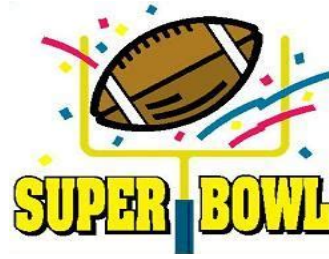




# Lewiston Church of Christ

February 2, 2020



## Monday Morning Quarterbacks

### Weekly Services

Sunday Morning

Bible Study 9:45 AM

Worship 10:45 AM

Sun. Day/Evening Groups

Wed Bible Study 7:00 PM

#### MINISTER

Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

#### ELDERS

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

Cal Groen: 208-602-8165

#### DEACONS

Education – Rick Richardson

Fellowship – Joe Bieren

Finance – Tom Hill

Outreach – Mark Whittaker

#### AREAS OF SERVICE

Building – Ken Vogtman

Custodian – Ron & Cindy Roberson

Fellowship – Joe & Carrie Bieren

Grounds – Cody & Doyle Dawes

Music Ministry – Ron Roberson

Secretary – Renee' Hill

Technology – Eric Kjorness

Technology – Cody Dawes

Lewiston church of Christ

302 Southway Ave

Lewiston, Idaho 83501

Phone: (208) 743-2711

**Email:** office@lewistonchurchofchrist.org  
**g Web**

**Site:** www.lewistonchurchofchrist.org

**Joel:**

minister@lewistonchurchofchrist.org

I have a not-so-daring Super Bowl prediction: After the last whistle is blown, the score is settled, and the players are played out, I predict that countless critics will rise to criticize what was done and not done on the field. Count on it. Millions of Monday morning quarterbacks will gear up to play their own favorite game—the blame game.

In the blame game, amateurs can be stars, outperforming professionals with ease. Americans of all shapes and sizes are well trained for this game, especially during an election year. To keep our minds off of our own flaws, we selectively blame people of the distant past for sins committed centuries ago. When that wears thin, we cast blame at systems, parties, categories, labels, and isms. There are no real winners because the clock never runs out on the blame game.

Jesus watched this timeless game in play and preached, “Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?” (Matthew 7:3). More recently, a popular statesman nailed the same problem:

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.” (Theodore Roosevelt, April 23, 1910).

Criticism can be helpful and sometimes even necessary. Even Jesus did it. But it can never replace action. The problem is that action is harder than criticism. Just ask Jesus. What makes criticism so easy is that those being criticized are often too busy working to defend themselves from the critics.