



THE TRUMPET

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Have You Forgotten Something?

George Whitten

A farmer was showing his visiting citydwelling friend around his farm. "Watch this!" he said. He gave a whistle and his little dog came running from the house, herded the cattle into the corral, then latched the gate with her paw. "Wow, that's some dog -- what's her name?" The forgetful farmer thought for a minute and then asked, "What do you call that red flower that smells good and has thorns on the stem?" "A rose?" "That's it!" The farmer turned to his wife. "Hey Rose, what do we call this dog?" Funny how we forget things, isn't it? But I'm not so sure God finds it all that funny! When we read about the children of Israel and their journeys through the wilderness for forty years, we see how God provided wonderful miracles for them, feeding them daily with manna, guiding them by a pillar of fire by night and a cloud by day, parting the Red Sea! How is it, then, that they became so very hard hearted toward Him? Over time, I think those miracles just became commonplace and they began to take them for granted! But then again when I look back on my life, I can't really blame them. It happens to the best of us! God has done miracles in our lives and I'm sure he's done many in each of yours as well! But we still get anxious when things aren't going quite the way we hoped, don't we? Recall a miracle of God in your life. Remember the joy you felt? We need to relive that joy today! The miracle of God's new birth in us and the many other miracles God has done are not ones to be quickly forgotten. We need to relive them daily! We never want to become cold toward God! Let's spend some time remembering the miracles He has done in our lives and strive to trust Him for the trials we face today!

www.worthydevotions.com

If I Should Quit

by Charles Greenaway

If I should quit, what would be the gain? Would the battle be lost? Would I really be free? No, the door would not close, Nor the battle ease Because God would have another To stand in the breach,
If I should quit.

If I should quit, what would I do? Seek shelter from the heat, forget the cry of the lost? Would I be happy for a time and then find I was through And spend my time praying for something to do? Saying, God, Why did I quit?

If I should quit, I would find God had not. The battle would still rage, The Church would still march on. The wind would keep blowing, the Spirit filling Only I would be further and further behind, unwilling Wondering God, Why did I quit?

If I should quit, what would I say to God who called me? What would I say to the people who sent me? What would I say to the pagan who trusted in me to show him the way, And to the Spirit's urging, day after day? Oh God, I cannot quit!

If I should quit, Let it be when I'm dead Not while I'm alive, Or when I'm dissatisfied Or minimized or ostracized But please God, let quitting time be for me when I'm dead!

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. Galatians 6:9

Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?

Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods. Matthew 24:44-47

His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. Matthew 25:23

**CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH** by Thom Tapp**Cousin Leroy**

Bad Compliments...

- You aint near as dumb as your daddy
- I've seen uglier babies
- I've tasted worst, I guess
- You know, you aint as dumb as you look
- You're almost as smart as people say you think you are
- You don't look as big as you used too
- You do "nothing" better than anyone else I know
- I hope I look that good when I get old
- You look great for your age

The Quaker And The Cow

A Quaker farmer was milking his cow when she switched him in the face with her tail. He patiently said, "Cow, thou shalt not do that." He kept milking until she kicked and sent the half-filled milk pail tumbling across the barn, spilling and ruining the milk. The farmer went around to face the cow and took her horns in his big, calloused hands. He looked at her and said, "Cow, thou knowest that I am a Quaker and that I cannot strike thee. But cow, thou also must know that I can sell thee to a Baptist."

The New Assistant

One of the fourth graders asked the teacher's new assistant, "How old are you, Mrs. Glass?" "You should never ask an adult's age," the teacher broke in. "That's okay," Harriett said smiling. "I'm sixty." "Wow, you don't look that old," the boy said. The teacher breathed a sigh of relief then he continued and said, "Well, parts of you do."

The Eulogy

The pastor asks his flock, "What would you like people to say when you're in your casket?" One congregant says, "I'd like them to say I was a fine family man." Another says, "I'd like them to say I helped people." The third responds, "I'd like them to say, 'Look! I think he's moving!'"

The Young Preacher

A young minister about to deliver his first sermon asked a retired preacher for advice on how to capture the congregation's attention. "Start with an opening line that's certain to grab them," the older man said. "For example: 'Some of the best years of my life were spent in the arms of a woman who was not my wife.'" He smiled at the younger man's shocked expression before adding, "She was my mother." The next Sunday the young clergyman nervously clutched the pulpit rail in front of the congregation. Finally he said, "Some of the best years of my life were spent in the arms of a woman." He was pleased at the instant reaction—then became panic-stricken. "But for the life of me, I can't remember who she was!"

Mom's Learning To Text

Mom: What do IDK, LY & TTYL mean?

Son: I don't know, love you, talk to you later.

Mom: OK, I will ask your sister.



VOTL
Voice of the LORD

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Billy R. Douglas

RISE UP AND PRESS ON

"Our greatest Glory comes not in never falling...But in getting up each time we fall"

The above quote is not from a passage of scripture but nevertheless the wisdom of the quote no doubt comes from God. The Bible says "A just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again,..." Proverbs 24:16. Great men of the Bible were not known for never falling but for getting up after they had fell. There is no greater example then the one of King David when he sinned with Bathsheba. After this great and terrible fall of this man that was "after Gods own heart" he repented and cried to the LORD these words "create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit within me". He acknowledged that his greatest sin was not against his wife, or Bathsheba or even against her husband which he killed. But that his greatest sin was against the one he loved the most GOD. Through this tragedy we see what true repentance is and how that even though we reap what we sow that God shows his great mercy toward us and forgives us. And not only does he forgive us but he said he will never remember the sin against us again! That is some pretty powerful stuff. Let me encourage you today and tell you that FALLING DOWN AINT DEAD! No matter how many times you mess up, no matter how many times you fall God is there with arms held wide waiting to forgive anyone who in sincerity of heart turns to Him and asks for forgiveness. None of us want to fall...none of us want to mess us or fail but we must never forget that our victory does not depend upon what we can do BUT what He has already done on the cross of Calvary! I heard someone say the other day that when we leave this world we better make sure that we have done absolutely everything that we know to do or we will not be ready to stand before the LORD. Well my friend if that is the case then we are ALL in some big trouble. None of us no matter who you are will stand at the end of life's journey and look back with the thought that we crossed every T and dotted every I. If we think for one moment that we are going to stand before an ALL HOLY GOD and stand there justified by our works or sanctified by our own righteousness we better think again! When we stand before the LORD we will stand there justified and sanctified not because of what we have done but because of our faith in what HE has done! Maybe you find yourself today thinking that you fall every few feet of the journey...if so let me preach to you for a moment. When you fall GET UP DUST YOURSELF OFF and press on!!!! Ask for forgiveness, set your face like flint toward Calvary and PRESS ON! Do you think that it shocks the LORD when we mess up or fall short of the mark? Of course not He knew that when He saved us...He knew that when He died for us! If the enemy is telling you today that you have fallen too many times to get up then you can rest assured that you have not! If the enemy is telling you today that God has not forgiven you let me set your mind at ease...if you have asked for forgiveness the LORD has in deed forgiven you! The devil is a liar and the father of lies! There is forgiveness to be found for all who will trust in the finished work of Jesus on the cross. Your salvation and your victory does not depend upon what you can do today...your salvation and your victory depends upon your faith in what HE DID!! Somehow we get the mind-set that faith in what Jesus did on the cross saves us but after that it is up to "US" to make ourselves holy or sanctified. Paul asked the Galatians this question in Galatians 3:3 "Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?" Are we so foolish to believe that we can trust in the arm of the flesh for victory? Sadly more times than not that is exactly how we act or respond when we mess up. Don't let the enemy cause you to live with regret and guilt for things that the LORD has already forgiven and forgotten. The scripture that we started with said "a JUST man falleth seven times" but thank God it didn't stop there...it went on to say "AND RISETH UP AGAIN"! So if you have fallen today don't lay there and let the devil kick you in the gut...RISE UP and go on! I want to leave you with this scripture...1 Corinthians 6:11 "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." The same thing that saved you is the same thing that will keep you! The same thing that started you on your journey is the same thing that will see that you cross the finish line!! And that is not faith in religion, not faith in man, not faith in your own flesh BUT faith in what Jesus Christ did on the cross of Calvary! That is where victory is found! That is where the strength to RISE UP and press on is found! Keep your eyes on Jesus and He will see you through! May the LORD bless and keep you...until next time. Pastor Billy R. Douglas



The Path to Spiritual Ruin

Evangelist Mike Heltsley

Zephaniah 3:1-7 - Woe to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city! 2 She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in the Lord; she drew not near to her God. 3 Her princes within her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones till the morrow. 4 Her prophets are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law. 5 The just Lord is in the midst thereof; he will not do iniquity: every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame. 6 I have cut off the nations: their towers are desolate; I made their streets waste, that none passeth by: their cities are destroyed, so that there is no man, that there is none inhabitant. 7 I said, Surely thou wilt fear me, thou wilt receive instruction; so their dwelling should not be cut off, howsoever I punished them: but they rose early, and corrupted all their doings.

One thing that I've found in traveling is that if you aren't careful you can get turned around and headed in the wrong direction. Another thing is that once you are on the wrong road, it may be a while before you realize it. But usually there will be a sign or some other indication to show you that you are headed wrong. A person can avoid taking a wrong turn and wasting time and money if he will study his map well and keep a watchful eye upon the road. In our spiritual life we also sometimes get side-tracked. If we aren't careful we can take a wrong turn in our life and waste precious time or even worse. To avoid that from happening, God has provided the Bible for our map and the Holy Spirit as our guide. And yet with all of that, still many Christians get side-tracked in the world. However, there are some sign posts along the way. READ: Zephaniah 3:1-7. These verses were written to the backslidden nation of Judah, but they offer some valuable information for us today. Look around and we can see the same warnings, the same signposts, to let us know that we need to make a change. When we find ourselves headed in the wrong direction, there is only one intelligent thing to do: turn around! The Bible calls that repentance; or changing our direction. Notice four sign posts in verse two. I. Disobedience "she obeyed not the voice" A. The voice is God's 1. God sent many prophets to deliver His message of warning. 2. But still they refused to obey. 3. In fact, they tried to silence the message by killing the prophets. B. God speaks to us today. 1. His message is found in the Word of God - the Bible. 2. Nowhere in the world is the opportunity greater to hear God's voice than in America. 3. We can listen by radio or television just about any time of the day or night. 4. America has more Gospel-preaching churches than any other country. 5. And yet many Christians choose to disobey His voice. a. Preachers preach the Word, but they do not listen. b. The Scriptures are read, but they will not learn. c. The Holy Spirit pleads, but they refuse to follow. C. The first signpost on the path of spiritual ruin is disobedience of God's Word. 1. God sent calamities, pestilences, and droughts upon them. 2. But they refused to repent. Jeremiah 5:3 - O Lord, are not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return. B. God's chastening is out of love. 1. He knows what will happen if we continue down the wrong path. 2. He sends chastisement to get us to return. 3. But all too often Christians begin to complain and resent God's loving chastisement. C. Rather than humbling themselves they begin to harden their hearts against Him, D. Another signpost that we find along the path to spiritual ruin is disregard for God's correction, II. Disregard "she received not correction" A. God's judgments were ignored. III. Disbelief - "She trusted not in the Lord" A. Judah put her trust in the might of the Assyrians. 1. When an attack from Syria and Ephraim was imminent God sent her this message: 2. Isaiah 7:7 - Thus saith the Lord God, It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass. 3. But she refused to trust in God and entered into an agreement with Assyria which resulted in her downfall. B. Often it seems that Christians would rather lean on the arm of the flesh than on the arm of the Lord. 1. Why would we do this? 2. Because of unbelief - lack of faith. 3. Our tendency is to trust in ourselves rather than God. Psalm 118:8 - It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. 4. We know that is true, but we continue to depend upon ourselves or others rather than God. C. Our unbelief - failure to trust God - becomes a source of frustration for us...1. Men, in their unbelief, need something they can see and touch. 2. This is one reason God so hates idolatry - it feeds man's unbelief, 3. Man says, "Seeing is believing" while God says, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1-4 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good report. 3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. 4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. Consequently, Christians on the wrong track are trusting in things and wondering why they are not experiencing the blessings of God. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. D. Disbelief and lack of faith indicate that we are on the path to spiritual ruin. IV. Distance - "she drew not near her God." A. God longed for Israel to repent. 1. But instead of growing closer to God, they were getting farther away. 2. James 4:8 - Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. 3. God had sent His Word - but she had refused to obey. 4. He sent correction, but she only hardened. 5. He invited her to trust Him, but she chose to place her trust in man. 6. He desired for her to return, but she drifted farther and farther away. B. The longer we travel down the wrong path, the farther we get from God. 1. The farther we go - the harder it is to retrace our steps. Genesis 45:24 - So he sent his brethren away, and they departed: and he said unto them, See that ye fall not out by the way. 2. Many Christians waste their entire lives traveling the wrong path. C. Distance from God is another signpost along the way to indicate that we have taken a wrong turn and are headed for spiritual ruin. Perhaps you do not have a personal relationship with the Lord. Trust in the Lord today! He will save you, and He will give you purpose and meaning for your life. Believer, perhaps we need to do some checking... Are there any of these signposts in our lives? Disobedience... Disregard... Disbelief...or Distance? If so, will you come home to the Lord today?



My Hope Is In the Lord

Pastor Steven Huston

"The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him." Lamentations 3:24

Okay everyone, take a deep breath and say aloud with me, "My hope IS in the Lord!" We need this reminder, not only as we continue with this article but every moment of every day. In case you haven't noticed, there has been a huge culture/moral shift here in the good old U.S. of A. That which is evil is called good and that which is good, now is called evil. The moral revolutionaries have brought about this change through our educational system, Hollywood, and other means of media. Social media has played a huge role in the breakdown of societal norms and the United Nations (UN) has played their part in the destruction of our national sovereignty, the traditional family, and the way in which Christianity is viewed. Although we cannot blame the UN for all our woes, we must recognize the fact that Christians are now becoming the people to persecute. It's not just a matter of quieting us, they are—and will even more so—come after us with a vengeance. The UN has made it a crime to speak against Islam in any way, shape, or form and has pushed the LGBT agenda strongly around the world in every nation's educational system—even in the United States. With the Supreme Court overstepping their boundaries and pushing a pro-LGBT agenda upon the states, Christians are finding themselves ready to reap the whirlwind—and the thermostat of persecution is getting turned up quickly. If you think I am being reactionary or exaggerating, think about this. One Harvard law professor has even come out to say that conservatives and Christians should be treated like the Nazis. He calls for hard and definitive actions against those who have been standing in the gap. Those who have been protecting our nation and its people from unleashed lawlessness and from treasonous actions against traditional values and the family building block of society are to be seen as conquered enemies. So, what will happen to the Christian who will not—and CANNOT—bend their knee to the new cultural god, due to their convictions based on the Word of God? (Hint—3 Hebrew boys and a fiery furnace) If we are wise, we will once again take a deep breath and say, "My hope is in the Lord." 1 Peter 4:12 tells us to not think it strange when the flames of persecution come our way. We need to remember that even though Christian persecution on American soil has scarcely been known, those days are quickly coming to an end—unless God brings a sweeping revival to this land. We must also remember that this world is not our home and our hope IS in the Lord, Jesus Christ. Remember, for Christians it's really strange NOT to be persecuted. When you're afflicted for Christ's sake, they are afflicting God also. As an earthly father hates to see his children suffer, so our sorrow and afflictions touch our loving heavenly Father. Our troubles don't take Him by surprise. He ordains them and He'll use them all to our benefit, our growth, and our sanctifying. Yes, He will deliver us out of them all. Affliction is coming and it may take many forms: loss of friendship, rejection of family, imprisonment, loss of job, money, children, health, or even the loss of one's physical life (think Hebrews 11). BUT, if we will respond correctly to affliction, we will be drawn closer to God, better understand the joys of His Word and of His comfort, and as we press further in to our Savior, we will move further from sin and the world. Yes, we can view affliction as a positive thing because our hope IS in the Lord. Donald Cargill lived in a time of great affliction, moving from place to place and being hunted by government troops. He had a heart for Christ and for those in his generation who living in such times, stating: "I wish there were more true conversion, and then there would not be so much backsliding, and, for fear of suffering, living at ease, when there are so few to contend for Christ and His cause." At his execution in 1681, he spoke these final words (in part): "Farewell all relations and friends in Christ; farewell acquaintances and all earthly enjoyments; farewell reading and preaching, praying and believing, wanderings, reproaches, and sufferings. Welcome joy unspeakable and full of glory. Welcome Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Into Thy hands I commend my spirit." We could all hope to speak as resolutely and victoriously as Donald Cargill, but until we are in that situation, we won't know. Only by the grace of God will we live well and die well. However, God promises that if we will draw near to Him, He will draw near to us (James 4:8) and if we will humble ourselves before Him, He will lift us up (James 4:10). A humble and devout devotional life leads to a devoted life. Let us steep ourselves daily in the Word and in fervent prayer. Let us meditate upon that which the Holy Spirit teaches us, applying it to our lives. Through these things let us learn the difference between the sacred and the profane, living in truth and holiness. If we will walk faithfully and humbly in life, we can expect to do so in death as well—for our hope is in the Lord. Remembering that this world is not our home and that the risen Christ has already won our ultimate victory let us respond to this ever-creasing culture of hostility in love, by living out I Corinthians 15:58. "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." Finally, we are not to sit back and just wait for affliction to come to us or hope to avoid it through apathetic lukewarm living. Raise the banner of Christ high and take to heart Spurgeon's call to victorious battle in the face of such expected hostility: "Now, by the lilies of Christian purity, and by the roses of the Saviour's atonement... we charge you who are lovers of Jesus, to do valiantly in the Holy War, for truth and righteousness, for the kingdom and crown jewels of your Master. Onward! 'for the battle is not yours but God's."

Pastor Steve Huston 103 N. Division Ave. Fremont, Michigan 49412



REESIE'S RECIPES

Banana Bunt Cake

- 1 package yellow cake mix (regular size)
- 1 package (3.4 ounces) instant banana pudding mix
- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup club soda
- 1/2 cup canola oil
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- Icing**
- 1 cup cold heavy whipping cream
- 3/4 cup cold 2% milk
- 1 package (3.4 ounces) instant banana pudding mix
- 2 teaspoons confectioners' sugar
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

In a large bowl, combine the cake mix, pudding mix, eggs, soda and oil; beat on low speed for 30 seconds. Beat on medium for 2 minutes. Stir in walnuts. Pour into a greased and floured 10-in. fluted tube pan. Bake at 350° for 40-45 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack to cool completely. In a large bowl, beat the cream, milk, pudding mix and confectioners' sugar on high until stiff peaks form. Frost cake. Sprinkle with walnuts. Refrigerate until serving

Breakfast in a Blanket

- 8 large eggs
- salt
- black pepper
- 1 tbsp. chives
- 1 tube crescent rolls
- 4 slices cooked bacon, halved
- 2 c. shredded Cheddar

Preheat oven to 375°. In a medium bowl, whisk eggs and season with salt and pepper. In a large skillet over medium heat, melt butter. Add eggs and chives and scramble as desired. On a lightly floured work surface, roll out Crescent Rolls. Top with cooked bacon, scrambled eggs, and cheese. Roll up and transfer to a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake until deeply golden, 12 to 14 minutes.

Pasta Salad

- 1 pkg. rotini noodles
- 3 medium tomatoes, diced
- 2 cucumbers, diced
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 1/2 cups broccoli, diced
- 1 1/2 cups cauliflower, diced
- 1 (16oz) bottle Italian dressing

Cook noodles until tender. Drain and allow to cool. Add vegetables and toss. Stir in Italian dressing to taste.

Strawberry Cake

- 1 package white cake mix (regular size)
- 1 package (3 ounces) strawberry gelatin
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 cup canola oil
- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup finely chopped strawberries

FROSTING:

- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1/2 cup crushed strawberries
- 4-1/2 to 5 cups confectioners' sugar

Preheat oven to 350°. Line the bottoms of two greased 8-in. round baking pans with parchment paper; grease paper. In a large bowl, combine cake mix, gelatin, sugar and flour. Add water, oil and eggs; beat on low speed 30 seconds. Beat on medium 2 minutes. Fold in chopped strawberries. Transfer to prepared pans. Bake 25-30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans 10 minutes before removing to wire racks; remove paper. Cool completely. For frosting, in a small bowl, beat butter until creamy. Beat in crushed strawberries. Gradually beat in enough confectioners' sugar to reach desired consistency. Spread frosting between layers and over top and sides of cake



Understanding Forgiveness

Loren Larson

Forgiving those who have hurt us is not an option. Forgiveness is not “divine amnesia.” We won’t ever “forget” what others have done to us. So by faith we must turn them over to the Lord, and place the uncomfortable even horrifying memories of the event(s) passed into the capable hands of Christ. It doesn’t matter how we feel. Feeling is not forgiveness! When we act in faith and forgive we will find that God’s grace can begin to erase the hurt and remove the poison that threatens our soul. From that moment forward, whenever the memory of that event tries to return, we remind ourselves that we have previously followed the Biblical command, we have already turned that situation over to the Lord, therefore we refuse to retrieve and relive those specific events. As we operate by faith, the Spirit of God will begin to revive the devastated soul and will even place an agape love into your heart for those who have offended you. A failure to follow the command of the Lord will guarantee that a root of bitterness will grow and bring wreckage of soul. Let us forgive others based upon the fact the we ourselves have been forgiven of the Lord. His Grace will be sufficient!

Luke 17:3-4 - Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. (4) And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.



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And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15



MUSINGS OF A COUNTRY PREACHER

Where Tin Cans Taste Good

Attendance at worship last Sunday was a mite poorly. I don't reckon I ought to grumble, because I had a bunch of sick members; and when you add to that all of my shut-ins, we don't have a whole lot more. So, I went ahead and prayed for the sick and shut-ins and preached to the few I had. Only thing was the echo in the near empty church building hurt my ears. My wife said I needed to get out, take a Sunday afternoon ride and let the fresh country air clear my head. It made me feel real good inside. What I saw made me rejoice; I saw miracle after miracle! Old Hezekiah who had been deathly sick that morning was roused up and riding down the highway with his fishing poles. Nothing but a miracle could have rescued Hezekiah from the jaws of death in such a short time. Now there's Rufe's brother. Rufe told me Sunday morning his brother's back was in such foul shape they were afraid that an operation was gonna be necessary. Well, we remembered him in our prayer, and lo and behold at two o'clock there he was at the driving range hitting golf balls. If that wasn't quick recovery then I don't know what is. All told, about 20 of my sick folks had roused up and was taking nourishment in some form or other. But what made me really happy was to see so many of my shut-ins out riding around and enjoying the world. Hezekiah's pa, who don't attend worship "cause he can't stand crowds," was headed for the baseball game. Sister Nell's mama, who can't come on account of her kidneys, stood in line for two hours to get into the picture show. Yes, sir, it sure thrilled my heart to see what I saw! I ought to have a packed house next Sunday with all my sick folks being healed and my shut-ins set free. I just hope they don't overdo themselves and have a relapse before next Sunday. I gotta go now and play with my smallest young 'un. He is gonna be a farmer, and I'm gonna be the goat. Tin cans will be easy to eat after what I have swallowed!

(author unknown)

Submitted by Sister Kathy Whitehouse

Everybody, Somebody, Anybody & Nobody

This is a little story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done

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A Word for TODAY!



By Sister Michelle Deuling

Verse for Today: 1 John 4:20-21 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

Additional passages for Today: John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Thought for Today: If you desire to love God; you must love others.

Story for Today: The church bells rang in the distance as Misty sighed with resignation and slowly rose from the recliner. The joy of fellowshiping with other believers had long passed as the resentment and dread over took her at the thought of another meeting with Chloe. Everybody loved Chloe. She always had a smile on her face at these public places and was the type of person that basked in the opportunities to monopolize conversations. Feeling foolish, Misty gathered up her purse and Bible and headed out the door. She chided herself the whole way. She was a sister in Christ to Chloe; she needed to be kind. As Pastor Brown read the opening passage, Misty felt a stirring in her heart. Truly it was more of a trembling; sickening dread. "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar..." Hate is a strong word but, Misty felt the conviction deep in her soul as she realized the dread and anger she felt was in reality a hatred that she hadn't even admitted to herself. "And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also," continued Pastor Brown. As he began to expound, Misty couldn't help but reflect on her relationship with Chloe. Her bitterness, resentment and jealousy were affecting her own walk with God. Misty began to realize that she must love Chloe; it was essential if she wanted to truly love God. She remembered that she had read earlier in the week that if we love God, we will obey him. God was calling her to love her neighbor as herself. She knew that the task wouldn't necessarily be easy or even pleasant. But, if God called her to the task, he would provide the tools necessary and as long as she was willing and did her part; she knew God would provide and meet all her needs. As the service concluded, Chloe could be heard laughing and talking to anyone who would listen. Misty chose to give her feelings to God. She chose to love her sister in Christ and to pray for her to grow in her walk with the Lord. She began thinking good thoughts and thanking God for the joy and the smiles that they could each bring to others here in the family of God. She decided then and there that when she saw Chloe, she would think of her being made in the image of Christ and she would thank God for the good things that she could find and the things that made her remember the Loving Father, the Sacrificial Son and the Comforting guide of the Holy Spirit. Misty realized that as she sought to focus on those things, it was much easier to spend time around Chloe and maybe eventually she would look forward to their times together.

Questions for Today: Do you dread being around someone like Misty did? Do you see each person as a special creation of God; someone made in His image? What do you do when you have to spend time with someone that makes you feel as Chloe made Misty feel?

Prayer: Dear Lord, Thank you for loving us and for making us in your image. Help us to always reflect you. Please help us to allow others to see you through us. Help us to be easy to love. In Jesus' Name, Amen

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Philippians 4:8



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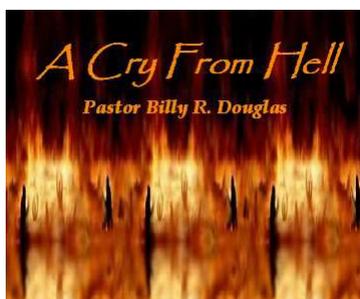
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PRAYER LIST

If you would like to send a picture of a loved one, a special prayer request or when you send a name to be added to our prayer list we will place it in our Prayer Box. Our Prayer Box sits on the altar at VOTL Tabernacle and your prayer requests are prayed over daily and in our services.

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And he said unto them, Go ye
into all the world, and preach the
gospel to every creature.

Mark 16:15

God's Simple Plan of Salvation

My Friend: we are about to ask you the most important question of your life. Your joy or your sorrow for all eternity depends upon your answer. The question is: Are you saved? Do you know Jesus Christ as your personal LORD and Saviour? It is not a question of how good you are, nor if you are a church member, but have you put your faith in Jesus? Are you sure you will go to Heaven when you die? The Bible makes the plan of salvation plain and simple. *Romans 10:13* says *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.* Call on Jesus today. Put your faith and trust in him and ask him to forgive you of your sins and to be your LORD and savior and you will be born again...SAVED!! Do this today, tomorrow may be to late! Please write or call us if you have made the decision to accept Jesus. We would love to send you some material to help you with your new life with the LORD.



Please feel free to share with us any prayer requests, testimonies or suggestions that you may have. Also if you have something you would like to share with our readers we would love to hear from you!



VOTL Tabernacle

216 Hill St. Livermore, KY

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Sunday Morning Service 11 AM

Everyone Welcome

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