

COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 10:30 AM
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



The Correspondent

Vol. 52 No. 17

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth
1 Thessalonians 1:8

April 28, 2024

Dealing with Mistreatment

-Renn Ferguson

Much of the bible is spent teaching mankind how to get along. In fact, half of the ten commandments deal with man's relationship with his fellow man. We should go to great lengths to ensure we treat one another correctly. But what about when someone mistreats us? It happens. It's bound to happen. Sometimes, we are mistreated by those who we love most dearly. It is at those times we must be extra cautious in our response and reaction. The scriptures give us guidelines to lead us through those situations to give us the best chance at a positive outcome.

When I look at the example of Jesus these principles become so apparent. The first one is taken from His great sermon on the mount. Matthew 5:38-42 contains Jesus' teachings about retaliation. This stands in stark contrast with the "eye for an eye" mentality that His audience had. He teaches us that when one mistreats us, we should not be consumed with anger and vengeance. Rather, we should respond in humility and gentleness. This is very foreign to many of us. Yet, if we prize our relationships with one another we will strive to practice this great teaching.

At the end of the life of Christ we see two other principles illustrated. As Jesus was hanging on the cross, He said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34, ESV). Notice to whom Jesus is speaking "Father". During this atrocity Jesus prayed. Not only did He pray, He prayed for the very ones that were murdering Him. How often do we pray for the ones that mistreat us? It is not a natural thing to do. But, in my experience, it is very difficult to remain angry or upset with someone for whom you are praying.

As we examine continue to Jesus' prayer we realize that He was entreating the Father for their forgiveness. This is the last principle we will note. When someone mistreats us we should always respond to them with a willingness to forgive. Again, this not an easy task but it is not impossible to develop this attitude. Two other men come to mind to show us this was not a supernatural ability that only Jesus possessed. Stephen made an identical statement when he was being stoned (Acts 7:60). Paul, likewise said something similar when he had been abandoned (2 Timothy 4:16).

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2024 Theme:
The Gospel Is for All

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**Brain Health Culinary
Nutrition Seminar**
5/4/24 1:00 PM to 3 PM

Paul in Jerusalem

Acts 21:17-26

I. Paul's Report.

- A. The brothers gladly received them- v. 17, 1 Corinthians 16:1-2, 2 Corinthians 9:13, Romans 15:30-31
- B. Paul gives God all the glory- v. 19, 1 Corinthians 3:6, 15:10, Philippians 2:13

II. False Accusations.

- A. Putting words in Paul's mouth- v. 20-21, Acts 16:3, 1 Corinthians 9:20
- B. What Paul taught- Acts 15:2, 8-11, Galatians 3:10-11, 19, 25

III. Unity Sought.

- A. Paul would take part in a vow with four others- v. 22-24, Numbers 6:1-21
- B. Was Paul wrong for doing this? v. 25, Galatians 2:11-14

Mistreatment...

We should carry this attitude of forgiveness with us in every moment of our lives.

Being mistreated is inevitable. How, when, and who will mistreat us are all out of our control. But as we look at Jesus we see that our response to that mistreatment is completely within our control. Let us respond as Jesus would with humility, gentleness, prayer, and forgiveness.

Acts 21:17-19

S	E	L	I	T	N	E	G	R	E	E	T	E	D
E	G	R	G	B	A	D	C	O	M	E	Y	D	J
E	G	G	I	L	R	E	L	D	E	R	S	E	M
M	A	O	J	A	A	E	E	S	D	W	N	V	J
T	P	D	E	T	M	D	T	H	G	O	H	I	L
H	A	H	R	N	U	O	L	H	P	T	E	E	I
E	U	T	U	S	W	J	N	Y	R	J	G	C	N
M	L	I	S	M	E	A	O	G	E	E	I	E	N
A	J	W	A	T	N	M	O	T	S	A	N	R	I
H	M	M	L	H	T	E	U	O	E	D	O	N	E
I	I	E	E	I	R	S	D	L	N	E	Y	D	H
L	H	S	M	N	D	E	H	D	T	D	N	S	G
L	G	R	R	G	A	M	I	N	I	S	T	R	Y
L	R	H	I	S	Y	I	H	G	U	O	R	H	T

DONE
WITH
WHEN
THINGS
HIS
AMONG
DAY
PRESENT
PAUL
MINISTRY
ELDERS
GENTILES
THROUGH
COME
WENT
TOLD
THEM
JERUSALEM
BRETHREN
JAMES
GLADLY
RECEIVED
GREETED
GOD

- ¹⁷ And when we had come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.
- ¹⁸ On the following *day* Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.
- ¹⁹ When he had greeted them, he told in detail those things which God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

What must I do to be saved?

Hear: Romans 10:17. Believe: Mark 16:16. Repent: Acts 2:38.

Confess: Romans 10:9-10. Be Baptized: Acts 2:38. Live Faithfully: Revelation 2:10

Worship Service

Announcements

Song: 982 We Shall Assemble

Song: 716 Walking Alone at Eve

Prayer

Song: 742 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (v. 1, 2, 5)

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 111 Come, We That Love the Lord (v. 1, 3, 4)

Scripture Reading: Acts 21:17-19

Sermon

Song: 382 Kneel at the Cross

Song: 983 Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Prayer

Acts 21:17-19