

The Fruit of Forgiveness

2 Corinthians 2:5-8

Some of the things we have done have earned us disapproval and possibly loss of love. We have found that some people love us only if they can approve of our behavior. We may have struggled with bitterness toward them because we feel as if they have been trying to punish us. If our "sins" have been made public, we may assume that we have lost the love of everyone who disapproves of our actions. This fear of rejection might deter us from reaching out to make amends.

In the young Corinthian church, a man was cut off from church fellowship when his sins were made public. After he turned around and tried to make amends, some people refused to welcome him back into the church. The apostle Paul told the believers: "The man who caused all the trouble hurt all of you more than he hurt me. Most of you opposed him, and that was punishment enough. Now, however, it is time to forgive and comfort him. Otherwise, he may be overcome by discouragement. So I urge you now to reaffirm your love for him" (2 Corinthians 2:5-8). Some people will follow this advice and reaffirm their love for you when you go to them.



There will be some people who will respond with forgiveness, comfort, acceptance, and love. This will help us overcome the grief, the bitterness, and the discouragement we may feel. Their forgiveness will help us move on with recovery.

insights ABOUT RESTORING RELATIONSHIPS

A problem in the Corinthian church (probably the one described in 1 Corinthians 5:1-11) was the basis for Paul's rebuke in 2 Corinthians 2:5-11. When the troublemaker in question repented of his sin and honestly faced the consequences of his behavior, the Corinthian believers refused to forgive him. Paul pointed out how cruel it was to withhold forgiveness. The apostle explained that through their lack of forgiveness they were actually playing right into Satan's hands by discouraging the repentant party. We need to make sure that when others repent of their sins, we do our part to encourage the process of restoration and healing. Most of us have experienced the pain of being rejected, even after admitting our mistakes and trying to change. We should be the last to cause the same kind of pain to others.

Conflict Can Inspire Growth:

Interpersonal conflicts are an inevitable part of being human. They can also be so discouraging that they cause us to give in to failure. But what conflicts do to us depends on how we handle them. If we view them as opportunities for growth, as Paul urged the Corinthians to do, they can urge us into being productive. If we face them and try to solve them in loving ways, they can motivate us to make progress in recovery and recommitment to one another. If we ignore them, they can eat away at us like a cancer, destroying the work of recovery not only within us but also in others around us. Conflicts are opportunities for growth if we use them as such-



Contributions

Note: Many choose to contribute monthly, semi-annually, or annually

	6/4	6/11	6/18	6/25	7/02	7/09
General	\$2,396	\$1,512	\$1,229	\$1,709	\$2,682	\$1,1179
Missions	\$50	\$360	\$120	\$750	\$95	\$775
Youth			\$500	\$1,000		

Share the Good News

2 Corinthians 2:14-17

Continued recovery is based on sharing the Good News of God's deliverance. For some of us, this may seem impossible and terrifying. Paul shows us here that it is a natural outworking of God's grace in our lives. As God transforms us, giving us victory over our sins, we begin to reflect his grace. The fragrance of God's transforming work will be a "life-giving perfume" to others if we are open and transparent with them. We don't have to be eloquent speakers to share our stories and the Good News of salvation. Our humble message, passed along by our words and deeds, may encourage others who desperately need to get their lives back on track.



God Inspired Confidence

2 Corinthians 3:4-5

In his letters Paul frequently comes across as a very confident person. He explained here, however, that his confidence was not so much self-confidence as it was "God-inspired" confidence. If we trust God to work in and through us, we can know with confidence that the resources are available to overcome any problems we might face. The healthiest foundation for self-esteem is the knowledge that we are made in God's image (see Genesis 1:26-27) and that we are competent because of Christ's work on our behalf.

Permanent Recovery

2 Corinthians 3:6-16

Paul's contrast between the old covenant (the law of Moses) and the new covenant (salvation through Jesus Christ) is applicable to our recovery from a life filled with sin. The glory of the law, as well as the glory of God shining on Moses' face, faded, implying that the law was not a long-term solution to the sin problem. Likewise, the many humanistic recovery programs and other means for dealing with pain and dependencies may seem "gloriously" effective in the short run, but success through them rapidly fades. The new life that God offers through an ongoing relationship with Jesus Christ is the only means to a permanent recovery.

CALENDAR

Sunday	10:00 am	Bible Study	At the building and live stream
Sunday	11:00 am.....	Worship	At the building and live stream
Sunday	4:00 pm	Walking the 12 Steps with Jesus	TBA
Wednesday	10:30 am.....	Senior Breakfast.....	At Perkins Restaurant
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Bible Study	At Kyle & Crystal's
Thursday	6:30 pm.....	Hymnburgers	At the Queenan's
Saturday	7:00 pm	Teen Group	At the building
Jul 20 th	HymnBurgers is back! 6:30 at the Queenan's – burgers, dogs, and water provided, singing after food! A large backyard for the kids. Bring a side to share or just yourself – there's always plenty to eat and sing about!		
Aug 6 th	Potluck & Area Singing with the Pocatello Church of Christ. August 6th is potluck Sunday. The main meal is provided, please bring side dishes. After the potluck at 1:30 we will enjoy our combined singing with Pocatello.		
Aug 19 th	Senior Breakfast – 10:30 at the building (3 rd Saturday each month.)		
Aug 26 th	Ladies Day at the Salmon Church of Christ. Guest speaker is Becky Blackmon. Details soon.		
Sep 15-17 th	Idaho Falls Youth Rally. The link to the registration page is on our website.		
Dec 8-10 th	Winter Rendezvous in Cody Wyoming. The link to the registration page is on our website.		

PRAYERS

- For Nathan, working to raise monies for his missionary year that starts this September.
- For Briley, coping with Marfans syndrome.
- For Bobbie Knight. Bobbie Knight, IDOC # 113912, PWCC - 2 C, 1451 Fore Rd, Pocatello 83204.
- For Gary, Rob, Kyle & Andy as they lead our congregation.
- For Ryan Burns, Jordan Allbritten, and Thomas Mullinaux, serving in the armed forces.
- For our widows: Myrna, Ella, Miriam, Louise, Sallye, & Carolyn.

LEADERSHIP

Web Page: idahofallschurchofchrist.org

Kyle Allbritten, Elder	kallbritten67@gmail.com	618-638-6894
Gary Hunt, Elder.....	garyhunt136@gmail.com	208-351-8947
Rob Pope, Elder.....	robpope2@gmail.com	208-757-8175
Andy Burns, Evangelist.....	apburns8@gmail.com	208-569-9193
Doug Barber – Worship		208-589-3674
Aaron Kays – Building & Grounds.....		505-879-4624
Dani��l King – Benevolence		208-970-5078
Les & Teresa Pope – Special Programs		208-524-0238

The Church of Christ in Idaho Falls

Welcome!

We're a bible-based congregation of Christians meeting in Idaho Falls to praise and worship the one God and to support and encourage each other. All are welcome! Please join us in our worship services and classes.



Meditation for Today

We should try to be grateful for all the blessings we have received and which we do not deserve. Gratitude to God for all His blessings will make us humble. Remember that we could do little by ourselves, and now we must rely largely on God's grace in helping ourselves and others. People do not care much for those who are smug and self- satisfied or those who gossip and criticize. But people are impressed by true humility. So we should try to walk humbly at all times. Gratitude to God and true humility are what make us effective.

I pray that I may walk humbly with God. I pray that I may rely on His grace to carry me through.

Online Bulletin is available at our website <https://ifcocminister.wixsite.com/mysite>