

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

January 5, 2025

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TWELVE EVIDENCES THAT I HAVE LEFT MY "FIRST LOVE" FOR THE LORD

"Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love" (Revelation 2:4)

1. When my delight in the Lord is no longer as great as my delight in someone else, I have left my first love. *"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart..." (Mark 12:30)*
2. When my soul does not long for times of rich fellowship in God's word or in prayer I have left my first love. *"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy soul" (Mark 12:30)*
3. When my thoughts during leisure moments do not reflect upon the Lord, I have left my first love. *"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy mind" (Mark 12:30)*
4. When I claim to be only human and when I basely give in to those things which I know displease the Lord, I have left my first love. *"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy strength..." (Mark 12:30)* *"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love..." (John 15:10).* *"If you love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15)*
5. When I do not willingly and cheerfully give to God's work or to the needs of others, I have left my first love. *"But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion for him, how dwelleth the love of God in Him?" (1 John 3:17)*
6. When I cease to treat every Christian as I would the Lord, I have left my first love. *"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40).* *"A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you..." (John 13:34)*

~~~~~To be continued next week~~~~~

**Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth! Psa. 46:10**

## Pray for the sick:

**CONTINUING CONCERNS:** Terry Hastings, Myra's sister, Connie; Norma Hudson, Ruth Banks, Michelle Tucker, Charles Fooks, Goldie Weldon, Pat Tucker, Donna Sponseller.

On-going personal Bible studies

World turmoil; people of Russia, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Cameroon

"Celebrate Recovery"

AIM missionaries, Carolina Aguilar, Miguel Javier Dale and Maddy

Latin American Missions

Wendy Bowman, surgery Dec. 16th

Our Country and world leaders

Thea's brother, Leland Vickers-loss of eyesight due to macular degeneration

Lanny, pray for improved vision from eye surgery  
Eleanor; pulled muscle and broken pelvis; now at home recuperating

Cheyenne Mathis; headaches caused by a cyst  
Colleen's sister, Cindy; breathing difficulty

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** each Monday evening from 6-8 in the FLC.

**WOMEN'S STUDIES**— Ladies' Bible study at Cathy's will not meet until Jan. 17th and Ladies' Tuesday Zoom will not meet until Jan. 7th.

**KID'S GAME NIGHT** Due to the busy holidays, the next **Kid's Night** will be Tues. Jan. 14th.

**TITUS 2 DISCIPLESHIP** for adult women, third Thursdays. Next one is Jan. 16th, 6-8 pm at Courtney Whaley's house. See Maria, Taylor or Courtney if you have questions.

**FIRST PRINCIPLES CLASS** will begin in January and will be taught by Danny Snyder.

### **MEN TO SERVE:**

Welcome/Scripture; 1/5-Dave; 1/12-Shawn  
Prayer; 1/5-Vinny; 1/12-Lanny

Table; 1/5-Andy; 1/12-Vinny

Song Leader; 1/5-David; 1/12-Daniel

Announcements/Closing prayer; Jan-Danny

## Opportunities for study and worship

Sunday: (In person and virtually at:  
[www.laurelcoc.org](http://www.laurelcoc.org))

Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday:

Women's Zoom Study 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Men's prayer (Shawn's) 7:15 a.m.

Bible Study at building 6:30 p.m.

Friday ladies' study at Cathy's 10:30 a.m.

1st Sat. men's breakfast 8:30

We invite you to attend any of our service times, and we look forward to welcoming you, and pray that you might find a home here with us in Laurel and with God in heaven as His child.

If you need Media help — connections, addresses, or general questions contact: Don Trader or Julio Brennick

## WHO WE ARE

The body of Christ in Laurel, Delaware is a family of believers knit together in love (Colossians 2:2), striving to serve God in spirit and in truth (John 4:24) and carrying the gospel to the lost (Matthew 28:18). We are an autonomous body with Christ only as our head, and elders shepherding the flock of God (Acts 20:28).

We have been entrusted with the gospel (I Thessalonians 2:4) and so it is that we speak. The congregation seeks to uphold the doctrine and practice of the first century church using the only true standard, the Bible, as our guide (2 Peter 1:3). It is our prayer that all would come to a knowledge of the truth and partake in that divine fellowship in the body of Christ, being immersed for the remission of sins, and beginning life anew with Christ as Lord (Acts 2:38, Romans 6:1). Our plea is that we might be one in Christ, and serve the Lord faithfully unto death to receive our crown (Revelation 2:10).