

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

January 5, 2020

Rear-View Mirrors

When learning to drive a car, one of the challenges is learning to use and trust your rear-view and side-view mirrors. Consider the size of your rear-view mirror compared to the windshield. Obviously, it's more important to see where you are going than where you have been. Yet, even though they are small and limited in what they reflect, these mirrors are invaluable to the complete driving experience. In addition to importance for safe driving, mirrors help with parallel parking, passing, backing, towing, putting on make-up, etc.

I thought of rear-view mirrors and their functions as the new year arrived. Looking back to where we have been and what we have done has immense value in helping us navigate the future. Jesus told the Twelve, "*I have told you this, so that when the time comes you will remember that I warned you*" (John 16:4). God had given us the capacity to reflect on the past through our memories (*and this time of the year our memories are given a workout*). What we "*see*" can help us stay the course, make constructive changes, and/or warn us of dangers around us.

So, it's important that we check our "*rear-view*" memories of the past from time to time throughout the year. Paul instructed

the Corinthians to “*examine yourselves ... test yourselves*” to make sure faith was still alive in them (2 Cor. 13.5). Peter wrote a second letter to God’s people “*to stimulate you to wholesome thinking*” and to “*recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets*” (2 Peter 3.1-2). It’s also important to “*remember His wonderful deeds which He has done*” (1 Chron. 16.12).

It would be foolish for drivers to check their mirrors only to ignore what they saw when passing or backing or parking. How much more foolish is it to remember the past or remember God’s word and then remain unaffected by it? James said we will miss out on God’s blessings if we forget what we see when we look at ourselves in God’s mirror (James 1.22-25).

As we look forward to a new year, we all hope for the best year yet. No matter how good the past year was, we all desire the new year to be better than the last one. Checking our rear-view mirrors of memory and scripture will enable us to avoid the mistakes of the past and to make adjustments for a better future. Even the best of us needs to sharpen our focus on living for God. Even the best of us needs to deal with our sins. Even the best of us needs to strengthen our faith. Even the best of us needs to press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called us heavenward in Christ Jesus (Phil. 3.14). Rear-view mirrors help us do that.

— Joe Chesser

A Brand New Page

*[Forget] the past and [look]
forward to what lies ahead.*

—Philippians 3:13

The Magic Slate was one of my favorite childhood Christmas gifts.

I could write or draw on the Slate’s plastic sheet, then peel the sheet back, and everything on the page would magically disappear. And then I could start over on a blank page.

There’s no magic that can wipe out the doings of the old year, but the New Year offers a new page, a new beginning, a new hope.

Don't let the botched opportunities, regrets, and stumbles of the old rob you of the blessings, choices, and possibilities of the new. Get excited about the plans God has for you this year.

Peel back the scribblings of the old year. There you go—a brand new page.

*Let go of what was.
Embrace what is to be.*

— Joe Barnett

This New Year, Let Us Be Reminded Of...

...the New Song that the Lord can put into our hearts (Psa. 96:1).
...the New Name the Lord has given to His people (Isa. 62:2).
...the New Covenant we now live under (Jer. 31:31).
...the New Commandment of love we are to express (John 13:34).
...the New Creation that we've been made in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17).
...the New Way we are to live our lives (Heb. 10:20).
...the New Jerusalem we look forward to in Heaven (Rev. 21:2).

- Edd Sterchi

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: Flavoring packets for water, Bags or cans of any kind of nuts, Bags of sunflower seeds, cocoa, any kind coffee, writing tablets, stationary, black ink pens, small white envelopes

Birthdays : Jerry Rankin January 9
Butch Reynolds January 13
Betty Lowe January 16

Reading : Isaiah 1: 1-5 ; 6: 1-13

NEXT WEEK : (January 12, 2019)

Song Leader : Delmar

Scripture Reader : Jonathan

Table & Announcements : Bob

Prayer List :

Ruby Miller : No update .. Assuming Sis. Ruby remains in the bounce-back unit at the Manor while and is to be doing well.

Mary Smith : No update .. Sis. Mary is also in the bounce-back unit at the Manor while she recovers from a broken hip.

Susan Bales : No update .. Rosanne's mother was suffering such severe back pain that it was inhibiting her ability to walk.

Brenda Stevens : Brenda has new pain meds for her back which are more effective than her previous medications.

Jim Jarnigan : Greg's cousin Jim has been diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia. Jim is still waiting for treatment options,

Doris Jarnigan : Jim's wife is going through physical therapy as she recovers from literally being run over by a truck.

Ruby Bradd : The 3 yr old daughter of Stephen & Ranae is battling a very aggressive form of cancer. Is in good spirits.

Wayne : Staph infection in his leg is slowly healing and is less painful, but insufficient circulation remains problematic..

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 : Rm. 603 in Alzheimer's unit at the Manor.

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

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