

ASSISTED LIVING/LONG-TERM CARE:

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Trezevant Church of Christ

114 Church Street
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The Follower

September 13, 2020

Be Careful How You Practice

It has been said that practice makes perfect. The origin of this quote dates back to the mid 1500's when it was written as "Use makes perfect." The first known usage of "Practice makes perfect" was in the "Diary and Autobiography of John Adams" in 1761.

People from all areas of life have used this phrase to encourage others to aspire to higher achievements, especially in the field of sports. In 1923, the phrase was modified as "Practice does not make perfect, perfect practice makes perfect." Vince Lombardi, the late coach of the very successful Green Bay Packers, apparently used this quote to inspire his players not only to practice, but to practice correctly in order to achieve the level of perfection he demanded. Practicing something in an imperfect way does not lead to perfection.

I recently read an article in which the author attributed an even different variation of this principle to Don Meyer, late coach of Lipscomb University, who apparently said it this way: "Practice does not make perfect, it makes permanent."

If we put these all together, we can apply this principle to our lives as Christians. While the word *practice* for athletes
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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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**SUNDAY:**              Worship      9:00 AM & 5:00 PM

**WEDNESDAY:**      Bible Study      6:30 PM

is somewhat different from the faith we practice as Christians, there is a similarity we may observe and apply. Athletes practice every day in preparation for a big event – the next game. As Christians, the faith which we practice is in preparation for our big event – Judgment Day. The way we practice our faith is important because the Judgment Day outcome will be permanent – heaven or hell.

*God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24).* To do otherwise would make us like those Jesus mentioned when He said, *Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you saying, This people honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men (Matt. 15:7-9).* He also said, *Not everyone who saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven (Matt. 7:21).*

It matters to God what we believe, practice, and teach. Just practicing is not enough. If we practice something incorrectly, we cannot be acceptable to God. Therefore we need to make sure we are practicing that which will make heaven our permanent place heaven.

~Freeman



"How expensive would it be to just skip practice and get right to perfect?"

## Remember in Prayer...

- **Kay** remains in the Milan hospital, room 448; she continues to struggle and is in need of our prayers. She loves getting cards and texts.
- **Monte** fell this week and cracked three ribs. He is scheduled for a CT scan next week.
- **Kyle** continues to slowly improve.
- **David Bryant** is getting out some, but is still having pain.
- Please continue to **remember our shut-ins**.

## News and Notes...

- Please remember that we are assembling on Sundays at 9AM and 5PM. We are also live-streaming all our services, including the Wednesday Bible class at 6:30PM, which is not yet open to the public.
- **Your continued participation** in social distancing and wearing a mask is appreciated as we assemble for worship. Please pick up your communion packets from the foyer on your way in, and discard them in the basket by the door on your way out.

*You, at this very moment, are as close to God as you have chosen to be.*

Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you...  
(James 4:8 ~ ESV)