

News & Notes

Sunday, May 28, 2006

Remember in Prayer: Jonathan Alberson; Sandra Alberson; Michelle Bennett; Carrol Cherry; Vikie Cobb; Diane Cox; Sally Etta Crawford; Lawrence Dawson; Tommy Dawson; Flora Estes; Marie Hall; Marilyn Hubbard; Carolyn Jordan; Christine Judge; Dot Ketchum; Tracy Ketchum; James Luna; John and Deliah Mann; Diane Mize; Howard Moody; Shirley Ortiz; Janet Rooker; Ruth Ross; Freddie Shaw; Lillie Mae Shelby; Caleb Smith; Jayme and Trucilla Spence; Ruby Street; Calvin Ursery; Betty Vincent; James Williams; Alvie Williford;

Pantry item for the month of May is paper goods.

Anyone interested in helping with **Vacation Bible School**, please see Sam Ford. The dates are June 4-7, 2006.

The newest edition **House to House/Heart to Heart** was mailed out this past week. For those not on the mailing route, copies are available in the foyer.

Sermon In Preview:

AM: Training Faithful Children
PM: Obadiah

For the Record (May 21, 2005):

Attendance: 83 Contribution: \$1322.00 Budget: \$1352.00

The Ashland Church of Christ

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Sunday:

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Shepherds:

Barney King
Carrol Street



ASHLAND ANNOUNCER

"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14)

I Don't Have Time...

"I don't have time to study."

"I don't have time to teach a class."

"I don't have time to do personal work."

"I don't have time to visit."

"I don't have time to pick someone up for worship."

"I don't have time to help the needy."

"I don't have time to attend Bible class."

"I don't have time to prepare food."

"I don't have time to encourage the discouraged."

HOW WILL YOU FIND TIME TO GO TO HEAVEN?!

Are Feelings A Reliable Standard?

Mark Lindley

It is spiritually hazardous to rely on one's feelings as proof that one has been saved. It is so unsafe because one's feelings can be misleading. Yet, in spite of this fact, some maintain, "I know I'm saved because I can feel it right here in my heart" (some pat their chests while uttering this statement). Some have said, "I would not trade the feeling I have in my heart for a stack of Bibles a mile high." In effect, such people are saying that their feelings *prove* they are saved, regardless of what the Bible says.

However, God's Words makes it clear that feelings can be wrong. Jacob *felt* certain that his son, Joseph, had been devoured by a wild beast (Genesis 37:31-35). Jacob was overwhelmed with grief; he shed real tears; he *felt* unspeakable emotional pain. His feelings, however, were not based upon reality. Joseph was alive and well. Saul of Tarsus *felt* saved while persecuting the church (Acts 26:9), but his feelings were wrong (1Timothy 1:12-15). These examples show why we should never rely on feelings to prove we are saved. Our feelings can be wrong!

There is only one saved standard one can use to prove that he is saved — the Bible. Paul urges us to "prove all things" (1Thessalonians 5:21). The Jews of Berea "searched the scriptures daily" to see if they were hearing the truth (Acts 17:11). The Lord said that "the truth," which is the word of God (John 17:17), makes us free (John 8:32). God's word is a "lamp to our feet and a light to our path" (Psalm 119:105). All these verses indicate that the Bible — and only the Bible — is the proper standard of authority for determining one's spiritual condition before God (cf. Proverbs 14:12).

One soul is worth more than the whole world (Matthew 16:26). Therefore, we cannot afford to risk the salvation of our souls by relying upon funny feelings as proof of our salvation. Let us all resolve to look to the Bible. It alone reveals the way of salvation (2Thessalonians 3:16-17).

"O Will You Not Tell It Today?"

Mark Blackwelder

Imagine a group of men working deep under ground in a mine. Suppose that one day as they were working, the mine began to crumble and collapse around them. Rocks and boards came crashing down everywhere. When they looked around they realized that they were trapped. There was no way for them to get back to the opening of the mine.

Now suppose one of the men knew a secret tunnel that led out of the mine another way. None of the other men knew about it.

Wouldn't it be a cruel and selfish person if he went alone to the secret tunnel and escaped, without telling the other men that there was a way out of the mine? We would all agree that such behavior would be shameful.

At one time or another, all people are in a condition very much like these miners. At some point everyone is trapped by sin. God has given us a way to escape from this trap. This way is found in the Bible. Christians have found that way and thus they are no longer trapped. Just like the miner, however, these Christians must share that wonderful way of escape with those who are still not free.

"And such were some of you."

At the end of World War I, Herbert Hoover, later to become President of the United States, led the allied relief efforts in Europe. He kept hundreds of thousands from starving, and a new word entered the Finnish language. In Finland, to "hoover" means "to be kind, to help."

To "hoover" is a biblical principle, "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness" (Colossians 3:12-14).

-Tom Moore

