

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

January 27, 2019

Dig Another Well

Cowboys know that when a horse bucks him off, he has to get right back in the saddle. A boxer knows that when he's knocked down, he has to get up again. A basketball player knows that when he misses a shot, he has to keep on shooting. An inventor knows that when an idea doesn't work, he has to keep on trying until it does. It's a basic principle of life: don't let setbacks defeat you. "*If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.*" American educator Frederick Maryat is said to have originated this phrase, but the concept is at least as old as Abraham's son, Isaac

Isaac had settled in a place called Gerar when Abimelech was king of the Philistines. God had blessed Isaac to become a very wealthy man. He had so many flocks and herds and servants that the Philistines became envious and fearful. In an attempt to chase Isaac away, the Philistines filled all the wells that Abraham had dug with dirt. The king told Isaac to get away from them (*Genesis 26*).

Isaac did leave, but he didn't go far, only to the Valley of Gerar, where he dug again the wells that had been dug in the days of his father. But when his servants dug in the valley and

found a well of spring water, the Philistines quarreled with him about ownership. Isaac didn't argue or fight over it, he just let them have it and dug another well. And, of course, the Philistines quarreled over that one too. So, Isaac moved on from there and dug another well. This time the Philistines did not squabble over it. You've got to love Isaac's response: "*Now the Lord has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land*" (*Gen. 26.22*). And indeed he was.

Paul Overstreet recorded a song about this biblical story. He sensed Isaac's faith by singing, "*God blessed me once and he can do it again ... just pick up the shovel and dig another well.*" What Isaac did was to *act* instead of *react*. He didn't let the wicked things the Philistines did define who he was. He had faith in God. It didn't matter what others did, God would continue to bless him. It didn't matter how many times others did evil things, he would just trust God and dig another well.

Do you think that kind of faith and patience and trust could help you live a more Christ-like life? I certainly know it's a lesson I need to learn and practice daily. There are people driven by fear and envy all around us ... even among us at times. One of my favorite verses describes this very quality in Jesus: "*When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly*" (*1 Peter 2.24*). "*Continued to entrust*" is what Isaac did. He just dug another well ... and God continued to bless him.

— Joe Chesser

A Cheerful Heart

The cheerful heart has a continual feast.

— Proverbs 15:15

Some people could sulk their way through Disneyland. They're chronic complainers – gruff, grouchy, gloomy, souls that you'd walk across the street to avoid.

Then there are their opposites – delightful folks who are always cheerful, even when the going is rough.

It's hard to be happy when you're hurting. But happiness is not entirely at the mercy of cruel circumstances. Things were not going well for David when he wrote Psalm 34, but listen: **I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips ... let the afflicted hear and rejoice ... Those who look to him are radiant ...**

You may be up to your chin in problems. But look at you; bless your heart, you're smiling in spite of it.

It requires no special talent to be miserable.

-- Joe Barnett

Are you current on your reading ? (Job 4)

Pride Packages For Soldiers: We rotate the items that we bring in so there will be a variety of things available for Pat to send to our soldiers. For the next two weeks we'll be bringing: Hormel or Dinty Moore dinners in small oval containers, Beef Jerky, Slim Jims, Little containers of fruit in pull tab cans

Birthday : Bob Stevens January 24

Reading : **II Samuel 12: 1-9 ; Psalm 51: 1-13**

NEXT WEEK : (February 3, 2019)

Song Leader : Greg

Scripture Reader : J.J.

Table & Announcements : Bob

Prayer List :

Pierce Walk : The 3 week old infant daughter of the grand-daughter of Greg's cousin has been in the ICU for 7 days being treated for RSV. Her family requests prayers.

Larry Johnston: Was diagnosed with a-fib. Will thin his blood

David Ferguson & Bill Livesay : David (preacher) is donating one of his kidneys to Bill (a member) on **January 29**.

Marsha Silotto : She has a cancerous tumor which is larger than at first thought and surgery is scheduled on **January 29**.

Deloris Crutcher : Rejoicing at the success of her surgery for breast cancer and that her follow-up is only oral meds..

Riley Stevens : Riley is much improved, but rash remains

Stanley Rich : Jonathan's uncle Stanley had an appointment in St. Louis, but was referred to an oncologist - app. this Mon.

Andy Nichols : Mike's brother is now recovering at home after heart surgery, but is being monitored by home health nurses.

Mike Nichols : He continues with physical therapy at home as he prays for patience as well as the ability to walk.

Nancy McConley: Sherry's aunt is responding to her therapy, but awaiting CAT scan to verify that she is healing..

Larry Bales (Rosanne's step-father) improving but on blood y

Debra Robinson : (Betty's step-daughter) can not longer receive chemotherapy so she's now having radiation treatments

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Ruby, Mary, Doris, Delores, Marge, Betty, Pete & Hazel,

Others with ongoing issues :

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Mike Nichols : He continues with physical therapy at home as

he prays for patience as well as the ability to walk.

Nancy Miller : Parkinson's Disease

Robin Shumard : Due to neurological issues which are secondary to diabetes, Robin is confined to a wheelchair.

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Wayne : Ongoing issues related to stroke recovery

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Bruce Miller: Madonna's brother-in-law is holding his own.

Dan Luidhardt : Wayne's friend has severe kidney failure due to diabetes. His condition is slowly deteriorating.

*** Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders**

*Visitors are always welcomed.
We invite you to visit our assemblies.*

Schedule of Services :

Sunday Morning : Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:20 a.m.

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday : Bible Study 7:00 p.m.



Ya'll Come !