

**Crossville Church
of Christ**
P.O. Box 211
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Live audio streaming
866-883-9291

COMPASS

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

For live video streaming see Website
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Elders:

Frank Bohannon
Jonathan Loveday
Larry McDuffee
Brian McLaughlin
Jon Tatum

Deacons:

Jim Bell
Kyle Fairman
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
Password:
crossvilleptp2018

February 3, 2019

And whatsoever ye do in word or
deed, do all in the name of the
Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God
and the Father by him.
Colossians 3:17 KJV



THOUGHTFULNESS

BROKEN AND CONTRITE

Alan Judd

After Nathan, the prophet of God, confronts King David and informs him God judged him guilty in the matter of Uriah and Bathsheba; the monarch cries out: “I have sinned against the Lord” (2 Samuel 12:13). Nathan pronounces other consequences due to the sin of the king. David begged God to retract His judgment, but God refused, and the child conceived from the adulterous union died a week after birth—2 Samuel 12:15-19.

Psalm 51, according to the attribution that precedes it, was written after Nathan informed David that God knew of his sin with Bathsheba. The words of each verse are choked full of emotion and the demeanor demonstrated by David in these words show he greatly desired to be relieved from the guilt and burden of his sin.

There are many instructive words, phrases, and concepts to study in this prayer for pardon, but I want to examine only one verse. *Psalm 51:17* reads this way: “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart—these, O God, You will not despise.” It may seem to suggest these sacrifices are given from God, but verse 16 helps us understand these sacrifices are they kind or type God approves and accepts.

The Law of Moses with its many ceremonies and rituals placed great emphasis on acts of devotion which could be visibly observed. Verse 16 reads: “For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering.” A casual reading of the verse might cause one to conclude God had become displeased with the prescribed sacrifices or offerings, but this notion is not supported by a proper consideration of the context. It is my understanding David is highlighting a problem common in His day. Upon committing sin, some would offer what the Law required for pardon, but this produced no internal change of mind or heart. Their attitude toward wrongdoing and transgressing the will of God was unaltered. They simply met the outward requirements of the Law and remained unclean on the inside.

With this understanding, David announces his understanding of how God desires internal contrition. Repentance involved more than just offering an animal for transgression. David is instructing us how our hearts and minds should be filled with sorrow and remorse when we disobey our Lord. These emotions should prompt repentance and repentance should lead to a change in behavior going forward. ‘Broken’ comes from a Hebrew word that one expert said could be translated: “smashed to smithereens.” The word ‘contrite’ means “to crush or pound.”

When we see sin in the way God sees it, we should be “crushed or smashed in spirit/heart/mind.” This should cause us to do exactly what David did—beg God’s mercy, grace, and forgiveness fervently. Thankfully, our God is gracious and merciful to a degree we cannot even begin to imagine and assures: “The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart and saves such as have a contrite spirit” (Psalm 34:18).

Today when we sin, do not make the mistake of just showing up to worship and publicly requesting prayer for forgiveness, even though both are proper. Instead, couple these actions with a mind/heart hurt by sin understanding how sin hurts our God and allow such to motivate you to turn fully from the iniquity of your sin. These, God promised, He will not despise!

WHAT ARE THEY SAYING ABOUT THE CHURCH?

Neal Pollard

A mother asked her wayward daughter why she no longer was a member of the church. Her convicting reply, "The way that you always talked about the church, why would I be?" The way this daughter heard her parents talk about the church, she concluded the church was full of hypocrisy, flaws, and inadequacy. She was simply modeling what she heard them say throughout the years.

I'm thankful for the sound counsel we received well before we had children. We were advised never to speak ill of the church in front of our children, to run down the elders, deacons, preachers, and other members. Knowing my wife Kathy, she would have done this intuitively. For me, it was extremely helpful with my impetuous nature. Even whispered words in the front seat of the car, going home from church, will inevitably be heard by the little ears in the back seat (the same is true of the dinner table and other times the family is together). We may be blowing off steam, we may not have deep vendettas against the object of our criticism and complaint, and we may soon forget what we've said, but impressionable ears and hearts may internalize the words and materialize the message with their deeds and lives.

The attitude, relationship, and loyalty our children have toward the church is most shaped and determined, for good or ill, by our example as parents. What will help us speak well of the Lord's church?

- Remember who conceived of it, from nature to organization, to purpose, etc. (Ephesians 3:9-11).
- Remember whose it is (Matthew 16:18-19; Ephesians 5:33).
- Remember our mission to bring others into it and that our home is our primary mission field (Matthew 28:19).
- Remember how Jesus feels about the church (1 Timothy 3:15; Ephesians 5:25).
- Remember that the church is the location of the saved and we should do all we can to help our children make up that number (Acts 2:47; 1 Corinthians 12:13).
- Remember all that the Bible says God seeks to accomplish through the church: growth (Ephesians 4:16), His glory (Ephesians 3:20-21), and His grace (2 Corinthians 8:1), among so many other things.

We may struggle to see our family harbor grudges and hard feelings against the church. Many factors may contribute to that, but we should begin with ourselves. What are we saying about the Lord's bride? What is our attitude toward her? I cannot imagine that anything is more impactful than that, and that is probably the thing we can most control! May our family remember that our theme song, concerning the church is, "I love Thy kingdom, Lord!" Surely this will influence how they feel about her, too.