



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

February 2, 2016

It Can Suck the Life Out of You!

Mike King



A very interesting story was brought to my attention recently that provides some very enlightening caution.

*“Annie Dillard, in her book *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, writes:*

‘At the end of the island I noticed a small green frog. He was exactly half in and half out of the water.

He was a very small frog with wide, dull eyes. And just as I looked at him, he slowly crumpled and began to sag. The spirit vanished from his eyes as if snuffed. His skin emptied and drooped; his very skull seemed to collapse and settle like a kicked tent...

An oval shadow hung in the water behind the drained frog: then the shadow glided away. The frog’s skin bag started to sink.

*I had read about the water bug, but never seen one. “Giant Water Bug” is really the name of the creature, which is an enormous, heavy-bodied brown beetle. It eats insects, tadpoles, fish, and frogs. Its grasping forelegs are mighty and hooked inward. It seizes a victim with these legs, hugs it tight, and paralyzes it with enzymes injected during a vicious bite. Through the puncture shoots the poison that dissolves the victim’s muscles, bones, and organs—all but the skin—and through it the giant water bug sucks out the victim’s body, reduced to juice. *Hidden sins can suck the life out of us.*”*

When I read this, the warning given by James made even more sense, *“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full grown, brings forth death”* (Jas. 1:14-15). It is interesting to notice that the water bug attacked the frog from behind. When once he had a grasp of the frog, his life was history. Peter discussed the nature of the devil and his approach to capturing individuals for destruction: *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour”* (I Pet. 5:8). The devil is on the prowl, hunting and seeking with intent to consume. Take his potential for harm seriously (be sober) and never let down your guard (be vigilant), for he will be attacking from uncertain and unknown directions. The water bug has his venom, so does the devil!

THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2016

Announcements: Jim Gann
Sound Room: Matt Jennings
Usher: Brian Carpenter

Lead Singing: Sun. A.M.: Richard Jennings
Sun. P.M.: Greg Harrison
Wed.: Ray Kennedy/Youth

Sunday Prayers:

Feb. 07:
A.M. Jason Jennings
Perry Jones
P.M. Harold Russell
Bobby Marques

Feb. 14:
A.M. Mark Jennings
Bill Lyon
P.M. Thomas Wall
Richard Adams

Feb. 21:
A.M. Paul Ormon
Lonnie Weaver
P.M. Andy Clemmer
Olen Clark

Feb. 28:
A.M. Terry Stubblefield
Phillip Young
P.M. Dan Cobb
David Clayton

Lord's Supper:

North Head: Gary Turner
North Helper I: Hunter Jennings
North Helper II: Ruston Adams

South Head: Randy Wall
South Helper I: Anderson Parks
South Helper II: Will Bowlin

Scripture Reading:

Feb. 07 — Brad Pounders
Feb. 14 — Steve Todd
Feb. 21 — Tyler Weaver
Feb. 28 — Phil Young

Wednesday Prayers:

Feb. 03 — Richard Jennings; Alvin Parks
Feb. 10 — Dillon Clayton; Troy Robertson
Feb. 17 — Roger Clayton; Greg Clayton
Feb. 24 — Harold Crowe, Shane Crotts

Greeters:

Feb. 07 — Greg & Kim Clayton
Feb. 14 — Steve & Lana Todd
Feb. 21 — Brad & April Pounders
Feb. 28 — Troy & Novene Robertson

Usher & Lock:

Feb. 07 — Lonnie Weaver
Feb. 14 — Greg Clayton
Feb. 21 — Roger Clayton
Feb. 28 — Brad Pounders

Prepare Communion: Christy Wall



Permissive Parents

Children can influence their parents just as parents can influence their children. The following story about an imaginary couple may have been duplicated in the lives of many of our readers.

George and Mary were a wonderful couple as they began their life together. Throughout their youth they had received strong teaching concerning worldliness, and their conduct showed the effects of that teaching.

They had been taught faithfulness in attendance, and they never missed a service for “anything.” In character and conviction, they were blameless.

This young couple failed, however, to instill into the hearts of their children these same convictions. Consequently, as the children reached their teens, they began to put pressure on their parents to let them do what all the other young people were doing. Gradually the will of the parents was broken down, and they began to permit their children to do things they never dreamed their children would do.

Rationalization came easy for George and Mary. “After all, the Bible is not specific in these matters,” they thought. “The Bible say ‘modest apparel.’ but it doesn’t define modesty.” “And, they’re only planning to go to the dance; they aren’t planning to dance.” “We can’t say ‘no’ to everything,” they said. When Junior began to show unusual athletic ability, the question of attending services became a problem. At first they took Junior out of games and brought him to midweek services, but then the team began to depend more and more on him. The play-offs came, and the team’s only hope in the play-offs was for Junior to play. George and Mary gave in and once they had given in, they had no more argument for the future. Junior never missed another game to “go to church.”

George and Mary often found themselves on the defensive in Bible classes. They began to argue for their children’s behavior. And, the more accustomed they became to their children’s actions, the more innocent their actions seemed to be. Eventually, their own conduct became affected. They reached the point where they thought nothing of missing on Friday night during a meeting to see Junior play ball. Mary even adopted some of the daughter’s dress habits, although remaining sufficiently “discreet” to stay in the good graces of the brethren. Yes, George and Mary are still in good standing in the church, and their change has been so gradual that many fail to realize that they are not strong Christians they formerly were. What happened to George and Mary? Instead of bringing their children “up” in the nurture and admonition of the “Lord,” their children brought them “down” in the nurture and admonition of the “devil.”

Our children may do wrong, but they must not do wrong with our permission! We do not seek anger, but repentance. Parents, would your names fit in the place of “George” and “Mary” in the above story? ~ Bill Hale

PRAYER LIST



Terry Young is in room 250 of the local hospital with fluid build up and an infection.

Phillip Haynes, brother-in-law of Darrell Crow is in an Alabama Hospital after undergoing 5 bypasses. At this time he remains in ICU.

Ricky Adams, father of Richard Adams will have back surgery Friday, Feb. 5th in Columbus, MS. His surgery is expected to be quite extensive.

Olen Clark is in room 236 of the local hospital with a kidney infection. He was scheduled to have kidney stone surgery Feb. 1st, but that has been postponed until the infection has cleared.

Trickett Duncan is having health problems and has requested prayers.

Continue to Remember:

Joyce Clayton, L.Q. Cooksey, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Jackie Dodd, Gene Dowdy, Kevin Flowers, Preeble Foster, Ray Franks, Bill Frohn, J.T. Gaines, J.C. Garner, Sonny Gay, Pam Hall, Donna Haynes, J.B. Higgins, Dianna Hodges, Shane Hutton, Judy Kirk, Bill Lyon, Lonnie Parker, Nancy Petrowski, Barbara Rains, Harold Reeves, Wayne Reams, B.A. Stubblefield, Yolanda Stubblefield, Sheila Thomas, Judy Ward, Nicki Weaver, Eudell Wilson, Chris Windham, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Claudia Senter

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Grace Anderson, Wanda DeLoach, Perrin & Jean Drummond, Cornelia Kennedy, Betty Lang, Mayna Senter, Miriam Styers, Laura Mae Harris

Military List:

Tiffany Erwin, Derek Bradley, Kevin Bradley



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



February 05. Paige Young
February 09. Marie Beard
February 10. Carson Bowlin

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

February 12.Mike & Sheila King



THANK YOU NOTE

You don't know how much I have enjoyed the cards, visits, food; the soups were so good. The prayers, we all need that, sick or not. I can't walk good yet but am so much better. I get around the house real good. Your church is very thoughtful. Maurine Drummond

BABY SHOWER



A baby shower is planned for Erica Crotts Sunday, February 14th, from 2:00-3:30 at the fellowship building.

Martin and Erica are expecting a boy in early April.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Kim Clayton for being chosen Union County 2015-2016 District Teacher of the Year! Kim teaches Biology and Chemistry at West Union School.

CARE GROUP MEETS

Care Group 3 (Greg Clayton's group) will meet Sun. Feb. 7th, after morning services at the fellowship building to put together Care Baskets.

LADS TO LEADERS

All youth participating in Lads to Leaders will meet every Sun. at 4:00pm for practice, unless otherwise advised.

FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY

February 28th!

I've Learned...

It's smart to pick your friends- - but not to pieces.



"The family, through God's eyes, as SEEN in 2016!"



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

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

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
Office534-4649

ELDERS

Richard Jennings316-1305
Troy Robertson316-3163

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.....Brad Pounders
A.M. Prayer.....Jason Jennings
Closing Prayer.....Perry Jones
P.M. Prayer.....Harold Russell
ClosingBobby Marques
Wed.2/10.....Dillon Clayton
Wed.2/10.....Troy Robertson
Usher & Lock...Lonnie Weaver
Greeter.....G & K Clayton

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....116
Sunday A.M.....135
Sunday P. M.....102
Wednesday.....104
Contribution.....\$4,047.60
Budget.....\$4,037.54

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Prime the Pump

A thirsty man crossing the desert stumbled upon a well with an old-fashioned hand-operated pump. Hanging on the pump handle was a small jar of water with a crude sign: "Prime the pump first and it'll give you all the water you need. Then leave the jar full of water so the next traveler can prime the pump."



The man was so thirsty that he was tempted to gulp down the water and ignore the sign. Finally, he decided to pour half the water into the pump handle. Sure enough, after a few minutes, the water expanded the seal in the pump handle and he began to pump up an ample supply of clear, cold water. He went away with his thirst quenched and his canteen filled as well.

Being a faithful steward is something like priming the pump. When we take our eyes off ourselves and think about the needs of others, we are inevitably blessed in the process. One of the great joys of life is to be a pump primer in the cause of Christ.

~ Bulletin Fodder ~



PANTRY ITEMS

Dish Detergent