



# THE INFORMER

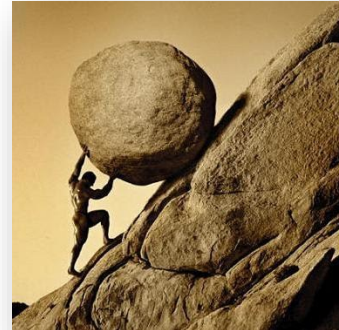
Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

[www.nacoc.us](http://www.nacoc.us)

August 11, 2020

## A MODERN-DAY PARABLE

Author Unknown



A man was sleeping one night in his cabin when suddenly his room filled with light, and God appeared. The Lord told the man he had work for him to do, and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin. The Lord explained that the man was to push against the rock with all his might... So, this the man did, day after day. For many years he toiled from sunup to sundown, his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmovable rock, pushing with all his might! Each night the man returned to his cabin sore and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain.

Since the man was showing discouragement, the Adversary (Satan) decided to enter the picture by placing thoughts into his tired mind: (He will do it every time)! "You have been pushing against that rock for a long time and it hasn't moved." Thus, he gave the man the impression that the task was impossible and that he was a failure. These thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man. Satan said, "Why kill yourself over this? Just put in your time, giving just the minimum effort; and that will be good enough."

That's what the weary man planned to do, but decided to make it a matter of prayer and to take his troubled thoughts to The Lord. "Lord," he said, "I have labored long and hard in Your Service, putting all my strength to do that which you have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged that rock by half a millimeter. What is wrong? Why am I failing?"

The Lord responded compassionately, "My friend, when I asked you to serve Me and you accepted, I told you that your task was to *push* against the rock with all of your strength, which you have done. Never once did I mention to you that I expected you to *move* it. Your task was to *push*. And now you come to Me with your strength spent, thinking that you have failed. But, is that really so? Look at yourself. Your arms are strong and muscled, your back shiny and brown; your hands are calloused from constant pressure, your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have grown much, and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. True, you haven't moved the rock. But your calling was to be obedient and to push and to exercise your Faith and trust in My Wisdom. That you have done. Now I, my friend, will move the rock."

At times, when following God, we tend to use our own intellect to decipher what He wants, when actually what God wants is just simple obedience and faith in Him. By all means, exercise the Faith that moves mountains, but know that it is still God Who moves The Mountains.

- When everything seems to go wrong.....Just P.U.S.H
- When the job gets you down.....Just P.U.S.H.
- When people don't do as you think they should.....Just P.U.S.H.
- When your money is gone and the bills are due.....Just P.U.S.H.
- When people just don't understand you.....Just P.U.S.H.

*P*-ray *U*-ntil *S*-omething *H*-appens

## “DON’T WORRY ABOUT IT”

We've all said it, right? Perhaps someone has offended us. We say, "It's okay, don't worry about it." Maybe someone opened his car door and bumped ours—"Don't worry about it," we say.

Yet the fact of the matter is, sometimes we do worry about things. However, Jesus tells us not to worry (Mt 6:25-34)—easier said than done, I know. Here are three ideas that will strengthen our hearts when we're challenged by worry.

### Realize that Some Things are Beyond Your Control

Jesus asked, “*And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit unto the measure of his life?*” (Mt. 6:27—ASV). Name one thing good that worrying has accomplished. I heard it described this way, “Worry is like a rocking horse, it gives you something to do, but it never gets you anywhere.”



There are at least three general categories of life that people worry about, but have absolutely no control over: 1) things that have already happened, 2) things that must happen, and 3) things that will never happen. With respect to category number one, you cannot undo the past—do not worry about it (Phil. 3:13-14). If sin is involved, obtain God’s forgiveness then forgive yourself and move on. If category number two is the problem, prepare for things that must happen, then let them come. If it is category three, remember that life is too precious to waste time being anxious. One researcher observed that “85% of what we worry over never happens.”

### Learn to “Let Go and Let God”

“*And why are ye anxious concerning raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God doth so clothe the grass of the field, which to-day is, and to-morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?*” (Mt. 6:28-30—ASV).

It is likely that most who read this believe in God. They believe He is creator. They believe that He loves them and expressed that love through Christ. No doubt, most of the readers believe that man’s response to that love is obedience. The problem that some may have is trust in God. It is not a matter of believing in God, it is a matter of believing God. Learn to “let go and let God” work in your life.

### See God, not Just as God, but as Your Father

“*Be not therefore anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the Gentiles seek; for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things*” (Mt. 6:31-32—ASV).

We must be impressed with the fact that the text does not say, “God knoweth your needs” or “the heavenly Father knoweth your needs,” but it says “your heavenly Father knoweth your needs.” How many times have you heard it prayed, “Lord, you know our needs better than we do?” There is a reason for that—He is our Father, and as our Father, He knows the needs of His children.

Paul wrote, “*But my God shall supply all your needs according to the riches in glory by Christ Jesus*” (Phil. 4:19). Could one ask for anything else? Knowing this, how could one be anxious?

(Adapted from notes taken while listening to one of my favorite preacher’s, Dan Winkler.)

~ by: Neil Richey ~

## How well do you know the 12 disciples?

1. Which Disciple was often referred as the one whom Jesus loved? \_\_\_\_\_
2. When Jesus had in mind to feed the five thousand, who did he ask where they shall buy the bread for the people to eat? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Which of these received a name that means "Son of Thunder"? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Which disciples did Jesus take with him to witness his transfiguration? Peter, John, James Peter, Matthew, John John, James, Andrew Peter, Philip, Matthew
5. How was Matthew previously named before Jesus called him to follow him? \_\_\_\_\_



# For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

## PRAYER LIST



**William Wilson**, brother of *Gloria Jones* is having trouble with some past cancer issues and in need of prayers. They believe his cancer has metastasized.

**Ronnie Miller**, father of *Amanda Coggin* is not doing well.

**Brad & April Pounders** are recovering from the Coronavirus.

**Lynsey & Nathan Robertson**, daughter and son-in-law of *Terry & Yolanda Stubblefield* are recovering from the Coronavirus.

**Sue Marques**, is slowly improving.

**Joe Reed** is recovering from hip and knee problem.

**Billie Joe Garner** under Hospice Care.

**J.L. Eaton** continues to have back and hip problems.

**Kathy Clayton** to begin physical therapy soon.

**Dixie White**, has not been feeling well.

**Sympathy:** We express our sympathy to *Christy Phillips* in the death of her grandmother, **Susie Phillips**. Arrangements are being made.

### Expectant Mothers

**Kelsey Petrowski**: boy, Aug.

**Erica Crotts**: boy, Oct.



### Continue to Remember:

Kathy Clayton, Shane Crotts, Arelus Dye, Mable Erwin, Prebble Foster, Don Golden, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmett, Bill & Grace Lyon, Ronnie Miller, Nancy Petrowski, Jerry Robbins, Levi Smith, Josie Tidwell, Charles Ulmer, Angela Victory, Donnie Wilson

### Shut-Ins:

Bill & Helen DePriest, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Nancy Petrowski,

### Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Price Senter, J.D. Stroud

### Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Andy Dye, Luke Goff, Chase Seals



## I've Learned...

One positive thought in the morning can change your whole day!



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



August 11.....J.D. Stroud  
August 13.....Ronnie Griggs  
August 19.....Kim Clayton  
August 19.....Kyleigh Sweezer  
August 20.....Phillip Young

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

August 18.....Shane & Barbara Crotts  
August 21.....Roger & Kathy Clayton



## 5TH SUNDAY GUEST SPEAKER

Please join us August 30th, for our 5th Sunday service. We will have guest speaker *Lonnie Jones* with us. Be sure to mark your calendar and join us in person (if able) or by livestream. While we are not able at this time to enjoy a meal together and an evening service due to the virus we are blessed to have an opportunity to come together and worship our God and hear a lesson from Bro. *Lonnie*.

## OPPORTUNITIES

- Sunday, 10:30am Worship at the building or YouTube Livestream.
- Wed. night Bible class via ~ Livestream at 6:30pm from our website. The Gospel Quarterly is the study.
- Teen Parking Lot Bible Study, Thursdays at 6:30pm.

## AREA EVENTS

- The Fulton Bible Institute is offering **Old Testament Survey A** by *Matthew Thigpen*. Class begin August 18th, and will meet each week for 12 weeks. Time: 7:00p.m. on Zoom, Facebook & YouTube. Zoom ID: 205 412 5178; Password : bibleclass. More information is posted on the bulletin board.



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

Email: [nacoc15s@gmail.com](mailto:nacoc15s@gmail.com)

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Volume 31

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....9:30  
 Morning Worship.....10:30  
 Evening Worship.....6:00  
 Wednesday Bible Study....6:30

## MINISTER

Shaler Grigsby....Youth/ Assoc.  
 .....256-263-9137  
 Office ..... 534-4649

## ELDERS

Greg Clayton.....252-9762  
 Tim Dye.....316-2527  
 Richard Jennings .....316-1305  
 Troy Robertson .....316-3163  
 Phil Young.....316-2059

## DEACONS

Kurt Clayton.....316-6420  
 Roger Clayton ..... 538-8195  
 Shane Crotts.....266-0195  
 Jason Jennings..... 801-3260  
 Mark Jennings...731-609-3309  
 Randy Wall ..... 316-9255

## TO SERVE

Communion.....Kevin Simmons  
 Scripture.....Clayton Hill  
 A.M. Prayer.....Joe Owen  
 Closing.....Steve Todd  
 P.M. Prayer.....  
 Closing.....  
 Wed.....12th Greg C./Richard J.  
 Lock.....Jason Jennings  
 Usher ..... Jason Jennings  
 Security .....Mark Jennings

## OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....  
 Sunday A.M.....80  
 Sunday P.M.....  
 Wednesday.....  
 Contribution.....  
 Budget.....\$4,095.92

## PANTRY ITEMS



Peanut butter

THE INFORMER (USPS 581-500)

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

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

## David's Prayer for Pardon and Confession of Sin Psalms 51

When we sin against God, how can we pray to restore our fellowship? David's prayer is a classic prayer of repentance.

*Be gracious to me, O God,  
 according to Your lovingkindness;  
 According to the greatness of Your compassion  
 blot out my transgressions.  
 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity  
 And cleanse me from my sin.  
 For I know my transgressions,  
 And my sin is ever before me.  
 Against You, You only, I have sinned  
 And done what is evil in Your sight,  
 So that You are justified when You speak  
 And blameless when You judge.  
 Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
 And renew a steadfast spirit within me.  
 Do not cast me away from Your presence  
 And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.  
 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation  
 And sustain me with a willing spirit.*