

The text says He spoke in olden days to the Fathers through the prophets. That describes the way God spoke in the Old Testament. Now He has spoken once and for all through His own Son, Jesus Christ. The words of Christ were made known through His apostles. In the longest recorded prayer in the Bible, Jesus said, “for the words which thou gavest me I have given unto them (the apostles); and they received them, and knew of a truth that I came forth from thee...” (John 17:8).

The next time you pick up a Bible, open it to the New Testament, read from the apostles, know dear friend that you are hearing the voice of God. Just listen and learn! Some may tell you that God will speak to you in dreams, impressions, visions, or by alleged prophets of the latter day, but it is not true. God has spoken only through His Son and the Son gave us the word from the Father through the apostolic message of the New Testament. Read it carefully and obey it faithfully.



The Worker

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I Know...

Many of us have things in our past we wish to hide. We have done or said things of which we are now ashamed and embarrassed. Some of those things were foolish indiscretions of youth, when our wills were ruled more by emotions than intellect. Others cannot be blamed on youth, but only on the strength of temptation and the weakness of faith.

I have never understood why some people use these sinful things as a spiritual marquee. They openly profess their youthful indulgences, claiming the Lord saved them from themselves. The demons of drugs and illicit sex had bound them until Jesus set them free. They almost appear to revel in their rebellion.

I am glad people who know me best have not tried to find out every mix-step and blunder. I would be ashamed for them to know about some things from years past. I am quite happy about their ignorance. I suspect they feel the same way: let us leave the past in the past.

However, I must confess there is a person who knows everything about me. Things I have forgotten, He knows. Things I remember with shame, He knows. He knows not only what I have done, but also what I have thought. Thoughts and desires which have never been expressed to a living soul, He knows. I am entirely incapable of thinking or acting apart from His knowledge.

This person who knows everything about me is the one John describes as walking in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks and He who holds the keys of death and Hades (Rev. 1:12-18).

There is no place I can go to escape His scrutiny. He sees me when I arise and when I retire; when I work and when I play. Wherever I am, He sees and knows.

He not only knows me, He knows you (singular and plural). He told the church at Ephesus, “I know thy works, and thy toil and patience, and that thou canst not bear evil men, and didst try them that call themselves apostles, and they are not, and didst find them false” (Rev. 2: 2). No congregation has any secrets from the Lord. He knows our strengths and weaknesses, our wants and our wills.

It becomes us individually and collectively to try to live in such a way as to cause no disappointment and wrath from our Savior. He calls upon us to forsake sin and return to truth. To Ephesus He said, “Remember therefore whence thou art fallen, and repent and do the first works; or else I come to thee, and will move thy candlestick out of its place, except thou repent” (Rev. 2:5)

- Author Unknown

Leadership

Elders Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey
Deacons Clint Smith Sr, Clint Smith Jr,
Robby Stocksdale, Joe Sweeney
Pulpit Minister Eric Welch
Associate Minister Irvin F. Williams

Panama Mission

Pablo Sanchez

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Class 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 PM

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and Bible Correspondence Courses - Phone (812) 284-3125

Visit Our Website: www.hamburgpikecofc.org Email: church@hamburgpikecofc.org

Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning: “Divorce and Remarriage” Mark 10:1-10

Sunday Evening: “Feeling Disconnected?” Isaiah 59:1-2

Those Privileged to Serve

AM Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
Opening Prayer Jerry Casey
Scripture Rick Martin
Sermon Eric Welch
Lord’s Supper
Message Greg Blanton
Attendant Ethan Welch
Attendant Nathaniel Welch
Closing Prayer Robby Stocksdale

PM Service

Song Leader Clint Smith Jr
Bible Reading Irvin Williams
Selection 39
Prayer Matt Johnson
Sermon Eric Welch
Closing Prayer Grover Blanton
*If you are unable to serve, please
call Art Patrick 502-819-9481
or Harold Tincher 502-409-3511*

AM & PM Services

Announcements Clint Smith Sr
Lord’s Supper Joe Sweeney
Offering Harold Tincher
Usher Fin Burton
Count Offering Art Patrick
Assist Count Marc Owens

Last Sunday

Contribution \$2,522
Attendance 94

Strengths of Small Churches: Authenticity

Eric Welch

The last inherent strength of small congregations is authenticity. In a book entitled *Authenticity*, James Gilmore and Joseph Pine write that “instead of searching for high-quality goods and services, ‘people increasingly make purchase decisions based on how real or fake they perceive various offerings.’” People have taken this consumer value in their search for a church.

Hypocrisy is a major turn-off for people, especially for Millennials. Most researchers identify millennials as those born between the years 1982-2004. Previous generations see hypocrisy in someone as meaning that particular person was wrong. However, Millennials, who in general do not believe in absolute truth or an objective standard, see hypocrisy and conclude that Christianity overall is wrong. Hypocrisy does greater harm to young people today.

Some church growth researchers point out that young people will return after their first visit to a small church if they find the church authentic. They want the members to be themselves. A smile and a warm welcome go much farther than the strobe lights of a worship service. They do not want to see the members putting up a facade. They want to see them living consistently with their Biblical teachings and convictions. They want to see the church getting out and serving the community and helping the down-trodden. The apostle Paul summarizes it this way: Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good (Romans 12:9). Visitors will overlook singing off-key or a sermon poorly delivered if they can find authentic New Testament Christianity.

On his website plainsimplefaith.com, Ben Giselbach, a brother in Christ, makes an interesting point that “the principle of simply restoring New Testament Christianity is more appealing to my generation (Millennials) than it is to any other recent generations....Millennials are looking for churches of Christ.” The restoration of the church means a return to the real, authentic church of the New Testament and that’s what Millennials want. They are looking for us. (www.plainsimplefaith.com/2013/06/we-have-what-millennials-want)

We at Hamburg Pike are a small church that is and must always be dedicated to the restoration of pure first century Christianity, both in the life of the church and in our individual lives beyond the big box on Hamburg Pike.

Hamburg Pike Happenings

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet October 5th at 6 pm. We'll have Pizza for the meal. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the foyer for what to bring.

A signup sheet is in the foyer for the Yahoo group devotional study of the book “Muscle and a Shovel”. Dates are: Saturday October 3rd 10:30 am and Thursday October 8th 10:30 am.

Mark Your Calendars! Our annual Trunk or Treat is scheduled for October 30th at the building. Please join us if you can.

A group will be going to Cornucopia Farm in Scottsburg, IN on Saturday October 17th. The group plans to meet at the farm at 11:00 a.m., directions and a signup sheet are available in the foyer.

God Has Spoken — Listen!

The greatest event in history is not man walking on the moon, the cure for cancer, or any other purely human accomplishment. The fact that God has spoken far surpasses anything that has cartoon drawing of a head with a hand held to ear as if listening ever taken place on this planet. The book of Hebrews begins with the following astounding announcement: “God, having of old time spoken unto the fathers in the prophets by divers portions and in divers manners, hath at the end of these days spoken unto us in his Son” (Heb. 1:1-2). Possibly we do not catch the real impact of this great statement. It is easy to take for granted that we have many churches, preachers, religious movements, theologians galore, so the voice of God is somehow lost to the world in the midst of it all.

God does not speak through churches, preachers, religious movements, or human institutions. He speaks in only one way. We must realize that He has spoken, fully and finally. No “Latter Day” revelation is the voice of God. The Book of all books says that it was in His Son that the Almighty spoke. Through Christ, who is the express image of God’s person, has the Father and Creator of all spoken to man. This is channeled to us through the Scripture, inspired by the Holy Spirit, preserved by the power and providence of God, and made understandable by the goodness and love of God.

(Continued on the back page)