

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

June 9, 2019

No Need to Fear

Many Christians have faced death with a fearful heart. Not because they didn't believe Jesus and his promises, but because they didn't believe they themselves had done enough in serving the Lord. They ask themselves haunting questions: *could I have taught one more person the gospel, or could I have given a little more of my time and money, or could I have fed and clothed one more orphan?* The obvious answer to all of these questions is "Yes, of course!", and that's where the fear creeps in. "Have I done enough? How much is enough?"

Whoa! Wait a minute. Something is wrong here. Where did this idea of "*doing enough*" come from? Since it didn't come from God, that leaves only one other source. Satan wants us to believe in a very skewed view of God, one that believes that God has a quota that we have to reach in order to get to heaven ... but he hasn't told us what that quota might be. Thus, our fears and uncertainties run wild. And the stress of pleasing God mounts!

Somehow we have come to believe that our life as a Christian is made up of events and activities, and we need to fill our life with as much activity as possible. So, we worship, we teach, we visit, we study, we pray, we help, we give, etc. with

the hope of pleasing God with all that we are doing. We try to make those who are not doing as much as we are doing feel guilty (*see Luke 18:9-14*). And, when we see someone doing more than we are doing, *we* feel guilty and try to figure out how we can rise to their level of activity

There are several things wrong with this. It is a reflection of the world's view that the one with the most toys wins, the one who has the greatest talent and does the most is the best. The Bible tells us that God views things quite differently. Instead of giving God our resume, he wants us to humbly surrender our whole life to him, to die to self and live only for Him 24/7 (*Phil. 3:4-9, Gal. 2:20*). It's not a matter of how much we are doing; it's a matter of living our whole life totally for Him. Being a Christian means being in Christ, and that means that Christ is our life (*Col. 3:3-4*). Whatever we do is done for his glory (*Col. 3:17*), not for a good deeds list to prove our worthiness. We will want to do all we can, but now we do it for His glory, not ours.

So, when we stand before God in judgment, there will be no reason to fear. We are clothed with Christ, and that's all that will matter.

— Joe Chesser

Jesus Casts His Vote

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.' (Rev. 2:17)

When the ancient Greeks voted, the men, not the women or the slaves, would anonymously cast their vote if they approved something with a white stone. If they disapproved or voted against something, they cast a black stone (what we would term black balling). A white stone was equivalent with innocence. If you were tried for a crime, a white stone signified acquittal and a black stone guilt. To receive a white stone meant that you were free from condemnation.

Jesus is casting his vote for us. He is personally giving us a white stone with a new heavenly name that only he and we will know that would suggest a personal gift from our Lord.

We vote for a lot things in this life. We cast a yes or no on who we want to lead us, for a Police Chief to enforce the laws on our books, a school board trustee, a prison board reviewing a prisoner's release, a bond to improve our everyday living, taxes to pay for infrastructure maintenance. We vote for things that generally affect our everyday living. We vote for what we reason will be the best vote we can cast.

Jesus will personally give us a white stone with a new heavenly name that only He and we will know. Wow. It doesn't get more personal than that. This will not be done anonymously. It will be done face to face. Are you eager to meet Him?

Something to consider and choose.

— L. Gragg

Upcoming Events :

Gospel Meeting at Paris :

When : June 24-26 at 7:00 each evening

Who : Mark Day of Flatwoods, Ky.

Where : Paris Church of Christ
704 Alexander St.
Paris, Illinois 61944

Lady's Day ... *"A Heart Full of Joy"*

Presented by : Delores Nelson of Middlebury, Indiana

Date : September 28, 2019 (*Mark this date.*)

Venue : Sunnyside Church of Christ
821 N. Sunnyside Rd.
Decatur, Illinois

Catered Luncheon : RSVP by Sept. 9, 2019
217*423-6218
(bkswan@comcast.net)

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: Pop Tarts, Fruit snacks, Fruit by the Foot, Gushers, Nutri Grain Bars, Breakfast bars of any kind, Protein bars

Anniversary : Greg and Rosanne June-12

Reading : Judges 6: 7-27

NEXT WEEK : (June 16, 2019)

Song Leader : Stan

Scripture Reader : Bob

Table & Announcements : Tim

Prayer List :

Farmers : We have several who are dependent on agriculture and this wet weather is rapidly becoming crisis for them. Please join us in praying for them during this time of need.

Betty Lowe : Betty is having significant heart issues, but she is involved in physical therapy to rebuild her strength enough receive a stent. She hopes to accomplish this goal by the Fall. She is making some progress toward her goal.

Jack Clark : Sherry's grandson's broken arm is healing well, but he'll need another 3 weeks in the cast, then 4 in a brace,

Mike Nichols : Mike continues therapy and is working hard to regain his mobility. He is beginning to show incremental progress but it is a long, challenging process.

Brianna Johnston : Had a good week, less chest pains.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

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

Others with ongoing issues :

Doris Faulkner : Her condition is advancing more rapidly.

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Nancy Miller : Parkinson's Disease

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

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 !