

The Connection

Messages of Hope



A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 735

June 14, 2023

“I am Responsible for my Feelings and my Actions”

Mark 12:30 - 31 “...and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” This is called the Great Commandment. While we may try to love God with all our heart as a Christian, sometimes the other piece of the Great Commandment is tough to follow, especially in the world in which we live.

I was listening to a popular talk radio show in our area and they were telling the story about two neighbors. They didn’t say what brought about the animosity between the two, but something brought it to a head this past weekend. On Saturday the two neighbors were mowing their grass with their riding lawn mowers when things took a turn and they decided to head towards each other at full speed. They ran head on into each other. One of the men was knocked off of his mower and things now take another twist. The other neighbor tried to run over the man while he was on the ground with his mower and then got off his mower and threw the man down a steep embankment. WOW! I don’t know what the beef was over, but the one man was arrested for aggravated assault with intent to kill.

How do we let our emotions get to this point? I decided I was going to type into Google “two men on their lawn mowers” to see if I could find out why they were fighting. Oh my goodness! I could not believe all the stories of people on lawn mowers. In Tennessee someone tried to run over his neighbor with his lawn mower because he said he tried to kill his son. In Florida a man was mowing his yard when a police officer drove up in his driveway and the man tried to run over the police officer in his yard. Is this not crazy? We talk about banning guns because they kill people, are we going to ban lawn mowers because they run over people? Oh, certainly not, because we know it is the person, not an inanimate object that takes the action to harm or kill.

Of course I don’t know the salvation status of any of these people. I do know that they are not following the Great Commandment. That is very clear.

What about us? How do we feel about our neighbor? I have a friend who shared that she has a friend in her neighborhood and she enjoys her friendship. One day on a walk the friend shared her beliefs about a hot topic of the day and my friend was surprised, taken back, didn’t understand where her Christian friend was coming from. She could have easily shunned or shied away from her, but she didn’t. In fact, she engaged in common conversation around the issue to gain clarity. Not that her position was changed, but to gain understanding about her friend’s position. She was following the Great Commandment. Well done.

Terry and I have some friends that we get together with from time to time and we know that they have different views than we do on some things, but we love them and they love us and we do not let those things affect our relationship with each other.

Are there essentials of my faith that I compromise on? Absolutely not! But in the non-essentials, I am not going to let it separate me from others that may have different views. At the end of the day, I am responsible for my feelings and my actions. I can’t blame it on an inanimate object or on someone else. I am responsible for my feelings and my actions.

Others are watching us. We claim Christ and are called to be different than those who are not Christian in our lost world. But often, people can’t tell the difference. We Christians look the same as the lost. Don’t let others pull you into their world of hatred or separation. You don’t have to always agree with others, but neither do you have to allow yourself to devolve into hate because you disagree. Let us all try to love as Christ calls us to love.

Blessings friends,
Pastor Marty - HOPE Church Raleigh
Worship . Grow . Serve

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, June 14

Confirmation Class @ 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Devotion & Prayer
@ 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 15

No Worship Team Practice

Saturday, June 17

The Computer Lab @ 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, June 18

No Worship Team Practice
Worship @ 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship @ 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages
@ 11:10 a.m.

Monday, June 19

No Staff Meeting

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - June 18

Church is Providing

ProPresenter - June 18

Bill Joyner

Soundboard - June 18

Ben Pierce

Live Streaming - June 18

Al Floyd

Communion June

Terry Duffell

Greeter - June 18

Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - June 18

Terry Duffell

Scripture Text and Sermon
This Sunday

Matthew 7:21 - 23

"Being Known by God is Real"

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Jun 18	Song of Solomon 2
Jun 19	Song of Solomon 3
Jun 20	Song of Solomon 4
Jun 21	Song of Solomon 5
Jun 22	Song of Solomon 6
Jun 23	Song of Solomon 7
Jun 24	Song of Solomon 8



Outreach Ministries

"Food of the Month"

for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

Canned Meats

We have a collection bin in the foyer

HOPE Meal Ministry

Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone else.

The Computer Lab

June 17 @ 9:00 a.m.

TLC Devotion

Today, Wednesday, June 28

@ 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

WOMEN of HOPE

Saturday, June 24

@ 1:00 p.m.

Family Fun Fridays For June

Friday - June 30 @ 6:30 p.m.

Family Movie Night

Come watch C.S. Lewis's

The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe

Our Sanctuary will become

The HOPE Theater

Invite friends and neighbors to join in.

For July

Friday - July 21 @ 6:30 PM

For August

Friday - August 4 @ 6:30 PM

Friday - August 18 @ 6:30 PM

Quote of the Week

*"Devote yourselves to prayer,
keeping alert in it with an
attitude of thanksgiving..."*

God - Colossians 4:2

Prayer Requests:

Revill & Mary Lane Mallory,, Jamie Baldwin, Donna Williams, Diane Williams, Carol & Colin (Kathy Herriman's Sister & Brother-in-law), Loretta (Sandi Underwood's daughter), Joan Summers, Jordan & Cinnamon (son and daughter of Lynn Joyner's family members), Tommy and Billy Lanphere (Lynn Joyner's brothers), Gene & Becky Hale, Dave & Dot Geil, Carlyle and Cynthia Franklin (Sandra Pierce's dad and stepmom), Brian Adam's dad, our Military, our Missionaries, our Nation, and the world. If you have those you would like added to our prayer concerns, please email me those names.

Wednesday Night Ministries

Wednesday Night Devotion, & Prayer June 14

Devotion @ 7:30 p.m.
Prayer Time @ 8:00 p.m.

A Zoom Link will be available for those who cannot join us in person starting at 7:30 p.m. tonight

We would love for you
to join us.

Next Session Meeting Sunday, August 13 @ 12 PM

Confirmation Class

Coming Dates

Wednesday, June 14 @ 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 2 @ 12:15 p.m.

Sunday, July 23 @ 12:15 p.m.

HOPE Church Raleigh
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

4911 Green Rd

Raleigh, NC 27616

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Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org

www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

YouTube.com (type "HOPE Church Raleigh"
in the search box)