

The church of Christ at Grandview Pines

May 8, 2011



What if Jesus Were on Facebook?

I wake up, grab my iPhone, turn off the alarm, and update my Facebook status. On the way to school I scroll through my friends' status updates, updating mine with the song on my iPod. At lunch, I take a picture of me and my friends and upload it to Facebook. Now, I am chatting with my best friend in Tennessee. Status update: "Good night all. I'll text you in the morning." Such is the day of a typical American young person.

Facebook has taken the cyber world by storm and our social lives forever in a different direction. Compete.com ranked Facebook as the most used social network in the world. According to Facebook's own stats page, there are currently more than 350 million active users, and 65 million people are accessing Facebook through their phones/mobile devices. They say that the average user has 130 Facebook friends and spends more than 55 minutes a day on their site.

What if Jesus were on Facebook and He sent you a friend request. We know that such is not possible, but for the sake of illustration pretend. Would you have to stop and think before you accepted it? Would you have to look through your pictures to be sure that you don't have any immodest pictures or anything tasteless?

Perhaps you would have to make sure that you don't have any pictures taken in inappropriate places. Would you go back over your postings to be sure that you haven't said anything crude or inappropriate? Would you scan through your list of favorite movies and music, perhaps deleting a few before you let Jesus on your site? What about the games you play? Quizzes you take?

Is there anything that would make you stop and say to yourself, "I think I'll delete that before I let Jesus on my site"? If the answer is "Yes," then why not go ahead and take it off? The fact of the matter is the Lord does look at our Facebook pages! Proverbs 15:3 says, "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good." Not only is God watching me on Facebook, but other people are watching, too. What they see on my Facebook site affects what they think about me, and the church, and Christianity.

What if I have my "religious preference" listed as "church of Christ," and then I have pictures posted of me at a nightclub or dancing or at the beach immodestly dressed or with an alcoholic beverage?

Or what if my status update has immoral lyrics? Or maybe I'm venting, and running someone else down. We ask, "What effect is it going to have on my non-Christian friend who looks at my site?" He might say to himself, "I do better than that, and I don't even pretend to be a Christian!" Or he might think, "What a hypocrite!"

Imagine that you are surfing Facebook, and you see that Jesus has His own site. You are excited, so you send him a friend request. Would He accept it?

Most of us, when we receive a friend request, have some sort of criteria before we indiscriminately accept someone as our friend. We want to know if we know the person. We glance at his information, his friend list, and

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I M A G I N E T H A T Y O U A R E
S U R F I N G F A C E B O O K ,
A N D Y O U S E E T H A T
J E S U S H A S H I S O W N
S I T E . Y O U A R E E X C I T E D , S O
Y O U S E N D H I M A F R I E N D
R E Q U E S T . W O U L D H E
A C C E P T I T ?

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where he lives. Does Jesus have criteria for friend requests? Sure He does!

He said, “Ye are my friends if ye do the things which I command you” (John 15:14). Therefore, to be a friend of Jesus, you have to obey Him. In light of this, Christian friend, ask yourself “Would Jesus accept my friend request?”

Before you answer, consider your faithfulness in attending worship, your Bible study habits, your efforts to teach others, your giving, and the way you treat other people. Now, with your answers in mind, would Jesus accept your friend request?

—Don Blackwell at: http://www.forthright.net/guest_writers/what_if_jesus_were_on_facebook.html

Keeping the Main Thing The Main Thing

Imagine a soft drink company that spent the majority of its resources, its work force, its focus, its advertising, and its research and development on what type of material of which its container will be or what color to make its label. That company would likely fail to sell nearly as many soft drinks as the company who properly prioritized the goal of getting the drink onto the taste buds of as many people as possible. It would be foolhardy and fatal to misplace one’s mission so thoroughly as the first company in this example.

However, too many congregations of God’s people have lost sight of its prime objective. The number one goal of the church should be what it was for Jesus, who said, “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost” (Luke 19:10). The church is not primarily tasked with building huge church buildings, providing a thousand and one social programs, serving as the brotherhood’s heretic detectors, or similar comparatively esoteric and superficial endeavors. Yet, too many congregations have devolved, in terms of time, money, and talent, into committees obsessed with container types and label colors—so to speak! All the while, soul after soul passes from time and earth to eternity and Hades, destined to some day stand on the Lord’s left hand. Christians, armed with the knowledge and the resources to reach the honest among these, have too often lost sight of the prime objective.

Instead of pessimistic resignation, the church’s response, everywhere and often, must be to do what it can to help retrain the collective and individual focus. The makeup of man’s mind is such that he needs constantly to be reminded of things. Thus, God instituted the Lord’s Supper (cf. Acts 20:7), like the Passover meal of old, to be done regularly. The same subjects in the New Testament are addressed repeatedly, to reinforce and remind us of their importance. For that reason, it is good for God’s people to persistently emphasize soul-winning. It has been anecdotally reported that churches of Christ in the United States have averaged one baptism per congregation per year for the last twenty-plus years. Since some churches do much, much better than that over the course of a year, a good many must not be baptizing people at all. How many people, not including members’ children, are we teaching and baptizing?

Whatever we can do to encourage a reversal of that trend, let us do! Let us stay committed to keeping the main thing the main thing!

-Neal Pollard

News, Notes & 'Nouncements

Welcome Visitors: We are thankful to be able to gather to worship our God (John 4:24). Please take time to fill out a card and place it in the collection plate. If you have questions about what you see or hear we would be glad to answer them after the service. We hope all leave edified and uplifted.

Please Silence cell phones so our worship services will not be interrupted.

Volunteer Sign-up List for preparation of the Lord's Supper for this year is now available. A few months are still available.

Barnabas Board: in the foyer for posting notes of encouragement, thanks, etc.

Pantry: On the bulletin board you will find a list of needed items. The pantry is low on some supplies at this time. Please check expiration dates when buying canned goods. Thanks.

Monday Night Bible Study for the month of May will be on the third Monday night (15th). Class will begin at 6:30. Come and study.

Guyana Missions: We will be taking a load to the Summerdale congregation. See Glenn Fuller for a list of needed items.

Vacation Bible School: Our VBS will be May 29—June 2. The theme will be about various dreams in the Bible. See David Howard for more information or to volunteer.

VBS T-Shirts: Don't forget to sign up for shirts on the board in the foyer. May 11th will be the last day to sign up.

VBS Refreshments: Donations are needed so we can provide refreshments during VBS. Please give money to Glenda.

Area Wide Youth Devo: Rescheduled for Next week. 5:00pm @ Wetumpka church of Christ.

Our Deepest Sympathy to the Cooper Family: Ben Cooper's grandfather passed away this past week. There will be a memorial service on May 14th in Spanish Fort.

Thank You! The Harvell family would like to thank everyone for the beautiful Baby Shower for Wayne.

Bulletin Updates: If you have any information that needs to be in the bulletin, please let Trey Harvell know. 334-201-8803 or trey.harvell@gmail.com

Prayer List

(in alphabetical order by last name)

Lee Bowren (A. Sadler's mother)-in nursing home in Heber Springs, AR

David Brown (Mont. Police officer)-recovering from serious motorcycle accident

Linda Bush (Prattville Rehab & Nursing Home, RM 212)

Marilyn Bush (Erin Hatcher's mother). She is awaiting results from various tests this past week at MD Anderson hospital.

Amber Conrad (Trey Harvell's cousin) recovering from surgery following an auto accident

Russell Cooper (B. Little's brother)

Joan Cox (extended family of D. Boyd)-lung cancer

Jerry Davidson (Director of Guyana missions)-Parkinson's Disease

Charles Dobbins (friend of the May family) is under hospice care.

Vicki Dobbins (friend of the May family) fell off ladder with lower back pain—at home recovering

Darla Dorsey (daughter of Doug & Peggy Stabler) had surgery recently

Glenn Fuller-is doing some better.

Sydney Fuller (G. Fuller's bother) has two inoperable aneurisms. Continue to pray for him.

Charlie Gibbs (Kim Cross's grandfather) health issues

Addison Hall—Going in for tests on May 17th.

Myra Hall--expecting

Christina Harvell-expecting

Fredrick & Teresa Harbaugh - Teaching in China & Health issues - Teresa is having some tests run.

Katie King-Rm 451, Charleston Place, Old Prattville Hwy.

Tim Johnson (Gwen Shelton's uncle) is undergoing cancer treatments

Rayford Lee (J. Sadler's father-in-law)

Walter & Cheryl May (R. May's parents) - both facing physical ailments

Rosie Price - Recovering from knee surgery.

Marvin Rice (Diane Cox's brother) heart procedure

Peggy Rice (Janice Claunch's mother) has suffered a few falls lately.

Tina Tatum-continuing back problems

and ongoing health issues

Mickey Thomas (former member) serious condition, Jackson Hospital.

Amy Turner - Recovering from surgery.

Kevin Turner--ALS

Juanita Waggoner (M. Stinson's aunt)-advanced stage of Parkinson's Disease

Military personnel & their families

-Matthew Cooper (Basic—AIT)

-Britt Shores (Afghanistan)

-Keith Cleveland (C. Cleveland's

grandson, Iraq)

-Keith Golden (Goldens' son)

-Joshua Corey-deployed

-Joel Jackson

-Barry Freeman

-Matthew Martin

-Stewart Burkey

-Ryan Quade (O. Abbott's cousin, Iraq)

-John Drew (O. Abbott's cousin, Iraq)

-Todd Wheeler-being deployed

Changes & Removal of names: Don't forget to let us know if prayer list information needs to be changed.

... but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. Philippians 4:6

Congregational Information

Elders:

Terry Claunch.....285-4142
 Glenn Fuller.....365-4923
 Lary Sadler.....285-7455

Deacons:

David Howard.....730-8080

Preacher:

Terry Claunch

Study.....285-6327
 Home.....285-4142
 Cell.....313-1539

Work of Evangelism:

Home Bible Studies
 Bible Correspondence Studies
 Biblical Tracts
 Staton & Tutwiler Prisons
 Sermon CDs & Cassettes
 Gospel Broadcasting Network

Work of Benevolence:

Food Pantry
 Guyana Missions—Summerdale
 Congregation
 1st Sunday singing & devotion-Autumn
 Place
 2nd Sunday singing—Merry Wood Lodge
 Clothes for Panama
 Eye Glasses for Thailand
 Assistance to those in need

Work of Edification:

Sunday
 Bible Class.....9:00 AM
 Worship.....10:00 AM
 Worship.....5:00 PM
 3rd Monday
 Bible Study.....6:30 PM
 Wednesday
 Ladies' Class.....10:30 AM
 Bible Class.....7:00 PM

Internet

www.grandviewpineschurch.org
 contact@grandviewpineschurch.org
Look for us on Facebook!
 (Grandview Pines church of Christ &
 Grandview Pines church of Christ Youth)

Where We Meet

165 Deatsville Hwy, Millbrook, AL, 36054

Privileged to Serve

Sunday Worship Services

	Today: May 8th	Next Week: May 15th
Greeters	D. Cox J. Ellison	G. Gregory R. Price
Nursery Attendant	T. Colquitt	P. Weldon
Foyer Attendant	C. Price	D. Howard
Shut-In Communion	T. Claunch	D. Howard
AM Service		
Announcements	J. Hammonds	T. Young
Song Leader	L. Wright	G. Vinson
Opening Prayer	D. Howard	J. Hammonds
Scripture Reading	C. Mayne Proverbs 6:12-19	N. Girod Proverbs 10:1-8
Lord's Supper	Head: J. Cox A. Stinson S. Girod B. Weldon R. Obert	Head: S. Girod C. Price D. Conyer C. Mayne L. Sadler
Closing Prayer	L. Sadler	D. Stabler
PM Service		
Announcements	J. Hammonds	T. Young
Song Leader	L. Wright	G. Vinson
Opening Prayer	J. Claunch	J. Cox
3rd Sunday Invitation	—	D. Howard
Lord's Supper	J. Cox	S. Girod
Closing Prayer	A. Howard	T. Claunch
Wednesday Bible Study		
	This Week: May 11th	Next Week: May 18th
Song Leader	C. Mayne	B. Cooper
Invitation	T. Young	T. Claunch
Closing Prayer	J. Hammonds	C. Price

* If you cannot meet your scheduled duty & cannot find a replacement, please contact Jim Hammonds or David Howard.

Do You Know Your Bible?

This Week's Question

Answer in next Week's Bulletin

John the Baptist was how much older than Jesus?

Answer to Last Week's Questions

Answer in next Week's Bulletin

What was Daniel's other name?

Beltshazzar

Who was Samuel's father?

Elkanah

Grandview Pines Church of Christ
 PO Box 3
 Millbrook, AL 36054