

Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2025.03.30

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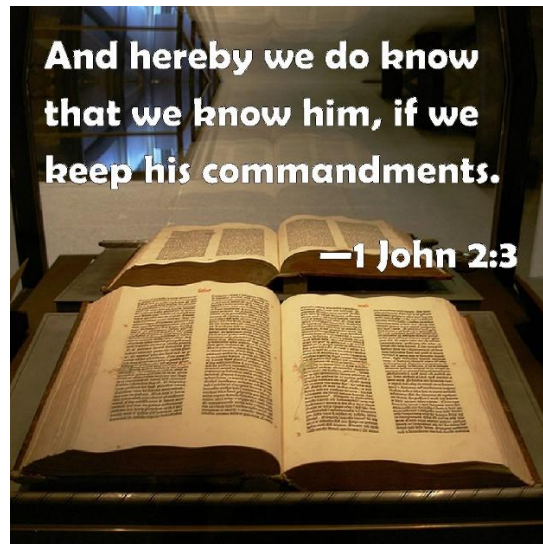
Sermon recordings

Scan the QR code below with your phone's cam, or visit oakgrovecofc.org/sermons.

Speaker-AM: Brad Bunyard

Title: How To Know God

Recording:



Articles

Servant Mindset, By Warren King

Several themes run through the teachings of Jesus – themes like ‘the kingdom’, for example. But another common refrain is the importance of a ‘servant mindset’ (Mt 20:26-28, 23:11, Lu 22:26-27, Jn 13:1-17). The theme is also often repeated by New Testament writers (1 Pe 4:8-11, etc).

And it is, I believe, one of the most challenging responsibilities we have as the children of God.

A servant mindset makes all the difference in a local congregation. It is that mindset which cools the flames of prideful self-interest and protects the precious unity of a local church (Ga 5:13-15).

A servant mindset makes all the difference in a marriage. In contrast to the disparaging stereotype of a Christian wife who is a doormat to her domineering husband, the Bible description of marriage is that of two people working together in mutual love and respect (Ge 2:18-25, Ep 5:22-23, etc.).

Even in the secular world, a servant mindset will set one apart from the crowd, whether we are in an entry level position or one of great authority (De 17:18-20, Jer 22:2-3).

So let’s never be too proud to “serve one another”!

Sin is Serious, 3/30/2025 By Lucas Griggs

In our culture, sin is easily downplayed. When we transgress God’s will, we might say something like, “Bummer, I messed up, but God is good”. Then we pray, “God forgive me,” and go on with our day. The emotions David expressed in Psalm 6 stand in stark contrast to “I messed up.” Although David’s sin is not revealed, his deep distress is evident throughout the Psalm.

In Psalm 51, David wrote, “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart.” Psalm 6 illustrates what that looks like. David’s sin caused him to languish. He took sin much more seriously than simply saying, “I messed up. Oh well, I’m only human.” David understood that he (as we all) deserved God’s rebuke. But David, with great humility, pled for God’s grace and mercy. David appealed to God’s steadfast love and begged for His deliverance. Because of his sin, David realized his need for God’s help, and with tears flowing, he turned to Him for help and pled to a loving and forgiving God for mercy!

Because we have Jesus, our great High Priest, we can approach our God in our time of need and seek His help, grace, and mercy (He 4:14-16). The same God Who heard David’s weeping and pleas, and accepted his prayer, will also hear our weeping, will see our broken spirit and contrite heart, and will accept our prayer of confession (1 Jn 1:9). We serve a forgiving God! But just because our God will forgive, does not give us an excuse to minimize sin. Sin is serious! Jesus shed His blood because of our sin! That alone should cause us to flood our bed with tears.

In pleading for mercy, David stated, “In Sheol who will give You praise?” That is, “If You save me, I will praise Your name for showing Your love.” May God help us to give Him praise every day because He forgives and shows abundant mercy “to such a worm as I”!