



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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April 30, 2013

Lay Aside Every Weight

Mike King



The Hebrew writer was very definite when he instructed his readers to “*lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us*” (Heb. 12:2).

Sin is so capable of causing us to be thrown off course. James said it has the potential for drawing us away (Jas. 1:14). Other terms like “enticed” and “ensnared” are used to describe sin’s affect on us. Also, when we are burdened with “weight” the work of the Lord suffers. Whether weighted by sin or any other element that has the potential for preventing us from living the Christian life or finishing our task here, needs to be dumped!

The disposition of Paul was to always be looking forward and pressing for something better (Phil. 3:14). He strove to put the past behind him and allow nothing to interfere with his primary objective of being a slave with total commitment to his Lord.

David indicated that there are some burdens that we are entitled to carry, “*Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits, the God of our salvation!*” (Ps. 68:19). We must always qualify what we are doing and that which is allowed to impact our lives to see if it is for our betterment or serves as a negative.

With the present condition of our national economic situation, people are being forced to eliminate excess and unnecessary expenditures and debt. This may be good in that it forces us to give due emphasis to necessities and not luxuries. We eliminate unnecessary driving to save fuel. We take a second look at acquiring additional debt because of how it may impact our future. This works both for individual family budgets as well as the congregational efforts of the Lord’s church.

Have you ever made the statement, “I look forward to the time that when we go out to eat that the first thing we do not look at on the menu is the price”? Our Lord taught us to always “*sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it*” (Lk. 14:28). There is never a time, nor do we have permission, to be wasteful with our time, life, or possessions. We are to always present ourselves before God as good stewards, responsible, and mindful of proper management of God’s possessions. When a ship is taking on water, first dispose of excess weight, then, when being forced to swim ashore, make sure we do not insist on salvaging our work-out weights!

THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF MAY

Announcements: Lonnie Weaver
Sound Room: Chris Smithey
Usher: Michael Crotts

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

Sunday Prayers:

May 5:
A.M. Bill Frohn
Gary Turner
P.M. Brad Pounders
Clay Ormon
May 12:
A.M. Phil Young
Terry Young
P.M. Bill Botts
Richard Adams
May 19:
A.M. Roger Clayton
Phillip Young
P.M. Andy Clemmer
Ruston Adams
May 26:
A.M. J. L. Eaton
Harold Crowe
P.M. Dan Cobb
Olen Clark

Lord's Supper:

North Head: Randy Wall
North Helper I: Steve Todd
North Helper II: Shane Crotts

South Head: Harold Russell
South Helper I: Greg Clayton
South Helper II: Cody Clemmer

Scripture Reading:

May 5—Terry Stubblefield
May 12—Burrell Walton
May 19—Will Bowlin
May 23—David Clayton

Wednesday Prayers:

May 1—Tyler Weaver; Harold Russell
May 8—Dillon Clayton; Thomas Wall
May 15—Drew Drummond; Bobby White
May 22—Jerry Gibson; Daniel Drummond
May 29—Jason Jennings; Ronnie Griggs

Greeters:

May 5—Richard & Kathy Jennings
May 12—Troy & Novene Robertson
May 19—Bill & Nancy Frohn
May 26—Harold & Deloris Crowe

Usher & Lock:

May 5—Lonnie Weaver
May 12—Greg Clayton
May 19—Roger Clayton
May 26—Harold Russell

Prepare Communion: Kaye & Jodi Parks

Host Youth Devo: Greg & Kim Clayton

This Student Got an A+

Since the Pledge of Allegiance and the Lord's Model Prayer are not allowed in most public schools anymore because the word God is mentioned, a student in Arizona wrote the:



New Pledge of Allegiance:

Now I sit me down in school
Where praying is against the rule
For this great nation under God
Finds mention of Him very odd.

If scripture now the class recites,
It violates the Bill of Rights.
And anytime my head I bow
Becomes a Federal matter now.

Our hair can be purple, orange, or green,
That's no offense; it's a freedom scene.
The law is specific, the law is precise.
Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.

We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,
And pierce our noses, tongues, and cheeks...
They've outlawed guns, but first the Bible.
To quote the Good Book makes me liable.

We can get condoms and birth controls,
Study witchcraft, vampires, and totem poles,
But the Ten Commandments are not allowed,
No word of God must reach this crowd.

It's scary here I must confess,
When chaos reigns the school's a mess.
So, Lord, this silent plea I make:
Should I be shot; My soul please take!

"Righteousness exalteth a nation" Proverbs 14:34 ~ Via Jacksonville, AL Church of Christ bulletin



PRAYER LIST

Judy Ward, sister of *Paul Ormon* is in the Baptist Hospital in Collierville undergoing rehab. She suffers from MS.

Tauso Branch is at home recovering but remains very weak.

Margret Reeves, sister of *Grace Lyon* has been in the Tupelo Hospital but is expected to return to the nursing home in the next few days.

Ruie Harmon, friend of the *Weavers* is recovering from surgery.

Continual Prayer :

Dan Wood, Eleta Grimmett, Pat Reed, Margie Barkley, Linda Griggs, Wendell Cary, Melissa Reed, Marie Beard, Rivers Robertson, Ruth Brown, Barry Yancey, Jennie Frohn, Randy Dunnam, Jack Dunlap, Diane Sloan, Rosie Wilson, Tauso Branch, Prebble Foster, Tony Cross, Norman Brown, Al Pless, Shane Crotts, Terry & Betty Young

Shut-Ins:

Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Teresa Clark

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Mattie Golden, Amy Vest, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb

Military List:

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

THANK YOU

Church of Christ Family,

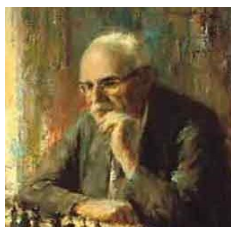
J. D. and I thank you all for your thoughts, prayers, visits and calls in the death of our brother Steve and brother-in-law Vannoy. We love and appreciate you all more than you know.

In Christian Love, Sue Stroud

God is like:

VO-5

He holds through all kinds of weather.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- May 03. Anderson Parks
- May 04. Ruston Adams
- May 04. Brandi McCullough
- May 07. Randy Wall
- May 07. Ashlee Weaver

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- May 02. Will & Sallye Bowlin



“BLESSING BAGS”

Mrs. *April Pounders*’ 1st and 2nd grade class have been studying “Friends of Jesus”. They would like to put together some bags called “Blessing Bags”. These will be used by DHS when they have to pick up children. We are asking the congregation to help bring some items or you may give money to *April* to help buy the needed items. Her class will be putting these bags together. Many of these children have nothing to call their own when taken from their home. The social workers also spend a lot of their personal money to help these kids. Items should be able to fit into a gallon zip-lock bag. Some possible items: colors, coloring books, toy cars or other boy toys, lip gloss, bracelets etc. (girl things), \$5 McDonald cards, toothbrushes, small toothpaste, deodorant, brushes & combs, pony tail holders and hair barrettes. A container will be placed in the foyer.

CHURCH PICNIC

The annual congregational picnic is scheduled for Sat. May 18th at the home of *Randy* and *Christy Wall*. Please sign the list in the foyer if you plan to attend.



A time will be announced later. Mark this date on your calendar!

AREA EVENTS

- **Seminar on the Mount** with *Matthew Benfield* will be held May 5th-8th at the **Pontotoc church of Christ**. Check the bulletin board for details.
- A **Gospel Meeting** will be held May 5th-8th with *Garland Robinson* as guest speaker, at the **Nettleton Church of Christ**. **Area Wide Youth** will meet at Nettleton Sun. at 6:30pm.

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
 Harold Russell 534-4648
 Randy Wall 316-9255
 Lonnie Weaver..... 801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Terry Stubblefield
 A.M. Prayer.....Bill Frohn
 Closing Prayer.....Gary Turner
 P.M. Prayer.....Brad Pounders
 Closing.....Clay Ormon
 Wed 5/8.....Dillon Clayton
 Wed.5/8.....Thomas Wall
 Usher & Lock....Lonnie Weaver
 Greeter.....R & K Jennings

OUR RECORD

Sunday School..... 125
 Sunday A.M.....145
 Sunday P.M102
 Wednesday.....122
 Contribution.....\$3,876.75
 Budget.....\$3,817.55



PANTRY ITEM

Soup

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She Wears My Favorite Color

I love her dark brown hair with the auburn/caramel highlights. But that's not my favorite color.

I enjoy looking into her sparkling brown eyes. But that's not my favorite color.

I think her pale white porcelain skin is beautiful. But that's not my favorite color.

I like the various colors she wears, in particular the bright cheery ones. But those aren't my favorites.

My favorite color that she wears every day is the color of modesty. This week I'm enjoying the beautiful Virginia mountains, the birds singing, and the comfortable and slightly warming temperatures. With the arrival of Spring, it made my mind think of the topic of modesty.

It's time for proms, banquets, vacation planning, and summer attire. The temptation for every Christian is to wear the wrong "colors" and order their wardrobe and lives in the fashion of the world versus the holy fashion of godliness. Whether activity or attire, it's a guarantee that some Christians will act and look just like non-Christians.

Yet, the Bible says not to love the world (1 Jn. 2:15). God also tells us not to conform to the world, but to be transformed into the image of His dear Son (Rm. 12:1-2).

This week and the weeks to come, what color will you wear? Someone once said that "Modesty is the color of virtue." When someone looks at you, will they see a heart colored by virtue, or will they be forced to guess where you stand? Think about it.

~ Neil Richey