



Thank you to  
The Bond Family for  
hosting  
the September family  
youth devotional -  
We appreciate you!

EDUCATION

**Monday Ladies' Bible Class**

The Monday Ladies' Bible Class will begin a six-week study of Ephesians starting September 21 at 7 p.m. Please plan to attend this weekly study.

**In Search of the Lord's Way**

The lesson for Sunday, September 27 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "Pure in Heart."

Have you wondered what happened to people's desire to be chaste and pure? We live in a sexually confused world devoted to fulfilling the lusts of the flesh. If we wish to see God, we must learn to be pure in heart.

SUNDAYS

Bible Classes .....9:00 AM  
Morning Worship .....10:00 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 5:00 PM

*Mondays*

Ladies' Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM  
*Tuesdays (September through May)*  
Men's Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
Ladies' Bible Study..... 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS

Midweek Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

EVANGELIST

Clay Bond

SUPPORTED WORKS

James and Emily Cammock  
*Hamilton, New Zealand*

Cecil Shaw  
*Ocho Rios, Jamaica*

Mike Batot  
*Southwest School of Bible Studies*

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"JESUS DOESN'T TOP THE CHART" by John W. Moore

Who has been the most influential man in history? I guess it depends on who you to talk to or what poll you trust. In some polls Jesus is the most important man of history, while in others He doesn't even top the chart. Michael Hart's book *The 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History* list Jesus at number two, just behind Islam's Mohammed. A website at *exploremed.com* list Christ at number three, even placing the Apostle Paul above Jesus. Other sites list a variety of people like Gandhi, or an Indian emperor named Ashoka the Great as their number one pick.

Assembling a list of the most influential people in history one can obviously be very subjective. However, the importance and uniqueness of what these people of history claimed about themselves and the implications of what they taught is anything but subjective.

"God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name."

*Philippians 2:9*

For example, who among the list of history's most influential people taught that they, and they alone, were the only way to heaven? Who among this list have made the claim that they were the bread of life sent down from heaven, the truth, the life, and

the actual son of God? Jesus Christ of Nazareth of course tops the chart when it comes to the uniqueness of his identity and the superiority of his work.

First, Christ is superior in His **person**. Unlike other influential people of history, Christ was more than a man. That He was a human being is certain, but though He was a man, He was more than a man - for He was literally "God with us" (Matt. 1:23). He was born of a virgin, conceived by means of the Holy Spirit. All aspects of Deity dwelt in His human body (Col. 2:9), and yet His existence was not dependent upon mortal flesh. Before the world began Christ existed (John 1:1). He is equated with the great I Am of Exodus 3 (cf. John 8:58) which implies His eternal existence. The various influential men and women of the past came on the scene of human history long

after the creation, yet Jesus was present at creation and was the force behind it (Heb. 1:2; Col. 1:16).

Second, Christ is superior in **purpose**. Christ had a superior purpose with a system of law and grace that would save souls from death and prepare us eternity. This purposed law was realized in His death upon the cross when by His blood He ratified the everlasting covenant (Heb. 13:20). Christ Himself would be the sacrifice for sin as His purpose was to give His life a ransom for many (Matt. 20:28). In dying upon the cross, He not only made cleansing for sins (Heb. 1:3), but He also abolished in His flesh...the law of commandments contained in ordinances" (Eph. 2:15). While the laws of men are imperfect in their scope, the law of Christ is perfect in every way; it is a "perfect law of liberty" (James 1:25).

Third, Christ is superior in **preeminence**. While influential people of the past have served in such capacities as a prince, priest, teacher, etc., Jesus on the other hand was all of these and more. Jesus was and is the Lord of all lords and the King of all kings (1 Tim. 6:15). He and He alone is the sovereign ruler of the universe. The apostle Paul recognized this undisputable fact when in Colossians 1:12-22 he spoke of the power and preeminence of Jesus. Not only did he reveal that Jesus is the image of God, but he also made it clear through the use of the word preeminence that Jesus had no equal. Jesus truly has priority in everything. He is first in rank, title, and position. He is vastly superior to all of creation and to any and all angelic beings (Heb. 1:4-8). Nowhere is this preeminence more clearly shown than in Philippians 2:9-11, where it is said that "God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name; that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow ... and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." The words *highly exalt* are of particular importance (one word in Greek) for nowhere else in the Bi-

## TRAVELING THE ROAD OF MARITAL JOY



Today's  
Guest Speaker is  
John Moore

— Sunday, September 20 —

- 9 a.m. "Using the Map and Asking for Directions"
- 10 a.m. "Fuel in the Tank"  
Potluck Lunch
- 1 p.m. "Repairing the Engine"

ble is this word used in regard to exalting something or someone. Prefixed to the stem of the Greek word for exalt (*hupsao*) is the preposition *hyper* which means over and above. Others have been and are exalted by God (1 Pet. 5:6), but no one other than Christ is highly exalted. Jesus and Jesus alone is preeminent.

I am admittedly embarrassed and apologetic at the scant attention that is given in this brief article to the greatness of our Lord and Savior. I now understand to some degree what the beloved apostle John must have felt when he expressed that if all of the deeds and aspects of the Lord's life were to be written, "the world itself could not contain the books" (John 21:25). I would contend that if I were to write a library of books, they could not contain all that should be revealed, contemplated, analyzed, and discussed with regard to the work and influence that the life and work of Jesus the Christ has had on the world. He is without a doubt the most influential person in human history and *the* number one person that should be at the top of everyone's list for life.

## News

### & ACTIVITIES

#### Sunday, September 27

Every last Sunday of the month, Clay will answer bible questions placed in the box in the foyer.

#### Wednesday, September 30

This month, there will be a Fifth Wednesday singing.

#### Sunday, October 4

The Monthly Men's Meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m.

#### Thursday, October 8

The Young Ladies' Potluck Luncheon will meet at Noon, here at the building.

- Brookdale (formerly Homewood) Team #3 will meet today.
- Please see the new thank you notes posted in the hallway.
- Robert and Jill Powers announce the arrival of their granddaughter **Rylee Hart O'Connor**, 6.8 oz., 19.5 in., born to their daughter Kristen and husband Kory O'Connor. Congratulations!

Records You Helped Make  
For the Week of  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

#### Attendance

Sunday Bible Class.....115  
Sunday Morning Assembly.....165  
Sunday Evening Assembly.....NA  
Offering: \$4,548

## Keep in PRAYER

#### RESPONSES:

Please keep **Cristen Purswell** in prayer who responded Sunday morning, and **Michelle Parker** who requested prayers Sunday evening.

#### MidTown Members:

Jeff Cannady  
Dee Gilpatrick  
Betty Key  
Sandy Malone

Bob Neel  
Mickey Tisue  
Ann Pantel  
Glen Pitts  
Rex Sims  
Inez Shafer  
Etta Williams

#### & Friends Family:

Cynthia Barrett,  
daughter of Dee Gilpatrick  
Sandra Barton,  
sister-in-law of Karon  
Darlene Dolan  
mother of Bryce Dolan  
Joyce Eggemeyer,  
mother of Barbie Dolan  
Josephine Escojido,  
mother of Lupe Escojido  
Dee Ann Endsley  
niece of Jerri Jeffres  
Pam Hawkins,  
daughter-in-law of June  
Amy Jamison,  
daughter of Terry  
Perliene Johnson,  
mother-in-law of Steve Randle

Dorothy Koenig,  
mother of Mickey DeDear  
Dorothy McCarn  
aunt of Pam Clifton  
Edna Randall,  
aunt of Randy Tipton  
Sarah Randle,  
mother of Steve  
Ernest Rundzieher,  
brother of Jackie Rutherford  
David Smith,  
brother of Bob Smith  
Ray Shannon,  
son of Donna  
Prem Verma,  
father-in-law of Archana  
Becca Wiese,  
friend of Virginia Escojido  
Mark Withers,  
nephew of Clark  
Ray Williams,  
son of Etta