



if he or she doesn't demonstrate biblical love. That's the problem in 1 Corinthians 3:1-4. Those who were carnal, proud, and divisive were identified as **"babes in Christ"**(13:1).

plify this kind of love nullifies the value of any knowledge we might possess.

That teaches something important about spiritual maturity. Though one is spiritually immature when he or she doesn't know as much about God's word (Hebrews 5:12-14), one is also spiritually immature

While it is very important that all we do and say is grounded upon biblical authority, and it should be—**"If anyone speaks let him speak as the oracles of God"** (1 Peter 4:11), Paul's words in First Corinthians thirteen teach us (to paraphrase) *"Although we take a sound stand on certain issues or practice the right things in worship, if we do not have love we are nothing!"* May we challenge ourselves to work to make both a part of our daily service to God. The Lord demands nothing less of us.



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Faithful Sayings Issue 15.27 July 7, 2013

*Welcome Visitors*

**We are so glad that you joined us today.  
Please come again.**

ISSUE

15.27

BULLETIN OF  
THE OLSEN  
PARK CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

# Faithful Sayings

July 7, 2013  
2013



## Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM  
10:20 AM  
6:00 PM  
Wednesday: 7:00 PM

### Elders:

Pat Ledbetter  
Jeff Nunn  
Kyle Pope

### Deacons:

Dean Bowers  
Eddie Cook  
Steve Dixon  
Jack Langley  
Neil Ledbetter  
Brady McAlister  
Walker McAnear  
Lance Purcell  
Rusty Scott

### Evangelists:

Kyle Pope  
Andrew Dow

## The Silence of Scripture

By Kyle Pope

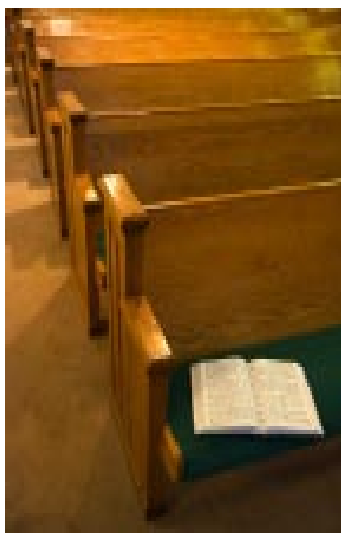
**M**ow we view the bounds that Scripture places upon collective Christian behavior will determine what we do as a church. If we believe that our conduct is not restricted to only what Scripture reveals, then we may use wide latitude in deciding congregational activities. If instead Scripture itself sets the limits through the things written within its pages for what the church is and does, then to go beyond these bounds would be presumptuous, divisive, and rebellious against divine authority.

### *Are we bound by the Silence of Scripture?*

There are a few classic examples in Scripture which demonstrate that the answer is yes:

**1) Noah.** God gave Noah the instruction to build the ark out of a wood called **"Gopherwood"** (Gen. 6:14). It wasn't necessary, however, for God to list all the types of wood Noah could not use.

**2) Moses.** To give water to the children of Israel God told Moses to **“Speak to the rock before their eyes and it shall yield its water”** (Numbers 20:8). Moses instead struck the rock and because of this he was not allowed to enter Caanan. He had been commanded on another occasion to strike the rock for water (Exodus 17:6), but Moses was restricted from doing on this occasion even though God didn't say “don't strike the rock.”



Olsen Park church of Christ

**3) Nadab and Abihu.** These two priests and sons of Aaron are said to have offered incense **“Before the Lord which He had not commanded them”** (Leviticus 10:1). Because of this fire came down from heaven and killed them.

Inspired writers themselves make arguments from the silence of Old Testament Scriptures:

**1) The Hebrew Writer.** To prove Christ's superiority to the angels, the Hebrew writer quotes Psalms 110:1 in asking “To which of the angels has He ever said **‘Sit at my right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool’**” (Hebrews 1:13).

**2.) Paul.** To show the subtle promise of Christ in prophecy Paul in Galatians 3:16 points out **“He does not say ‘And to seeds’ as of many, but as of one, ‘And to your Seed’ who is Christ.”**

Because the supreme authority that belongs to the Lord it is absolutely essential that we who seek to please Him view Scripture as that which sets the bounds for our conduct. When it comes to questions of worship, organization, or even church finances we must be careful not to **“Think beyond what is written”** (I Cor. 4:6). Let's remember that to **“Keep the commandment of the Lord your God”** one must **“Not add to the word which I command you, nor take anything away anything from it”** (Deuteronomy 4:2 NKJV).



## A Word About Knowledge

By Kyle Pope

I heard a little saying on the radio some years ago that contained a great deal of wisdom— *“People won't care how much you know until they know how much you care!”* It reminded me of the Apostle Paul's ; words in 1 Corinthians 8:1—**“Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up”** (NIV).

A good sister where I once preached told me about a discussion she had with a denominational friend. In the course of their study her friend told her “You church of Christ people just put too much emphasis on knowledge!” I wonder if her friend had experienced the very problem Paul's words and the saying from the radio mentioned above address—*knowledge without love?*

It is clear that the Bible puts a great deal of emphasis upon the need to grow in knowledge. It commands to **“Add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge”** (2 Peter 1:6 NKJV). You must **“work out your own salvation with fear and trembling”** (Philippians 2:12) and

**“Study to shew thyself approved unto God”** (II Timothy 2:15 KJV). Equally clear, however, is the charge that a spirit of love must govern all our deeds. Paul in First Corinthians 13:2 demonstrates this in saying hypothetically of himself, **“Though I have ... all knowledge and though I have all faith ... but have not love, I am nothing”** (NKJV).

One with the knowledge of what true godly love involves must realize that love *“Suffers long and is kind”* it *“does not behave rudely”* it *“is not provoked”* but rather *“Bears all things”* (1 Corinthians 13:4-6). Paul teaches us that the failure to exem-