



## IT'S NOT FUNNY

By Joey Hickey

Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks (Ephesians 5:1-4, NKJV).

In this passage, the apostle Paul tells us to be imitators of God in both *conduct* and *speech*. Yet, sadly in the world—and too often in the church—the accepted behavior is opposite to that taught in Scripture. Adam Clarke, in his commentary, defines the following from verse four:

- “*Filthiness*” – “Any thing base or vile in words or acts.”
- “*Which are not convenient*” [not fitting, jh; “out of place,” ESV] – “They do not come up to the proper standard; they are utterly improper in themselves, and highly unbecoming in those who profess Christianity.”

One obvious takeaway from this Scripture is that crude “humor” *is not funny*. Paul challenges

# Newsletter

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Let the Bible Speak  
PO Box 292921 • Lewisville, TX 75029

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Christians to prove their devotion to God by their actions—to be mature. Although this kind of speech may be popular even in the current culture of the church, it is not “cool” and should not make anyone feel good. Paul clearly points out that faithful attendance to worship services *alone* does not make one faithful. It, also, requires us to be faithful *in speech and conduct*. Although modest dress manifests godliness (1 Timothy 2:9-10), modest dress, alone, does not make one godly, if his or her *speech and conduct* do not project modesty. We are to attend worship faithfully and dress modestly, but do not neglect modesty and faithfulness in word and deed.

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## March TV Broadcast Schedule

**3/6**

Sermon #1035  
Up to Mount Moriah

**3/13**

Sermon #1036  
Jacob and Esau

**3/20**

Sermon #1038  
Remember the Sabbath

**3/27**

Sermon #1039  
Chasing the Blessing

Christianity is not just a club with a few rules; rather, Christianity is a *lifestyle*. If we are to be imitators of God, should we boast *in unrepentant* slander? Should we spew unbecoming, unholy speech? Are the words we speak fitting for a Christian? Speech is an indicator of a man's heart (Luke 6:45). Before we can imitate God, we must "cleanse the inside of the cup" (Matthew 23:25-26). We cannot imitate him unless we do (Matthew 12:34). Let us be urgent to purify our hearts.

The importance of doing so is emphasized in Jesus' warning: "...for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment" (Matthew 12:36).



Audio / video library, transcripts and other information can be found at:

[www.LetTheBibleSpeak.com](http://www.LetTheBibleSpeak.com)



Check out Let the Bible Speak on Facebook. Post questions and interact with Brett Hickey and others at:

[www.facebook.com/LBSunityseeker](http://www.facebook.com/LBSunityseeker)



Watch videos of our program at:

[www.youtube.com/LetTheBibleSpeak](http://www.youtube.com/LetTheBibleSpeak)

## Upcoming Gospel Meetings

**March 9-13**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST in Grapevine**

713 North Lucas Drive

Grapevine, TX

Speaker: Brian Burns

7:30 pm (9th - 11th)

6:00 pm (12th)

10:00 am & 2:00 PM (13th)

**March 25-27**

**South Walnut CHURCH OF CHRIST**

306 South Walnut Street

Cleburne, TX

Speaker: Duane Permenter

7:30 pm (25th)

6:00 pm (26th)

10:30 am & 2:30 PM (27th)

We support Brett Hickey's message, and the truths taught in the Bible for all mankind. We assist bringing this TV program to the north Texas area, and are glad you have watched the program! We would like you to visit any of our worship services!

### Allen

**East Allen CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1008 E. Exchange Parkway

Allen, TX 75002

### Arlington

**CHURCH OF CHRIST on Green Oaks**

4601 S. W. Green Oaks Blvd.

Arlington, TX 76017

### Bridgeport

**East Mound CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Highway 2123, 1.5 miles south of town

Bridgeport, TX 76426

### Canton

**Phalba CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Hwy 198 between Maybank & Canton at

Hwy 316 intersection

Phalba, TX 75124

### Cleburne

**South Walnut CHURCH OF CHRIST**

306 South Walnut Street

Cleburne, TX 76033

### Dallas

**Dallas CHURCH OF CHRIST**

122 Carol Lane

Red Oak, TX 75154

### Duncanville

**Duncanville CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1615 Stratford Lane

Duncanville, TX

### Fort Worth

**Fossil Creek CHURCH OF CHRIST**

3517 North Beach Street

Fort Worth, TX 76111

### Frisco

**CHURCH OF CHRIST in Frisco**

9201 North County Road

Frisco, TX 75034

### Grapevine

**CHURCH OF CHRIST in Grapevine**

713 North Lucas Drive

Grapevine, TX 76051

### Lewisville

**Denton county CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1305 S. Business State Highway 121, Suite 105

Lewisville, TX 75067

### Mineral Wells

**Mineral Wells CHURCH OF CHRIST**

300 Southeast 15th Street

Mineral Wells, TX 76067

### Paris

**Paris CHURCH OF CHRIST**

35 13th Street S.E.

Paris, TX

### Rockwall

**Northview CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1405 East I-30

NE corner of I-30 Frontage & Industrial Blvd

Rockwall, TX 75087

### Weatherford

**Bankhead Drive CHURCH OF CHRIST**

2610 East Bankhead Drive

Weatherford, TX 76087