

A McDonald's Conversation

Brett Petrillo

I had already put in a full day of remodeling at my home. I dropped by a nearby McDonald's for a quick bite and to relax for a minute before I went back at it. I was hoping to let my mind veg over a show I like. However, as I stood in line, a boisterous, middle-aged gentleman made his presence known in a variety of ways. A couple of times he spoke loudly, though not rudely, to the employees informing them of the needs at the drink station. Looking around, I could tell people were a little annoyed by this man's volume level. He was clearly disturbing what was the "normal" for their restaurant visits.

When I received my meal, I looked for a seat. One of the only open ones was at a table next to that same gentleman. As I sat down he was in conversation with a teenage guy who was sitting by himself. He quickly turned the conversation to both of us. When I picked up the conversation, the teen guy quickly finished and left. I got the impression this man carries conversations like this everywhere he goes. The chat jumped from baseball to football, from rules to politics to jobs. Finally, the topic of religion came up.

I talked about the church I worked with and invited him to come. Then something very interesting happened. His very first question after my invitation was this: "Does everyone wear suits at your church?"

This really struck a chord with me. His primary concern wasn't with our doctrine. He wasn't concerned about what we teach. He didn't care about the programs we had in place. He wasn't focused on who the preacher is. This man wanted to know if it would be a problem if he showed up to worship in jeans and a t-shirt. What this man really wanted to know was: Would he find acceptance here?

Both our world and what appeals to people today has changed. People aren't nearly as concerned with truth as they are first with relationships. This should cause us to stop and start asking some different questions.

If someone showed up Sunday morning in shorts and a t-shirt, what would our reaction be? Are we more focused on the lack of a suit or state of the soul? Would we be upset by their attire, or excited at the prospect of a soul who needs guidance? Would we show such an overwhelming love, interest, and support in the person that they would feel accepted?

Our world desperately needs the gospel. The problem is, many people aren't interested in listening to the good news until we can simply show them that we care about them. Sometimes in order to teach the truth, we man's volume level. He was clearly disturbing what was the "normal" for their restaurant visits. first need to show our love so the truth can be heard (Ephesians 4:15). It's time to start seeing as God sees and look past the fickle appearance (1 Samuel 16:7). Besides, that tends to change naturally with spiritual growth anyway! It's time to stop judging so harshly on silly details and focus on the big picture, their soul (Matthew 7:1-2). It's time stop being soil detectors and start being impartial spreaders (Matthew 13:1-23).

Here is the reality; this man has visited your congregation. No, I don't mean the exact man I met at McDonald's, but someone just like him. Someone has come looking for relationships, friendships, community, and acceptance. And without fail, someone will also be coming in the near future. Will this person find acceptance in you? Will this person find love in your congregation?

Things you should know about!

We would like to send donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. If you want to contribute, mark it as "DRF" or give the money to Jason.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sherrill Butts 9/6

Laura McGiffin 9/29

Tom Muter 9/29

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September's potluck will be NEXT Sunday, September 11th.

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Door Knocking Campaign September 24th - 10am-12pm

Please let John know if you are willing to help.

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Tipp City's Gospel meeting is September 11-14 with Phil Greer speaking.

Our Gospel Meeting will be October 2-5 with Bob Vincent speaking.

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Mark your calendar's for our Fall Gathering at the Thompson's!

October 14th - 6pm (weather permitting)

More information to come.

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Serving today and next Sunday:

Sunday AM Rotation	September 4, 2022	September 11, 2022
Announcements	Duane Kemp	Jerry Thompson
Song Leading	Owen Whittington	Duane Kemp
Opening Prayer/Greeter/Usher	Jerry Thompson (L)	Jason Bang (L)
Lord's Supper Comments	Jason Bang	Tom Muter
Scripture Reading	Tom Muter	Owen Whittington
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer/Usher	Tim Bang (R)	Chris McGiffin (R)

Bible Verse of the Week

“He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” John 14:21

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Lord’s Supper Reflection

Even though Jesus was recognized for not having done any sin, He was crucified by you and I for OURS

“Then the governor said, “Why, what evil has He done?” But they cried out all the more, saying, “Let Him be crucified!” Matthew 27:23

Offering Meditation

All we give back to the Lord already belongs to the Lord

“And all the tithe of the land, *whether* of the seed of the land *or* of the fruit of the tree, *is* the LORD’s. It *is* holy to the LORD.” Leviticus 27:30

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Remember in Prayer:

- *Our Country & leaders
- *Phyllis Caldwell - encouragement
- *Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- *Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- *Larry Bey - asked for prayers for his Parkinson’s
- *Evelyn Lam - healing from having skin tissue removed on her face
- *Tom Cruze (Phyllis Caldwell’s nephew) - dealing with health issues
- *Tyler Rush (Marjorie Seiber’s grandson) - having surgery to have a mass on his thyroid removed
- *Debbie Brayfield (Alena Brown’s aunt) - is in a Rehab facility recovering from surgery from kidney stones and being in the hospital
- *Judy Haguewood (Steven Haguewood’s mom) - in the hospital, sedated and on a ventilator

- *Orville Thompson (Jerry Thompson’s dad) - is having hip surgery
- *Sharon Thomson (Jerry Thompson’s mom) - has an upcoming knee surgery
- *Pamela Knapke (Sherrill Butt’s daughter) - has injuries from being in a motorcycle accident
- *Eric, a gentleman from the fair booth that is doing a Bible study.

How can we be praying for YOU?

Please call John or email him at jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com with any prayer requests or announcements you may have for the congregation.

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Attendance and Contribution Record

Sunday, August 28

Bible Classes 39
AM Attendance 45
PM Attendance 34

Wednesday, August 30

Bible Classes 30
Contribution \$1,196.50

Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



September 4, 2022

Worship Times:

- Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am
- Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am
- Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

Minister, John McGiffin

4599 Children’s Home Bradford Rd
Greenville, OH 45331

www.greenvillecoc.org

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us today!
If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor’s card and let us get to know you.