

February 5, 2012



Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worth of praise, dwell on these things. Phil. 4:8

This Week

Wednesday, Feb. 8

**7pm - Home Groups @ Marchlewski's,
VanHaverbeck's & Poirier's**

Sunday, Feb. 12

9am - Sunday School - classes for everyone

10 am - Morning Worship Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Group Parents - Please see Paul or Wendy Heid today if you haven't made payment arrangements for Big Ticket.

HIDE IT IN YOUR HEART

(LAST WEEK'S VERSE)

**For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,
Rom. 3:23-24 (NKJV)**

(THIS WEEK'S VERSE)

**For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Rom 6:23 (NKJV)**

AUDIO CASSETTES OF THE WEEK

A Faithful Heart by: Chuck Swindoll

These cassettes will inspire you to continually cultivate a Christlike life marked by wisdom and integrity.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Utmost For His Highest (Feb. 3 entry)

We have been made as the filth of the world . . . —1

Corinthians 4:13

These words are not an exaggeration. The only reason they may not be true of us who call ourselves ministers of the gospel is not that Paul forgot or misunderstood the exact truth of them, but that we are too cautious and concerned about our own desires to allow ourselves to become the refuse or "filth of the world." "Fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ . . ." ([Colossians 1:24](#)) is not the result of the holiness of sanctification, but the evidence of consecration—being "separated to the gospel of God . . ." ([Romans 1:1](#)).

"Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you . . ." (1 Peter 4:12). If we do think the things we encounter are strange, it is because we are fearful and cowardly. We pay such close attention to our own interests and desires that we stay out of the mire and say, "I won't submit; I won't bow or bend." And you don't have to— you can be saved by the "skin of your teeth" if you like. You can refuse to let God count you as one who is "separated to the gospel . . ." Or you can say, "I don't care if I am treated like 'the filth of the world' as long as the gospel is proclaimed." A true servant of Jesus Christ is one who is willing to experience martyrdom for the reality of the gospel of God. When a moral person is confronted with contempt, immorality, disloyalty, or dishonesty, he is so repulsed by the offense that he turns away and in despair closes his heart to the offender. But the miracle of the redemptive reality of God is that the worst and the vilest offender can never exhaust the depths of His love. Paul did not say that God separated him to show what a wonderful man He could make of him, but "*to reveal His Son in me. . .*" ([Galatians 1:16](#)).