

moral standards to certain people or age groups. He didn't create a rating system that would allow exposure to evil for those who were at certain spiritual levels. Instead, he pointed to the Lord Jesus as the standard.

If we are committed to living as God has called us to live, we will strive to find out what is "acceptable to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:10). We will "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them" (v.11).

The issue is not what a pastor or any other person would do. The question is: Will it please the Lord? —Dave Branon

*Lord, as I follow You by faith,
Help me each day to learn
That pleasing You in all I do
Must be my main concern. —Fitzhugh*

You can do what you please if what you do pleases God.



PS Should I have included the movie images above, on a church bulletin? Aren't they out of place? Could I put the images for other movies, which are worse, on a church bulletin? If we would object to them on a church bulletin how can we justify watching them? Wayne

Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Will It Please Him?

Walk as children of light . . . , finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. — Ephesians 5:8,10

Two friends were talking about a movie that one of them had seen recently. As he began to describe the film, he characterised it like this: "You wouldn't want to take your pastor to watch it with you."

It's a curious standard we sometimes set for ourselves, isn't it? We allow ourselves to view, hear, or participate in things that we know are not proper for us as followers of Christ. But if an activity is not appropriate for those whom we expect to be godly (church leaders), how can it be okay for us? Or if it has elements that would be harmful for young people to take part in, then why should we?

When Paul wrote to the Ephesians, he didn't limit God's





OUR CHURCH

I'M SAVED, NOW WHAT? III

Acts 2:41-47 contains numerous descriptions of the first church that are requirements for us:

1. **Saved membership**, verses 40-41, 36-38
2. **Baptised membership**, verses 38, 41
3. **Biblical teaching**, verses 41-42
4. **Genuine fellowship**, verses 42, 44-45
5. **Regular communion**, verses 42, 46, 41
6. **Praying together**, verse 42, Acts 4:23-31, 12:5, 11-17, 13:1-3, 21:3-6 [last time]

7. Godly _____, verse 43, 5:11

(Acts 2:43) "Everyone was filled with awe, ..."

(Acts 2:43) "And everyone kept feeling a sense of awe;"

(2 Corinthians 5:9-11) "Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. {10} For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. {11} Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; ..."

(2 Peter 3:10-11) "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. {11} Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,"



(Genesis 22:12) "... Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

(Luke 23:40) "But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?"

(Matthew 5:28-30) ""But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

[29] "If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. {30} "And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell."

(1 Corinthians 6:18) "Flee sexual immorality. ..."

(Leviticus 18:22) "You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination."

(Revelation 2:4) ""Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love."

(Revelation 3:16) ""So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth."

8. Godly _____, verse 43

(Ephesians 4:11) "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,"

(2 Corinthians 12:12) "Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds."

(Ephesians 2:20) "having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone,"

(Exodus 7:3) ""And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt."

(Daniel 6:27) "He delivers and rescues, And He works signs and wonders In heaven and on earth, Who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions."

(Hebrews 2:3-4) "how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, {4} God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?"

(Matthew 24:24) ""For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect."

(Acts 6:2-4) "Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. {3} "Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; {4} "but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.""

(Philippians 1:1) "Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:"

(Acts 20:17) "From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church."

(Acts 20:28) ""Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."

(1 Timothy 3:1-13) "This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. {2} A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; {3} not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; {4} one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence {5} (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); {6} not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. {7} Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. {8} Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, {9} holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. {10} But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. {11} Likewise their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. {12} Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. {13} For those who have served well as deacons obtain for

