

THE GREENWOOD BULLETIN

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Faith and Suffering

Via Exhortations & Stuff

I was listening to a lady who called a radio preacher. The preacher was a wise, grandfatherly gentleman who has that calm reassuring voice that can melt all fear. The lady, who was obviously crying, said, "Preacher, I was born blind, and I've been blind all my life. I don't mind being blind, but I have some well meaning friends who tell me that if I had more faith I could be healed."

The preacher then asked her, "Tell me, do you carry one of those white canes?" "Yes I do," she replied. "Then the next time someone says that, hit them over the head with the cane," he said. "Then tell them, 'If you had more faith that wouldn't hurt!'"

"A wise man has something to say, A fool has to say something."

"For Every . . ."

By Walter Lippmann

"For every right that you cherish, you have a duty which you must fulfill.

For every hope that you entertain, you have a task that you must perform.

For every good that you wish to preserve, you will have to sacrifice your comfort and your ease.

There is nothing for nothing any longer."

A TIMELY QUOTE

-B. C. Goodpasture, *Gospel Advocate*, May 20, 1948, p. 484

"For the church to turn aside from its divine work to furnish amusement and recreation is to pervert its mission. It is to degrade its mission. Amusement and recreation should stem from the home rather than the church. The church, like Nehemiah, has a great work to do, and it should not come down on the plains of Ono to amuse and entertain. As the

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church turns its attention to amusement and recreation, it will be shorn of its power as Samson was when his hair was cut. Only as the church becomes worldly; as it pillows its head on the lap of Delilah; will it want to turn from its wonted course to relatively unimportant matters. Imagine Paul selecting and training a group of brethren to compete in the Isthmian games! Of his work at Corinth he said:

"For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

The Christian's Relationship with

Christ **Copied**

He is crucified with Him

(Romans 6:6; Galatians 2:20)!

He is buried with Him

(Romans 6:4)!

He is raised in new life with Him

(Colossians 2:12)!

He lives with Him

(Romans 6:8; 2 Timothy 2:11)!

He reigns with Him

(2 Timothy 2:12; Rev.1:5-6)!

He is a joint heir with Him

(Romans 8:16-17)!

He suffers with Him

(1 Pet. 4:12-13; 2 Tim. 3:12)!

He will share in glory with Him

(Romans 8:17; Revelation 3:21)!

FOCUS ON PERSONAL EVANGELISM **by Dan Barker**

"When you say"

Over the years we have said many negative things, haven't we? We have also heard others make various negative statements. Here are a few for us to consider today with a response from God, "when you say"....

1. I am afraid...

God tells you: "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes I will help you. I will uphold you with My righteous right hand Isaiah 41:10

2. I can't do it...

God tells you: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Phil. 4:13. He will enable us to do anything He asks of us! WOW

3. I can't solve this...

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God tells you: "that He will direct your paths, if we will trust Him with all of our heart and do not lean upon our own understanding!" Proverbs 3:5-6

4. No one loves me...

God tells you: "I love you!" Listen to Jesus in John 15:12-13. "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down ones' life for His friends." Jesus called you His friend and demonstrated His love for you by dying on the cross!

5. I feel all alone...

God tells you: "Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you." Heb. 13:1-6 What a GREAT PROMISE!

6. I don't deserve forgiveness...

God says: "If you are in Christ, I have forgiven you." Romans 8:1. 1 John 1:8-22. You are right...you don't deserve to be forgiven, but God in His mercy has promised forgiveness to those who have been baptized into Christ. Romans 6:3,4

Too many times we think or say negative things.

Let's resolve to change that and remember who our Father really is!

Let's continue to be amazed at Gods' love for us and be committed to sharing His love with others.

"Christ has no hands but our hands to do His work today, He has no feet but our feet to lead men in His way; He has no tongue but our tongue to tell men how He died, He has no help but our help to bring them to His side.

Annie J. Flint

"Invite Night Review"

By Steve Niemeier

God certainly blessed our efforts to invite folks last Sunday didn't He? You did well in inviting and God provided the open door for us.

Some of those we invited came and some did not come but didn't we all rejoice in the fact that as a congregation we had about 50 visitors to attend our services last Sunday?

We are not limited to just inviting our family and friends to an "invite night". As you know any of our services are open to receive any you invite at any time.

Our next invite night will

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be February 19th. Dan will be speaking on the uplifting topic "Do You Know My Jesus?"

Invitation cards are in the foyer – it is not too early to start the inviting process.

GOD IS GOOD!
ALL THE TIME!