

From the Pastor:

In James 1 we have come to James 1:21 which reads, “Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls [Greek – psuche – lives].

This verse expresses a simple truth that should describe an aspect of the character of all Christians.

The verse says we are to “lay aside.” The Greek “apotithemi” literally means “to rid oneself of” [Danker’s Lexicon]. We are to separate ourselves from all “filthiness.” The Greek for filthiness is “rhuparia” which means [according to Danker’s] “a state of moral defilement or corruption, moral uncleanness, vulgarity.” It is obvious that “moral defilement or corruption and vulgarity” are the antithesis of the Christian character. Our thoughts, speech, and actions must reflect those of our Father and Elder Brother and not any ways from our old life in the world.

The other quality mentioned should be separated very far from us, if we ever had it. The “overflow of wickedness” refers to a very wrong attitude. “Overflow” refers to an abundance. “Wickedness” is from the Greek “kakia” which Danker’s defines as “a mean-spirited or vicious attitude or disposition.” The Online Bible Greek Lexicon describes “kakia” as a “desire to injure.” Hopefully this was never a part of our make-up. But, James said we must be separated from such attitudes.

This is a part of what Paul was referring to in 2 Corinthians 6:17-18, “Therefore ‘Come out from among them and be separate,’ says the Lord. ‘Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters,’ says the Lord Almighty.”

Of course John’s words in 1 John 2:15-17 give the heart and core of what a Christian must be doing. “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

We are to examine ourselves and separate ourselves from all the causes of selfishness and pride (all evil and sin) that we find.

Are we truly seeking to live by our calling? We are called to become God’s own children. Does the example of our conduct support or contradict that awesome calling?

If we are seeking to do God’s will and be filled with God’s word, we will be true examples of what a son or daughter of God is; and, we will inherit eternal life—our lives will indeed be saved.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	5:30pm	5:34m	5:38pm
Sunset Friday 12-7	5:30pm	5:34pm	5:39pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



December 1, 2018

Victoria

Sermon: Steve Moody

Corpus Christi

Bible Study: Arnold Mendez

Harlingen

Sermonette: Orlando Mascorro

Sermon: Arnold Mendez

“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.”

1 John 5:14-15

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 12/1	Regular times and locations for all congregations.
Sabbath 12/8	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi. There will be a DVD in San Antonio. Mr. Watts will present the sermon in Harlingen.
Sabbath 12/15	San Antonio will have a guest speaker from HQ. Mr. Jim Franks will be giving the sermon.

Winter Family Weekend:

Friday evening, December 21 through Tuesday night, December 25 in Louisville, KY.

FI Applicants: Will You Be at WFW?

Foundation Institute is now receiving applications for the 2019-2020 academic year. As a part of the admissions process, each applicant is interviewed by a Foundation Institute faculty member. We enjoy doing those interviews in person wherever possible, and the Winter Family Weekend gives us an opportunity to conduct a number of those interviews.

If you are considering applying for FI next year and will be attending the Winter Family Weekend, please contact the admissions officer, David Johnson, so one of us can plan to interview you during the WFW. You may send an email to: david.johnson@cogwa.org.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

Corpus Christi Brown Bag and Bible Study: December 1

San Antonio Pot Luck: The next potluck will be December 1.

Harlingen Bible Study and Pot Luck: Sabbath of December 15.