



# Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ  
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June 4, 2006

## MY LINES

Micah William

### How's Your Hearing?

Jesus said, *"Take heed therefore how you hear . . ."* (Luke 8:18) Careful listening is vital for spiritual health . . . *"So then faith comes by hearing . . ."* we are reminded in Romans 10:17. How well we hear can actually determine our eternal destiny! Jesus said those who hear the truth and then do it are like a wise man who builds his house on rock! (Matthew 7:24)

Tragically, many suffer from impaired spiritual hearing. Their ears are simply not open to spiritual truth. Though God's word is plainly communicated to them they do not respond.

Note some of the common ways people respond to the preaching of the Gospel:

**1. Some shrug it off.** Many people hear without really hearing. They may feel that preachers tend to be unrealistic and idealistic and shouldn't be taken too seriously. So they never allow the truth to take root in their lives. Jesus characterized them as "wayside" hearers. (Matthew 13:4,19) (vs. 4) *" . . . and as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate them up."* (vs. 19) *"When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not under-*

*stand it the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one whom seed was sown beside the road."* He encountered many hearers during His own ministry on this earth. He once said, *"For the heart of this people has become dull, with their ears they scarcely hear, and they have closed their eyes, otherwise they would see with their eyes, hear with their ears, and understand with their heart and return, and I would heal them."* (Matthew 13:15) There are still many upon whom preaching makes no impression.

**2. Some shut it out.** Many people have their minds made up and refuse to entertain any ideas to the contrary. They hear a sermon and go away muttering, "I don't care what he says . . . That's just his opinion . . . What does he know . . .?" When their sins and prejudices are exposed they become enraged. They hear with hate; hostility grows; they lash out at the messenger and his message. The mob furiously covered their ears at the preaching of Stephen and stoned him to death. *"But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and rushed at him with one impulse."* (Acts 7:57)

**3. Some send it on.** Most of us are pretty good at seeing the suitability of particular sermons and exhortations for others but woefully inadequate when it comes to applying them to ourselves. "That's

really what they needed to hear," we catch ourselves saying. There is even a bit of religious doggerel which declares:

*I preached a sermon to a man  
To him and to no other,  
And when he heard it,  
How he laughed!  
He thought I meant his brother.*

**4. Some soak it up.** Thank God for those honest and sincere hearts who listen so they can learn and obey. *"And those are the ones on whom seed was sown on the good soil; and they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold."* (Mark 4:20)

God's warning to ancient Israel remains vital and timely: *"O earth, earth, earth, Hear the word of the Lord"* (Jeremiah 22:29)

*Bobby Dockery  
The Seeker  
Fayetteville, Arkansas*

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*"Silent and listen are spelled with the same letters."*

*"The secret to happiness is to make others believe they are the cause of it."*

*"You always pass failure on the way to success."*

*Mickey Rooney*

*"When we do the best that we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or the life of another."*

*Helen Keller*

## Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

If you have been in any groups, clubs or organizations you know 20% of the members do most of the work. It is the same in the church.

Recently, one of our teenagers, Drew, asked his dad, "Why does Troy Curtis do so much work at the church, and how old is he?" Randall told him that Troy is like that. He is part of the 20% that does the work. If Troy doesn't do it, it won't get done!

This was on our marquee several months ago. "Some church members are like wheel barrows. They have to be pushed before they do any work" Troy is one of the pushers. He is a self-worker, never has to be pushed. If he gets tired if it, you will never hear about it. (Rachel may hear, but we don't.) He works at Camp Caudle with the same drive, or anywhere else he is needed.

There are a few others like Troy. But never more than 20%. It just doesn't happen, even in the church. (What could be accomplished if we had 90 to 100%? The half wouldn't be told!)

Why do we hesitate to do all that we can, or all that needs to be done? We are familiar with what the Bible has to say about works. "***Faith without works is dead.***" (James 2:26b) It isn't the works that save us. We are saved by His merciful grace. But works are required because we love the Lord. His grace is a gift. But He has always required something of us. "***For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.***" (Ephesians 2:10) This is pretty clear.

"***Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.***" (I Corinthians 3:8)

What Troy does reminds me of what Jesus said, "***His deeds are done in secret but God will reward him openly.***" (Matthew 6:4) Troy doesn't want any acknowledgement. He does what he does because that is what he is.

## Remember Our Sick

**Lawrence Boley** – still having heart problems and blockage. Doctors are considering a diagnostic procedure

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

**Charles Hickey** – in intense pain, hoping for a diagnoses and pain management.

**Pat Holloway** – serious health problems.

**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, J. D. Bates, Lloyd Boley, Susie Boley, Dora Dean Cloud, Tom Collier, Jeff Davis, Hoyt Ensey, Barbara Forehand, Clifton Gamble, Grady Gregory, Vickie Gregory, Sue Griffin, Hiroko Hatcher, Chris Henderson, Alice Hollis, Brian Holloway, Ray King, Robert and Rose Lee, Bill and Mary McAlister, Troy and Bennie Lou Meadows, John and Jannie Myers, Joe Miller, Teresa Phillips, Laurie Ann Robey, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, Mildred Sutherland, Juanita Whitted, 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 Wetzell and Rudy Will.

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**Continued from Ladies Lines, Column One**

(Joan Vance can't praise Troy enough! He goes beyond the call of duty as far as she is concerned.)

## Twelve Good Ways To Kill A Good Idea

"It will cost too much."

"We tried that before."

"It's not our responsibility."

"We don't have the time."

"It's too much of a change."

"Someone will object"

"We have never done that before."

"Why change? It's still working OK."

"We did all right without it."

"Let's give it some more thought."

"Has anyone ever tried it?"

"It just won't work here."

Author Unknown

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### AGING

Have you ever been guilty of looking at others your own age and thinking, "Surely, I can't look that old?"

Well . . . I was sitting in the waiting room for my first appointment with a new dentist. I noticed his DDS diploma, which bore his full name. Suddenly, I remembered a tall, handsome, dark-haired boy with the same name who had been in my high school class some 40 years ago. Could he be the same guy that I had a secret crush on, way back then?

Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought. This balding, gray-haired man with the deeply lined face was way too old to have been my classmate. HMMMM. . . or could he?

After he examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended Morgan Park High.

"Yes, yes, I did. I'm a Mustang," he gleamed with pride.

"When did you graduate?" I asked.

He answered, "In 1959. Why do you ask?"

"You were in my class!" I exclaimed.

Then that ugly, old, wrinkled, silly looking goat asked, "**What did you teach?**"

Author Unknown

## 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

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CAMP CAUDLE  
June 5 thru June 9

Day Camp

Director: Tami Robinson

Grades 1 thru 3

Registration Sunday 2 - 4

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In SEARCH of the  
Lord's Way

Little Rock's KARK-TV 4  
(Sunday 8 AM)

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Dover Church of Christ  
Lawn Schedule

June 10 John Myers  
Troy Curtis

## Mark Your Calendars

### YOUTH DEVO

Sunday, June 4th

Dover Church of Christ's  
Youth will meet after  
Sunday evening services at  
Sid and Karen Womack's,  
Russellville, AR

### Men's Regular Business Meeting

Monday, June 5th, 7PM  
Dover Church of Christ

### Men's Devo

Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 7PM  
Host: Allen Veasman

### Ladies' Night

Thursday, June 15, 7PM  
Hostess: Marilyn  
Veasman

### GOSPEL MEETING

Pleasant Grove Church  
of Christ

June 4 thru June 7  
7:00 PM Nightly

Speaker: David Riley  
Hwy 7 North, pass 164 turnoff,  
Turn right on Bloomfield Rd.

## June Birthdays

- 01 Sandra Boatright
- 02 Chase Chance
- 03 Allen Veasman
- 04 Michelle Helton
- 05 Eugene Qualls
- 07 Bob Bennett  
Victoria Mitchell
- 10 Leanna Mullins
- 11 Joe Miller
- 12 Ashlee Wilson
- 14 Kenna Rae Jackson
- 15 Jacqueline Helton
- 21 Caitlyn Straight
- 22 Nina June Qualls
- 25 Ashley Anderson  
Pat Holloway  
Iris Lawley
- 28 Tanya Smith  
Joyce Walters

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

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Dover Church of Christ's  
Singles Breakfast  
Every Saturday  
9:00 AM  
Bayou Cafe

### Gospel Singing

Mars Hill Church  
of Christ  
Vilonia, Arkansas  
Saturday, June 3, 7PM

# ***THOSE TO SERVE***

***June 4, 2006***

**Sunday A.M.**

**Announcer:** Randall Walters  
**Song Leader:** Merrell Shoptaw

## **Prayers**

Gary Williams  
James Chadwick

## **Communion**

**Podium:** Donny Forehand  
**Serve:** Rex McDaniel  
Rick Hollis  
Troy Curtis  
William Boley

## **Scripture Reading**

Alan Boatright

**Sunday P.M.**

## **Prayers**

Jim Killer  
Joe Miller

# **SPEAKER**

**Sunday A.M.**  
Micah Williams

**Sunday P.M.**  
Micah Williams

## **Prepare Table for Communion**

Chris and Amanda Besterfeldt

## **Communion to Shut-Ins**

Lawrence Boley  
Marion Helton

## **Greeters**

Robert and Juanita Bird

## **Wednesday Night Devotional**

**June 7, 2006**

Blake Forehand

**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:** Patsy Wisbrock  
**Wednesday Class:** Carin Vaughn

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Dover Church of Christ  
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