

SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

Journey Enews

Things to Know:

Tuesday Night Men's Group will resume Tuesday, September 3rd @ the Cheese Store in Cynthiana at 5 PM

J-Groups are currently meeting in homes! If you want more information, contact Bobby or Bryan!

Join us this weekend as we continue our series called "You Fit Here"

Journey Community Christian Church
Service Times:
Saturday @ 6 PM
Sunday @ 10:30 AM

Journey Church
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Find us on Social Media!

Updated

My bank sent me an email saying it was time to update my information. It seems like every day I receive notices from someone wanting my updated information. This, I am told, so that I may receive the best possible service they can provide. Today, no one thinks it strange to receive update requests from businesses, phone apps, medical care providers and the like. The shelf life of our personal information grows shorter all the time.

If you are like me, the constant intrusion into my privacy causes me to pull back and sometimes withhold information. Most of us have learned the hard way not to share personal data too quickly. With more and more of our information available online, it is easy to become skeptical about trusting anyone. This is certainly true in the realm of government and society. It is also true in the spiritual realm.



Not that long ago it was deemed normal for trust to be given to public institutions and religious organizations; no longer is this the norm. Today, when families first arrive at places of worship, their desire is to observe from a distance, to be anonymous for a period until they can learn more.

In our concern not to become victimized by predators of all sorts, there is a danger that we become overly defensive, never trusting anyone. Jesus was once asked what is the greatest commandment and He replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart... soul... mind... and love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:36-39) Sometimes out of sheer preservation or fear of being robbed blind, we withdraw and withhold much of our real "story."

Steps toward more privacy can have an adverse effect on Jesus' directive to love God and love people. We're not as willing to share or update contact information with churches wanting to build deeper relationships. This makes it a challenge to grow communities and help people engage the mission of the local church. We're reluctant to speak to strangers.

Greater privacy can interfere with meeting our neighbors in meaningful ways. We no longer know the people who live next door to us or the person who sacks our groceries. Front porches for sitting and waving at passersby no longer come standard on new houses. We've withdrawn behind door buzzers and drawn blinds to seek shelter and peace from the unfriendly outside world.

These sort of privacy changes are neither good nor bad in and of themselves. Every family must decide what is best for them. However, there has to be a balance. Isolation from the world and others is not the way to carry out Jesus' greatest commandment.

If you are like me, and I imagine you are, you would also like to share your Jesus story with everyone from the bank teller to the person who sacks your groceries. In the Bible when people faced difficulties, the advice most often given was to pray for God's wisdom. I will pray more about my updated privacy concerns, then worry less. I invite you to join me.

Moving Forward.
God is Good.

Bobby D.