



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

July 26, 2016

When Does It Become My Turn?

Mike King



There were two elderly women whose conversation was over-heard by some mall-walkers. One was riding in a wheelchair, being pushed by the other. The passenger said, “When you get tired, we’ll trade.”

There is a biblical principle hiding out in this humorous anecdote. There will be times in the Lord’s church when one is weak and the other strong or will be problem free. The situation can reverse and help is needed rather than extended.

Carl G. Conner observed something similar during a North Carolina blizzard. Along the roadway were rows of large pine trees with the tops bending low from being laden by the heavy snow. He noticed that the trees with trees next to them were able to bow their limbs to rest on the neighboring trees for support. The “community of trees” sustained the tremendous weight while trees standing alone would droop, bend, and eventually break under the excessive burden having no support. He said, “One is reminded of the importance of standing together in the time of storm. There is strength in leaning one against another.

God knew the nature of man so very well and has put into place so many sources of support for the Christian. The very concept of the “one body having many members” validates my conclusion. The book, *Healing the Masculine Soul*, written by *Gordon Dalbey*, says that when Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as the Helper, he uses a Greek word, *paraclete* that was an ancient warrior’s term. “Greek soldiers went into battle in pairs,” says *Dalbey*, “so when the enemy attacked, they could draw together back-to-back, covering each other’s blind side. One’s battle partner was the *paraclete*.”

Jesus set the standard and raised the bar in terms of support and responsibility to be shown towards our fellowman. Bearing one another’s burdens is considered to be the “law of Christ” (Gal. 6:2). Isaiah said, “*He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows*” (Isa. 53:4). We are truly like Christ (Christ-likeness) and become our brother’s *paraclete*, or cover, as we do battle against the onslaught of sin. We must make sure our brother feels secure with that coverage!

AM I GLAD TO BE IN GOD'S HOUSE?

Recently in our worship on Sunday evening, I listened to a prayer of a senior saint asking God to help us come to a time when our attendance was equal at all services. It's been a while since I heard such a prayer and desire expressed before the Father. Why is there such a disparity?

What is it that makes one assembly more appealing to some than others? Is there something missing (other than people) in some of our assemblies that makes them less of a draw for the saints?

Isn't it important for us to reflect "why do I go to some but not all of the services?" Is it a spiritual reason? Is it a stewardship thing? Is it that I feel that my needs are not being met? Did I worship, praise, pray, admonish, encourage, all that I needed to?

We all have busy lives. No one has a schedule less than crammed to maximum capacity. Yet, some folks still find time, energy, and desire to meet together for Bible study and worship every time the saints meet.

The writer of Hebrews told us to "*provoke one another to love and good works.*" He tells us to be careful not to grow derelict in meeting together. (Hebrews 10:24,25). Paul reminds us twice, not to grow weary in doing good (Gal. 6:9; 2 Thess. 3:13). Isaiah preached to an obstinate people who had lost their fervor for service and worship to God. God's words through Isaiah were stern and heartbreaking. God showed just how selfish Israel had become: (Isaiah 43:23,24).

We cannot say that everyone who worships four or five times per week at the church building is a spiritual giant. However, knowing that it is good to be in the house of the Lord, shouldn't I develop a desire to be there as much as I can? David showed a righteous attitude "*I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.*" (Psa. 122:1).

I echo the prayer of that older brother; that we would all desire to be with the Lord more often. Let us find joy and desire to be in the Lord's presence. "*For a day in the courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.*" (Psa. 84:10-12). Take time to read Psalm 27:4
~ Adapted, bulletin Digest, Joseph Chase, via Bridgeport Proclaimer, 7/13/16

What Do You Call It?

Man calls it an accident;
God call it an abomination.
Man calls it a blunder;
God calls it blindness.
Man calls it a defect;
God calls it a disease.
Man calls it a chance;
God calls it a choice.
Man calls it an error;
God calls it an enmity.
Man calls it a fascination;
God calls it a fatality.
Man calls it an infirmity;
God calls it an iniquity.
Man calls it a luxury;
God calls it leprosy.
Man calls it a liberty;
God calls it lawlessness.
Man calls it a trifle;
God calls it tragedy.
Man calls it a mistake;
God calls it willfulness.
Man calls it a weakness;
God calls it willfulness.

Paint Specks

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us." -1 John 1:9

Pushing a paint roller high over head had produced a shower of fine droplets that left tiny white specks on my glasses. Although they were noticeable to others, I was not aware of them. But one morning as I came to work, the angle of the bright sunlight through the lenses of my glasses suddenly made those tiny specks visible and irritating.

So it is with some of our small moral imperfections.

Others can see them, but we can't. Then, as we study God's Word, the "true Light" of the Lord Jesus Christ shines on us, and our moral flaws become alarmingly visible. His pure character, genuine love, and unmixed motives show up specks of sinfulness in everything we do. Little white lies, selfish anger, small hypocrisies, and muddy motives stand out vividly. And they are in all of us to a greater or lesser extent.

How perceptive was the apostle John! He wrote, "*If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves*" (1 John 1:8). But thank God, he also said, "*If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous*" (2: 1). When we confess our sins, He pleads on our behalf before the Father.

When we confess our shortcomings, God cleanses us from all unrighteousness-even those tiny specks that we don't always see.
-D.J.D.



PRAYER LIST



Carl Smith has not been feeling well the past couple weeks and not able to be out.

B. A. Stubblefield, father of Terry Stubblefield underwent bladder surgery July 15th. His test results showed no cancer. He will be checked every 3 months.

Hayes Simpson, great nephew of Paul & Maria Ormon remains in Le Bonheur Hospital.

Jean (Rogers) Simmons, had surgery Monday, July 18th, in Texas, to remove a pelvic mass. She is now at home recovering. Her test results did show cancer but the doctors believe they got it all. She may undergo chemo treatments.

Nicole Boyd, friend of Kaye Parks has been bedridden due to difficulties with her pregnancy. She is scheduled to deliver the baby Tuesday, July 26th.

Continue to Remember:

Ricky Adams, Nicole Boyd, Wade Chism, Todd Coleman, Liz Collins, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Bill DePriest, Jackie Dodd, Gene Dowdy, Preeble Foster, Ray Franks, Lana Gann, Sonny Gay, Pam Hall, Donna Haynes, Phillip Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Mayola Holley, Shane Hutton, Carolyn Jernigan, Alfred Jones, Judy Kirk, Perry Lepard, Harold Russell, Mayna Senter, Anna Claire Stokes, Sheila Thomas, Ed Walker, Judy Ward, Nicki Weaver, Chris Windham, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

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

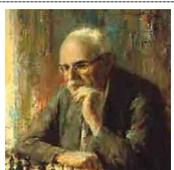
Military List:

Derek Bradley, Kevin Bradley



I've Learned...

“The genuine measure of your character is your behavior when nobody is looking. P.S. God is always looking.”



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



July 27..... Dixie White
August 03..... Ray Kennedy
August 05..... Martin Crotts



THANK YOU

Your sharing in our sorrow over the loss of our father and grandfather helped to ease our grief.

Love, Janet Drummond & Family

I want you to know I've thought a lot about Care Team 3. I appreciate all you did. It really gave me a lift. Thank all the people of the church for their prayers. I don't know of anyone who does not need prayers. I'm sending this (donation) in memory of Janet's father and Drew and Daniel's grandfather, Mr. Camp. He was good to them.

Maurine Drummond

5TH SUNDAY

Our 5th Sunday services will be held July 31st. A meal will follow morning services. Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish and enjoy a time of fellowship before our afternoon service, which will begin at 1:15, and be led by our young men. Be sure to stay and support these fine young men. The adult 2 class will be in charge of the fellowship building.



AREA EVENTS

- Chapman church of Christ Lectureship July 31-Aug. 3, 2016, at 7:00pm each evening. They will have a different speaker each evening. Check the bulletin board for more details.
Gospel Meeting at the Coffeerville Church of Christ is scheduled for July 31-Aug. 3rd with guest speaker, Allen Drewrey. Mon.-Wed. nights at 7:00pm

“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
 Office 534-4649

ELDERS

Richard Jennings316-1305
 Troy Robertson316-3163

DEACONS

Greg Clayton252-9762
 Roger Clayton 538-8195
 Brad Pounders.....316-7931
 Harold Russell..... 507-1180
 Randy Wall 316-9255
 Lonnie Weaver801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Michael Crotts
 A.M. Prayer.....Tyler Weaver
 Closing Prayer..Richard Adams
 P.M. Prayer.....Youth
 ClosingYouth
 Wed.7/27.....Anderson Parks
 Wed.7/27.....Alvin Parks
 Usher & Lock....Roger Clayton

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....111
 Sunday A.M.....129
 Sunday P. M.....100
 Wednesday.....89
 Contribution.....\$4,399.31
 Budget.....\$4,037.54



PANTRY ITEMS

Pantry Full

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The Church in Their Hands

During Bible classes, an elder walked down the hall between the classrooms. As he passed by one of the elementary classes he heard two youngsters talking in very serious tones.

“Watch it, Bobby!”

“What?”

“You’ve got the church in your hands!”

Before he looked further into the situation, the elder noticed that Bobby had a model of a church building that has been put together with great delicacy and care. It was a very delicate model and Bobby wasn’t treating it so carefully. His classmate sternly reminded him of something he considered important.

What about that? Who has the church, not a model of it, but the church here at New Albany, in hand? We all know the answer to that.

The church of today is growing older in age. As we all reach the end of our earthly journey we should be more concerned than ever what will happen in the coming generations, should the Lord extend time.

There is a sentiment found in the Psalms that reflect the right procedure.

“Walk about Zion, and go round about her; number the towers thereof; mark ye well her bulwarks; consider her palaces that ye may tell it to the generation following” (Psa. 48:13-14). Never let be our fate that which befell Israel. “And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers; and there arose another generation after them that knew not Jehovah, nor yet the work which he had wrought for Israel” (Judges 2:10).

When you think about it, these thoughts should impress parents with the task of being sure your children are faithfully in Bible study, worship, and family devotions. Pray and study at home regularly. Be faithful in attendance of Bible class and worship. I can think of nothing that offers more assurance that the hands into which we pass the church in the next generation will be well qualified to take good care of it. But we of this generation sure have a serious obligation.

Adapted -- DRS