

# From Faith to Faith

Granbury Street Church of Christ

## Seeking Recognition

Kevin W. Rhodes

We live in a society where seeking attention recognition has turned into a national pastime. Pop artists routinely push the societal envelope to draw attention to themselves, often competing for the unofficial title of “Most Blatant Sinner of the Year.” College and professional athletes make obvious attempts to showboat and draw attention to themselves, often to the detriment of the team and even winning. But the need for social attention is far more pervasive than just this. Ordinary people record inane thoughts about the world on a personal blog, expecting friends, colleagues, and total strangers to gush over their insight. Young people post information on Facebook that, in previous eras, most would have reserved for a private diary. We tend to publicize every major purchase, every slightly significant event in our children’s lives, and every action that approaches the idea of an accomplishment to everyone that we know. Apparently we have yet to realize that digital musings still leave a trail and, in fact, tend to reach far more people than we ever considered possible. Most people have a personal feel to their computing. They make posts with specific friends in mind without any consideration of the broader context in which their posts appear. And this attitude has affected our friendships and interactions outside of cyberspace as well. We want to be seen. We want to be heard. We want to be recognized. We want to be remembered. We want our names in the headlines to be remembered for all time. Or do we?

In the second chapter of 1 Chronicles, amidst the genealogies given for the early history of Israel, the record only makes a direct comment on the lives of two people: Er, the firstborn son of Judah, and Achar, the son of Carmi. Of Er it says simply that he “was wicked in the sight of the LORD; so He killed him (1 Chr. 2:3), a quotation from Genesis 38:7. Just a few verses later it calls Achar “the troubler of Israel, who transgressed in the accursed thing (1 Chr. 2:7). We know him better as Achan (Jsh. 7:10-26). Here the LORD has made sure that we remember two people’s actions, but both serve as warnings—not as recommendations. This should cause us to consider what would happen if our sins were publicized as much as we promote other parts of our lives. Would we really want to be recognized for the way we gossiped? Would we really want to be known for bad-mouthing the congregation’s leadership? Would we really want to be known in heaven for what we want to be known for at school, in the locker room, or at work? Sadly, we tend to compartmentalize our lives. We pick and choose what we want others to know about us and then think we can do the same with God on Judgment Day. We cannot. And it is time for us to recognize it.

### Shepherds

Sid Carruth  
Kenneth Helm  
Clark Lehtinen  
George Sowell

### Deacons

Gary Barger  
Jeff Day  
Vince Grinnell  
Justin Hewlett  
Bill Hughes  
Tim Norman

### Preacher

Kevin Rhodes

### Sunday

*Bible Study*  
9:00 am

*AM Worship*  
10:00 am

*PM Worship*  
5:00 pm

### Wednesday

*Ladies Class*  
10:00 am

*Bible Study*  
7:00 pm

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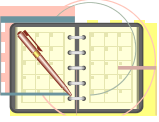
# Obedience Trusts Implicitly - Part Two

Kevin W. Rhodes

The complete trust Jesus' disciples have in God should extend to all that God has done and everywhere God will lead. During the revival in Nehemiah's day, the Levites reflected on early Israel's failure shortly upon leaving Egypt: "They refused to obey, And they were not mindful of Your wonders That You did among them. But they hardened their necks, And in their rebellion They appointed a leader To return to their bondage" (Neh. 9:17a). These Israelites had trusted God enough to leave Egypt originally and to walk on dry ground with the Red Sea piled up on either side of them, but when a different type of trouble came, their will wilted. Their minds, faltering, turned back to what they knew in Egypt and failed to trust God's guidance in the wilderness. Many today have the same issues with trusting God. When in the midst of an overwhelming crisis in life, they find comfort in trusting God to see them through, but when the turmoil has ended, their minds return once more to their former ways and trust themselves more than God. Jesus does not call people to temporary trust but to diligent discipleship characterized by sustained submission. When you come to Jesus for eternal life, you must come with a willingness to follow Him in all things pertaining to *this* life as well. For the person who trusts God implicitly, this will create no problem whatsoever, but for those who hold a conditional faith, it serves as a barrier to true discipleship.

The nature of discipleship alone requires that those who follow Jesus trust Him more than their own past experience; however, this remains difficult for some. The Israelites wanted to return to Egypt because they trusted themselves more than Jehovah (Acts 7:39). Those Israelites who inhabited the land following the Assyrian invasion introduced practices they had learned abroad. Instead of returning to worship as God commanded, they opted to follow "their former rituals" (2 Kings 17:40). So it was that in the days of Jeremiah, when Judah stood on the verge of collapse, "they did not obey or incline their ear, but everyone followed the dictates of his evil heart" (Jer. 11:8a). From their inception to their devastation, the Israelites as a whole chose their own instincts, their own choices, and their own preferences over God's will, and these failures to obey demonstrated their failure to trust. People often unwittingly bring aspects of their former life with them as they respond to the call of discipleship. Then, when a biblical conflict arises as a result and they are forced to choose, too often their faith fails. Somehow people tend to project their own feelings and ideas onto Jesus and then end up disappointed when someone points it out. If we wish to be disciples, we must establish clearly in our minds that our role is not to place our imprint upon the Master Teacher but to allow Him to imprint His own life, thinking, wishes, and heart on all of us.

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# News and Notes

## **Among our sick**

- Ken Boroughs is having more tests and hopefully will find out what type of treatments he will be having for the tumor on his liver.
- Charlotte Freese had surgery on her left knee on Tuesday at Hunt Regional Hospital in Greenville.
- Jack Hewlett has been at M. D. Anderson all week for tests.
- Doug Kilcrease met with the cardiologist on Wednesday.
- Deborah Lehtinen will have cataract surgery on Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Joe Pinkerton will have outpatient surgery to put another stint in on November 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Tracey Shelley, Kevin's sister, had surgery to repair ligaments in her elbow.
- Florence Ramseyer, Tracie's mother, had surgery on her eyelids.
- Tommy Thompson will have laser surgery on his right eye on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>.

## *Sympathy*

We extend our sympathy to the Rhodes family in the passing of Tracy's aunt, Neva Jane Corum in Missouri.

## **Please Note**

- The deacons and their wives will have a meeting in room 107 after the evening worship service on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Next week we will have singing in the auditorium on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be no classes.
- The office will be closed from Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, until Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The new Bible Class quarter will begin Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The youth devotional will be at Bill and Carla Hughes home on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Barbara Burnett will host a party for the younger children on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, starting at 4:00 PM.
- The Family Day Christmas party will take place on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Cowan's home. If you would like to participate in a gift exchange, please bring a wrapped ornament (\$5 maximum cost).

## Those who Serve

### Lords' Supper: 11/24

#### Front South

John McGilvray  
Paul Murphy  
Jackie Mayden

#### Back South

Dennis Lane  
Kenneth Helm  
Jay Lehtinen

#### Front North

Doug Jones  
Jeff McPherson  
Russ Jones

#### Back North

Doug Kilcrease  
Barry Lehtinen  
Casey Lehtinen

### Leading prayers:

Sunday AM

Sid Carruth

Sunday PM

Jim Hudgins

Tuesday PM

Ken Boroughs

Dewayne Henegar

Luke Norman

### Announcements:

Sunday AM-PM:

Clark Lehtinen

Tuesday

Tim Norman

### Song leaders:

Sunday AM

Jeff Day

Sunday PM

Jeff Day

Tuesdsay PM

Singing in auditorium

### Foyer Personnel:

Sunday & Tuesday

Wayne Gentry

### Collection Counting

Paul Murphy / Jeff Day / Kyle Day

### Wed. PM Devotional (11/26)

Paul Murphy



### Sermons for Sunday

AM

Wisdom about Wine  
Lessons from 1 & 2 Timothy & Titus

PM

Raising Expectations  
Exposition of Philemon



### Listen to the Gospel!

#### Luis and Mike in the Mornings

(Monday - Friday) from 7:00 am - 9:00 am cst on

KnowTheTruthRadio.org

#### Biblical Foundations with Pat McIntosh

(Tuesday - Thursday) 7:00 am or 11:00 am

btradio.net



### Our Records

Bible Class ..... 154

AM Worship.....218

PM Worship ..... 163

Wednesday Bible Class 11/13.....159

Contribution .....\$5,350

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