


Madison Heights Christian Church 
(Disciples of Christ)
149 Main Street
Madison Heights, VA 24572

MADISON HEIGHTS MESSENGER

No. 20

November 14, 2024

George B. Harris, Minister
Email: bernerdharris@yahoo.com
mhcc16@yahoo.com
Church Telephone: (434) 845-3855
Minister's Telephone: (434) 215-4846

Pam Hubbard
Music Director

Brenda Harris
Administrative Assistant

To Be Like Christ

The Apostle Paul owned a specific comprehension of reality that came from his face-to-face encounter with the resurrected Jesus. Paul's attitude changed dramatically when he had that encounter with Jesus. His new reality is a life-changing event that made him who he was as an apostle. It gave his life a meaningful purpose as the Holy Spirit was with him and within him. His only one motive from that point forward was no longer about the cares of the world but to serve the Lord. It is the love of Christ that is the founding principal of Christian motivation.

The basic understanding is that Jesus died for all of us and the Holy Spirit is with us and within us. Out of our appreciation for what the Lord has done for us, we worship God, and serve God through ministry, mission, and care for the members. The Christian has a perspective that is an entirely different perspective from the rest of the world. We are to be like Christ, model our lives after his life, and follow his teaching. This new life of devotion has a new set of standards that are no longer governed by the standards of the world and no longer caters to the world.

In his letters, the Apostle Paul teaches us to regard no one from a human point of view. This is a difficult task as we are emotional beings and play the seesaw with logic. I have been asked by a few different people how I felt about the recent election. My response to questions such as these is "We are Christians, we follow Jesus, and he was not political. If we are following partisan politics, then we are following something other than Jesus." Paul's teaching comes from his understanding of the divine. It takes dedication and perseverance to reach a level of spiritual maturity where you regard no one from humanistic point of view. It takes an entirely different frame of mind, and a new level of thinking and understanding. As a new person with a new attitude, you can live up to a divine standard of living because the Holy Spirit is with you and within you.

The peace of the divine is awesome! With the love the Lord has for us, we have no other wants or desires. Like the psalmist said "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." With the Holy Spirit within you, there is internal and everlasting peace. It is the best of the best. The divine perception and perspective is different from the rest of the world. In the world we live in, life is a struggle and people distance themselves from others. When you turn your life over to God, there is no power struggle, no domination of others, and no need to impress anyone. You show up in this physical body but inside of you is a spiritual person of holy bliss and peace. You are one with God instead of one with the world. Your life is no longer a rat race full of worry over finances, greed, and quotas.

Look around you and it is easy to see other people always in hurry, impatient, judgmental, criticizing, rude and mean. God took the initiative in our relationship and reconciled the world through Christ. You are a spiritual being living within the human experience. It is hard to transition from a human perspective but it isn't so hard once you look at the world through the eyes of Christ with love and unity at the forefront of his life. A Christian is someone that is like Christ with a direct commission from the Lord to represent the Lord with love and unity. The honor of Christ is in your hands.

Thank you,

George