

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

January 3, 2021

Crises Reveals Our Character

What would you do if you were fired from your job and put in prison because your employer's wife told horrible lies about you?

What would you do if you had run for your life because you helped defend a neighbor from an injustice?

What would you do if you were offered something you greatly desired but knew was illegal and life-threatening to obtain?

What would you do if suddenly you discovered that all that you had believed in the past was not true, and instead of serving God you were actually fighting Him?

What would you do if you were offered a considerable amount of money to betray a friend?

What would you do if you found out that the woman to whom you were engaged became pregnant before the wedding, and you knew it wasn't your child?

These are not hypothetical questions. They really happened, and the answers to these questions reveal the type of character each person possessed at the time the crisis occurred. You can probably identify each of the people in the

above scenarios: Joseph (Jacob's son), Moses, Eve, Paul, Judas, and Joseph (and Mary). Some of them faced the crisis with faith and resolve, and withstood the challenge. Others failed. But what these examples teach us is that when crises occur, our character will be revealed.

All of us have faced and will continue to face many challenges in our lives. They may be strong temptations; they may be difficult choices; they may be heart-breaking health issues. And many of our crises are not personally our own - they may involve our spouse, parents, children, family or friends. Still, they are heavy burdens.

As we reflect back on 2020, it's easy to see that there were countless crises that shaped, molded and revealed our character. Not much we can do about them now except to determine that in 2021 we will learn from our mistakes and enhance our strengths.

How we handle crises reveals who we really are. It also reveals how we have prepared for the inevitable challenges. We may not know exactly the kind of crises that may be coming in 2021, but they will come. How we prepare today for them will determine how these crises affect us. Roy Disney once said, *"When your values are clear to you, making decisions becomes easier."* Our three basic optional responses to crises are: 1) Joseph was able to overcome the crisis with Potiphar's wife because he had already established his values, even as a teenager; 2) Moses overcame a poor decision by developing spiritually while in the wilderness; 3) Judas allowed his crisis to destroy him.

What will 2021 reveal about your character?

— Joe Chesser

Courage Resolutions

*The Lord is my light and my
salvation—whom shall I fear.*

— Psalm 27:1

I RESOLVE that no matter how difficult today may be, I will have the courage to try again tomorrow.

I RESOLVE to control my attitude as well as my action.

I RESOLVE to live by the words never and always—never complain and always smile.

I RESOLVE to live in the awareness that all of life I have left is in front of me; none of it is behind me.

I RESOLVE to feed my faith, not my fear.

I RESOLVE to face my future with courage because I have total faith in my Father.

I RESOLVE to remember that God's companionship is wherever and forever.

*Courage is doing what you're afraid
to do, knowing that you have backup.*

— Joe Barnett

I Am the New Year

I AM THE NEW YEAR

I am unused, unspotted, without blemish,
I stretch before you three hundred
And sixty-five days long.
I will present each day
In its turn, a new leaf
In the book of life
For you to place upon
It your imprint.



I AM THE NEW YEAR

Each hour of every day, I will
Give you sixty minutes that
Have never known the use of man.
White and pure I present them;
It remains for you to fill them
With sixty jeweled seconds of
Love, hope, endeavor, patience
And trust in God.

I AM THE NEW YEAR

I am coming -

But once past, I can
Never be recalled,
Make me your best!

– Author Unknown

NEXT WEEK : (January 10, 2020)

Song Leader : Tim

Scripture Reader : Larry

Table & Announcements : Ron

Reading : Matthew 6: 24-34 ; 14: 22-33

Birthdays : Jerry Rankin January 9

Prayer List :

Megan Nichols : Megan has been diagnosed with covid-19 and is experiencing so rather severe symptoms. She's a pretty sick young lady. As well, we need to keep her parents in our prayers. Both Mike and Madonna are in the high risk category

Susan Bowyer : Though Susan continues to struggle with some of her health issues, she is now showing significant improvement in that she can walk with her walker and no other assistance. Thank you for your continued prayers.

Doris Bartanen : Doris remains in Shelbyville Rehabilitation & Health. Her improvements are now more observable, but within limitations. Her cognitive skills have improved as well as her physical strength.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Marge, Mary, Doris, Delores, Betty, Pete & Hazel, Fay Julius

Others with ongoing issues :

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

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Jerry has multiple serious ongoing issues.

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing painful back 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 remains 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.

