

Looking the Part or Being the Part

February 11, 2018

Thank you so much for choosing to worship with us today. We are thrilled that you are here!

I read something from Scott Perrault, one of the ministers at the Louisville Church of Christ in Louisville, OH, that has really sort of gotten under my skin (in a good way). The primary content was about choosing our battles wisely and putting people above culture, traditions, opinions, etc.

But one thing he mentioned particularly caught my attention – looking the part vs. being the part. It reminds me of the section in Matthew 23 where Jesus addresses the Pharisees with what has become known as the “7 woes.” Jesus starts by telling those who are listening to do what the Pharisees tell them to do but don’t do what they do because they don’t practice what they preach.

And then he says this in verses 5-7. *“Everything they do is for show. On their arms they wear extra wide prayer boxes with Scripture verses inside, and they*

wear robes with extra long tassels. And they love to sit at the head table at banquets and in the seats of honor in the synagogues. They love to receive respectful greetings as they walk in the marketplaces, and to be called ‘Rabbi.’”

Have we tried so hard to look like the church that we are having trouble being the church? Sometimes we need the reminder that the church is the body of Christ in this world. It is not an organization. It is not a 501 C3. It is not a building or real estate. It is not a place to gather.

Being the church means being the very presence of Jesus in our homes, at our jobs, in our schools, in our neighborhoods, in our recreation, in our relationships, etc. Everywhere we go we are the church. Even though we may not look like what everyone thinks the church should look like.

Look deep inside yourself and be most concerned with sharing Jesus everywhere you go. We are the church!

All Things for Christ,
Michael