

THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

July 14, 2015

Write It in the Sand

Mike King



Some time ago, a friend sent me a most interesting little story that carries such profound meaning. Please pay close attention to the emphasis being given.

“A story tells of two friends who were walking through desert. During some point of the journey they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, wrote in the sand: ‘TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SLAPPED ME IN THE FACE.’ They kept on walking until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but the friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone: ‘TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SAVED MY LIFE.’ The friend who had slapped and saved his best friend asked him, ‘After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone, why?’ The other friend replied ‘When someone hurts us we should write it down in sand where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it.’ Learn to write your hurts in the sand and to carve your blessings in stone. They say it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them, but then an entire life to forget them.”

The importance of friendship is accentuated in the Bible. “*A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother*” and “*Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful*” (Prov. 18:24; 27:6). Friendship and anger cannot co-exist. The advice by Solomon was therefore to “*make no friendship with an angry man*” (Prov. 22:24). It makes good sense that we record all differences in the sand so they will not remain to cause anger. Jesus had to lay down His remembrances of injustices before He could find willingness to lay down His life for us (Jn. 15:13).

Friendship is not an accidental occurrence, but intentional and a cultivated relationship. Solomon instructed that “*A man who has friends must himself be friendly*” (Prov. 18:24). It is so important for us to understand that “*A friend loves at all times*” (Prov. 17:17). It would behoove each of us as Christians to make friends and put forth every effort to be loyal and keep them.

You'll Get Dizzy

A certain man was troubled with dizzy spells, redness in his face and bulging eyes. Every day when he went to his office, he experienced these things. Weekends were not so bad, so he concluded his work was causing his physical discomfort.

He went from one doctor to another and none could tell him what the problem was. He consulted psychiatrists, psychologists and psychics. What was wrong? Why was he constantly suffering from dizzy spells, redness in his face and bulging eyes?

He tried everything, it seemed. Nothing helped. He finally resigned himself to the fact that whatever was causing all this was fatal. It bothered him so much he began to lose weight. He couldn't sleep at night. He feared he would never overcome this. He became a nervous wreck and his health began to deteriorate. He had lost hope that he would ever recover.



He decided to prepare for the worst. He made out his will, bought a cemetery plot, instructed the preacher what he wanted at his funeral, and even made arrangements with the local undertaker. He was fully convinced of his soon demise. He even decided to buy a new suit of clothes in which to be buried.

When he went into the clothing store he was measured for everything. He picked out shoes, socks, coat, and pants. The sales person asked, "What size shirt will you be needing, sir?" "Size 15, please," he replied. The clerk said, "But, sir, I believe that is a bit small. Let me measure your neck size." After the measurement, the sales person said, "I'm sorry sir, but you will need a 16 1/2, not a size 15." But the man insisted, "No, I have worn a size 15 for years."

The sales person tried several times to convince his customer that he needed a 16 1/2, but the man would have nothing of it. Finally, the exasperated sales person said, "Well, sir, if you insist, we'll get out a size 15, but I must warn you, you will have dizzy spells, get red in the face, and your eyes will bulge out."

Some people are so set in their ways, they will never admit the obvious. Some are so unwilling to change they appear to prefer to remain spiritually without comfort. Long ago, a very wise men wrote:

"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise" (Prov. 12:15).

~ via Bulletin Fodder

BIBLE QUESTION:

What offering did Gideon present to the Lord under the oak tree?

Judges 6:19

AREA EVENTS

- Potts Camp Church of Christ will host a Gospel Meeting July 19th –22nd. Please check the bulletin board for a list of speakers. Tuesday night, July 21st, New Albany will be in charge of the service.
- A Ladies Day will be held Sat. July 18th beginning at 9:15am at the Oak Ridge Church of Christ in Baldwyn. Speakers will be *Brianna Hendrix* and *Tonya Hendrix*. Lunch will be served.
- Chapman Church of Christ invites you the their Lectureship July 26-29th. Their topic is "The Sin of Unbelief" A list of speakers is listed on the bulletin board. Sunday—Wednesday night at 7:00pm.
- Gloster St. Church of Christ invites you to "Faith Basics Youth Rally 2015" August 15th from 9:00 a.m.-2:00p.m.

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

PRAYER LIST



John Todd, father of Steve Todd is not doing well. His kidneys are failing.

Sean Thompson, brother-in-law of *Andy & Sharon Clemmer* remains in the Tupelo Hospital after suffering a massive stroke. He is now out of an induced coma and showing signs of improvement.

Grace Lyon is improving slowly from broken ribs.

Deborah Elliott, friend of *Perry & Gloria Jones* remains at Baptist Desoto Hospital, but is improving.

Continue to Remember:

Brad Bogue, Timmy Bolden, Larry Cobb, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Jackie Dodd, Jimmy Dye, John Elliott, Justin Forsyth, Preeble Foster, Sonny Gay, Natalie Griffin, Donna Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Shane Hutton, Judy Kirk, Lonnie Parker, Nancy Petrowski, Wayne Reams, Troy Robertson, Whit Robertson, Lisa Russell, Sheila Thomas, Judy Ward, Chris Windham, Andy Ulmer, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

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

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Betty Lang, Miriam Styers, Grace Anderson, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris

Military List:

Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud

Bible Verses To Remember

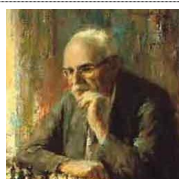
“The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.”

Proverbs 18: 10



I've Learned...

The Bible is meant to be bread for daily use, not cake for special occasions.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



July 21Ione Wall
July 22.....Hunter Jennings
July 22.....Matt Jennings
July 22..... Jason McMillen

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

July 25..... Bobby & Dixie White

RESPONSE

Tyler Weaver responded to the invitation last Wednesday while at Horizons. He said he had sin in his life that he needed forgiveness for and asked for prayers. We commend *Tyler* on his courage and dedication to live as Christ would have him to live.

THANK YOU NOTE

Thanks to our church family for the calls, visits, and most of all for the prayers during my sickness. Also, for the prayers for my sister *Anne Wilson*, and for all the support we received during her illness and death. We are so blessed to be a part of this church.

In Christian Love, *Grace & Bill Lyon*

3RD SUNDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

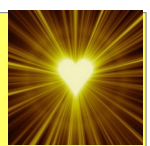
There will be a fellowship supper Sunday night July 19th, following services. You are asked to bring finger foods and home-made ice cream. The adult II class will be in charge of the fellowship building. Make plans to stay and enjoy a time of fellowship and good food!



YOUTH NEWS

- Area Wide Youth Meeting is Sun. night, July 19th, at Zion Rest Church of Christ. The van will leave at 5:30pm.
- Youth: Please give your money for the canoe trip to *Randy Wall* before leaving on Thurs. 23.

**Christ Living in Me...
To Be Seen in 2015!**



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 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.....Michael Crotts
 A.M. Prayer.....Phillip Young
 Closing Prayer.....Thomas Wall
 P.M. PrayerGreg Harrison
 ClosingCaleb Jennings
 Wed.7/22.....Paul Ormon
 Wed.7/22.....Jerry Grimmett
 Usher & LockGreg Clayton
 Greeter.....S & L Todd

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....116
 Sunday A.M.....139
 Sunday P. M.....95
 Wednesday.....101
 Contribution.....\$3,804.00
 Budget.....\$3,984.46



PANTRY ITEMS

Crackers

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When You Make an Error

“If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous” (1 John 1:10-2:1).

In 1986, Bob Brenley was playing third base for the San Francisco Giants. In the fourth inning of a game against the Atlanta Braves, Brenley made an error on a routine ground ball. Four batters later he kicked away another grounder. And then while he was scrambling after the ball, he threw wildly past home plate, trying to get the runner there.



Two errors on the same play. A few minutes later he muffed yet another play to become the first player in the twentieth century to make four errors in one inning.

Now, those of us who have made very public errors in one situation or another can easily imagine how he felt during that long walk off the field at the end of that inning. But then, in the bottom of the fifth, Brenley hit a home run. Then, in the seventh, he hit a bases-loaded single, driving in two runs and tying the game. Then, in the bottom of the ninth, Brenley came up to bat again, with two outs. He ran the count to three and two and then hit a massive home run into the left field seats to win the game for the Giants. Brenley’s score card for that day came to three hits and five at bats, two home runs, four errors, four runs allowed, four runs driven in, including the game-winning run. (From *“A Theology of Baseball,”* Tape No. 115)

Life is much like that mentioned above regarding Bob Brenley. When we sin, we should never give up or lose heart, but should repent, pick ourselves up, and strive to do better.

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