
The Messenger



"... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15

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Westlake church of Christ, 2291 Highway Z, Wentzville, Missouri 63385

Website: westlakechurchofchrist.org

Sunday: AM Bible Study – 9:30 a.m., AM Worship – 10:30 a.m., PM Worship – 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday: PM Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

Dedicated to the Proclamation of the Truth in the Spirit of Love (Ephesians 4:15)

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Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30.

“In the Good Old Summertime”

by Dick Blackford

Paul urged, “Be instant in season, out of season” (II Timothy 4:2). That means we are to be constantly pressing on with urgency, both when it is convenient and when it is not convenient. That means we are to do it when everyone is singing our praises and we are to do it in the face of embarrassment and discouragement – when others think you are an “old fogey” and an alarmist.

The summertime, like other times of the year, offers us incentives to be more faithful and it also offers its temptations. Here are some “do’s” and “don’ts” for Christians in the summertime:

I. See the Creator in His Creation

There is more traveling in the summer and getting outside to see the wonders of nature. The Psalmist said, “I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills – from whence cometh my help? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth” (Psalm 121:1). “The desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose” (Isaiah 35:1). These things did not happen by blind chance. They reflect a high degree of intelligence, rather than non-intelligent matter.

*This is my father’s world, And to my list’ning ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.*

*This is my Father’s world, I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hands the wonders wrought.”*

(Maltie Babcock)

“The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth his handiwork” (Psalm 19:11).

II. Be Alert to Summer Temptations

Many have a moral “letdown” in summer. It becomes a party season when people are given to drinking, revelry, and nakedness. Since the Christian has no double standard (one for winter, another for summer), he or she will not be found behaving or dressing lasciviously so as to provoke lust in others (Galatians 5:19-21; Matthew 5:28). Rather, the Christian will dress modestly, with shamefacedness and sobriety (I Timothy 2:9). One cannot justify sin by the weather.

III. Remember the Lord on His Day

Jesus arose from the grave on the first day of the week (Luke 24:1, 7, 21). His disciples met and worshiped on that day (I Corinthians 11:23-25; Acts 20:7). We are admonished not to forsake the assembling of the saints but to exhort one another (Hebrews 10:25). Outdoor activities in summer often tempt us to forget the Lord on His day and indulge ourselves.

IV. Do Some “Growing” in Summer

We enjoy watching things grow in the summer. We have our flower gardens and vegetable gardens. Shouldn't we be growing too? Peter says we should “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” and “as newborn babes, long for the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby unto salvation” (II Peter 3:18; I Peter 2:2). A Christian growing is more beautiful than the prettiest flower.

Summertime can be good for your life as a Christian, or it can be bad. Make the best use of it and it will truly be “the good old summertime”.

News and Notes:

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

“...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”- James 5:16