

THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

October 22, 2013

Being In Touch With God

Mike King



In the January 2001 issue of *Vigil*, *Bill Tyner* wrote a provocative article on “In touch with God.” In it he made some meaningful assertions. He observed that it is highly important what we teach from the pulpit and in the classrooms, but what proceeds from the life of that teacher is paramount!

Jesus said: *“I am the vine, and you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without me you can do nothing”* (Jn. 15:5). So often the connectedness between our Lord and the prospective Christian is through example. This is forged in the life of the teacher by their study and obedience to God’s message themselves. The job is not finished when the class bell has rung and the books have been closed until the next class session. Those students, church members and prospects are busy studying your life all week long! The Word made manifest in the life of the teacher forms a grip on their lives that causes good results to occur. If in the class or worship assembly setting, we may see only each other, but we may need to be made to look up and grasp Him about whom we have been teaching and for whom we live. Our brother *Tyner* expressed it so eloquently: “The close contact with the Spirit of God shows itself, not in the learned dissertation, not in the command of language, not in the consideration of the historical significance of the Word before us, but rather in the sincere expression of all we say, in the earnest appeal, in the quiver of the chin, and the tear-drop in the eye...It is the natural fruitage of a human branch grafted into the perfect, divine Vine. And this can never be imitated; it must take its life right from the heart of the Vine. Then all the world will know of a surety that we have walked with God and learned of Him, and our service will not fall powerless.”

That silence is one of the great arts of conversation is allowed by Cicero himself, who says is not only an art, but an eloquence in it. ~Thomas More~

So, the conclusion that we reach is that we must be in touch with God to connect others. This is to be considered a blessing. A mighty source of power is available to each obedient follower of Christ.

The growth of the church, the salvation of souls and the happiness of the individual Christian are contingent upon our being personally “in touch with God.” Certainly, I do not imply that this occurs through some miraculous happening but simply through the induction of the mind of Jesus into our lives.

REPUTATION

“A good name is more to be desired than great riches.” Proverbs 22:1

REPUTATION IS A CONCEPT THAT IS EASILY MISUNDERSTOOD. Some people live their lives with an “I-don’t-care-what-anyone-else-thinks” arrogance, while others judge every action they take in terms of whether it will boost their approval ratings. Neither of these extremes is wise or healthy. Still, reputation is a matter that deserves our serious attention — and a GOOD reputation is a treasure more valuable than most people realize, Love and respect are goals worth pursuing. Indeed, they are worth making significant sacrifices for.

We must understand, first, that there is a difference between reputation and character. Reputation is what others think we are, but character is what we really are. Character is the sum total of our actual attributes. It’s what a person would know if they knew everything about us, even our innermost thoughts and motives. But obviously, our reputation may not be congruent with our character. In fact, the two are never completely congruent. Because others can know us only based on what we have revealed to them outwardly, their assessment of us may be either more positive or more negative than the “inside story” would bear out. As Elbert Green Hubbard said, “Many a man’s reputation would not know his character if they met on the street.”

So what should we do? If our reputation is better than our character (which, frankly, is the case with most of us) then we need to work on actually being the good person that others perceive us to be. And if our reputation is worse than our character, then we should not waste any time complaining about that. We should simply live the best lives we can and trust that, ultimately, the truth will be known.

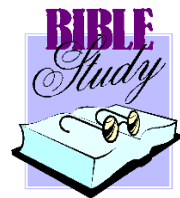
In the end, the “law of the farm” will always prevail: we will reap as we have sown. There are no tricks, techniques, quick fixes, or personality shortcuts that will give us a good reputation if we haven’t earned one by honest, rightful living. If we don’t have real substance, people will eventually see through the appearances that we’ve conjured up. So let’s work on having a good name, but let’s do it the old-fashioned way. Let’s make sure that we deserve the reputation that we desire.

“The way to gain a good reputation is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear” (Socrates).

~Gary Henry - WordPoints.com

Old Testament Bible People

1. Who was the ruler of the Israelites after Moses died? _____
2. What woman hid the spies and was saved by the Israelites when her city was taken? _____
3. Who ruled the Israelites in turn after Joshua? _____
4. Who was the first judge? _____
5. Who was the woman judge? _____
6. Who was the greatest of the judges? _____
7. What judge offered up his daughter? _____
8. What judge was a very strong man? _____
9. What old man was at the same time judge and priest? _____
10. Who was the last of the judges? _____
11. Who was the mother of Samuel? _____
12. Who was the first king of Israel? _____



Word Bank:

Saul; Samson; Othniel; Gideon; Jephthah; Hannah; Samuel; Deborah; Eli ; Othniel-Samuel; Joshua; Rahab

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016



PRAYER LIST

Mike King had outpatient surgery Friday, Oct. 18th, to remove kidney stones. He is at home recovering.

Earnestine McKinney, mother of *Perry Jones*, is in room 702 of Baptist Hospital, Desoto County, with kidney problems.

Allyssa Dunn, daughter of *Eric* and *Stacie Dunn*, will have oral surgery Oct. 24th, at the local hospital.

Grayden Dunn, son of *Eric* and *Stacie Dunn* will have his tonsils and adenoids removed Nov. 1st, at the local hospital.

Continual Prayer :

Denise Littlejohn, Harold Crowe, Nancy Petrowski, Justin Forsyth, Ricky Adams, Frank & Caroline Mills, Farrah Godwin, Bill DePriest, Donna Haynes, Steve Stokes, Martha Collins, Ken Joines, Polly Sago, Kelly Fryar, Ruth Ann Stroud, J.V. Davis, Judy Ward, Pat Reed, Rivers Robertson, Ruth Brown, Barry Yancey, Jack Dunlap, Prebble Foster, Norman Brown, Terry Young

Shut-Ins:

Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Tauso Branch, Teresa Clark

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb, Maxine Carlisle, Jennie Frohn

Military List:

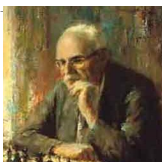
David & Barry Wilhite, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Michelle Hamm, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud & Christopher Phagan

SINGING NIGHT

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, OCT. 23rd 

Wise Thoughts

Let go of anger - it is an acid that burns away the delicate layers of your happiness.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



October 27..... Mark Jennings
October 28..... Erin Wall
October 29..... Phil Young
October 31..... Steve Todd

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

October 27..... Jason & Amy Jennings



FINAL FALL LECTURE OCT. 30TH

Bro. Phillip Hines of Hartselle, AL will be our guest speaker Wednesday night, Oct. 30th. There will be a meal at 5:45 at the fellowship building. Everyone is invited to bring a dish and enjoy a period of fellowship and greet *Bro. Hines*. The adult III class will be in charge of the fellowship.

TRUNK OR TREAT



If you would like to participate in 'Trunk or Treat' this year please be in the back parking lot of the church building by 6:15pm on Wed. Oct. 30th.



BOTTS/BROWN WEDDING

You are invited to the wedding ceremony of *Victoria Botts* and *Andy Brown* Saturday, Oct. 26th at 5:00pm. The wedding will take place at Peaceful Oaks Bed & Breakfast located at 636 Barnes Road, Medina, TN. A reception will follow at the same location.

AREA EVENTS

- The Skyline Church of Christ in Tupelo invites you to their Gospel Meeting, Oct. 27th-31st with *Brad McNutt* as the guest speaker.
- Hwy 178 Church of Christ in New Albany invites you to a Gospel Meeting Oct. 28th-30th with *Bro. Terry Wallace* as the guest speaker.
- The Gloster Street Church of Christ has a Gospel Meeting planned for Nov. 3rd-6th with *Billy Smith* as the guest speaker.

*Please check the bulletin board for more details.

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

MINISTER

Mike King..... 507-0625
 Home 534-6872
 Office..... 534-4649

ELDERS

Richard Jennings534-6671
 Troy Robertson534-3491

DEACONS

Greg Clayton.....252-9762
 Roger Clayton..... 538-8195
 Brad Pounders.....316-7931
 Harold Russell 507-1180
 Randy Wall 316-9255
 Lonnie Weaver..... 801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Drew Drummond
 A.M. Prayer.....Greg Harrison
 Closing Prayer..Dan Drummond
 P.M. Prayer.....Paul Ormon
 Closing.....Perry Jones
 Wed.10/23.....Anderson Parks
 Wed.10/23....Jason McCullough
 Usher & Lock.....Greg Clayton
 Greeter.....B & A Pounders

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....120
 Sunday A.M.....161
 Sunday P.M.....111
 Wednesday.....133
 Contribution.....\$3,412.90
 Budget.....\$3,817.55



PANTRY ITEM

Peanut Butter

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Well Seasoned Words

After dodging the sing-along book and popper, I felt safe that my midnight run to the kitchen went undetected by the 9 month old sleeping down the hall. Arriving at the master bedroom was a relief, as I had not made a single sound until I opened the door and for some reason the door chose that time, after opening and closing a million times before, to make the loudest creak. It seemed as if windows quaked and dogs barked half way down the road as a result of this ear splitting sound. Of course our 9 month old never heard a thing; it was the three year old that woke up screaming.



A bike left out the night before and now sounds like a high pitched squeaking sounds after each down stroke of the peddle on the way to school. The chain has a telling orange color to it that indicates rust. Then, later that day you are caught getting an extra cookie because mom heard the telling creak of the cabinet being opened.

What these three things have in common is the need for the seemingly magical substances called WD-40. While the bedroom door creaking never seems to be an issue during the day, it seems so much louder when trying to be quiet. A quick squirt of lubricant and the problem is solved from noisy doors to noisy chains.

Like the noisy door, our words can often get us into trouble when we are not paying attention. First thing in the morning or at the end of a hard day, we may find that our words are not gentle. The way we respond to a simple question may lead us into an all out argument with the ones we love. Keeping our attitude and tongue in check, we can often times avoid trouble by seasoning our words.

~ Andy McDonald