

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

December 13, 2020

Giving God Credit

Do you love to watch little kids when they are learning things for the first time? They sometimes put their clothes on backwards or up-side-down or wrong-side-out, but they take pride in the fact that they did it themselves. And you'd better not try to help them. They'll let you know quite confidently that "*I can do it myself!*" And that's as it should be. We want our kids to grow up to be independent, learning to do things for themselves as they mature. There comes a time when kids should no longer need their parents to tie their shoes or help them with homework or drive a car.

However, there is a danger in becoming too independent. No one should ever get to the point where they feel like they never need anyone for anything. We all need mechanics or electricians or plumbers from time to time. We all need doctors and financial advisors and preachers. We only make it more difficult when we try to be so independent that we never seek the help of anyone else. God has created us to need help from those around us. When others do help us, we need to acknowledge and thank them for it.

This is especially true of the help that God gives us. For some reason we often just meander through life without ever recognizing much of God's help, even less thanking him for it.

By doing this, we are not only robbing God of the glory due Him, we are also limiting how God works through us. But by acknowledging God's hand, even in our smallest battles, we are opening the door for Him to enable us to fight bigger ones.

David recognized that it was God who delivered him from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear. From those experiences David learned that God could also deliver him from the giant Philistine, Goliath (*1 Samuel 17:37*). The apostle Paul was able to do his greatest work once he understood that his accomplishments were by God's grace, not by his own abilities (*2 Cor. 12:7-10*). Jesus taught that those who learn to use their talents, when they were entrusted to them by their master, will be given more talents (*Matt. 25:14-30*). Giving God credit, even in the smallest details, cannot be over emphasized.

Paul wrote: "*And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him*" (*Col. 3:17*).

What have you credited God with so far today?

— Joe Chesser

The Thankful Heart

There were ten. As Jesus was passing between Samaria and Galilee, He entered a village where He met ten lepers who stood off at a distance. It was the customary thing to do for lepers to stand off from others because they were considered "unclean." They cried out to Jesus, "*Jesus, Master, have mercy on us*" (Luk 17:13). When He saw them, Jesus gave a simple command, "*Go and show yourselves to the priests*" (Luk 17:14). The Bible tells us that as they were making their way to the priests, they were healed. All of them.

One of them, upon noticing that he had been healed, turned back, praised God with a loud voice, and fell at the feet of Jesus, giving thanks to Him. As is the case with many stories told in the gospels, the "hero" of the story is the most unlikely character. Luke makes known the nationality of this one that returned to give thanks. This cleansed leper that returned to give thanks was a Samaritan.

Jesus' response is haunting. "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner" (Luke 17:17-18). How often have we failed to return and give praise to God? The heart of thanks cannot help but recognize the wonderful blessings God grants to His people. We have been blessed beyond measure by God who loves us more than we can imagine. There were ten. Let's be the one!

— Keith Harris

NEXT WEEK : (December 13, 2020)

Song Leader : Stan

Scripture Reader : Ron

Table & Announcements : TBA

Birthdays : Delmar Brunk December 13
Eric Stevens December 16

Reading : Psalm 30: 1-12 ; I Samuel 2: 1-6

Sympathy

We extend our sincerest sympathy to the Greg, Mitch and Butch on the death of their sister Kathy Minser. Kathy had been sick for some time and was receiving hospice care.

She passed away at home on Friday. As of this writing, no final arrangements have been made.

Prayer is the greatest wireless connection available to us.

Prayer List :

Susan Bowyer : Susan continues to struggle with some of her health issues, but she is at home now under the tender care of Tim. There are visiting nurses and therapists who visit her on a regular basis. Tim says there is some incremental improvement in her condition and a strong desire on her part, but she remains in need of a strong prayer effort.

Beth Niehls : Little girl Niehls is due next week so we are all joining the Niehls family in praying that Miss Beth will deliver on time and without difficulty or complications. We are all praying for a healthy baby girl.

Mia Stevens : Bob & Brenda's granddaughter (in Calif.) is fully recovered. They send their thanks for all your prayers.

Fay Julius : The 91 year old mother of Ron was is beginning to improve. She is now back home, but Ron and his sister are taking turns spending the night with her.

Doris Bartanen : Doris remains in Shelbyville Rehabilitation & Health where she continues to receive medication for a severe infection and rehabilitation to enable her to walk. She seems to be a little stronger. She can now stand and can take a few steps with a walker. Still, MUCH prayer needed.

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, but Patty says she has a mild case of the virus.

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

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing painful back issues.

Jerry Rankin : Jerry has multiple serious ongoing issues.

Debbie Adams : Lengthy recovery from severe car accident

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

Tim Gaddis : The son of Deloris remain frustrated that he must be in the Prairie Rose Rehabilitation Center in Pana w/o visitors

*** 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.

