

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS A REAL PARADOX. The teachings of our Lord show this in a number of ways. For example, He teaches that the way up is down. The world says that the way up is up and only the very stupid would think otherwise. But in Luke 14:11 Jesus declares that he who humbles himself shall be exalted. The ambitious climber who steps on others and exalts himself . . . can never be a disciple of Christ. He is moving in the wrong direction.

In Matthew 11:30 the Lord says that His yoke is easy and His burden is light. No one who has understanding in the most common experiences in the physical realm believes this. But all who have submitted to the Lordship of Christ have discovered that in the spiritual realm, the yoke of service is indeed “easy” and the burden of responsibility is “light.” Christ takes the strain out of living for those who are intimately joined to Him.

Another seemingly impossible thing is where the Saviour teaches that we keep by losing. Unregenerated society says that you keep something by keeping it and then studies a thousand ways of securing it. No one who is really “in the know” would ever suggest that real security is found in losing. And yet here is the word of Christ, “Whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel’s, the same shall save it” (Mark 8:35). The man who “plays it safe” saves nothing and loses everything.

People puzzle over another of Christ’s principles in the following: “If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all” (Mark 9:35). The proud world with its empty chant “We’re number one!” never finds it easy to renounce all for Jesus and be last . . . But the earnest believer doesn’t mind. He is willing to wait for the time when “the last shall be first, and the first last” (Matthew 20:16).

*Excerpted from Some Folks I Know
by Wendell K. Grout*

Tunja, Columbia, garden ©Mark Pitt Images/Stock • Printed in USA



*In Him
we live, and move,
and have our being.*

Acts 17:28

Covenant Church

3115 N.W. 16th Avenue Gainesville FL 32605

August 14, 2022

Call to Worship

Sounds of Hope

Invocation

Don Mauldin

Sing Unto the Lord

Hymn # 329 There is Power in the Blood

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of Guests

Mission Moment

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Ron Marks

Worship in Song

Hymn # 330 Are You Washed in the Blood

Offertory Prayer

Michelle Miller

Offertory

Rose Morgan

Special Music

Sounds of Hope

Sermon: "Three Steps to Victory"

Scripture: Revelation 12;7-12

Hymn of Benediction

#308 There is a Redeemer

Pastor Don Mauldin

352-262-5349

Covenant News

Covenant's ministry for August is the Food4Kids Backpack Program. Thousands of area students depend upon free lunch programs for the majority of their meals. On weekends and holidays when school isn't in session, these kids often go hungry - and they return to class too undernourished to focus on learning. Food4Kids sends these students home with food to help them bridge that gap, be it a standard weekend or the long summer break. Because when hunger ends, learning begins.

More Words of Wisdom

Courage is fear that has said its prayers

Anxiety is the rust of life; trust is the oil.

Humility is that precious quality that makes us feel smaller as we grow greater.

Failure is merely an opportunity to start over again, wiser than before.

Prayer is the pause that empowers.