



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299

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Email: staff@dovercoc.org

January 23, 2005

My Lines

By Micah Williams

GUILT FREE LIVING

Guilt. What a burden! The result of sin is guilt. What do we do with it? Some of us drag it around until the burden gets too heavy to bear, until we don't have strength to go on. Ever feel that way?

Blame it on others. This is the dominant psychology of our day. "I am not responsible for my own sins." "It is my parents' fault." "It's in my genes or environment." Some even go so far as to contend that sin is a disease. Let's get real. Sin is a transgression of God's law caused when we are drawn away by our own evil desires (lust). Sin is a choice on our part and must not be blamed on others.

Lower the standard. "Don't be so hard on yourself." "Others are doing it." "Why feel guilty for acting like everybody else?" "Religion is only a crutch for the weak." "We've come a long way from Bible days, so don't be bound by old fogy rules." This thinking seems to work for awhile, but conscience is hard to

ignore. Knowing to do right and not doing it brings more guilt.

Run away. We can always move to where nobody knows us. Guilt cannot be covered up by a new address, a new house, blouse or suit. Sin makes us guilty inside, and changing our external circumstances will not remove the guilt of sin.

Punish yourself. Sweat under the weight of chronic regret. What a terrible way to live. Many today just will not accept God's forgiveness. Like Lady Macbeth, they keep rehearsing their sins over and over.

Cover your sins with the blood of Jesus. Nothing can forgive sins except the blood of Christ. He bore our sorrows, guilt and shame on the cross. Where He died, we should have died. Our sins became His sins. Read again the Scriptures, this good news about guilt. *In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.* (Eph. 1:7) *"we were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."* (Rom. 6:4) *"If*

we walk in the Light as He is in the Light, we have fellowship one with another and the blood of Christ continues to cleanse us from all our sins." (1 John 1:7)

This is the Gospel's Good News! Don't let anybody tell you that you must *pay* for your own guilt. Jesus did that on the cross. Believe in Him. Obey Him. Accept His grace. Enjoy His forgiveness. Become and stay guilt free by the blood of Jesus. No sin can be greater than God's forgiveness. Even hideous sins are forgiven at the cross. *"Come now, says the Lord, let us reason together. Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow, though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."* (Isaiah 1:18)

Believe! Obey! Rejoice!

Randall Caselman
Reflections
The Seeker
Fayetteville, AR

"The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness." (Psalms 103:8)

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you;" (Numbers 6:24-25)

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

Not long ago we had a singing and prayer service on Wednesday evening rather than our classes. Several of the men lead some beautiful songs. Jim Killer led one of his favorites, "I'll Be a Friend to Jesus."

We have sung that song many times but I never thought of the words like I did that night, and since then. We talk so much about how we want to be a friend of Jesus. We want Him to love us, answer our prayers, guide our lives and so forth. But, do we ever say or think, as this song goes, that we will be a friend to Jesus?

As far as friendship goes we know we must be a friend to have a friend. Does this apply to our friendship with Jesus? Not exactly the same, is it? He will love us no matter what. We can eventually lose our friends by disappointing them. Jesus become disappointed also, but if we truly ask forgiveness, He will forgive.

They tried my Lord and Master,
With no one to defend;
Within the halls of Pilate
He stood without a friend.

The world may turn against Him,
I'll love Him to the end,
And while on earth I'm living,
My Lord shall have a friend.

I'll do what He may bid me;
I'll go where He may send;
I'll try each flying moment
To prove that I'm His friend.

To all who need a Savior,
My Friend I recommend,
Because He bro't salvation,
Is why I am His friend.
JohnsonOatman

So, let's concentrate on being a friend to Jesus. If we could live like the words of this song, we would definitely be a friend to Jesus!

The verse goes:

I'll be a friend to Jesus
My life for Him I'll spend;
I'll be a friend to Jesus,
Until my years shall end.

Remember Our Sick

Walter Arcynski – St. Louis, MO has been hospitalized. They receive our Life Lines.

Lawrence Boley – hospitalized, Monday night, St. Mary's with chest pain. Running tests.

Thelma Hatcher - Second eye surgery rescheduled for February 14, 2005.

Keith Martin – St. Louis, MO, special little boy almost one, home from hospital, had a serious infection.

Debbie Meyer - the scheduled surgery has been cancelled. The hardware will not have to be removed if they can keep the leg clear of infection.

Donald Walters – member of Gravel Hill, cancer no longer in remission.

Noah Williams – St. Louis, MO, almost two, weighs 16 lbs. More surgeries coming up.

Shut-ins: Needs your prayers and visits. All live in the Dover Area.

Evelyn Burton
Louise Killer
Mae Vanzandt

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

William and Susie Boley, Bernice Brown, John Clark, Barbara Dawson, Evelyn Driver, Lacey Gregory, Charles and Leota Hickey, Bob and Rose Lee, Jerry Martin, Joe Miller, Sandra Mooney, Shirley Pavatt, Teresa Phillips, Zachary Shelton, Henry and Edna Smith, Esther Sparks, Gordon Roughton, Juanita Townsend, Pauline Whorton, Harold and Mildred Turner.

Military: John Allen, Jeremy Carter, Greg Davis, Paul Holt, Chris Pearson, Tom Pickle, Terry Robinson and Adam Schrepfer.

Add Randall Nixon to our military prayer list. Randall is in Iraq until sometime in March, 2005. He the son of Mr. & Mrs. Larry Nixon. Larry drives the route truck for the Southern Christian Home.

Sympathy & Prayers

For the family of William (Bill) Pusch, age 34, of Mountain Home, AR., who passed away Friday, January 7, 2005. He was a former resident of this area. Memorial service and interment was Tuesday in Russellville, AR.

THE TROUBLE TREE

The carpenter I hired to help restore an old farmhouse had just finished a rough first day on the job. A flat tire had made him lose an hour of work, his electric saw quit, and then his ancient pick-up refused to start.

While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence. On arriving, he invited me in to meet his family. As he walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands. Then, opening the door, he underwent an amazing transformation. His tanned face was wreathed in smiles, and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss.

Afterward, he walked me to the car. We passed the tree, and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier.

"Oh, that's my trouble tree," he replied. "I know I can't help having them on the job, but one thing's for sure - troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children. So I just hang them on the tree every night when I come home, then in the morning I pick them up again. Funny thing is, when I come out in the morning to pick them up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before."

"Casting all your cares upon Him; for He careth for you." (*1 Peter 5:7*)

Wayne Frump

Church of Christ

Wayne, OK

Submitted by: Karen Womack

Dover Church of Christ, Dover, AR

Events

Devotional Scrapbooking Class

January 18th
Thru
April 12th

Every Tuesday
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Dover Church of Christ
Theme: "Fruits of the Spirit"

For more info see:
Karen Womack

Dover Church of Christ **Teachers'** **Appreciation** **Banquet**

January 29th
Saturday, 6:00 PM
at the
ATU C.C.S.C. Building on
Campus

Mark Your Calendars

MEALS ON WHEELS

January 24th
Thru
January 28th

(Monday thru Friday)

5th Sunday Potluck and Children's Program

Dover Church of Christ
January 30th, 6:00 PM

A special congregational
contribution from the Dover
Church of Christ for
Tsunami relief, Sunday,
January 9th, 2005, netted
\$2,078.91.

Pray for Our Nation
and Our troops!

January Birthdays

- | | |
|----|-----------------|
| 01 | Alexis Boley |
| | Billy Walters |
| 02 | Sandra Mooney |
| | Marilyn Veasman |
| 07 | Chris Moss |
| 08 | Micah Williams |
| 11 | Velva Bates |
| 13 | Doug Wilson |
| 16 | Carrie Clark |
| 20 | JoAnn Killer |
| | Teresa Parker |
| | Patsy Wisbrock |
| 22 | Bennie Lou |
| | Meadows |
| 26 | Klaus Mullins |
| 28 | Bill McAlister |
| | Jack Escue |
| 29 | Troy Meadows |

If we missed your birthday
please let us know so that it will
not happen again.

Mack Lyon

"In Search of the Lord's
Way"

This program airs each
Sunday, 8:00 AM,
Channel 4, Little Rock.

THOSE TO SERVE

January 23, 2005

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

1st: Sid Womack
2nd: Robert Bird

Communion

Podium: Earl Whitted
Serve: Bill McAlister
Blake Walters
Brett Walters
Brent Hottinger

Scripture Reading

Dennis Whiteside

**Sunday P.M.
Prayers**

Alan Boatright
Allen Veasman

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

John and Carrie Clark

Communion to Shut-Ins

Troy Curtis
Alan Boatright

Greeters

Earl and Frances Kennedy

Wednesday Night Devotional

January 26, 2005

Jim Killer

Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes
9:45 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship
10:45 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 P.M.
Ladies Tuesday Bible Class
10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Classes
7:00 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams
Church Office: 479-331-3428
Or Cell: 479-264-9244

Elders:

William Boley 858-7131
Jim Killer 331-2802
Allen Veasman 331-2156

Deacons:

Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper
Joe Miller

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: Charlene Clark
Patsy Wisbrock

Sunday Service: Marilyn Veasman

Wednesday Class: Joan Vance
Kaeli Miller

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Dover Church of Christ
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