



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

March 21, 2017

If Walls Could Talk

Mike King



During the past 54 years, I have spoken in hundreds of pulpits in the U.S. and around the world. The thought has crossed my mind when mounting these pulpits of the many great preachers who stood where I stand. The men were great men of God, but their message was of greater significance. The needs of man have been virtually unchanged during this span of time. If walls could talk, what would they say? In my judgment, they would stress three things:

- The lost condition of mankind without Christ. Man is full of sin (Rom. 3:23) regardless of his nationality or status in life (Rom. 3:9). Stress would be given to the fall-out from sin. It separates us from God (Isa. 59:1-2) and pays its rewards with deathly wages (Rom. 6:23). The solution would certainly ring loud and long in the rafters of these meeting places. The blood of Christ would be held in high esteem in that it is the only agent powerful enough to remove the sins mentioned earlier (Matt. 26:28), which is contacted in baptism (Acts 22:16).
- We would hear the truth spoken in love if walls could talk. God intended for the Lord's servants to have a love for mankind. We are expected to love our neighbor (Matt. 19:19; 22:39) regardless of how lovely he/she might be. Sometimes that love will be directed toward our enemies (Matt. 5:44), but more often toward our friends (Jn. 15:13). We must speak the truth in love for God as well. It is to be strong enough to employ our heart, soul and mind (Matt. 22:37). This love is more than making sacrifices and offerings, but using our whole heart (Mk. 12:33). We too express it by our love for the truth of God's Word (2 Thess. 2:10-12).
- Those walls would tell us, if they could talk, to go preach the Word. It is a command of God to do so (Matt. 28:19-20), even into the whole world (Mk. 16:15-16). The Bible is replete with examples of it being done. Jesus did so in His sermon on the mount (Matt. 5-7), Peter did so on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38) and the apostles went everywhere daily preaching the Word (Acts 5:42).

We must remember that walls cannot talk. Products sell themselves when presented with proper representation, enthusiasm and sincerity. If walls could talk, they would proclaim that the message needs us!

A Gift From the Scrap Pile

Charles Darrow was out of work and as poor as a pauper during the Depression, But he kept a smile on his face and a sparkle in his eye. He didn't want his wife, expecting their first child, to be discouraged; so every night when he returned to their little apartment after standing in the unemployment lines all day, he would tell her funny stories about the things he had seen - or imagined.

Darrow was a clever man, and he was always coming up with notions that made people laugh. Darrow knew how powerfully his own attitude affected his wife. His temperament was the color his wife used to paint her mood. If he came home weary and irritable, her spirits fell, and her smile vanished. On the other hand, if she heard him whistling a merry tune as he climbed the many flights of stairs up to their tiny rooms, she would fling open the door and scamper out to the railing to lean over and smile at him as he wound his way up the staircase. They fed on the gift of each other's joy.

In his younger years, Darrow had enjoyed happy family vacations in nearby Atlantic City, and he drew on those memories to keep his spirits high. He developed a little game on a square piece of cardboard. Around the edges he drew a series of "properties" named after the streets and familiar places he had visited during those pleasant childhood summers. He carved little houses and hotels out of scraps of wood, and as he and his young wife played the game each evening, they pretended to be rich, buying and selling property and "building" homes and hotels like extravagant tycoons. On those long, dark evenings, that impoverished apartment was filled with the sound of laughter.

Charles Darrow didn't set out to become a millionaire when he developed "Monopoly", a game that was later marketed around the world by Parker Brothers, but that's what happened. The little gift he developed from scraps of cardboard and tiny pieces of wood he had obtained from a scrap pile was simply a way to keep his wife's spirits up during her Depression-era pregnancy; ultimately, that gift came back to him as bountiful riches.

Monopoly is still being sold by the thousands more than 70 years later. Every time I think of those little green houses and red hotels, the unusual game pieces, and those "get out of jail free" cards that made us all race around the board to pass "Go" and collect \$200, I see an example of shared joy. Isn't that our whole purpose here on earth? To share the joy of knowing Christ and the salvation that comes only through Him? Let's make sure that is what people are seeing when they look at our lives. After all, we don't have a "Monopoly" on salvation. It's for EVERYONE!!

~ For His Cause, Tim Woodward

AREA EVENTS

- The ladies of the Hwy 15 Church of Christ in Pontotoc invite you to their Ladies Day, Sat. April 1st. The guest speaker will be *Brooke McNutt*. Registration begins at 9:00 and the program at 9:30. Lunch will be provided.
- Ladies' Day is scheduled for Sat. March 25th, at the Hillcrest Church of Christ in Baldwyn. The guest speaker will be *Jamie Grissom*. Registration begins at 9:30. Lunch will be provided.
- Christian Chapel Church of Christ invites you to their Ladies Day April 29th. The guest speaker will be *Cynthia Dianne Guy* and *Judi Davis Dean*.
- Area Wide Youth Meeting at the Gloster St. Church of Christ date has been changed from April 9th to the 2nd.
- New Albany Church of Christ Gospel Meeting with Bill Irby, April 2nd-5th. Everyone Invited!

Afraid of the Dark

A little boy was afraid of the dark. One night his mother told him to go out to the back porch and bring her the broom. The little boy turned to his mother and said, "Mama, I don't want to go out there. It's dark."

The mother smiled reassuringly at her son. "You don't have to be afraid of the dark," she explained. "Jesus is out there, He'll look after you and protect you."

The little boy looked at his mother real hard and asked, "Are you sure he's out there?"

"Yes, I'm sure. He is everywhere, and He is always ready to help you when you need Him," she said.

The little boy thought about that for a minute and then went to the back door and cracked it a little. Peering out into the darkness, he called, "Jesus? If you're out there, would you please hand me the broom?"

~ author unknown

PRAYER LIST



Johnny Lee, 4 year old great-nephew of *Mike & Sheila King* was diagnosed this past week with acute lymphoblastic B cell leukemia. He has already begun chemo and his treatments may last 3 years. The next few weeks will be very hard on him.

Betty Young has been placed on a different medication for her lung infection. Hopefully she will be able to tolerate this medicine. She is slowly improving.

Nancy Petrowski, daughter of *Harold & Deloris Crowe*, will return to Vanderbilt for some extensive tests later this week.

Barbara Raines, sister of *Linda Palmer*, is under Hospice Care and not doing well.

Sympathy: We express our deepest sympathy to *Dixie White* and family in the death of her sister **Faye Montgomery**, who passed away Wed. night March 15th. Visitation will be Fri. night, March 24th, at the Memphis Funeral Home on Poplar Rd. Funeral services are set for 10:00am Sat. March 25th, at the same location. Burial will be at the Chapman Church of Christ Cemetery in Ripley MS at 1:00pm, Sat., March 25th.

Continue to Remember:

Wade Chism, Todd Coleman, Liz Collins, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Preeble Foster, Ray Franks, Jacqueline Golden, Linda Griggs, Pam Hall, Donna Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Laura Hollowell, Shane Hutton, Taylor Kirk, Dean Long, Cliff Sanders, Kayla Thomas, Sheila Thomas, Judy Ward, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Grace Anderson, Genice Collett, Wanda DeLoach, Jean Drummond, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Cornelia Kennedy, Betty Lang, Mary Frances Reid, Price & Claudia Senter, Ione Wall

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley & Chase Seals

I've Learned...

It is not by doing the things we like, but by liking the things we do that we discover life's blessings. (Goethe)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- March 23. Isabella McMillen
- March 27. Mary Martin Crotts
- March 28. Roger Clayton
- March 29. Caleb Jennings

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- March 24. J.D. & Sue Stroud



THANK YOU

To my Christian family,

Your concern and your care for me and for Terry these last few weeks means so much to me. We sincerely appreciate those of you who brought food. It was all delicious! Please continue to keep us in your prayers and that I may tolerate the medication well.
I love you all, Betty Young

GOSPEL MEETING

Our Gospel Meeting is planned for April 2nd-5th, with Bill Irby of Athens, AL, as our guest speaker. Sunday April 2nd, we will have a potluck meal following our morning services. Our evening service will be at 6:00pm. Mon.- Wed. our service times will be at 7:00pm. A meal will be hosted by the adult classes Monday—Wednesday evenings at 5:45. Our service time Mon.-Wed. will be at 7:00pm. Please be inviting your friends and neighbors to join us.



What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10: 13-17)
2. Believe the Gospel (Acts 15:7; Mark 16:15, 16)
3. Repent of Sins (Acts 3:19)
4. Confess Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37)
5. Be Baptized for the Remission of Sins (Acts 2:38)
6. Be Faithful (Revelation 2:10)

OUR DREAM:

To become better friends with God in 2017!

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
 Office 534-4649

ELDERS

Richard Jennings316-1305
 Troy Robertson316-3163

DEACONS

Greg Clayton252-9762
 Roger Clayton 538-8195
 Randy Wall 316-9255
 Lonnie Weaver801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Dean Dillard
 A.M. Prayer.....Jim Gann
 Closing Prayer..Hunter Jennings
 P.M. Prayer.....Paul Ormon
 ClosingRuston Adams
 Wed.3/29.....Terry Stubblefield
 Wed.3/29.....Kevin Simmons
 Usher & Lock.....Greg Clayton

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....106
 Sunday A.M.....143
 Sunday P. M.....105
 Wednesday.....86
 Contribution.....\$3,789.00
 Budget.....\$4,385.16



PANTRY ITEMS

Soup

THE INFORMER

March 12, 2017

Volume 12

THE INFORMER (USPS 581-500)
 Church of Christ
 511 Hwy. 15 South, P.O. Box 148
 New Albany, Mississippi 38652
 (662)534-4649

Periodical
 Postage Paid
 New Albany, MS

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
 (Form 3579) to: The Informer, P.O. Box
 148, New Albany, MS 38652

A Month Of Sundays

Many times we make a decision that we are going to do a better job in a specific area of our spiritual lives only to either not get started or quit before it becomes a habit. Why not try the thirty day test or a Month of Sundays? Help not only make yourself better, but this congregation a better place to worship. Try these things for the next month:

1. Attend every Bible class and worship service.
2. Be on time.
3. Improve your attitude.
4. Have a plan for saving those who are lost.
5. Encourage and restore the spiritually weak and fallen.
6. Visit the sick and shut-in.
7. Associate with fellow Christians.
8. Be hospitable to our visitors at our services.
9. Encourage our young parents.
10. Seek to improve our worship services.
11. Study God's Word.
12. Spend time every day in prayer.
13. Do something nice for someone without expecting anything in return.
14. Say something positive to a fellow Christian who is struggling.
15. Ask yourself, "What would Jesus do if confronted with this situation?"

If you were to do these things as you have/make the opportunity, you will be amazed at the change that will take place in your life. Are you willing to make changes in your life for better? Then try the "Month of Sundays Test"!!! ~ For His Cause, Tim Woodward