

SERVICE SCHEDULE for June 29, 2014

Announcements for the Week Marshall Irvin
Morning Service
Prayer- Don Casper
Song Leader- Doug Davidson
Communion:
 -- **Comments** – Andy Fuller
 -- **Assisting** – Daryl Griffing
 -- **Assisting** – Matt Fuller
 -- **Assisting** – Cliff Davis
 -- **Assisting** – Andrew Johnson
 -- **Scripture** – Dan Buselmeier
Closing Prayer- Phillip Dorn
Evening Service
Prayer- Don Casper
Song Leader- Jason LaChappelle
Comments – Andy Dobbs
Communion –Cliff Davis
Scripture – Dan Buselmeier
Closing Prayer- Curran LaChappelle
Wednesday Night – July 2, 2014
First Prayer- Darryl Griffing
Song Leader – Roger German
Invitation – Doug Davidson
Closing Prayer – David Fuller
June 29 Evening Congregational Prayer Meeting

Upcoming Assignments

July	Communion	Cleaning
6	Hudson	Dobbs, Fuller, LaChappelle, Shacklock
13	Baker	Dorn, Irvin, Williams, Griffing

“Now there is a final reason I think that Jesus says, "Love your enemies." It is this: that love has within it a redemptive power. And there is a power there that eventually transforms individuals. Just keep loving them, and they can't stand it too long. Oh, they react in many ways in the beginning. They react with guilt feelings, and sometimes they'll hate you a little more at that transition period, but just keep loving them. And by the power of your love they will break down under the load. That's love, you see. It is redemptive, and this is why Jesus says love. There's something about love that builds up and is creative. There is something about hate that tears down and is destructive. So love your enemies. — Martin Luther King Jr.



Schedule of Services

Sunday: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.

This bulletin is published weekly. Edited by Bill McIlvain.

Send any articles for the bulletin to Preacher@covingtonchurchofchrist.com

Visit us on the web: www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com

Covington Church of Christ

9441 Bypass, P.O. Box 768, Covington, GA30015 --- [770] 787-1119

Elders: Dan Buselmeier, Andy Dobbs, Bill McIlvain

Deacons: John Paul Baker, Doug Davidson, Andy Fuller,

Marshall Irvin, Jason LaChappelle

June 29, 2014

The “Bad Guys”

1. What 2 women brought about the execution of John the Baptist?
2. What king of Israel had the whole dynasty of Ahab murdered?
3. Who did Rechab and Baanah murder to get in good with David?
4. What king of Assyria was murdered at worship by his two sons?



A Culture OF Rudeness and Anger

By Jim Jonas

In case you haven't noticed, rudeness is in. Not that it was ever completely out, but there seems to be a renewed vigor of in your face, tell it like it is, take no prisoners, let it all hang out, vent your spleen, get out of my way candor.

Karen Heller, a Philadelphia Enquirer columnist, recently summarized the trend: *“Indignation isn't confined to large issues; miniscule infractions set it off. We're impatient and angry, every slight perceived as a conspiracy. Each day brings fresh indignation. Hooked on speed, people harrumph about waiting in short lines.*



A Culture OF Rudeness and Anger

Continued

Drivers behave as though other vehicles are the enemy. Someone cuts you off and it's the thrown gauntlet welcoming a road duel, an assault on one's independence – or worse ...



We've filled our daily lives with enemies everywhere, real and perceived, from menacing dictators to the other political party to the guy behind us on the expressway riding our tail.

Television thrives on loutish behavior and dismissal, being booted off the island, the stage, out of the boardroom. It's humiliation as theater, snarkiness as creativity. The nastier the terminator, the brighter his astral burn."

We do live in a world that inconveniences, threatens and depersonalizes us on every hand. Such rudeness and incivility in the public arena is corrosive; it tends to lower our resistance to behaving in kind. The knee jerk response is to assert ourselves, stake out our ground and show our adversaries that we can't be pushed around. Fight fire with fire, right?

Wrong. The standard of attitude and behavior to which a Christian is called is higher than the level of treatment we receive from others. Jesus raised the bar when He said: ***"Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets"*** (Matthew 7:12). In describing a husband's treatment of his wife, ***"For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church"*** (Ephesians 5:29).

Normal people have regard for their own comfort and well-being. And it is not so difficult to treat other normal people with respect and courtesy. Ah, but what about my abnormal fellow man who abuses me without cause? What is my motive to treat the undeserving as I wish to be treated?

First, we are challenged at this point on how much we really believe in God's word. God declares that vengeance belongs to Him and He'll take care of the wicked (Romans 12:19). Our job is to feed our enemy and give him a drink; i.e., treat him as we would wish to be treated (Romans 12:20). This, we understand, was the way of Jesus toward Malchus (Luke 22:50-51), His executioners (Luke 23:34), yea, even all of us who have shown Him contempt and disrespect. Jesus, ***"when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously"*** (1 Peter 2:23). Do we believe in God enough to do our duty and let Him handle the rest?

Secondly, in the flush of retributive anger, we are challenged regarding our wisdom. When Peter hacked off Malchus' ear, Jesus rebuked him: ***"Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword"*** (Matthew 26:52). We escalate volatility when we retaliate in kind; we contribute to the cycle of violence; we set the wrong example for our children and we endanger ourselves through poor judgment or high blood pressure. Our own inconsideration and rudeness poisons the public arena regardless of the rationalization we attach to it.

Ms. Heller continues: ***"There are fewer rewards for civility, and manners have completely evaporated. I'm telling you, e-mail and voice mail, aired attacks and flipped birds at strangers are easy, mindless and cowardly. It's kindness that takes work."***

But it is work that will receive due reward from smiling, surprised faces of our fellow man and a nod of approval from our God who is watching to see what we will do. ***"But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Highest ..."*** (Luke 6:35).



Answers from page 1

1. Herodias and her daughter [Mark 6:25-27]
2. Jehu [2 Kings 9]
3. Ishbosheth [2 Samuel 4:6]
4. Sennacherib [2 Kings 19:37]

