



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
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Volume 17 Number 20

Email: staff@dovercoc.org

May 14, 2006

MY LINES

Micah William

“Get Out of the Box”

(I John 3:16-24)

Continued from last week –

Jesus was never about crushing his opponents – instead, He challenged His followers by saying, “*Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.*”

If we are going to get back in the Christian box, we are going to have to take the difficult path of putting love into action and making it real.

It is much harder to love one another than it is to fight one another.

The key to rising to this challenge is to realize that love comes from God, not from human beings.

1. John tells us that we know love because Jesus laid down His life for us. (vs. 16)
2. He reminds us that God’s love lives in us. (vs.17)
3. He calls us to believe in the name of God’s Son, Jesus. (vs.23)
4. And He assures us that God abides in us, by the Holy Spirit. (vs. 24)

If we succeed in loving one another, the credit actually belongs to God. Not to us. Any love we show is a sign that God’s love is working through us. We’re not required to

figure out precise and perfect positions on all the tough issues of the day, as long as we love each other.

John doesn’t say that we will be blessed by God once we achieve a political victory or articulate a flawless moral position. No, he says that we will receive from God whatever we ask, “. . . *because we obey His commandments and do what pleases Him . . .*” (vs. 22)

That’s the church box. No more, no less. It is time to crawl back in it.

Our world is in desperate need of a church that puts love into action and makes it real. There are people all around us who are searching desperately for a community that actually practices what it preaches.

Over 100 years ago, the Christian philosopher, Soren Kierkegaard made the point that Jesus was looking for followers, not admirers. One of Kierkegaard’s own parables told of a man who was walking down a city street when he saw a big sign in a window that said, “Pants pressed here.” Delighted to see the sign, he went home and gathered up all of his wrinkled laundry. He carried it into the shop and put it on the counter. “What are you doing?” the shopkeeper demanded.

“I brought my clothes here to be pressed,” said the man, “just like your sign says.”

“Oh, you’ve got it all wrong,” the owner replied. “We don’t actually do that here. We’re in the business of making signs. We don’t do these

things,” he was saying. “We just make the signs for those that really do these things.”

“And that,” said Soren Kierkegaard, “is often the problem in the church.”

We advertise ourselves as a place that is showing Christ’s love and doing Christ’s work.

But when people show up looking for real love and real Christian action, they don’t see it. “Oh, no, we don’t love people here. We just talk about loving people here.

When we’re in the church box, or in the Christ box, we do what Jesus wants us to do, and we do it incredibly well.

1. This means helping a brother or sister in need, and loving one another.
2. It means focusing on activities that really show the love of God to people.
3. If we are going to advertise God’s love, let’s actually practice God’s love.
4. That’s a box we should stay in until we get it right.

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage, and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you.”

(Ephesians 4:31-32)

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

“And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last. Then the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. So when the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, ‘Truly this was the Son of God!’” (Mark 15:37-40)

Have you ever wondered about what happened with the centurion? We are not told about him. Did he follow Christ? Or did he make this comment about Jesus and then forget about it. This was a great confession he made. He was probably frightened about what he had just witnessed. We don't really know.

The centurion could have become a faithful follower or he could have continued as he was before. Hopefully, he truly believed what he confessed and searched for someone to tell him what he needed to do to be forgiven.

We have the same option today. How many today believe that Jesus is the Son of God but do nothing about it? We can be in danger of crucifying Him again. We wouldn't do it intentionally, but it can happen. It can be a gradual thing.

Heed these words: For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to open shame.”

(Hebrews 6:4-6)

Dover Church of Christ Lawn Schedule

May 20 Marion Helton
Alan Boatright

Remember Our Sick

Lawrence Boley – home, post- surgery check-up was Wednesday, May 3rd. Still weak, low on iron.

Gail Brewer – niece to Robert Bird, still receiving treatment for cancer.

Donny Forehand – shoulder surgery scheduled for Friday, May 5th.

Clifton Gamble – nephew to Juanita Whitted, heart attack.

Hiroko Hatcher – Juanita Whitted's sister-in-law, diagnosed with cancer.

Alice Hollis – Gall bladder surgery Thursday, April 27th, doing well, in Arkansas Heart Hospital, Little Rock.

Pat McAlister – at home recovering from bladder surgery scheduled for Thursday, May 4th.

Juanita Whitted – nothing conclusive on tests, Wednesday, May 3rd.

Shut-ins: Need prayers and visits.

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

Russellville Nursing and Rehab Center:
Thelma Hatcher

Esther Sparks

Stella Manor: **Louise Killer**

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Walter and Thelma Arcynski, Lloyd Boley, Susie Boley, Dora Dean Cloud, Jamie Churchill, Lloyd Collins, Jeff Davis, Hoyt Ensey, Barbara Forehand, Virginia Grant, Grady Gregory, Vickie Gregory, Sue Griffin, Chris Henderson, Brian Holloway, Ray King, Robert and Rose Lee, Bill and Mary McAlister, Troy and Bennie Lou Meadows, John and Jannie Myers, Joe Miller, Nolan Passmore, Teresa Phillips, Laurie Ann Robey, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, Virgil Turner, Sue and W. T. Williams, Pauline Whorton, Valentina, and Elsie Youngerman.

Special Children: Emmy May, Gabriel Ross Finlayson, Keith Martin, Zachary Shelton and Noah Williams.

Military: Jon Allen, Darus Brown, Greg Davis, Johnny Ragsdale, Cole Wetzel and Rudy Will.

GO THIRD CLASS

Victor Pentz tells of attending commencement ceremonies at Stanford University last June when Professor David Kennedy was speaking of the old west, where in the regions where the railroad had not yet reached, people traveled by stagecoach. Stagecoach lines in those days offered three levels of tickets: first class, second class and third class.

If you bought a first-class ticket you were guaranteed (or your money back) you would arrive on time after a comfortable ride and have all the amenities.

A second-class ticket guaranteed arrival, but also said that in case of difficulty in route - a mud-slide that might have closed the road or a broken axel on the coach – you might be asked to stand aside by the road for a period of time until the problem was fixed.

A third-class ticket carried a stipulation that in case of difficulty, the holder of such a ticket would be expected to get out, go to the back of the coach and shove it through the mud, use a shovel or lift the cargo out if need be.

Then Professor Kennedy said, “Even though you have a first class education from a first class college, don't take the first or even the second class route through life. Go third class. Get out and make things happen. Put your shoulder to the wheel. Do the heavy lifting, roll up your sleeves, spit on your hands and get to work. In fact, Jesus said that if you want to have a first class life, the only way is to travel third class.”

From: “Glamour Is Not Greatness”

“... he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.” (Luke 22:26)

“The wisest mind has something yet to learn.”

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

Ladies Night

Thursday, 7:00 PM
May 18th

Dover Church of Christ

Hostess: Karen
Womack,
Russellville

BAPTISIM

J. R. Hale was baptized by
Lawrence Boley Friday,
April 28, 2006.

Mark Your Calendars

Mothers' Day

Sunday, May 14, 2006

Career or Job Choice

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you." (Psalm 32:8, NIV)

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give hope and a future. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart, I will be found by you," declares the Lord. (Jeremiah 29:11-14-a, NIV)

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." (Matthew 6:33)

The mind of man plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps." (Proverbs 16:9)

"For this reason since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way." Colossians 1:9-10a, NIV)

CAMP CAUDLE

May 28 thru June 3

Servant Week

Director: Scott Roderick

Ages 16 and up
(Bring work clothes)

MAY Birthdays

02 Amelia Besterfeldt
05 Brett Cains
06 Randall Walters
07 Jessica Straight
Victoria Thomas
Carlee Williams
08 Trinity Loper
10 Casey Loper
13 Kelli Hottinger
Tim Mitchell
15 Alan Boatright
Alicia Brown
20 Shelley Culwell
24 Jaylinn Williams
25 Diane W. Walters
31 Paul Helton
Don Johnson

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

May 21, 2006

Dover Church of Christ
Potluck honoring our 2006
graduates (after evening
services)

High School Graduates:
Kaci Statler
Catlin Straight
Alan Walker

Arkansas Tech University:
Rachel Hale
Jana Parker McGuire
Ashlee Womack Wilson

THOSE TO SERVE

May 14, 2006

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Marion Helton
Randall Walters

Communion

Podium: Allen Veasman

Serve: Brett Walters
Chris Loper
Dennis Whiteside
Donny Forehand

Scripture Reading

Earl Whitted

**Sunday P.M.
Prayers**

Rex McDaniel
William Boley

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

Lois Boley

Communion to Shut-Ins

Brent Hottinger
Chris Ramirez

Greeters

Earl and Frances Kennedy

Wednesday Night Devotional

May 17, 2006

Alan Boatright

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: Charlene Clark
Patsy Wisbrock

Wednesday Class: Carin Vaughn

Life Lines is a Publication of the Dover Church of Christ

Editor: Pat McAlister, Layout and Design: Joan Vance, Technical Assistance: M. Shoptaw

Dover Church of Christ
P.O. Box 299
Dover, AR 72837
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