

Thank you, again, Alexis Brown
Speaker for today

Former Member Address and Phone

Keith Lovelady
Jasmin Terrace Assisted Living, Room 138
55425 Santa Fe Trail
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
Phone: (760) 660-8975

June Birthdays

9 Debbie Pescador

June Anniversaries

5 Kurt & Debbie Hoffman

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Website:
indiochurchofchrist.com

Preacher: Vacant

Church of Christ
81-377 Ave 46
Indio, CA 92201
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

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The Importance of First Impressions

By Dan Jenkins

Sometimes when you meet a person there is just something about them that sets them apart from others. There are those negative people who impact us in such a way that we find it difficult to see their souls and the potential they may have in Christ. On the other hand, there are those to whom we are immediately attracted, and we want to get to know them better.



When God became man, He was like us in so many ways. He took on Himself the frailties of mortals, suffered like we do and was tempted in all ways like we are. However, the first impression He made on others could never be forgotten.

When He was only twelve years of age, He was separated from His parents, and they finally found Him in the holy temple talking to the religious leaders. The Bible says that when they found Him, He was "...sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were

astonished at His understanding and answers” (Luke 2:46-47). The first impression He made greatly impacted all those who heard Him.

The same is true of the impression He had on the multitude who heard the Sermon on the Mount. *“When Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at His teachings, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes” (Matt. 7:28-29).* In His first discourse in the synagogue in Nazareth, *“...all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth” (Luke 4:22).* Not all accepted His words in the city where He had grown up, and some of them sought to kill him by throwing Him over a cliff.

He left Nazareth and went and taught in the synagogue in Capernaum for several weeks. What was the impression He made there? *“And they were astonished at His teaching for His word was with authority” (Luke 4:32).* The story does not end here. Read the gospel account of His life. It happens again and again.

We may not always make the kind of impression Jesus did everywhere He went, but the very fact that we know Him impacts how others see us. Salt that is really salty and light that is not hidden under a bushel impacts all that they touch.

The impact that His apostles had on others shows this. Shortly after Pentecost they were arrested and brought before the Jewish counsel. The Bible says, *“When they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus” (Acts 4:13).* Think carefully about the first impression we make on others!

Do You Know this Little Boy?

(from Housetoohouse.com)

Dear God,

I’m a little boy, just eight years old. I’ve been doing a lot of thinking lately, and I’m worried. Maybe you can help me with some of these things I don’t understand. Of course you know that I have been going to Bible study for a long time, and I’ve learned to love you and the Bible, and I love my teacher for all she has taught me about you and about Jesus.

It’s about Mom and Dad that I have been wondering. I love them both with all my heart, and they love me, I know. And more than any thing, I want to know that they are going to heaven when they die. They want me to go, for they’ve told me so. They send me to Bible Study every Sunday morning and then they come later to church. But why don’t Mom and Dad go to Bible Study, too? And Sunday night, when Johnny and Mary and their Mom and Dad go to church, my mom and dad either stay at home, go to movies, or visit friends. Is this all right, God?

Another thing, in Bible School I have learned how important it is to pray and thank you for our food and everything, but you know I’ve never heard my dad pray...is this all right, God? And my teacher says that it is important to study and worship you, and when I do get to go to church on Sunday night or Wednesday night I don’t see her. Is this all right, God?

I guess I’m just kinda mixed up ‘cause I think Mom and Dad and my teacher are the best in the world. I want to be just like them when I grow up, and I just want to be sure they are doing the right things so we can live with you some day.

In Jesus’ name, Your friend, Billy.