:16). DP

GOSPEL MEETING APRIL 17 – 20

Sunday 10 AM & Mon. – Wed 7 PM

ETERNITY! ARE YOU READY?

“Return to Me and I will return to you”- God!

The Salisbury Beacon

Salisbury Church of Christ

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Doug Post, Minister

410-742-4831

Office Hours: Tues–Thurs. 10AM–2PM

March 6, 2016

WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY

Dear friends – we appreciate your willingness to worship God with us this Lord’s Day! If you would like more information about the Church of Christ, or if we may assist you in other ways, please let us know. Come and be part of our family – the Salisbury Church of Christ

Please fill out a Visitor’s Card and place it in the collection plate

Order of Our Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPENING PRAYER

SONG # 925 I AM RESOLVED

SONG # 670 I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR

PRAYER

SCRIPTURE – REVELATION 1:1-6

SONG # 296 THE OLD RUGGED CROSS

LORD’S SUPPER

CONTRIBUTION

SONG # 733 BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE

SERMON: “JESUS LOVED US AND ...”

SONG # 920 JUST AS I AM

SONG # 720 INTO OUR HANDS

CLOSING PRAYER

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

LET US PRAY FOR: Church Growth: Pray for both spiritual and numerical growth of our church. Debbie Post, Stella Reidy, Jack Callaway, Sharon Travi, Lavinda Mason, Delores Price, Katie Gray, Flossie Hull, Barbara Kuykendall, John Tillman, Paul Marchesault, Marilyn Artis, Linda Alaban, Florence Tucker, George & Lynette Bell, the Jones/Dale family, the Gibson family, Larry Laten, Prince Ituen and all missionaries and military personnel serving overseas.

- **Wilma Duke's** sister in Indianapolis passed away. Please keep Wilma, Herman, and her family in your prayers during this time, and for safe travels.
- **Ethel Dickerson** had an examination on Wednesday and cancer has been ruled out and we rejoice with her. However, please continue to keep Ethel in your prayers
- **Elaine Bradley** has asked that we keep her son, Bruce Lauder, in our prayers as he deals with his substance addiction
- **Ray Maddox** has not been feeling well. Please remember him in your prayers and visit him!!
- **Ruth Bank** took a fall Tuesday and was unable to be here Wednesday. She remains very sore. Please keep her in your prayers for a speedy recovery. Also for the loss of her brother
- **Jerry Marvel** saw the doctor on Monday, and he too is cancer free. We rejoice. Please keep Jerry in your prayers for a continued measure of good health.
- **Tracy & Kevin Kronewitter** were both ill last Sunday.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 6 (Sunday) Pot Luck

March 6 (Sunday) Quick Evangelism Committee Meeting right after service

March 12 (Saturday) Ladies Bible Class

March 13 (Sunday) Daylight Savings Time (Spring Ahead).

April 17 (Sunday - Wednesday) Gospel Meeting with Jerry Brewer & Song Service

April 18, 19, 20 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) Gospel Meeting

April 23, 2016 (Saturday) – Ladies Day, Laurel church of Christ

“Vox POPULI, Vox Dei”

“The voice of the people is the voice of God” is the translation of the ancient Latin expression serving as the title of this article. In a democracy such a sentiment sounds good. Especially does it soothe the ear in a society that is permeated with Humanism. When one examines God's infallible will, he immediately notices that most of the time most of the people are not in sympathy with the Truth of God. More than this is the fact that the Bible reveals that God's people are very rarely content to remain submissive to His will over any extended period of time.

Just six chapters into the Bible (and some 1500 years from the creation) God is pleased with only eight people out of the whole human race (Gen. 6:5–6).

Concerning God's chosen people of the Old Testament, the Israelites, God said of them at the time of the golden calf incident: “**I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people**” (Exo. 32:1–9). Paul warned that some members of the church would conduct themselves according to the aforementioned phrase, with not a few elders and preachers in the lead (Acts 20:28–31; 1 Tim. 4:1ff; 2 Tim. 4:1–4)! A great apostasy resulted therefrom, and there is not any indication that mankind, in the church or out of it, has changed. That is, man has yet to learn that the voice of the people is not the voice of God.

Can you imagine the Campbells, Barton W. Stone, and others of their character holding the view that the preachers of their day should settle the matter of what constitutes the final authority in religious matters so that they would know what to preach? It is obvious that the voice of preachers in and of itself alone is not any more the voice of God than is the voice of the people. It is still true that the Bereans were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so (Acts 17:11; cf. 2 Tim. 2:15). Yes, all of us have benefitted and will continue to benefit from those who have gone before us in their studies. Surely no one is opposed to such benefits and blessings in the least, but that is not the point under consideration. My point is just this: The majority position on any subject does not in and of itself make it right! When the church and the world understand that point they will know why the Bereans were called “noble” by God and they will understand Acts 17:11.

Faithful elders, Gospel preachers, and other members of the Lord's church have long withstood the attempts at intimidation and threats coming from the world and human churches when such people have attempted to get God's faithful to water down the Gospel that the masses might be pleased. **Vox populi, vox Dei** is Satan's formula and has no place among the faithful of God. Let us strive to make the voice of God the voice of the people. Our plea, therefore, is: “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God” (1 Pet. 4:11), “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation” (Rom. 1:16), “But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine” (Tit. 2:1), and “Prove all things; hold fast that which is good” (1 The. 5:21)

---- David Brown
Spring, Texas

When the Saints Meet Here in Salisbury

Sunday Bible Study – 9:30 AM

Sunday Worship – 10:30 AM

Wednesday Bible Study – 6pm