

OUR CHOICE OF ASSOCIATES MAKES US WHO WE ARE

By Victor M. Eskew

The Bible warns us about our choice of associates or friends. “He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed” (Prov. 13:20). “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners” (1 Cor. 15:33).

The reason for the warning is because we become like those with whom we choose to associate

- We walk like them.
- We talk like them.
- We dress like them.
- We behave like them.
- We like what they like.
- We dislike what they dislike.
- Their attitudes become our attitudes.
- Their views become our views.
- Their habits become our habits.
- Their friends become our friends.
- Their enemies become our enemies.
- If our associates are...
- Spiritual, we become spiritual.
- Worldly, we become worldly.
- Negative, we become negative.
- Positive, we become positive.
- Liberal, we become liberal.
- Conservative, we become conservative.
- Honest, we become honest.
- Dishonest, we become dishonest.
- Kind, we become kind.
- Evil, we become evil.
- Have you ever seen someone change:
- After getting a new friend?
- When he/she starts dating?
- When he/she gets into a clique?
- After changing churches?

After getting a new job We have all seen it happen. We wonder: “What has happened to him/her?” Our associates, our friends, are powerful forces in our lives. Thus, we need to carefully examine those with whom we associate. Our merely liking them is not the best reason to stay with them.

Do my friends...

- Make me a better person?
- Cause me to treat others better?
- Make me more Christ-like?

- Help me to refrain from sinful things?
- Cause me to be positive?
- Challenge me to grow in Christ?
- Encourage me to put spiritual things first?
- Let me be me?

The Bible does not discourage friendships and associations. It merely exhorts us to make good decisions about who these individuals are. “He that walketh with wise men shall be wise...”

13695 Covington Creek Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32224 (Seek The Old Paths, December 2020)

QUESTION: Who is the head of the church in the world and where is he found?

ANSWER: There is no earthly head of the church! Christ is seated at the right hand of God (Acts 2:29-35) and has been made “to be the head of all things to the church” (Ephesians 1:22). Each congregation of the Lord’s church is selfgoverning, answerable only to Christ!

QUESTION: What name is given to the church that Jesus built?

ANSWER: Christ said in Matthew 16:18, “I will build my church.” Christ died for the church (Ephesians 5:25)! Christ paid the purchase price of His blood for the church (Acts 20:28)! Christ is said to be the husband; His church is the bride (II Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:27). In I Corinthians 1:10-13, we learn that to call ourselves after other than Christ is to cause sinful division, and in I Corinthians 3:3-4, we learn that those who do so are said to be carnal, or of the earth! With the above passages in mind, we can now understand why the apostle Paul would, by inspiration, refer to the various congregations of the Lord’s church as “the churches of Christ” (Romans 16:16). We must do no less!

QUESTION: Were the Campbell’s inspired?

ANSWER: No! With the completion and confirmation of the word of God, the need for inspired men ceased (Mark 16:20; I Corinthians 13:8-13).

[Compiled by David Amos for Truth for the World]

Braggs church of Christ Bulletin

January 10, 2021

Sick & Shut-in

Bennett, Norma
Brashear, Logan
Bunch, Margaret
Cash, Joe
Cunningham, Jerry
Evans, Carla
Evans, Steve
Hall, Donna
Horn, Bobby
Moore, Jean
Mouse, Tyler
Nunez, Bob
Prichard, Barbara
Prichard, Bobby
Sturgeon, Wayne
Sullins, Ray

The following are suffering from Covid:

Dawn West
Clint Mackey
Wanda McCarty
Nikki and Abby Vahdatipour
Tracy Igert (she also has Type-A flu)
Sandra Gilliam
Kelly Gilliam
Rachel Nunez
Bob Nunez
Grayson Ortiz
Morgan Gilliam

Evangelism

Cliff Lyons, Ilya Muzychenko and Markov Roman, Russia
Ricky Gootam, India
House to House/Heart to Heart
Website - Braggschurhofchrist.com
Facebook.com@braggscc
In Search of The Lord's Way- Tulsa, OK, on
KQCW TV 19 - Sun 7:30 am

Attendance

December Average - 32
Attendance last Sunday - 32

Scripture Reading – Prov. 1:16-18

News & Notes

Gospel Meeting with Allen Webster - July 25-27, 2021

We extend our sympathy to the family of Tex Gilliam who passed away on December 31, 2020.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Wayne Casey who recently passed away.

Thomas Isbell is home but still having a lot of pain.