

Invitation

Welcome everyone. We pray you will be strengthened by your visit with the Brighton Church of Christ. You are not just our guest, but you are welcome and wanted right here. Join our family of imperfect people perfected in by the blood of Jesus. Restrooms are located across the foyer near the front of the auditorium on the upper floor. If you need assistance in any way, ask any member for help.

Mission

The Brighton Church of Christ is a spiritual family with a focus on going to heaven. We are determined to honor God, to strictly follow the teachings of the New Testament, and effectively make that teaching available to the city of Brighton and the surrounding areas.

Leadership

Elders

Ron Jensen	303-655-8498
Ivan Stewart	720-270-1057
Mark Thacker	303-655-1982

Deacons

Kevin Dunham	303-807-5974
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Minister

Sam Dilbeck	903-229-8415
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Contact

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Website: brightonchurchofchrist.org
Facebook: facebook.com/brightoncoc

Sunday Schedule

Welcome	Ron Jensen
Song Leader	Ron Jensen
Opening Prayer.....	Marc Moran
Lord's Supper Leader.....	Marcos Celaya
Lesson	Sam Dilbeck
Closing Prayer & Dismissal.....	Ron Eudaley

Wednesday Evening Schedule

Class	Sam Dilbeck
Closing Prayer.....	Sam Dilbeck

Service Times

Sundays: Worship 10:30 am

Wednesdays: Ladies Class 10:00 am, Bible Study 6:30 pm



June 13, 2021

Women and Prayer Sam Dilbeck

She was a beer-swilling, foul-mouthed, promiscuous flirt, but she approached the graduation podium with a piety that would shame Diotrephes. With the lordliness of Poe's raven she perched behind the microphone and...prayed. Her invocation of God's blessings fell lifelessly to the floor, cascading across the auditorium on a relentless journey to obscurity. But it was not just her hypocrisy hindering her prayer, it was her.

Since the feminization of America, many Christians try to blur the lines between God's gender roles. Through the efforts of feminine theology elders can now be the "husband of one wife," or the wife of one husband. Servants in the church can be deacons or deaconesses. And those who lift holy hands in prayer before a gender blended assembly can be a man or woman. While society applauds these changes as progression, God still calls it transgression.

In his first letter to the young preacher, Timothy, Paul explained his purpose for writing, "I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and ground of the truth" (1 Tim. 3:14-15). Paul gave Timothy instructions for Christian behavior in the church. Several of the admonitions addressed prayer. How to pray (1 Tim. 2:1). Whom to pray for (1 Tim. 2:2). Why pray (1 Tim. 2:3-4). Through whom to pray (1 Tim. 2:5-7).

Then he commanded, "I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling" (1 Tim. 2:8). In discussing prayer, Paul explains how God-defined gender roles impact public prayers—only men are allowed to lead publicly for mixed audiences.

Some seek to nullify the specificity of Paul's charge saying it was Paul's desire or wish, not a command. Additionally, Paul often gets charged with supporting female oppression. Therefore, his desire is that men lead prayers. While Paul does use the word "desire," he writes it to Timothy, someone who respects Paul and wants to please him. It is reasonable to expect Paul to speak in endearing terms.

In the same context, Paul said, "I exhort (urge)..." which, like "desire" shows more tenderness than "command." Yet, Paul wrote by the authority of God, making his exhortations and desires imperative, "If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord" (1 Cor. 14:37). Paul's desire and exhortation in these verses should be understood as Timothy understood them—as an imperative.

Others have suggested Paul's admonition is more about the type of person praying (holy) than the gender of the person praying (male). Paul discusses the quality of the individual as holy and not given to strife and conflict. He also specifies the gender as important. This can be seen in the contrast with verse 9, "Likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire." The word "likewise" connects verses 8 and 9. Then Paul identifies the link "women." Paul obviously has gender roles in mind. He applies the same quality of holiness to men and women expressed in different outward appearances.

To further illustrate the different gender roles, Paul appeals to the silence of women in the church (1 Tim. 2:11-12). This teaching is consistent with the overall New Testament teaching, "The women should keep silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be in submission, as the Law also says" (1 Cor. 14:34). Christian women must submit to the authority of their husbands in the home and the authority of men in the church. When a woman prays before a mixed audience, she wrests authority from the men present.

God's decree concerning men and women and their respective roles shouldn't be construed as a value judgment on men and women. A submissive wife is not inferior, valueless, or unworthy before God. Nor is a man who leads his house superior, more valuable, or worthy before God. The Devil continues to preach the feminist mantra that submission is inferiority. When Christian men and women buy into his message, they corrupt God's pattern.

Public prayer before mixed assemblies must be performed by men. Of course, other factors can hinder those prayers like the prayer leader's relationship to God, the lifestyle of the leader, etc. But the gender makes a difference too. When the young lady approached the podium to lead her graduating class in the traditional invocation, her prayer was hindered. Not just because of her lifestyle, but because she was a girl.

Announcements

Prayers

Linda Shoen is not doing well, she went into the hospital on Wednesday. She is out of ICU and is now in step down. Prayers that the infection completely clears up.

Continued Prayers

Penny Anderson, Tim Parker's daughter- seizures

Eleanor Jatko— recovery from a stroke

Bill Woloridge, the Austin's friend—cancer

Jane Hanavan-heart issues

Dawn Lell-health problems

KD's supervisor's wife, LaRae Siefert-chemo nerve damage

Sherry Derbigny's Aunt Jackie— breast cancer

Sam Sims— health problems

The work in India

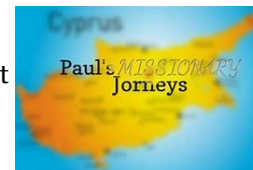
Our work here in Brighton as we try to reach our community through the difficulties of COVID-19

Paula Nikolai—heart issues

News and Notes

Ladies Bible Class

The Ladies Bible Class meets Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. We are currently studying the life of the Apostle Paul.



Terri Osnes

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Kamp Koinonia 2021

Camp is scheduled for July 11-17 (one week only this year).



Applications and additional information are available on the website: kampkoinonia.org. Space is limited to 100 campers and will be filled on a 1st come/1 served basis. We will be informed when it reaches capacity.



We are so close to starting classes for everyone on Sunday mornings. If you have not yet let Mark or Naomi Thacker know if your children will be attending please let them know. If you are willing to teach please let them know.