



in all His house as a servant” (Hebrews 3:5). Each of these individuals were those who fulfilled the tasks of service and obedience to the Lord that had been given to them. As a result they are said to have been **“faithful”** to their commission and to their Master (the Lord). Could someone look at us and describe us in this way?

scribed as—**“A faithful minister of Christ”** (Colossians 1:7). Ty-chicus was called a—**“Faithful minister, and fellow servant in the Lord”** (Colossians 4:7). Onesimus, the slave whom Paul converted, is referred to as—**“A faithful and beloved brother”** (Colossians 4:9). Moses was said to have been—**“Faithful**

May each of us always work to be faithful to what God commands us through Jesus Christ as revealed in the New Testament. This doesn’t mean we never stumble, but let us always strive to do what God says. We must obey as quickly as possible. We may struggle, but when we do let us get up quickly and start over again in faithful service to the Lord.



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Faithful Sayings Issue 17.8 February 22, 2015

Welcome Visitors

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

● **Let us know if you have any questions.**

ISSUE

17.8

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

February 22,
2015



Services

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

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Pat Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Kyle Pope

Deacons:

Steve Dixon
Jack Langley
Neil Ledbetter
Brady McAlister
Walker McAnear
Lance Purcell
Rusty Scott

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Andrew Dow

Faithfulness

By Kyle Pope

In the message conveyed to the church in Smyrna in Revelation 2:10 the Lord proclaimed – **“Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life”** (NKJV). This admonition to faithfulness is one that all believers would do well to heed. Let’s consider what the New Testament says about *faithfulness*.

Faithfulness is described as part of the **“fruit of the Spirit”** in Galatians 5:22,23. The text reads—**“...The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”** If we are to be spiritually minded; if we are to be filled with the Spirit and led by the Spirit we should strive towards faithfulness.

To understand what faithfulness is we must see ourselves as servants (obeying a master) and stewards (given a

trust). First Corinthians 4:2 teaches—“...It is required in stewards that one be found faithful.” If we hope for eternal life we must be faithful stewards. The “faithful and wise steward” is one who is said to be waiting when his Master comes, faithfully doing his Master’s will (Matthew 24:45-46; Luke 12:42-43).

In several parables Jesus teaches the importance of faithfulness. In the Parable of the Talents He describes the

servant who had successfully used his master’s goods. The master says to him—“...Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord” (Matthew 25:21, 23). In the Parable of the Unjust Steward the Lord states – “He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in what is another man’s, who will give you what is your own?” (Luke 16:10-12). We must see our lives as a trust from God. We are called to faithfully use our lives for God’s purposes.

Members of the Lord’s church are to be faithful. An elder is to be one who has—“Faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination” (Titus 1:6) As an example to the flock, their home-life must be an example of how to raise children in faithfulness to the Lord. The wives of elders and deacons are to be—“Faithful in all things” (1 Timothy 3:11). Paul tells Timothy—“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2).

It would be a mistake to imagine that such

faithfulness is only demanded of the leadership. Paul’s epistle to the church in Ephesus is addressed to—“...The saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus” (Ephesians 1:1). In a similar way the letter to the Colossians was addressed—“To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colosse...” (Colossians 1:2). In describing those who are with the Lamb in purpose and commitment, Revelation 17:14 declares—“...He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.” If we consider ourselves on the Lord’s side we must ask ourselves if we are truly faithful.

There are many ways we can demonstrate faithfulness. We do so through faithfully assembling with God’s people in study and worship. We do so through faithful care of the sick and downhearted. We do so through faithfully teaching others when we have opportunity. We do so through faithfully giving ourselves to personal prayer and Bible study. We do so through faithfully resisting temptation, and faithfully imitating the life and character of Christ. Do these demonstrations of



faithfulness characterize our lives?

A number of individuals in Scripture are referred to as *faithful*. When Lydia obeyed the gospel she said to Paul – “...If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay...” (Acts 16:15). Timothy was called Paul’s “faithful son in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 4:17). Epaphras was de-

