

PROUDLY DISPLAY

SCRIPTURE:

Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 10: 32).

MATERIALS LIST:

(1) Picture hanging kit

SONG: “This Little Light of Mine”

LESSON:

When you walk into my house, one of the first things you will notice are the family pictures hanging on the walls. In one spot we have a portrait of each of our children proudly displayed along with a clock underneath, marking the exact time they were born. (Yes, my wife had to set the clocks because, well, I’m a man and don’t remember the exact times.) In other areas we have wedding pictures, other family members’ pictures, and scenic images. We love displaying what we are proud of or believe to be pleasing.

I will say, not every picture we have is hanging up. There are some, that for one reason or the other, didn’t make “the cut” and didn’t pass the “I look good in that picture” test. These images are tucked away in a closet somewhere and are only to be seen by us. There are others that we simply haven’t bought frames for or the frames they are in don’t have the hardware on the back to hang up. These remain in the pile of “maybe one day we’ll get around to hanging them up” pile. Some images are just not display quality.

At times, we will be tempted to approach our Christian walk in the same way. When we are around certain people or at certain places, it will be easier for us to display our Christianity, our belief in Jesus Christ as Lord, and we will talk about Him and the Church for which His costly blood was shed. Then there will be other times we will be tempted to say nothing about Him. It’s even possible that our behavior, the jokes we tell or the words we speak, will reflect the exact opposite of who Jesus is and who we are to be as His disciples. Why is that? Why do we display sometimes but not others?

Jesus said in Matthew 10: 32 that we must be willing to confess Him before men. This is an “all-the-time”, 24-hours a day, lifestyle. That means we must grow to the point where we will proudly display Jesus all the time, just like those pictures of my children on the wall of our house. We don’t take them down when certain people come over, and in the same way, we must never “take Jesus down” when it’s might seem convenient.

PRAYER: Please help us to consistently confess Your Son as Lord without hesitation.

MAIN MESSAGE:

We must not be ashamed of confessing Jesus publicly.