

THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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November 19, 2013

HOW TO HANDLE FAILURE

Mike King



It has been said that if you fear failure, do nothing, and you are bound to succeed! This was the approach of a junior high school band. The teacher had just organized it and it was in no way prepared for a program, but the principal was so proud of the music teacher's efforts that he made plans for a concert for the entire school without consulting her. She tried to talk him out of it but he insisted they perform. Just before the concert was ready to begin, the music teacher approached the podium, leaning forward whispered to her nervous musicians, "If you're not sure of your part, just pretend to play." She then stepped back, lifted her baton and with a great flourish brought it down. To her shock, nothing happened! The band brought forth a resounding silence.

If we do not feel comfortable with our abilities or have identified our "gifts" that have been given to us (Rom. 12:6) we cannot perform properly. Instead, we will hide behind the better prepared, more spiritually mature, and those more greatly committed. Could we be pretending to be Christians while others are doing our part?

Dr. Michael A. Halleen gives some suggestions on what to do when failure comes:

1. Look for the presence of God – He is present and working through your failures as well as successes.
2. Learn all that you can from it – *Erma Bombeck* was invited to a dinner of "highly successful people," against her better interests. She later wrote: "Every one of those people, every single one of those highly successful people, could only talk about their failures – and how they learned from them."
3. Get on with what's next – Paul forgot what was behind and pressed on (Phil. 3:13-14).
4. Challenge your idea of what is important – God has not called us to be successful, but fruitful; not success, but refining of our soul, developing character, and energizing the spirit. Success is only incidental to those ends.

The Lord's disciples got in the boat, fished all night and caught...NOTHING. They were told by a voice on shore to keep going, keep throwing the net into the water. They found that while they failed, God did a marvelous work – in the sea, yes, but even more in their troubled hearts. God can transform good out of what appears at the time to be an utter failure. Take heart and try something harder.

A Kiss To Remember.....For Women Only

It was just one of those minor disagreements over something so trivial that it would not be remembered two weeks later; nonetheless, she was disturbed by the fact that he couldn't see her side. As he prepared to lay down and catch a catnap before leaving to work the midnight shift, she wondered if he would even miss her if she was gone. Suddenly she decided that she would give him something to think about and remember...just in case it should be the last time he saw her.



Before he lay down, as their custom was she would give him a kiss; but, this time she would kiss him as though it was to be the last kiss he would ever get from her, a kiss to remember!

As the "final goodbye kiss" progressed, she discovered she was no longer kissing the time worn, work weary middle aged man she had grown accustomed to, but the young man she had married many, many, years ago. The kiss that was meant to haunt him in years to come, had turned to awaken her awareness of his tender, faithful, ever giving love which lay enshrouded in the undisturbed dust of preoccupation she had allowed to collect through the years.

From that day forth, she would kiss him as though it would be her last kiss to him, and she would tell him how much she loved and appreciated him, because....she does.

~ karenGharper –Phil.2:13—Godfrey

*“Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and **thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.**” Gen. 3:16*

*“the aged women...teach the young women to be sober, to **love their husbands**, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their husbands, **that the word of God be not blasphemed.**” Titus 2:3-5*

Rights And Responsibilities

Some people place a great deal of emphasis on their “rights.” We have a “bill of rights,” “stand up for our rights,” and sometimes “demand our rights.” Along with these rights come certain responsibilities. Consider the following:

When we have the right to speak, we have also the responsibility to listen. With the right to receive comes the responsibility to give. The right to be comforted in our sorrow carries with it the responsibility to comfort others. The right to work demands that we do a good job. If we have the right to make mistakes, we have the responsibility to correct those mistakes. The right to happiness should incite us to show others how to be happy. The right to have friends means that we should be a friend. When we feel it is our right to criticize, we should feel an equal urge to encourage. Our right to be rewarded for our efforts places on us the responsibility to the efforts of others. The right to be independent demands that we be dependable. The right to be loved is balanced by our responsibility to show love.

In pursuit of our rights, let us not neglect the corresponding responsibilities.

Just Think....Having read the above, what responsibility will God hold us to for having the right to worship Him? What responsibility will God require of those who have the right/freedom to own a Bible? You have the right to come and assemble for Bible study Sunday morning...you are responsible for supporting or weakening the class!

~copied

YOUTH NEWS

- Congratulations to our Senior Bible Bowl Group for the great job they did this past Sunday, at Antioch. They placed second in a tie-breaker. First place went to Randolph.
- The Jr. Bible Bowl will be held Sat. Nov. 23rd, at the Hwy 15 Church of Christ in Pontotoc.
- The 7th grade and up annual shopping trip to Memphis will be Dec. 7th.
- Next month's Youth Devo will be held Sunday, Dec. 22nd following morning services. The youth will have lunch at the fellowship building and do various activities during the afternoon. *Dan Cobb* and *Sarah Walker* will be hosting.



PRAYER LIST

Mike Reed, son of *Joe and Pat Reed* suffered a heart attack Sat. night. He is in room 295 of the Tupelo Hospital scheduled to have open heart surgery Wed. or Thurs. of this week.

Rivers Robertson, mother of *Troy Robertson* fell this past week and broke her hip. She underwent surgery this past Fri. and is expected to be released this week.

Lucille Gibson, fell this past week and fractured several vertebrae in her back. She is bruised and in a good deal of pain.

Tony Cross is suffering from back problems.

Tauso Branch is suffering with an eye infection and is to see her doctor this week.

Continual Prayer :

Nancy Petrowski, Caroline Puckett, Denise Littlejohn, Harold Crowe, Justin Forsyth, Donna Haynes, Steve Stokes, Martha Collins, Polly Sago, Kelly Fryar, J.V. Davis, Judy Ward, Pat Reed, 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:

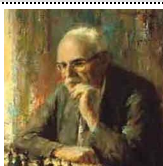
David & Barry Wilhite, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud & Christopher Phagan

MARY & MARTHA CLASS

The Mary & Martha ladies class will meet Thurs. Nov. 21st, at 9:00am in the annex building. The class lasts about an hour and meets once a month. All ladies are invited to attend.

Wise Thoughts

You can't keep trouble from coming, but you needn't give it a chair to sit in.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



November 23..... Betty Young
November 25..... Cooper Pounders
November 28..... Jerry Grimmert
November 29..... Sissy Bullock

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

November 25..... Jason & Brandi McCullough



MEN'S BREAKFAST

A men's annual breakfast and planning session has been scheduled for Sat. Dec. 7th, at 7:00am at the fellowship building. It is very important for all men to attend if at all possible. Please sign the list in the foyer if you plan to attend and mark if you can help prepare the breakfast.



HELPING AT CHRISTMAS

* *Erica Crotts* and *Jessica Garrett* are taking donations or gifts for the Junior Auxiliary's Adopt-A-Child program. This provides Christmas gifts for needy children in Union County. If you would like to help please leave your gifts near the coat rack or give your donation to *Erica* or *Jessica*.



* We will also be helping provide Christmas gifts for some of the children at Pine Vale Children's Home. A list of the children and their ages will be posted on the bulletin board. Let us help make this a Merry Christmas for these children.



LADIES CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

This year the ladies Christmas Brunch is tentatively set for Sat. Dec. 14th, at 10:00am. As plans are right now it will be held at the fellowship building. You are asked to bring finger foods and a wrapped Christmas ornament. We will have more details next week.

AREA EVENTS

You are invited to join the **Antioch church of Christ** Sunday Dec. 1st, as they celebrate their 100th anniversary as a congregation. Please check the bulletin board for the day's activities.

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.....Dean Dillard
A.M. Prayer.....Andy Clemmer
Closing Prayer.....Terry Young
P.M. Prayer...Daniel Drummond
Closing.....Drew Drummond
Wed.11/27.....J.L. Eaton
Wed.11/27.....Hunter Jennings
Usher & Lock.....Randy Wall
Greeter.....G & K Clayton

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....121
Sunday A.M.....146
Sunday P.M.....115
Wednesday.....113
Contribution.....\$3,803.50
Budget.....\$3,817.55



PANTRY ITEM

Rice/Pasta

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Prayer On Entering Church

Heart and burdens of the day
Help us, Lord, to put away.
Let no crowding, fretting cares
Keep earth-bound our spirit's prayers.
Carping criticism take
From our hearts for Jesus' sake,
In this little hour that we
Spend in fellowship with thee.
Search us, keenly, Lord, we pray
Lest we leave Thy house today
Through our stubbornness unfed—
By the true and living bread—
Lest we know not that we thirst.
Selfishness that we have nursed
Through the years, O blessed Lord—
Smite it with thy two-edge sword.
Make us over! Make us kind.
Let no lonely stranger find
Lack of friendly handclasp, or
Pass unwelcomed through the door.
Let the whole week sweeter be
For this hour we spend with Thee.

~ Bertha Gerneaux Woods