



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
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FAITH

During the riots in Los Angeles years ago, a man and his ten-year-old son were watching televised images of stores being burned and looted.

“Would you loot if you thought you wouldn’t be caught?” asked the man.

“No,” replied the son, “it’s against the Ten Commandments.”

The man was pleased to hear this, for many adults would rather hear their children say, “No, because *I think* it’s wrong,” or “No, because *I feel* it’s wrong.” The trouble with such answers is that some people might very well say, “Yes, *I think* it’s okay to loot” or “Yes, *I feel* it’s alright,” and it would be hard to argue with them.

If personal thoughts and feelings are the only standard for judging right and wrong, then we have no right to say anything about others who feel they have the right to steal or lie or cheat. In addition, as the man knew, thoughts and feelings are always changing. What we feel is wrong today may seem permissible tomorrow. So he was glad that his sons had an unchanging

standard outside himself by which to judge right from wrong. He knew there would be days his son might be strongly tempted to steal or lie – days when he would need to be guided by more than feelings.

For most people it is difficult to practice virtues without belief in a God who wants us to act in right ways even when our feelings prompt us to do wrong.

In the story *Souder* by William Armstrong, a boy is powerfully tempted to strike out at a man who has ridiculed and injured him. Part of what keeps him from acting on his impulse is his strong faith in God’s providence and justice. Rather than give in to his feelings, he submits to a wiser source of authority.

Faith supports moral behavior in other ways, too. Belief that God has a plan for us helps to find meaning in life. And without a sense that makes sense, all the other reasons for behaving will seem insufficient. Unless there is a point or a purpose to our lives, it’s hard to see why we should try to lead good lives.

Faith in God gives us a meaningful story within which the story of our own lives makes sense.

Faith helps to explain life’s trials and tragedies and so helps to sustain us during difficult times when we might be tempted to despair or give in to anger or jealousy.

The boy in *Souder* endures poverty, the sting of prejudice and the loss of his father. It is easy to see without faith he might be tempted to give up his struggle to be a good person.

Faith also supports family life by giving it a structure and a center. Faith not only supplies ceremonies, traditions and holy days, it also reminds parents of their obligations to their children, and children of their obligation to honor their parents and to love their brothers and sisters – even when they don’t seem lovable.

Many of the forces of modern life – careers, media influences, pressure from friends – work to pull families apart. Faith in God is one of the strongest forces for bringing families together.

The Vision
West Side Church of Christ
Russellville, AR
October 2006

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

Do we uphold our convictions faithfully? Or do we tend to back down when we get opposition? Do we tend to go along with the crowd, against our better judgment?

Moses sent twelve men into Canaan to spy out the land. Ten of the spies came back with a bad report to the people of Israel. They agreed that the land did flow with milk and honey but the people that dwelt there were mighty. The cities were fortified and very large. The ten spies were afraid. They had forgotten the mighty power of their Lord!

However, two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, remembered their Lord! They remembered all that He had just done for them. They weren't going along with the crowd. And they were not afraid! Caleb said, "***Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.***" (Numbers 13:30)

Joshua also told them that indeed the land was exceedingly good and if the Lord delights in them He will give the land to them. Do not go against the Lord for He can conquer them. (Numbers 14:6-9)

The people became angry. They wanted to stone these two. Then the Lord becomes angry and wants to destroy the people. Moses intervenes for the people. But the ten, "***. . . those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the Lord.***" (Numbers 14:37)

Joshua and Caleb went against the odds. They were faithful to the Lord. They upheld their convictions.

How good is our faith? Jesus said, "***. . . with men this is impossible, but with God all are possible.***" (Matthew 19:26) "***If God is for us, who can be against us?***" (Romans 8:31b) "***Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.***" (Ephesians 3:20) Another verse to help in our faith; "***I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.***" (Philippians 4:13)

Remember Our Sick

Bob Bennett – health issues, needs our prayers.

Mel Davis – diagnosed with cancer.

Anna Deimund – 86, hospitalized, a stroke, friend of Don Sheeran's, St. Louis.

Hoyt Ensey – aneurism surgery rescheduled.

Barbara Forehand – in home hospice.

Carol Graham – little Keith Martin's grandmother, cancer surgery Feb. 19.

Pat Jackson – Sister of Eugene Davis, surgery indicates no cancer.

Elysia Lee – newborn, great-granddaughter of Bob/Rose Lee, one kidney. She will need a trans-plant.

Sandra Mooney – home from stay at AMS, Little Rock.

Christy Pickle – Cara Williams' sister, in Africa for 3 months (internship).

Summer Russell – still in AMS, (coma) head and spinal injuries.

Bud Wait – came home Thursday, February 22, 2007.

Gene Smith – Cara Williams' father having tests run.

Shut-ins - need prayers and visits.

Dover Area: **Bernice Brown**
Evelyn Burton
Mae Vanzandt

Russellville Nursing and Rehab Center:
Evelyn Driver
Thelma Hatcher

Stella Manor: **Louise Killer,**
Mary Lee

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Daisy Hogins Anderson, Lawrence Boley, Lloyd Boley, Susie Boley, Gail Brewer, Jeff Davis, Charles Ensey, Sue Griffin, David Guthrie, Charles Hickey, Jim Lackey, Robert and Rose Lee, Bill McAlister, Ray Motley, Teresa Phillips, Charles Proctor, Annie Robinson, Reddie Smith, Tanya Smith, Stone Family, Jewel Waldrip and Donna Walters.

Special Children: Emmy May, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

Military: Darus Brown, Greg Davis, Steve Ferguson, Johnny Ragsdale, Cole Wetzel and Rudy Will.

A CUP OF COFFEE

A group of alumni, highly established in their careers, got together to visit their old university professor. Conversation turned to complaint about stress in work and life. Offering his guest coffee, the professor came in with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups – porcelain, plastic, glass, crystal, some plain looking, some quite expensive, some exquisite – telling them to help themselves to the coffee.

When all the students had a cup in hand, the professor said, "If you noticed, all the nice-looking cups were taken, leaving the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress. Be assured that the cup itself adds no quality to the coffee in most cases. It is just more expensive; in some cases it even hides what you drink.

"What all of you really wanted was the coffee, not the cup, but you consciously went for the best cups . . . and then began eyeing each other's cups.

"Consider this: Life is the coffee. The jobs, money and position in society are the cups. They are just tools to hold and contain life, and the type of cup we have does not define, nor change the quality of life we live. Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee God has provided us.

"God brews the coffee, not the cups . . . enjoy your coffee.

"I've learned in whatever state I am, therewith to be content." (Philippians 4:11)

From House to House Bulletin

Events

Dover Church of Christ
Children's Church

Every Sunday
11:15 - 12:00 Noon

Ages 4 thru 8

Bible Story and
Activities

Ages 1 thru 3
Nursery Class

Lads to Leaders
and Leaderettes

meets for practice
every Sunday
4:00 to 6:00 PM

Dover Ladies' Devo

4th Thursday

March 22nd, 7:00 PM

Hostess: Diane Walters
(Pinehill Rd.)

NEW DAYLIGHT
SAVING TIME

Set your clocks forward
ONE hour,
March 11, 2007

Mark Your Calendars

ATTENTION
LADIES

Luncheon at CCSC
For students

March 14th

We usually feed 125 or more

Lads to Leaders
& Leaderettes

The girls are making a
church scrapbook and are in
desperate need of photos!
Anyone with photos of the
following events is asked to
share them.

Ladies' Day, April 2006
May Graduation Banquet
July 4th celebration
Veasman's Pool Party
Clean Up/Fix Up event
Contact Karen Womack

LADIES' DAY!!

Dover Church of Christ
Mark Your Calendars
Saturday, April 28th,

More info to follow!

March Birthdays

- 02 Kelly Williams
- 03 Bryan Bates
Keaton Creel
Rick Hollis
- 07 Harold Turner
Colton Williams
- 12 Carl Lawley
- 13 Matthew Moss
- 17 Jim Killer
- 18 Ryan Whiteside
- 21 William Boley
- 22 Alan Herron
- 25 Blake Brown
- 26 Mike Creel
Jessalyn Davis
Shelby Statler
- 27 Wilma Johnson
- 28 Kaeli Miller

If we missed your birthday,
please let us know so it won't
happen again.

"In Search of the
Lord's Way"

Now 24/7

**The Search Program can
now be accessed at any time
on its website:**

www.searchtv.org

**Mack Lyon's weekly lesson
can be heard and seen on
KARK, Channel 4, Sunday,
7:30 AM.**

THOSE TO SERVE

March 11, 2007

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Robert Bird
Brent Hottinger

Communion

Podium: Donny Forehand
Serve: Blake Walters
Chris Loper
Brett Walters
Dennis Whiteside

Scripture Reading

William Boley

Sunday P.M. Prayers

Alan Boatright
Allen Veasman

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

James and Shirlie Chadwick

Communion to Shut-Ins

Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper

Greeters

Troy and Rachel Curtis

Wednesday Night Devotional

March 14, 2007

William Boley

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
Sid Womack 967-2367

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper
Rex McDaniel
Chris Moss
Joe Miller

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: Kaeli Miller
Sunday Church: Pat McAlister
Kaeli Miller

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