

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

April 4, 2021

Make Someone's Day

University freshman Ben Byrum was lonely.

Ben had been to a nearby church a few times but didn't feel connected or wanted. He decided to go one more time. He would walk in and sit down. If no one spoke to him before the service started, he would walk out and not return.

A countdown timer at the front of the sanctuary indicated the time remaining before the service would begin; five minutes to go.

People wandered in, gathered in cliques, slapped backs, gossiped, chuckled. No one spoke to him. Occasionally someone looked his way. He hoped they would smile or nod; he would count that a greeting and stay. Didn't happen.

With thirty seconds remaining, Ben got ready to leave. He would go back to his room and stay there alone for the rest of the day.

With fifteen seconds left on the countdown clock, his math professor, seated two rows in front of him, turned around, smiled and said, "I'm glad you're here, Ben."

He stayed.

He doesn't remember the sermon or what hymns were sung. What he remembers is being noticed. "People may forget what you say," said Maya Angelou, "but they will never forget how you made them feel."

Don't make the mistake of limiting this to Sunday morning church. Everyone wants to be wanted. Everyone needs to be noticed. Being ignored is rejection, pure and simple. And it hurts.



A man in his thirties left his San Francisco apartment, walked to the Golden Gate Bridge, and jumped to his death.

A suicide letter, found on the dresser in his apartment said, "I'm going to walk to the bridge. If one person smiles at me on the way, I won't jump."

You have to wonder how far the walk was from his apartment to the bridge and how many people he passed on the way—any one of whom could have saved a life with a smile.



At 9:00 p.m. on a November night in 2015, Desmond Powell was walking home from a basketball game in Manchester, New Hampshire. Approaching the Granite Street Bridge, he saw a man sitting on the cement railing over the Merrimack River, 100 feet below.

"Hey buddy, what are you doing?" Powell asked.

"I'm gonna jump," the man said.

For the next ten minutes they talked, the stranger alternating between crying and staring at the churning black water below. "I'm having a rough time," he said. "I don't have a job, I'm hungry, and I'm addicted to heroin."

Powell inched closer, expressed his concern and told him the two-year-old daughter he had told him about loved and needed him. He held out his hand. The fellow gripped it and climbed down.

“I’m Desmond,” Powell said. “Let me buy you something to eat.” They ate and talked. After a while, the man said, “Desmond, can you call the police so I can get help?”

Fifteen minutes later, the police arrived. As he climbed into the patrol car, he turned to Powell. “Thank you,” he said. “You are my hero.” (This story excerpted and edited from *Reader’s Digest*, September 2017.)

Today let it be your smile, your “hello,” your word of encouragement that makes someone’s day.

— Joe Barnett

Tell someone how much God loves him/her.

Whose Bible Are You Following ?

Recently I read an article that listed some of the statements from the introductory chapters of the Satanic Bible. Here are just three of them (note: there are many more).

- Satan represents indulgence instead of abstinence!
- Satan represents vengeance instead of turning the other cheek!
- Satan represents all of the so-called sins, as they all lead to physical, mental or emotional gratification.

Did you notice anything concerning today’s society in that list? These are some philosophies that are very present in “modern” thinking. We shouldn’t be surprised at people thinking only of themselves and demanding that their sinful lifestyles be accepted by society. Jesus told us that many would take that path (which leads to destruction, Matt. 7:13). As children of God, we need to not only be appalled by these philosophies of unrighteousness, but we need to expose them for what they really are (centered around Satan). “*Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them;*” (Eph. 5: 11)

We are either following the doctrine of Satan or God (Matt. 12:30). Whose Bible are you following and professing?

— Edd Sterchi

Reading : Phil. 2: 5-11, Heb. 1: 1-6, John 1: 1-5, 14

NEXT WEEK : (April 11, 2021)

Song Leader : Stan

Scripture Reader : J.J.

Table & Announcements : Jonathan

Prayer List :

Wayne : Bro. Wayne has been diagnosed with liver cancer. He has an appointment with an Oncologist on Tuesday, but the course of treatments has not yet been decided.

Susan : Sis. Susan has successfully completed her course of physical therapy. She thanks everyone for their continuing prayers, their cards and the many kindnesses done for her.

Rosanne : Tuesday Sis. Rosanne had an MRI to confirm the success of a previous surgery.

Mary Julius : Bro. Ron's sister has suffered a stroke so she faces an extended period of recovery and rehabilitation.

Ron and Doris Bartanen : Ron & Doris have been reunited in a two room (*living and bed*) unit at Mason Point near Sullivan.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Marge, Mary, Doris, Delores, Betty, Pete & Hazel,
Susan, Wayne, 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 ongoing back issues

Jerry Rankin : Jerry has multiple serious ongoing issues.

Tim Gaddis : Recovering from a stroke at the Rehab facility

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing painful back issues.

Debbie Adams : Lengthy recovery from severe car accident

Mary Julius : Recovering from stroke

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

** Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders.*

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*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.



