

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Class 9:00 AM
 Sunday AM Worship 10:00 AM
 Sunday PM Worship 6:00 PM
 Wednesday Bible Class 6:30 PM

Elders

Eugene Cardinal (602) 942-6373
 Sonny Janeway (623) 583-2726
 Chuck Kolinchak (602) 938-9429

Minister

James Dale (623) 882-6671
 nsminister@cox.net

Deacons

Ron Gallegos (Education)
 (623) 561-5674

Allan Davis (Youth)
 (602) 439-5953

Joshua Casselman (Involvement)
 (602) 938-2800

Supported Mission Works

Dino Tzanetos;
Athens, Greece

Josh Austin
*Navajo Reservation
 Keyenta, Arizona*

Terry Laurence (Student)
Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver

Dave Chamberlin (Instructor)

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Prayer List

- * Chad McDonald, has found a new employment
- * Trisha Mendez (Ashley's sister) only 90% of tumor removed
- * Christy Roscoe's has severe arthritis in the 5 and 6 vertebrae
- * Joanne McDonald (Chad's mom) Diagnosed with Asthma
- * Jim Peter's (Barb Statens dad) heart problems
- * Bonnie Rigsby (friend of Deb Liable) has cancer.
- * Don Graef (friend of Gina's) is in a rehab center still having problems after bypass surgery.
- * Tammy Avery struggles with health problems.
- * Debbie Burford (Michele Janeway's sister) undergoing chemo
- * Rick Nolan, (Michele's cousin) is ill
- * Renee' Ramos - (Jen's Cousin) congestive heart failure
- * June Scarbrough's sister is having medical problems
- * Steve Melick, (Christy's cousin) has kidney cancer
- * Les Roza - diagnosed with inoperable cancer
- * Char Pribble, (Friend of Cathy Oliva) struggling with Lupus
- * Walt Garrison (Jim Weiers step brother) undergoing treatment for cancer.
- * Ashley, Missy's niece personal struggles

Psalm 5:2

Heed the sound of my cry for help,
 my King and my God, For to You I
 pray

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK

Bryston Gallegos
 Jocelyn Iles

May 22 (B)
 May 23 (B)

THE GUARDIAN

"Guard my soul and deliver me; Do not let me be ashamed, for I take refuge in Thee." Ps. 25:20

Northside, church of Christ

20222 North 32nd Dr., Phoenix Arizona 85027 (623) 780-9763
www.northsidechurchofchrist.org

Vol. 4

May 18th / 2008

No. 18

"Elders, Having Children Who Believe"

Part 2

In my last article on the topic of whether an elder must have Christian children to be qualified to serve, I concluded that from an examination of the passages which speak of the qualifications of the elders, this view cannot be supported. In my last article I stated ...*"In the end both passages (1Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9) teach that the elder's children are to be under control as demonstrated by behavior absent of dissipation and rebellion. They are found to be faithful or trustworthy towards their father."*

In this weeks article we will be considering several arguments offered by those who believe, as a qualification, elders must have Christian children. We will examine these arguments and see if they are in agreement with the qualifications of an elder listed in 1Tim. 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.

First, it has been suggested that it would be wise for an elder to have Christian children because it shows he is able to lead the flock in the ways of God. But, quoting from my last article, **The qualification** (in Titus 1:6) **is not about whether the elder can lead his children to Christ, but whether his children respect and adhere to the leadership of their father as demonstrated though being under control.** I would agree that appointing elders with Christian children seems wise, but I cannot scripturally support this as a qualification. In the end this view is just an opinion. I could just as easily argue that many good men who have unbelieving children have led others to Christ. We must remember, an elder's primary work involves shepherding those who are already saved not evangelizing those who aren't.

Continued Inside

Welcome to the services of the Church! If you are visiting with us, we appreciate your presence and invite you to stay a few moments after the service so we may have an opportunity to meet you! Please feel free to pick up one of our Visitors Packets in the Foyer.

Second, some use Proverbs 22:6 as proof that an elder must have Christian children to be considered qualified. In that passage we read, *“Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.”* There are several problems with using this passage in this way. To begin, a literal translation of Proverbs 22:6 reads, *“Train up a child **according to his way...**”* This does not appear to be referring to training a child up in the ways of the Lord at all, as is usually interpreted, but according to the child’s own disposition. Aside from this, **I fear we are trying to prove to much when we reach back to an Old Testament passage that says nothing about the qualifications of an elder, and then use it to support a view that’s not supported by the passages which teach on the qualifications of an elder.** But, for arguments sake, let’s agree that Proverbs 22:6 is saying we should train up our children in the way of the Lord; how does this become a qualification for New Testament elders?

It is obvious that one of the difficulties faced by those who support the view that an elder must have Christian children is that they cannot argue their belief from the viewpoint of the elder’s scriptural qualifications. The arguments offered are typically opinion.

What are we to conclude? Yes, it might be wise to have a man serve as an elder only after he has converted his own children, but we have no scriptural basis to impose this as a qualification.

Ultimately it should be concluded that if God has not required elders to have Christian children then we have no right to demand that they do. This would be like adding something unscriptural to the Lord’s worship. Some might think it is wiser to make an addition, but is it scriptural? In the same way that the Lord’s worship does not become more spiritual because someone has added something unauthorized to it; a man does not become more qualified to serve as an elder because we have added another qualification, which God has not. The qualifications God has given for His elders is all we need, and scripturally, these qualifications do not demand that an elder have believing children to be considered qualified.

James Dale

- (1) **Congratulations to Dora and Andrew.** Andrew’s adoption has been finalized
- (2) **Karen Chance will be traveling to Kayenta.** She has a list of items needed for Josh and Divine. Please see her if you would like to help out.
- (3) **Brenda Haring has moved.** Her new address and phone number are 7220 N 27th Ave. #305 Phoenix Az, 602-368-2126
- (4) **NO potlucks** for the month of May. Group 2 will be responsible beginning in June.
- (5) **Rody Lattin’s** new address is 350 E Eva St., Phoenix Az, 85020, 602-997-6224
- (6) **Graduation Party** June 14th for our College and High School seniors.
- (7) The forms for the Four Corner Camp are posted on the Youth section of the bulletin board. Make a copy for yourself and return the master to the Bulletin board.
- (8) **Monday Night Bible Study** at Linda Hays’ home, 6:30-7:30. We are studying, “The Righteousness of God” from Romans. Please come and invite someone.
- (8) **Monday prayer** time for the ladies at the building 9:00 a.m.
- (9) **CD’s are available** for both morning and evening sermons. See Josh Casselman for more information.

WORTH WATCHING

*Search The Scriptures - KAZIT Channel 13 - Sunday - 7:30 a.m.
On the Internet “Gospel Broadcasting Network” - www.gbntv.org*

Northside Calendar

Monday Night Bible Study: “The Righteousness of God”– 6:30-7:30 – Linda Hays’ Home
Ladies Quilting/Crafts: June 1st, 12:00 p.m.
Potluck: There will be no potlucks for the month of May due to two Holidays.
Ladies Class: Today, 5:00 p.m.
Men’s Business Meeting: Today, 5:00 pm.
Elders/Deacons Meeting: May 25th, 5:00 p.m.
Nursery: A.M. Jamie Dale P.M. Jan Kolinchak
In Touch, this week: Team 3
Walkabout Group: First Monday of the month, meet at the building at 9:00 a.m.
Youth Devo: June - Davis’

IF YOU HAVE SMALL CHILDREN WE PROVIDE AN ATTENDED NURSERY AND A CRY ROOM FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.