

MADRID CHURCH OF CHRIST

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 05, 2017

2017 ANNUAL THEME:

PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD



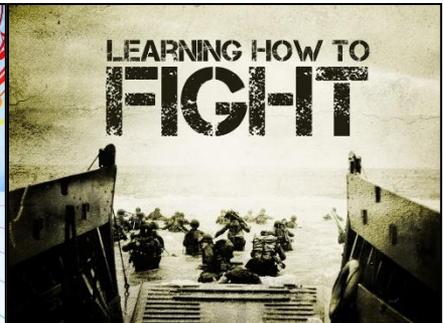
EPHESIANS 6:10-20

"PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD, THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO STAND AGAINST THE SCHEMES OF THE DEVIL" (EPHESIANS 6:11).

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9AM

11AM



"NO SOLDIER GETS ENTANGLED IN CIVILIAN PURSUITS, SINCE HIS AIM IS TO PLEASE THE ONE WHO ENLISTED HIM" (2 TIMOTHY 2:4).

ARE YOU A "PRIVATE-PROPERTY CHRISTIAN"?

BY WES MCADAMS

To you, home may be “where the heart is,” or it may simply be, “where you hang your hat.” You may live in the biggest house on the block, or occupy a very humble abode. Regardless of what kind of home you live in, you may be a “private property Christian.”

“Private property Christians” are those who don’t use their homes as a tool for serving others or show partiality in who they allow in their homes. Although they have the facilities do so, they don’t host church activities in their home. If they do welcome people into their home, it is only very close friends and family. They wouldn’t consider housing a visiting preacher, a Christian brother or sister with whom they’re not acquainted, for a few days, having a Christian family over for meals, or using their home as an evangelistic tool.

Here are a few things you need to understand about your home:

1. Your Home Belongs to God – Whether we are renting, paying a mortgage, or have paid for our home “free-and-clear,” we really own nothing. Everything in this world belongs to its Creator. God says, “For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine” (Psalm 50:10-12).

You may be the tenant, but the “property owner” is God. Your home, like everything else in your possession, is merely a stewardship with which you have been entrusted.

2. Your Home is a Tool to Help You Glorify God – God has allowed you a place to live so that you can use it to His glory. At times, the best use of a home is solitude, rest, and recuperation (even Jesus needed time for that). We all need a quiet place to go and “recharge our batteries,” so that we can be at our best for God. However, there are other times when entertaining others would be better than merely entertaining ourselves (Hebrews 13:1).

On the Day of Judgment, the King will say to those on His right, “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I

was a stranger and you welcomed me...as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me” (Matthew 25:35, 40); and He will send to “eternal punishment” those who failed to do so (Matthew 25:46).

Because of your unique situation, you may not have a home in which to invite people; but I guarantee you have something with which to serve others and glorify God. Whatever you have at your disposal, is a tool to be used in the service of God.

We all must use good discernment. We must ask ourselves, “At this very moment, what is the best use of my home, my time, my talents, my energy? How can I best use all that I have to bring glory to God?” Then, whether it is convenient or not, we must do what’s best (that which brings the greatest glory to God).

3. Your Home is Temporary – Don’t get too attached to your house, eventually it’s going to burn. Everything in this physical world will be burned up (2 Peter 3:10-11). Your home is just wood and bricks. If you’re a Christian, you’re going to spend eternity in an eternal dwelling place Christ has prepared for you (John 14:2); don’t get too bogged down with worries and concerns about your “cottage below.”

The Christians in Jerusalem, right after the events of Pentecost, understood these things. They understood that homes and property were just temporary tools, of which God had made them stewards, for His glory, “There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need” (Acts 4:34-35).

I want to challenge us all to think about our homes differently; differently than the world thinks of homes, and maybe differently than we’ve ever thought about them before.

ARE YOU “GIVEN TO HOSPITALITY” (ROM 12:13)?

VISITORS:

THANK YOU FOR COMING TODAY!

If you are visiting with us and have any questions about what you have seen or heard today, please fill out a visitor's card or contact us using the information below. We would be happy to schedule a time to sit down with you and to answer your questions from God's word. If there is anything we can do to help you spiritually, please let us know. We are here to serve!

Call or text Jason @ 412-999-4837 or email him @
preacher@madridchurch.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 02/05 - Super Bowl party @ Kokemiller's house
- 02/26 - Shed potluck after services @ Larry & Franki's
- 03/05 - Song Service
- 03/19-03/22 - Gospel Meeting w/ Mike Richardson (Resisting the Attractions of the World)
- 03/26 - Shed potluck after services @ Larry & Franki's

If there is an event you are planning that you want put in the bulletin, let Jason know!

DAILY READING:

- 02/06 – Lev 21-23; Psalm 37
- 02/07 – Lev 24-25; Psalm 38
- 02/08 – Lev 26-27; Psalm 39
- 02/09 – Num 1-4; Psalm 40
- 02/10 – Num 5-7 (skim ch7); Psalm 41
- 02/11 – Num 8-10; Psalm 42
- 02/12 – Num 11-13; Psalm 43

