



WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

THE TKN RULE

A friend of mine tells me that when his children were younger, they had many wonderful discussions at their dining table. There was just one rule concerning the conduct of their conversation--they called it the "TKN rule." Before saying anything you had to ask yourself three things: Is it **True**?, Is it **Kind**?, and Is it **Necessary**?--TKN.

He said that sometimes someone would begin to say something when another family member would then yell out "TKN, TKN!" meaning that it did not meet criteria for proper discourse at the table. He also tells me that there were many times when they would eat in silence simply because no one had anything to say that would fit within the TKN guidelines.

That got me to thinking. Maybe we should adopt the "TKN Rule" in all of our speech--especially when talking about others. Imagine what our communication with others would be like and what we would be portraying!

Is your speech always **true**? I have often told my kids and the kids I teach at church camp that if you do not know something to be true, then don't say it. Otherwise, you could be spreading rumors or gossip. Try from now on to speak only things that you know for a fact are true. "**Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor**" (Eph. 4:25).

Is your speech always **kind**? Do you use edifying and uplifting words when speaking to and about others? Too much of human communication is focused on the negative aspects of others and on tearing people down. Christians need to live and speak above that. Try from now on to speak good things about others, and when a correction or rebuke is required, deliver it tenderly and with a proper spirit. "**Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt**" (Col. 4:6).

Is your speech always **necessary**? Too many times we speak just to say something and end up saying many needless things. And too often, it is the unnecessary things we say that can be the most misunderstood and do much harm. Try from now on to speak only things that are necessary and beneficial. "**Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification**" (Eph. 4:29).

Friends, if we all would adopt the "TKN Rule" in our lives, then all of our conversations would be most wonderful! "**Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy--meditate on these things**" (Phil. 4:8). Yes, meditate and speak on these things!

- Edd Sterchi, gospel preacher, church of Christ, Jackson, Missouri

TKN ... NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!

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SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T J Bolen— Fully Converted

PM: T J Bolen— Workers With You, 2 Corinthians 1:8-23

JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge;
because thou hast rejected knowledge,
I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me;
seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God,
I will also forget thy children.” Hosea 4:6

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A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

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SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320

Nursery provided
Bible Classes for all ages

Informal Bible Study
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your Bible questions
Saturdays 3 pm

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Margaret Herring, Stephanie Rigney, Dorothy Gray and family, Pat Joyner, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, also Richard Ramkinson, Wilson Burton.*

- **Grant Parks** has had some bug, **Faye** took it.
- **Margie DeYoung** remains in critical condition in hospice care.
- **Charlie**, a friend of **Tommy White** is facing surgery.
- **Margaret Herring** continues to suffer with many ailments.
- Remember also, **Margaret Herring, Stephanie Rigney, Gwen Pittman and Anna Porter** (send cards), **Dorothy Gray, Margaret Gamble (Jones' sister), Floyd Richbourg and Carolyn Stidham.**
- Remember to pray for and send cards to those we've not seen for awhile.
- Pray also that we all grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge.**

"And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us:" - 1 John 5:14

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**

"But GROW in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."
- 2 Peter 3:18

“REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE!” - Romans 12:15

- We rejoice that **Stepanie Rigney's** cancer is in remission, but her lupus is greatly aggravated by the chemo therapy. Continue to keep her in your prayers.
- **Margaret Gamble** had good news that her new kidney continues to work well without rejection.

NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!

Sun AM Sermon— *Fully Converted*

Jesus sent the apostles to proclaim His message (Acts 1:8). The message of Jesus is what people need to hear in order to respond to Him and become a true follower of Jesus. The book of Acts records several conversions - that is to say people became true followers of Jesus. There is a common factor in each case which completed the conversion process.

1. Did the awareness of sin and the murder of Jesus save people in Acts 2?
2. Paul was personally selected by Jesus for His work; was Paul saved any differently than the people in Acts 2?
3. A man from Ethiopia reached a conclusion about how to be saved; how did that come about?
4. In Acts 10 the Bible calls a Centurion named Cornelius a devout man who feared God; is that the same as someone who has been fully converted to Christ?

ARE WE SAVED BY FAITH ONLY?

Today the vast majority of the religious world says that they are saved by "**faith only**". Many good people erroneously think they are saved when they "accept Jesus as their personal saviour" and say the "sinners prayer". But where in the Bible are we told this? It is not there. This may sound good and impressive, but this is false. This is a lie of Satan. This is something man has dreamed up. Then two or three weeks later many churches encourage people to be baptized to join that denomination. They say that one does not have to be baptized to be saved because they say you are saved before you are baptized. I cannot think of a more flagrant crime against both God and Man than to teach lost sinners, who want to be saved something different than what God says in the Bible.

In this case if they are eventually baptized, their sins are not forgiven and they are not saved because their baptism was not for this purpose. They still have every sin they have ever committed and are still lost because they have believed a lie. As we read in **2 Thessalonians 2:11-12**, "**And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth.**"

"Faith only" will not save anyone. In **James 2:19 & 24** we read, "**You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the devils believe and tremble. You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.**"

If all we do is believe, then we are no better than the devils. We must obey what God says to do, when God says to do it, how God says to do it, and for the reason God says to do it.

Jesus says in **Mark 16:16**, "**He that believes and is baptized shall be saved**". There is nothing hard to understand about this. A person has to have help to misunderstand what the Lord says here. Until people do what Jesus says one must do to be saved then they are still hopelessly lost.

- **Ron Boatwright**, member church of Christ, Conway, AR

“... wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto *even* baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:” - 1 Peter 3:20,21

BELIEF = OBEDIENCE

“Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, ... a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, *even to them* which stumble at the word, being disobedient:” - 1 Peter 32:7,8

WHAT SHALL WE DO?

“... Men *and* brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” - Acts 2:37,38