



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
Vol. XXXV April 6 2008 No. 13

Confidence Corner

John F. Board

As we continue on our life long journey of building our faith, let us consider some thoughts regarding the topic of suffering. Often times when a non-Christian faces difficulty in their life they turn away from God. Sometimes when a Christian faces trials they do not heed the inspired

instruction of James; rather they too blame God and turn away from him.

The book of Job is a great help to the Christian who suffers. From Job we learn God is in control, He knows what the sufferer is experiencing, and that He rewards those who remain steadfast through the suffering. One great lesson sometimes overlooked is the correlation between a close relationship with God and how that relationship aids in enduring the suffering. Also one of the main points of the book—God is God and we are not—is overlooked; sometimes we cannot understand the suffering we endure. Job did not understand and began questioning God. After God “put things in perspective” for Job, he realized his error. Although we do not understand, our faith causes us to trust almighty God who will always do what is right.

Another passage that provides great comfort to the suffering saint is Romans 8:28. Here Paul reveals that God will take “all things” and work them out for good. Implied in this passage is the concept that not “all things” will be good else God would not have to work them out for good—they would already be such. Again this passage encourages faith toward God in times of difficulty. Friends when you are enduring difficult times, remember to turn to God—He is the only one who knows what you are enduring!



Let me take a moment and let you know about a brand new book that encourages faith in times of trial. In my estimation it is a book unlike any other on the topic inasmuch as it stresses not only the importance of a relationship with God but it is also evangelistic in that it actually shows clearly from the Bible how a person enters into a relationship with God (plan of salvation). Not only is this book an immense help to the Christian, we can use it as an evangelistic tool for those outside of Christ who are suffering as well. *Stronger Than Ever* by Jason Jackson has been highly endorsed by Dr. Billy R. Smith (FHU), Janie Craun (*Christian Woman's Magazine*), Sheila Keckler Butt, Garland Elkins, Dr. E. Claude Gardner, Dr. William Woodson, Dr. Brad Harrub (*Think*), and Allen Webster. Order by calling Christian Courier Publications at (209) 472-2475.

Ray's Ramblings

Ray Pack

Tract of the Week “You Gotta Be Dumb to Believe the Bible. Right?”

A good friend of mine has a saying, “If you’re gonna be dumb, you gotta be tough.” This week’s tract reminds me of that saying.

For us to believe in the Bible we must be tough. Our world would have us to believe the Bible is out of date and irrelevant today. Society is trying to dumb down the foundations that are spelled out in God’s word. Some of the best educated men known to mankind fully believed that the Bible could be a guiding light in a dark world. While I may not agree with the theology of these men, I do agree that the Bible is the only guide that will lead us from this earthly land to the Promised land.

Scenes from 5th Grade & Under Spring Celebration



Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. - *Time for a Checkup*
Matthew 9:9-13

P.M. - *Blessed Assurance*
Hebrews 10:16-23

No More Than Love Demands

This past week, I learned that a young man, a freshman at Freed-Hardeman University drowned in the ocean while on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Shane Ruiz was wading in the ocean with several friends on the last day of their mission trip, when a rough wave knocked him over and an undertow pulled him out to sea. Attempts were made to rescue him, but all attempts proved futile. This young man was in the Dominican Republic, along with several other fellow students, to teach a Vacation Bible School for the children living there, and to work with a Children's Home. After a long week of work, their schedule called for a trip to the ocean before returning home to the United States.

My first thoughts when I heard of this tragedy were the thoughts of a parent. I too, have a child at Freed-Hardeman, and I can only imagine what this young man's parents must be going through. I would ask that you remember them in your prayers.

But my second thought was the last verse of a song we sometimes sing in our assemblies. The song is entitled, "Follow Me" and was written by Ira Stanpill in 1953. Here is the third verse of that song.

**Even Balaam, the wicked,
greedy prophet in the Old Testament
prayed, "Let me die the
death of the righteous, and let
my end be like his"**

Oh, Jesus if I die upon a foreign field some day,
T'would be no more than love demands, no less could I repay,
No greater love hath mortal man than for a friend to die,
These are the words He gently spoke to me.
If just a cup of water I place within your hand,
Then just a cup of water is all that I demand,
But if by death to living they can thy glory see,
I'll take my cross and follow close to Thee.

Now here's the point of my article. This young man died while engaging in the work of the Lord. While many young people across our nation use their Spring Break to immerse themselves in immorality and drunken revelries, this young man spent the last week of his life trying to teach children about Jesus. While I am saddened by the events that ultimately occurred, I am thankful for the choice he made.

Friends, I think all of us, if we could choose, would want to leave this world while doing the work of the Lord. Even Balaam, the wicked, greedy prophet in the Old Testament prayed, "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my end be like his" (Numbers 23:10).

But now, allow me to leave you with a question. If you were to die doing the work of the Lord, would you have to die on a Sunday morning only, between the hours of 10:30 & 11:30? Give it some thought.

*Steve Higginbotham
South Green Street Church of Christ
Glasgow, KY*

News and Notes

DIANE LEWIS is scheduled for an ultrasound biopsy at Hardin Memorial April 15. **BEULAH LASLEY**, Mary Ann Hardesty's aunt, continues to deal with serious health problems.

MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

Betty Addington	J Martin
Neil Burden	Tom Morgan
Larry Clack	Herb Pence
Elonda Crafton	Marie Rose
W. C. Davis	Terry Showers
Dana Fox	Grace Speer
Howard Gardner	Wilma Stull
Bernard Gillim	Barbara Underwood
Faye Guess	Lonnie Underwood
Nellie Hart	Lawrence Wells
Kent Lane	

Let us continue to remember the following military personnel in our prayers: Dave Fulbright, Robert E. Wooten, Justin Gardner, Kelly Leverett, George Edwards, Joe Betterton, Myles Brothers, Dale Martin, Terry Turner, Cameron Ponder, Brett Fleming, Mike Chandler, Nathan Blair, Nathan McClain, Willie Mitchell

Additional Prayer List: Jan Allen, Weita Anderson, K.C. Avery, Christa Bradley, Grace Brown, Martha Brown, Sue Cantrell, Betty Davis, Evelyn Davis, Marie Dennison, Sydney Dover, Ellen Duvall, Berna Jean Goff, Betty Goheen, Priscilla Gratton, Renee Green, Terry Griffin, Jane Hack, Louie Hodge, Rose Johnson, Michelle Lawson, Lina Lee, Bruce LeFevre, Gayle Massey, Erman McClaskey, Lucinda McCune, Terri McDonald, Julie Murphy, Riley Nelson, Lynn Parsons, Joe Pawley, John Pawley, Ann Peters, Patsy & Joe Richter, Paul Jacob Sells, Sara Sharp, Ron Stanley, Florence Stull, Reiko Tarasavage, Patsy Taylor, Juanita Tillery, Laura Walker, Kevin Weaver, Nora Wilkins, Butch Yates, Bobby White (friend of R & K Pack)

Welcome

Barry Barclay met with the Elders last Sunday morning after indicating his desire to identify with our congregation. He and his son, Quincy, live at 105 Roth Court, Fort Knox, KY 40121. Phone # 307-0966. Please take an opportunity to welcome Barry & Quincy to our church family.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **LADIES NIGHT OUT**, Saturday, **April 5**, 4:00 p.m., Etown Bowling Lanes. Cost is \$3.50/ game and plans are to bowl at least two games and possibly go out to eat together. Be sure and invite a friend.
- **TAYLOR CHRISTIAN CAMP STAFF MEETING**, Saturday, **April 12**. The bus will leave the building at 3:00 p.m.
- **SENIOR SECRET SISTERS GET-TOGETHER**, Sunday, **April 13**, at 4:00 p.m. in the South Wing. See Laura Muncy for details.
- **CHURCH WORKERS WORKSHOP**, Monday, **April 14**, at 10:30 a.m. here at the building.
- **VBS MEETING**, Sunday, **April 20**, 4:30 p.m.
- **MEN'S RETREAT, April 25-26**, at White Mills. John Board will present the lessons during the retreat. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the lobby. Deadline for registration is Sunday, April 13. Cost: \$25.
- **SINGING AT ATRIA**, Sunday afternoon, **April 27**, at 3:00 p.m.
- **FAJITA DINNER**, Saturday, **May 17**, 5:00 p.m. at the Muncy home in Bardstown. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend this fun evening.

Pantry Item of the Week

Week of 4/06/08

Canned Vegetables

BENEVOLENT CENTER UPDATE MARCH 2008

Food Center	133 families helped
Clothing Center	55 families helped

BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE MARCH 2008

Courses graded	266
New Enrollees	25

OUR RECORD FOR March 30, 2008

Sunday Bible Study	120
Sunday Morning Assembly	199
Sunday Evening Assembly	120
Tuesday Ladies Bible Class	15
Wednesday Bible Study	119
Contribution (Budget -- \$5,905)	\$7,427

Elder/Coordinator for April
Henry McAlister

Bible Question

This Week's Bible Question: What is the Babylonian name of the person King Cyrus allowed to lead the Hebrews back to Jerusalem?

Last Week's Bible Question: In what verse of scripture, did Paul sum up his life with three short phrases? The correct answer is 2 Timothy 4:7 (fought the good fight, finished my course and kept the faith). Kay Thomason, Edna Ashlock, Joyce Pack, Kay Pack, Mary Walker & Betty Bray correctly answered the question.

Please write down your answer and give it to Ray, put it in the box outside the church office before next Wednesday or email your answer to ray.pack@kvnet.org by Tuesday afternoon. Please include the Scripture reference and your name.

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Classes	9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship	10:30 A.M.
Evening Worship	6:00 P.M.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class	10:30 A.M.
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Wednesday

Evening Bible Class	7:00 P.M.
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Henry McAlister	765-7386
Mike Pence	737-8123
Rick Whobrey	769-9267

Ministers:

John Board	763-1677
Ray Pack	982-3460
	cell # 723-7564

Secretary:

Kim Whobrey	769-9267
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Visit us on the World Wide Web:
www.ETOWNCOFC.ORG

Are You Part of the PARTICIPATION

Apr. 5 — Ladies Night Out, Bowling
Apr. 12 — Camp Staff Meeting
Apr. 13 — Senior Secret Sisters Get-together
Apr. 14 — Church Workers Workshop
Apr. 20 — VBS Meeting
Apr. 25-26 — Men's Retreat
Apr. 25-26 — Youth Rally, Glasgow
Apr. 27 — Singing at Atria

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

1. 2 Samuel 20:1-22:34
2. 2 Samuel 22:35-24:17
3. 2 Samuel 24:18-25; 1 Kings 1:1-2:18
4. 1 Kings 2:19-4:19
5. 1 Kings 4:20-7:39
6. 1 Kings 7:40-9:9
7. 1 Kings 9:10-11:25

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