

**Crossville Church
of Christ**
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Live audio streaming
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COMPASS

**Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation**

For live video streaming see Website
www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org
Email: Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org
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Elders:

Frank Bohannon
Jonathan Loveday
Larry McDuffee
Brian McLaughlin
Jon Tatum

Deacons:

Jim Bell
Charles Evans
Kyle Fairman
Dale Hennessee
Mike Isaacson
Doug Loveday
Don Napier
Tom Parham
Mark Roberts
Jason Wyatt
Jerry Wood

Ministers:

Alan Judd
Ken Mears

Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson
Jim Waldron

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM 6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class	
Tuesdays	11 AM
Prayer Meeting	
Tuesdays	10 AM
Joyful Generation (Youth Devotional & fellowship)	
1st Sunday	7 PM

POLISHING THE PULPIT

(PTP) 365 Audio/Visual Library
available at:
<https://365.polishingthepulpit.com>
Username:
Crossville church of Christ
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crossvilleptp2018

October 14, 2018

You Are Invited To Attend Our Annual
FALL GOSPEL MEETING
Gospel Theme: "Questions Asked of Jesus"

MEETING DATES

Sunday, October 14 – Wednesday October 17

SCHEDULED SERVICE TIMES:

Sunday, 9a.m., 10a.m., and 6p.m.

(Potluck fellowship immediately following morning worship)

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday @ 6P.M.

Guest Speaker: Wade Webster



Topics:

1. How many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Mt. 18:21
2. Who do you say I am? Mt. 16:15
3. What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him? Mk. 4:41
4. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Mk. 8:36
5. Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life? Lk. 18:18
6. Who art thou, Lord? Acts 9:5



ADULTEROUS HEARTS

Alan Judd

As we studied with our boys through the Bible Bowl material (if your children are not involved in Bible Bowl, I certainly want to encourage you to urge them to join with us in this faith building activity) in Ezekiel, I was struck by the strong emotion conveyed in Ezekiel 6:9: *“Then those of you who escape will remember Me among the nations where they are carried captive, because I was crushed by their adulterous heart which has departed from Me, and by their eyes which play the harlot after their idols; they will loathe themselves for the evils which they committed in all their abominations.”*

Notice the phrase: “I was crushed by their adulterous heart”, which is the response God had as He witnessed the people rebel against Him and foolishly choose to follow false Gods and wicked ways. It would be difficult to find language that is more descriptive of what sin does to our Creator than these words. Some of you reading this article may have suffered the painful emotional wounding caused by the unfaithfulness of a spouse and I am certain you understand these words on a much deeper level than I do. For those of us who have not had to deal with the infidelity of a spouse, we only shudder with fear at the thought of what such a betrayal might feel like, and we have no desire to find out or gain first hand experience.

Yet, this was the comparison God made accusing His people of an act strictly forbidden in Exodus 20:14. Other Old Testament writers employ the same analogy of marital unfaithfulness and sexual immorality or as it is often rendered “playing the harlot” in regards to the way the people of God turn away from Him and serve something else. Judges 2:17, 1 Chronicles 5:25, Psalm 106:39, and the entire book of Hosea, especially see 4:12, 5:4, and 9:1. Why is this sort of intimate association utilized? I do not presume to know all of the reasons why the Holy Spirit of God inspired the authors to use this type of parallel, but I have a few guesses.

The sexual relationship is a gift God has given for mankind to enjoy in an exclusive way and in an exclusive place. It is to be enjoyed by a man and woman and only within the confines of a marriage that meets the blueprint given in Scripture. From ancient times and observable everywhere at the present we see people trying to alter, modify, rebel, and/or ignore the Divine dictates for this relationship. Sadly, other parts of the will of God are subject to similar treatment from selfish creatures who have little regard for the instructions of the Lord.

Second, the temptation to violate God’s plan for sexuality is usually couched in such a way to suggest that the way of God is too narrow and restricts the enjoyment available to those who choose to gratify their flesh. Sadly, broken homes and divorce, shattered hearts of wives and children, dejected men, and a whole host of other casualties result from sexual deviancy. The words of God recorded by Ezekiel powerfully testify just how much our sin hurts Him who made us in His image.

Finally, this sort of ungodly behavior always ultimately brings hurt and harm to the perpetrator. I am not suggesting that those who are guilty of sexual immorality are incapable of finding forgiveness or healing. To the contrary, the wonderful mercy and grace of God that was proclaimed by the prophets was available to those willing to repent and turn back to Him. Ultimately, the story of redemption culminates as the prophets previewed in the forgiveness purchased when the Savior shed His blood on the cross. All sinners today can be washed, cleansed, and forgiven if they will comply with the terms of pardon God has given in the Gospel. However, this does not mean that their sin does not continue to have consequences. A memory of their failure or former mistakes might remain with them the rest of their days. A lack of trust in the mind of a spouse may always remain.

I say all of this to say I need to constantly remember how my adulterous heart crushes Him when I sin. When I recall this, temptation will lose much of its power in my life and I trust in yours too.

ONE IN CHRIST JESUS

Joshua Kennedy

What's red and yellow, black and white, and calls Jehovah, God. That sounds like a very weird question to ask, but it is a serious issue not only for our country but also for the church. The answer is simple, Christians. You see the Lord has made us all one people and one family (Galatians 3:28), but we seem to have allowed our society to determine who it is that should be allowed into our buildings.

We see in the world around us that there is prejudice toward other people and toward what other people believe. We constantly talk about Christians being the ones that are persecuted, but what do we say when we are the ones that are doing the persecuting? We are supposed to be reaching souls that are lost in this world of sin, and that comes with great responsibility. James 2 talks about this very topic. In verse 1, James said to not let our personal prejudices prevent us from reaching lost souls. Timothy said, *"I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one another, doing nothing by partiality"* (1 Timothy 5:21). This is a charge that we must not take lightly. In Luke 17:2, the Lord said that it is better if a millstone were hung about our neck and we were cast into the sea than to cause someone to stumble in his or her faith.

Race is not the only reason for this kind of prejudice. The Bible also talks about a person's station in life. In James 2:2-4, James talks about our reaction to a rich person as opposed to a poor person. Do we allow a person's money or power to affect our view of his soul? The Lord said to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature (Matthew 28:27-28). He didn't say to go to the rich or the popular alone. He said, *"all the world."*

In this world of sin, we are supposed to be the example and the light to those outside of Christ. We have the opportunity if we are willing to open our eyes to see it. As Jesus said in Luke 10:2, *"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."* We have a great opportunity to bring others to Christ, but we must not be hesitant to go to anyone who will listen. Sometimes the greatest faith can be brought about through the greatest poverty. If we are willing to go to those who the world rejects, we can show them the one who wants to accept them. Let us all be **One in Christ**.

