



II Cor. 3:17 – “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is...

LIBERTY

A Ministry of Grace Baptist Church, Pittsfield, Illinois - 217-285-5230

Dr. Gary Dice, Pastor

Dr. Leonard Dice, Editor

April 14, 2019

Vol. XVI, No. 15



A pastor went into the pulpit one Sunday morning wearing a new pair of bi-focals. The reading portion of the glasses improved his vision considerably, but the top portion of the glasses didn't work so well. In fact he was experiencing dizziness every time he looked through them. He explained to the congregation that the new glasses were causing problems, "I hope you will excuse my continually removing my glasses," he said. "You see, when I look down at my notes, I can see fine, but when I look at you, it makes me sick."

In Days Gone By

On April 14, 1865, Abraham Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth.

On April 15, 1912, the Titanic was sunk after hitting an iceberg.

On April 15, 1865, Lincoln died at 7:22 a.m.

Scriptural Discipline

Some parents claim that they love their children too much to discipline them. God said just the opposite. *"He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes."* (Proverbs 13:24) True scriptural discipline is not an act of anger or hatred, but an act of love and for the good of the child. *"For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth..."* (Hebrews 12:6)

"Because I said so," is not enough to develop Christian character. It must be because God said so. *"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."* (Proverbs 22:6) To train up a child, the necessary elements must be in place and be administered with consistency. Example, teaching, and scriptural discipline are all a part of the plan that God lays out for us in the Bible.

By teaching your children godly character and faithfulness, you invite God's great blessing on their lives, according to Proverbs 28:20. *"A faithful man shall abound with blessings:..."*

To know God's will
is life's greatest treasure.
To do God's will
is life's greatest pleasure.

STAYING BY THE STUFF

There is something special about a Christian who just "hangs in there" and doesn't give up. Two of the most discouraging words in the English language are "I quit." The believer is urged to "endure afflictions" (II Timothy 4:5).

James said, "Behold, we count them happy which endure" (James 5:11). Perseverance was the special quality of Job. Peter adds it is wonderful if we stay by the stuff and endure grief and suffer wrongfully. (I Peter 2:19). He was insisting that we "bear up" under pain for Christ's sake. The same thing is true regarding Christian service - even in a most discouraging situation - we are to "keep on keeping on." Someone has suggested that the honeybee must visit 56,000 clover heads to produce one pound of honey. No wonder we speak of the busy bee. Since each clover head has 60 flower tubes, a total of 3,360,000 visits are necessary to get a pound of honey.

Another has written: "On the plains of hesitation, lie the bleached bones of thousands, who, on the very threshold of victory sat down to rest and while resting-died." They were almost there - they had almost finished, and they threw in the towel.

So, dear reader, whatever the circumstances, and however bleak the outlook - keep your eyes on the Lord and "...press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14).

Christ said: "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God"

(Luke 9:62). So whether it is ploughing, or pressing in a race, or just walking - it is the will to keep on going that counts.

One step won't take you very far;
You've got to keep on walking;
One word won't tell folks who you are;
You've got to keep on talking;
One inch won't make you very tall;
You've got to keep on growing;
One deed won't do it all;
You've got to keep on going.



Dr. Charles Wagner, Calvary Baptist Church

Seems Funny to Me

* A mousetrap placed on top of your alarm clock will prevent you from rolling over and going back to sleep after you hit the snooze button.

* You only need two tools in life - WD40 and duct tape. If it doesn't move and should, use the WD40. If it shouldn't move and does, use the duct tape.

* If you can't fix it with a hammer, you've got an electrical problem.

* Many people aim to do right but are just poor shots.

* What is the most common condition with which politicians in Washington, D.C., suffer? Truth decay!

* A clean tie will always attract the soup of the day.

* How come wrong numbers are never busy?

Heart of a Child



Whatever you write on the heart
of a child.

No water can wash away.
The sand may be shifted when
billows are wild
And the efforts of time may
decay.

Some stories may perish,
Some songs be forgot.
But this graven record—
Time changes not.

Whatever you write on the heart
of a child,

A story of gladness or care
That Heaven has blessed or earth
has defiled,
Will linger unchangeably there.

DON'T WASTE YOUR GOLDEN YEARS

by Emily Hale

Pray don't spend your time in sadness,
Weeping in the vale of tears;
Try to make somebody happy,
And don't waste your golden years.

If you meet a weeping willow,
Be a sunflower bright and gay, —
And a sunny smile may answer,
Send you singing on your way.

Should you walk a lonesome valley,
With the teardrops in your eyes,
You may cheer a heart that's broken,
As you learn to sympathize.

Try to speak a word of comfort,
Which will banish grief and fears,
Helping those who're lost and fallen,
And waste not those precious years.

If you make somebody happy,
Your own heart may find the key
Which unlocks the realms of gladness,
And a better life to be.

Thus, each little deed of kindness,
Bears its own and just reward;
And the years are never wasted,
In the service of the Lord.

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



29th ANNUAL FAITH-PROMISE MISSIONS CONFERENCE

The month of April got off to a good start with our 29th Annual Faith-Promise Missions Conference. Dr. Ray Young was our guest preacher at the conference. Pastor Gary Dice did a great job organizing a program which was a real blessing to the church. On Sunday he focused on the bus ministry and even had a big red and white bus built on the platform. He especially recognized the bus workers, drivers, captains and all the children in special ways. Many people rode the buses that day and seven of them were saved. The bus ministry is an important tool in reaching souls for the Lord.

On Monday night he focused on the Sunday School, recognizing teachers, students and workers. Everyone now knows the importance of the Sunday School, another great tool in reaching souls and "taking the Gospel around the corner."

On Tuesday night we focused on foreign missions, making a difference by "reaching around the world" with the Gospel. During the conference much printed material and information was available to everyone, certificates were awarded and special gifts were won by people who brought others to the conference. This last year we raised monthly support for our missionaries, in some cases doubling their support.

On Wednesday night, Pastor Dice brought the closing message and did a wonderful job in challenging us to do more than ever for missions, reaching souls for Christ at home and worldwide. Faith-promise cards were turned in, indicating what our church will do this year. Our giving will be reflected in thousands of souls getting saved. Each year we receive reports from our many missionaries, indicating that up to, and sometimes above, 95,000 people are saved. The bus ministry, Sunday School and the missions program see many people saved and we should be involved in all three.

