

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

May 16, 2021

What's Your Motivation ?

When you're married to a C.P.A. you don't often forget that March and April are not really in the season you know as Spring, they are actually only a part of a bigger season known as "Tax Season." Every year millions of Americans stress over that April 15th deadline, wishing all along it would all simply go away. "In a recent poll, ninety-six percent of respondents agreed that, *'It is every American's civic duty to pay their fair share of taxes.'* But in that same poll, seventy-two percent of the respondents acknowledged that it was fear of an audit that compelled them not to cheat." (*Freakonomics* by Steven Levitt & Stephen Dubner) So, it might be fair to say that if it weren't for the fear of getting caught and the resulting consequences, most of us would likely cheat on our tax returns. We weighed it out in our minds and have come to the conclusion that the cost is worth it to avoid the consequences. I guess that's to be expected.

Unfortunately though, this attitude can also creep into our spiritual reasoning as well. Why should I behave myself? So I don't go to Hell. Even though we feel it's our duty to follow God's rules, we'd be much less likely to do so if it weren't for the fear of consequences. I've often wondered about this attitude. If the consequence for living an ungodly life was not Hell, but,

say, merely an end to our existence, would I still give my all to God? I think it's a fair question because, while I do believe in a Hell, I am compelled to think that God wants us to choose Him as opposed to be simply not choosing Hell.

Let me be more blunt; if there were no consequences whatsoever, would I work so hard to avoid stealing? Hatred? Pornography? Envy? Dishonesty? Impatience? Make this personal. What tempts you the most? If you could truly "get away with it" would you? I think part of what made Jesus so awesome was that he kept a clear head on just how shallow, fleeting, and ultimately unsatisfying sin really is. He was tempted, sure, but he looked past all the glitter Satan threw out there and saw the overwhelming benefits of a holy life. There's more here to be discussed, but I'm going to let you chew on that yourself.

— Joe Chesser, Jr.

I had this article of Jr. scheduled for 4/18, but was otherwise occupied and forgot it before I was released, but it's still good.

Look Up, Ahead, and Within

*The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away;
may the name of the Lord be praised.*

— Job 1:21

Blameless. Upright. Honors God. Avoids evil. That's Job's God-stated Bio (Job 1:8).

Job had a big family, lots of land and livestock, and more money than Midas.

In a single day, he lost it all: dug ten graves for his children, lost all his wealth—and his health. "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised," he said (Job 1:21).

How could he respond to adversity that way? Three things:

He looked up—acknowledged God's sovereignty (Job 2:10; 42:2).

He looked ahead—confirmed his confidence in resurrection and future life (Job 19:26).

He looked within—confessed his limited human perception (Job 42:2-3).

What should you do when you're hammered by the unexpected, unpredictable, and unexplainable? Look up. Look ahead. Look within.

We know little. God knows all.

— Joe Barnett

The Bible

It is the travelers map,
the pilgrim's staff,
the pilot's compass,
the soldier's sword and
the Christian's charter.

Marriage Improvement Seminar

May 28th and 29th

Clinton Church of Christ.
5450 Evans R. , Clinton Illinois

"You're song My Song"

Keeping the music in your marriage.

(*For details pick up a card from the back table*)

**You can tell how big a person is
by what it takes to discourage him.**

Reading : Acts 17: 10-12 , John 11: 38-44

NEXT WEEK : (May 23, 2021)

Song Leader : Delmar

Scripture Reader : Bob

Table & Announcements : Tim

The Bible

It contains the mind of God,
the state of man,
the way of salvation,
the doom of sinners, and
the happiness of believers.

Prayer List :

Wayne : I'm in quarantine today in preparation for a procedure tomorrow. Having had the vaccine, I thought to avoid a quarantine, but no such luck. As for the procedure, once one gets past the anesthesia, the procedure is not at all life-threatening. It is a simple cauterizing of nerves to provide some relief of pain so it will not be so challenging to stand.

Susan Bales : Rosanne's mother continues to grow weaker.

Mike Nickles : Bro. Mike is nursing a severe tooth ache, but the swelling in his face has been reduced by antibiotics.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Marge, Mary, Doris, Delores, Betty, Pete & Hazel, Susan, Wayne, Mary & Fay Julius, Ron & Doris Bartanen

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 : (*sister-in-law of Ron*) Recovering from stroke

Susan Bales : Rosanne's mother is growing steadily weaker.

*** 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.

