



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

June 15, 2010

“A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.” Proverbs 18: 24

“Friends”

There is a beautiful picture of true friendship given in God’s Holy Word. That is of the friendship of David and Jonathan. It is truly heart-breaking that the evil minds of worldly people would attempt to make this beautiful relationship into something perverted, evil, and abominable. 1 Sam 18: 1-4 (NKJV) “Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. Saul took him that day, and would not let him go home to his father’s house anymore. Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. And Jonathan took off the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, even to his sword and his bow and his belt.” The expression of friendship here displayed brings to mind words that we often describe a good friend. We say, “he would give you the shirt off his back!” Jonathan literally did just that.

You know, as you read about Jonathan, there was absolutely nothing for him to gain by befriending David. Jonathan was Saul’s firstborn son and therefore heir to the throne of Israel. Many, in his position, would have resented this upstart, peasant, shepherd boy from the hills of Bethlehem. But even after David was selected by God to be the next king, Jonathan remained a valued friend to the one with the godly heart. Friend. “How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan was slain in your high places. I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; You have been very pleasant to me; Your love to me was wonderful, Surpassing the love of women. “How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war perished!” (2 Sam 1: 25-27 NKJV) Please pardon the personal note as I am reminded of my recent loss of my dearest friend ever, save my bride. The thought again of that loss brings tears flooding back. I can feel the pain of David as he spoke these words, a pain I endured as I preached the funeral for my dear friend. How truly precious friendship is!

As Solomon wrote, “A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.” (Pro 18:24 NKJV) I can’t help but wonder if he remembered

his father talking about that great, Jonathan. I cannot know that, but it does add power to his words of wisdom. Truly, Jonathan was a friend who sticks closer than a brother. There is no mention in text relating to David’s brothers helping him as he evades Saul’s madness. Yet we see Jonathan, repeatedly, foiling the snares of his father who was hoping to destroy David.

As Solomon’s words announce, “A man who has friends must himself be friendly...”, there brings to mind another example of friendship worthy of our mention. “And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness,” And he was called the friend of God.” (James 2:23 NKJV). Solomon is always regarded as the wisest man ever, but you must admit that Abraham was pretty wise to have God as his friend. Used here in this passage to prove the action of a living faith, Abraham’s friendship with God stands out. Wouldn’t you agree that friendship is also action? Wouldn’t it be grand to have as your epitaph, “Here lies a friend of God?” James account of Abraham’s friendship with God is given to us so that we can learn what is necessary to be called God’s friend, but are we God’s friend, that really becomes that question.

There are all kinds of friends. There are friends who take and never give. There are fair weather friends. Some become friends for money or popularity. There is also one friend that I must warn you about. “...Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.” (James 4:4 NKJV)

Be a friend! Be a friend to God. Be a friend to Christ. Be a friend to the church. Be a friend to your neighbor. But beware of friendship with the world, it is a taker not a giver.

By: Roger Comstock
Via/ Chalmette COC
Copied & edited

A FATHER'S PRAYER

Last night my little boy confessed to me
some childish wrong. And kneeling at my knee
he prayed with tears: "Dear God, make me a man,
Like Daddy——wise and strong; I know you can."

Then while he slept, I knelt beside his bed,
Confessed my sins and prayed with low-bowed head:
"O God, make me a child, like my child here—
Pure, open, trusting thee with faith sincere."

Much of the training our children receive is done indirectly. By that, I mean we teach children by our attitudes and our treatment of others. When something or someone is openly criticized, in front of our children, it remains in their minds to pollute any good done past or present by that which is or has been criticized.

As parents, we are to "Train up..." (Proverbs 22:6) a child properly; therefore we must always be aware of our actions in front of them. Regardless of what we may think, children also learn from that which they see.

The above prayer tells us how as adults we should strive to live; most of all it tells us why. The children we are rearing, are watching our every move and action, and they are hearing each word we speak. They are becoming like us. Christ taught that we must, "...become as little children..." (Matthew 18:3) to enter heaven. We must be pure of heart and humble of spirit as a child. In Matthew 19:14, Christ spoke again of children and heaven when He said, "...for of such [children] is the kingdom of heaven"

Parents, even those of us that are older, need to take the time to watch and listen to our children. As we hear some of their words and see their actions, we need to ask, "Did I teach him or her that?" What about the child's attitude; from whence did it develop? One of the hardest things to do is "unlearn" something. If you have tried to stop a bad habit, you know this for a fact. Just think how hard it is for a child or a teenager whom we have misguided, to change. As adults and parents we must realize, there is no double standard.

The greatest lesson from this poem for us as Christians is that we be willing to allow God our Father to rule our lives each day we live. Let us be willing to confess to God our failures, seek His strength and guidance knowing it will be given. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches..." (Philippians 4:19).

Just maybe if we do these things we will not be ashamed, but rather we will be proud when our children pray that they want to be like daddy or like mother.

YOUTH NEWS

- Terrific Tuesday will meet each Tuesday at 10:00AM. This week the youth will meet at the fellowship building to work on a service project.
- The next Area Wide Youth Meeting will be July 11, at the East Main congregation.

QUIZE BOX

1. What king did not allow witches or wizards in his country?
2. What candidate for king cut off a part of the robe of his predecessor?
3. What king sold himself to work evil?
4. What king was likened to a head of gold?

(after sincere effort look up the following scriptures for the answers)
I Samuel 28: 3; I Samuel 24:4; I Kings 21:20 & Daniel 2: 25,26

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sharon Clemmer, is wearing a heart monitor and will go back to the doctor on Wednesday.
Mary Nell Smith, will have another heart ablation on June 18.
Bill King, (brother of Mike King) has pancreatic cancer. He should be having surgery the last of this week.
Pauline Smith, remains about the same. She is now living with her son, Tommy Smith. The address is 46 Cook Circle, Potts Camp, MS 38659
Nance Family of Ashland (friends of the Peeler's) who lost their home during a tornado in May. They will start building a new home this week. Their oldest son will be coming home from an Atlanta hospital this week, who is paralyzed from the waist down.

Continual Prayer List

Bobby Montgomery, Wayne Jernigan, Marie Yancey, Linda Griggs, Donna Weeden, Sylvia Plunk, Nicki Weaver, J.A. Thornton, J.D. Stroud, Tom Elliott, Terry Young,

Shut-Ins

Jean Drummond, Lessie Bryant, Billy Joe Garner, Laura Mae Harris, Belle Cross, Raymond & Amy Vest

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Sue Collins, Shane Hutton, Corrine Hall, Willie Jackson, Dessie Lee Allred, Mattie Golden, Eunice Mabry, Faye Owen & Anna Davis

Military List:

David Wilhite-Navy-Florida Barry Wilhite-Marine-Navy -Virginia, Jimmie Stutts-Air Force-California, Tiffany Erwin- Army-Camp Rooker, AL; Aaron Raines-Army, Afghanistan; Jamie Vansandt, Alaska; Michelle Montgomery, Fort Leonard, Missouri, Jim Vest-Afghanistan

JOIN US SUNDAY!

Mike and Sheila King will be with us this Sunday. Bro. King will be teaching the auditorium class and will bring both a.m. and p.m. sermons. Please join us.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 18.....Madison Griggs
June 20.....Cindy Ashmore
June 22.....Luke Jennings
June 23.....Andrea Hill
June 24.....Erica Crotts
June 24.....Janice Cobb
June 24.....Sharon Clemmer

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 20.....Dean & Viva Dillard

THANKS

*Thank you so much for making yesterday a special day for Martin & Erica. So many of you helped us prepare for the wedding and even stayed to help clean up afterwards. Thanks for your support and prayers. We are so blessed to be a part of such a loving Christian family. Please continue to pray for Martin & Erica as they start this new journey in their lives. Love,
Paul & Maria Ormon & Shane & Barbara Crotts*

FELLOWSHIP

This Sunday night, June 20th, we will have a fellowship supper following services at the fellowship building. Please bring your favorite sandwiches, finger foods and deserts.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gospel Meeting @ Pine Bluff Church of Christ, in Toccopola, MS with Harris Dockins, June 20th-23rd. Mon-Wed @ 7:30
Gospel Meeting @ Ripley Church of Christ, June 20-24. There will be different speakers each night. Check the bulletin board for details.
Vacation Bible School @ Gloster Street Church of Christ June 21-25 from 9:00-11:00a.m.
9th Annual GOSPEL SINGING June 25 @ 7p.m. @ Danville Church of Christ in Biggersville, Ms
Gospel Meeting @ Verona Church of Christ, June 25-27 with Stanley Williams as guest speaker.

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.org>

OUR RECORD

Sunday School	111
Sunday A.M	120
Sunday P.M.	89
Wednesday	94
Contribution.....	\$3,187.75
Budget	\$3,305.70

TO SERVE

Scripture	Andy Clemmer
A.M. Prayer	Paul Ormon
Closing Prayer	Phil Young
P.M. Prayer.....	Brad Pounders
Closing.....	Matt Jennings
Wed. 6/23..	Roger Clayton
Wed. 6/23.....	Bobby White
Usher & Lock	Randy Wall
Greeters.....	G & K Clayton

PANTRY ITEM: Tooth Paste

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....	9:30
Morning Worship	10:30
Evening Worship.....	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00

Elders

Richard Jennings	534-6671
Troy Robertson.....	534-3491

Deacons

Bill Botts	316-2422
Greg Clayton	538-0791
Roger Clayton.....	534-5240
Andy Clemmer	816-5887
Harold Russell	534-4648
Randy Wall.....	316-9255

Minister

Office.....	534-4649
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A FATHER'S ABC'S

A lways trust your children to God's care.
B ring them to church.
C hallenge them to high goals.
D elight in their achievements.
E xalt the Lord in their presence.
F rown on evil.
G ive them love.
H ear their problems.
I gnore not their childish fears.
J oyfully accept their apologies.
K eep their confidence.
L ive a good example before them.
M ake them your friends
N ever ignore their endless questions.
O pen your heart to their love.
P ray for them by name.
Q uicken your interest in their spirituality.
R emember their needs.
S how them the way of salvation.
T each them to work.
U nderstand they are still young.
V erify your statements.
W ean them from bad company.
X pect them to obey.
Y earn for God's best for them.
Z ealously guide them in Bible truth.

Via "Pulpit Helps"

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

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