

# Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :  
Shelbyville  
Church of Christ

**November 1, 2020**

## *Losing Your Sense of Taste*

I am so happy that God created in us the sense of taste. What a blessing it is to taste the sweetness of ice cream or the slurpy goodness of spaghetti or butter on a hot roll. And what about bacon or corn on the cob or biscuits and gravy?! Yes, I am also thankful for the taste of salads and broccoli and green beans. The sense of taste enriches life's experiences.

Among the symptoms of COVID-19 is the temporary loss of taste and smell (the two senses are closely connected). How disappointing it is to open a jar of peanut butter and smell nothing or bite into Big Mac and wonder why you bothered! By their very nature, diseases rob us of the good things God has created. Though the temporary loss of the sense of taste and smell is very minor compared to some other symptoms of COVID-19, it does remind me of a biblical principle: sin robs us of the joy of tasting the goodness of the Lord!

Often the Bible uses the sense of physical taste to describe our spiritual relationship with God. "*How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*" (Psalm 119.105), "*they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb*" (Psalm 19.10). "*Taste and see that the Lord is good*" (Psalm 34.8). "*Like new born babies, crave the spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have*

*tasted that the Lord is good* (1 Peter 2.2-3). To taste that the Lord is good is a way of expressing utmost devotion to and love for God. Tasting God and His words bring sweetness and nourishment to our spirit; it brings assurance and peace and joy; it brings growth and maturity. For this to happen, we need to let the sweetness of God's words strengthen our hearts and enable us to live for Him, to fight off Satan and the spiritual disease of sin.

Just as coronavirus can rob us of the sense of taste we had enjoyed for so long, so also can spiritual diseases rob us of the taste we had of the goodness of the Lord. The writer of Hebrews warned his Christian audience of the danger of falling away from the Lord due to inactivity and immaturity. This was true even though they had "*tasted the heavenly gift*" and "*tasted the goodness of the word of God*" (Hebrews 6.4-6). But instead of growing to maturity, they were slow to learn, still needing the milk of God's word. Because they were not using God's word they were not being trained by it to distinguish good from evil (Hebrews 5.11-14). Plus, their continuing problem with sin (a spiritual disease) was contributing to their losing their taste of the goodness of the Lord (Hebrews 10.26-31). Sin will do that. It will dull our senses of the goodness of God and encourage us to give up.

The good news is that when we are aware of losing our sense of taste for the Lord, we can do something about it. In a series of "*let us*" statements (Hebrews 10.22-25), the Hebrews writer encouraged these struggling Christians to renew their taste by drawing near to Him, holding on to their hope in Him and encouraging each other to do the same.

So, keep your taste for the goodness of God alive and active. Don't ever lose it.

— Joe Chesser

### *Keep On Asking*

But she said, "Yes, Lord; but even the dogs feed on the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Matthew 15:27

This Canaanites woman was on a mission to get help for daughter. Jesus ignored her, the apostles wanted to get rid of

her, but she kept coming back begging for help. Jesus brushed her off saying He was sent to house of Israel, it would not be good to give the children's bread to the dogs. She came again saying she would be glad to have dog crumbs. She won the day and healing for her daughter. I was shocked at first. Now I'm impressed. I wish we all could have her faith and persistence.

— David Grubb

*“Do something today, your future self will thank you for”*

— Les Brown

## Shower in a Basket

Due to covid-19 restrictions we are unable to have the shower we would like to have for **Beth Niehls** so we're doing what we can; we're doing a shower in and around a basket.

There is a basket on a table at the back beside the electronics desk which is placed there to receive your gifts for Beth, J.J. and their new baby girl. Mentioning no names, but I know some of you have a tendency to put things off until the last minute so just be reminded that the gifts all need to be in the building by next week ( Nov. 8 ) even if they won't fit in that little basket ☺ so they can go home with Beth, J.J. and baby Mary Abigail Eve Ruth Niehls.

( More to follow )

**Reading : Psalm #95: 1-8 ; II Psalm #51: 1-13**

**NEXT WEEK : ( November 8, 2020 )**

**Song Leader : Greg**

**Scripture Reader : Jonathan**

**Table & Announcements : Tim**

**Final Arrangements :**

The final arrangements for Jonathan's uncle, Stanley Rich, are as follows : The funeral will be held on November 23rd at the First Christian Church in Herrick. Visitation will be from 9:00 until 10:30 a.m.. There will be Masonic rites starting at 10:30 and the funeral will follow those rites.

### **In Sympathy :**

Early Wednesday morning Mr. Christy Christner passed away at the age of 98. Mr. Christner was a long-term resident at the Manor. He was friendly and remarkably vital for his age, but he was no match for the Wuhan China virus. ( Covid-19 )

### **Prayer List :**

**Susan Bowyer :** Susan was able to come home from the hospital Monday evening. She is receiving home health care and feeling much better. Pray for her continued recovery.

**Beth Niehls :** We are all joining the Niehls family in praying that Miss Beth will have no difficulties in her pregnancy and that she will deliver a healthy baby without complications.

**Tim Gaddis :** Friday the son of Deloris was moved to the Prairie Rose rehabilitation center in Pana where he will be seeking to recover from a severe stroke. He's not at all happy with his situation and especially bummed that he cannot have visitors.

**Susan Bales :** Rosanne's mother is growing progressively weaker. Even a few steps are difficult and her mind is slipping

### **Those with ongoing need of prayer :**

#### ***Those with age related issues :***

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

#### ***Others with ongoing issues :***

**Doris Faulkner :** Rm. 603 in Alzheimer's unit at the Manor and has now been diagnosed with the Wuhan Virus.

**Madonna Nichols :** Madonna continues to receive chemo every other week to treat her liver cancer.

**Butch Reynolds :** Heart condition and back issues

**Kathy Minser :** The sister of the Reynolds is not in great shape, but seems to be holding her own, though easily tired

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing painful back issues.

Jerry Rankin : Jerry has multiple serious ongoing issues.

Debbie Adams : Lengthy recovery from severe car accident

**\* 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.*

*Ya'll Come !*

#### **Schedule of Services :**

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

Sunday Evening : Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

