

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

(continued from Jan. 5th, 2025)

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

7. When I view the commands of Christ as restrictions to my happiness rather than expressions of His love, I have left my first love. *"He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him." (Jn. 14:21)*
8. When I inwardly strive for the acclaim of this world rather than the approval of the Lord, I have left my first love. *"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If a man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 Jn. 2:15)*
9. When I fail to make Christ or His words known because I fear rejection, I have left my first love. *"Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his Lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you..." (John 15:20)*
10. When I refuse to give up an activity that I know is offending a weaker brother, I have left my first love. *"But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat, now walkest thou not charitably..." (Rom. 14:15)*
11. When I become complacent to sinful conditions around me, I have left my first love. *"And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax old" (Matthew 24:12)*
12. When I am unable to forgive another for offending me, I have left my first love. *"If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar..." (1 John 4:20)*

Do any of these twelve evidences apply to me?

**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

Wildfire disaster in California

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

WOMEN'S STUDIES— Ladies' Fri. Bible study at Cathy's will not meet until Jan. 17th and Ladies' Tuesday Zoom at 7:00.

KID'S GAME NIGHT 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 January 19th in the FLC downstairs classroom and will be taught by Danny Snyder.

GOSPEL MEETING with Carey Terry will be January 26-29 each evening at 6:30.

MEN TO SERVE:

Welcome/Scripture; 1/12-Shawn; 1/19-Chad Prayer; 1/12-Lanny; 1/19-Lanny Table; 1/12-Vinny; 1/19-Dave Song Leader; 1/12-Daniel; 1/19-Troy Announcements/Closing prayer; Jan.-Danny

Opportunities for study and worship

Sunday: (In person and virtually at:
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).