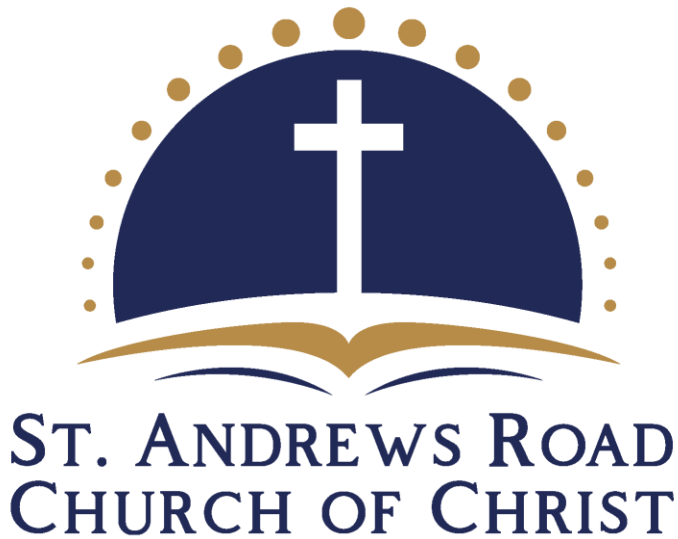


July 16, 2023

Volume 57 Issue 29



Worship Services & Bible Study

SUNDAYS	10:00 AM	Bible Class
SUNDAYS	11:00 AM	Worship
SUNDAYS	6:00 PM	Worship
WEDNESDAYS	7:00 PM	Bible Study

425 Saint Andrews Rd / Columbia, SC, 29210
803-772-0102

YouTube: Church of Christ St Andrews Rd

Faithful Are The Wounds Of A Friend

It's not easy to give nor to receive constructive criticism sometimes. Annual performance reviews are often tense for evaluators, because when an employee hasn't performed well, he knows the employee might get upset after hearing the review. Do you find it difficult to tell someone that what he or she is doing is wrong? I believe most people do because we think the person will get upset, and therefore we will get upset too. But can there be peace among men when peace with God is negated because of sin? The apostle John answers that: **But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another (1 John 1:7a, NKJV).**

In fact, as Christians, we're commanded to tell other Christians when they are wrong; however, with the right attitude. **Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother (Matthew 18:15). Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted (Galatians 6:1).** Paul counseled Timothy how to go about this task: **... in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth (2 Timothy 2:25).** The apostle Paul also told the church in Ephesus **to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called (Ephesians 4:1).** That involved putting off the old man (ungodly behavior) and putting on the new man (living godly) (Ephesians 4:22-24). If brethren continued to walk in ungodly ways, they were to be reprov'd: **And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them (Eph. 5:11).** The purpose of reproof was not to embarrass but to bring awareness - **for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience (Eph. 5:6).**

The act of reprov'ing may not be enjoyable, but we need to keep in mind what may come from it. Jesus described it as **you have gained your brother** (Mt. 18:15; cf. Jas. 5:19-20). In other words, you just brought him back to spiritual life! Certainly, that outcome would be cause for joy, like a person being resuscitated from a heart attack. When we go to reprove someone, we go having their best interest at heart - that they might repent, and so, be forgiven. As James closed his epistle, he wanted to nail something home to his readers: **Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins (James 5:19-20).** "Let him know" that this action is lifesaving!

Faithful are the wounds of
a friend,
Proverbs 27:6a



Continued Page 2

SUMMER SERIES

The FUNDAMENTALS of the

the doctrine of
Christ

Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM

July 19

“Baptism”

Scott Taylor,
Duncan COC

Faithful Are The Wounds Of A Friend

So, we all have a weighty responsibility. However, before we go to reprove, let us make sure that we have cleaned up our own houses. Jesus asked, in **Matthew 7:3-4, And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye?** This does not mean you must be perfect, but before you reprove someone, make sure you take an honest look at your own life, and make the necessary changes in accordance with God's will. Then, you will be in a position to offer life-saving reproof to someone else who needs it.

It's not easy telling someone he's wrong, but if we do it God's way, with the right attitude having examined our own selves, and knowing the good which might come from it, we will be supplied with the strength to do so (Philippians 4:13). Oh, that we would all have friends who tell us what we need to hear! The inspired penman said, **Faithful are the wounds of a friend (Proverbs 27:6a)**. A true friend's intention is not to tear down, but to help. Are you a faithful friend? How do you receive the counsel of a faithful friend?

Brotherly,
Jamie

Children's Bible Times

July 20

This is our final lesson before VBS!

10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

2 years old – 5th grade



Vacation Bible School

“A Royal Adventure”
A Study of Great Kings

July 23 – 26

Sunday – Wednesday
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

VBS Supplies Needed

Only 1 week left

Juice boxes, water, canned drinks,
individual bags of chips, Debbie cakes
Please place items in the kitchen.

**Now –
July 19**



Our Youth are collecting school supplies for the community and will be distributed on July 29. If you have any questions, please see Eric or Crystal Kelly.

See full list of supplies needed on the bulletin board.

Youth Kayaking

Tuesday, July 18

9:30 AM – 2:00 PM

6 – 12 graders

See GroupMe for details

Youth Lock-in

Friday, July 21

6 PM – 7 AM

6 – 12 graders

See GroupMe for details