

**PRAYERS**

**Connie** - Here latest checkup indicated no changes. She will have another checkup in a few months.

**Congregation News:**

Potluck is next Sunday. Please bring a dish to share and plan to stay for the Sunday afternoon singing.

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** Regular church attendance is important! Remember the banana: every time it leaves the bunch it gets skinned!

**Those Privileged to Serve**

**Sunday Morning Service:**

**8/12/18**

**8/19/18**

Bible Class	Tom Bright	Colby Crawford
Announcements	Colby Crawford	Colby Crawford
Song Leader	Tom Bright	Tom Bright
Opening Prayer	Tom Bright	Colby Crawford
Lord's Supper	Colby Crawford	Tom Bright
Closing Prayer	Colby Crawford	Paul Darling
Sermon	Colby Crawford	Paul Darling

**Bible Classes**

**Sunday Morning**

**Wednesday Evening**

Adult	Tom Bright	Tom Bright
Children	Colby Crawford	Linda McBrayer
Toddlers	Cindy Bright	
Babies	Anissa Crawford	

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

August 18<sup>th</sup> Bryana Darling Rombs

**Building Cleanup**

McBrayer

**Aberdeen church of Christ**

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**Aberdeen, SD 57401**

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**www.aberdeenchurchofchrist.net**

**Bulletin Submissions**

If you would like anything added to the bulletin such as prayer requests, news, or events, please make submissions by Friday night to: [tlbj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tlbj@sbcglobal.net)

# Aberdeen church of Christ

August 12, 2018

## Making Excuses for our Faults

*To the work! To the work! We are servants of God, Let us follow the path that our Master has trod; With the balm of His counsel our strength to renew, Let us do with our might what our hands find to do.* (lyrics from "To The Work" by Fanny Crosby)

I read that Daniel Boone was once asked, "Have you ever been lost?" It is said that his reply was "No, but I was once bewildered three whole days." Daniel Boone was making allowances for Daniel Boone. But which of us can honestly say that we have not done the same thing? It is easy for me to forgive myself and say "I was tired," or "This one doesn't count." It is easy to make allowances or excuses for our faults. Someone has said, "Deal with the faults of others as gently as you do your own."

But unless we make allowances, how in the world can we live with ourselves? How can we face the problems and trials and tests which come when we realize our shortcomings and insufficiency? Isn't it wonderful to know that the Lord makes allowances, too?" *Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust" (Psa. 103:13-14).* The great allowance that God has made is that in spite of our sins, shortcomings, failures and slip-ups, we can be saved through Jesus Christ. The emphasis is on what Christ has done and can do for each of us. And that is our hope.

The word most often used for sin in the Bible is not rebellion, but it is the picture of a man with a bow and arrow. He has shot an arrow and missed the intended target. That is what sin is: a missing of the target. We are (or should be) aware of our faults and failures. *"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23).*

Christ came to the earth to show us God. He came to do away with the false concept that some folks have of God as a tyrant or a demon. Christ came to let us see the holiness of God--His love and His care. The One who knows us best and loves us most cares about us! Isn't that amazing? Take the time to read **1 Peter 5:7**. The gospel is still God's power to save **(Rom. 1:16)**.

I reckon ol' Daniel Boone was once bewildered three whole days. We, too, are sometimes bewildered. But God never is! *"But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children" (Psa. 103:17).*

## AWAKE AND ARISE!

The Congressional Record of January 10, 1963, contained a list of "Current Communist Goals." These goals were taken from the book, *The Naked Communist*, written by Cleon Skousen. This information was based on his experience with the FBI for sixteen years.

We present here six of those announced goals. One may really observe just how nearly those goals have come to being fulfilled during the last forty years.

1. "Eliminate all laws governing obscenity by calling them censorship and a violation of free speech and free press."
2. "Break down cultural standards of morality by promoting pornography and obscenity in books, magazines, motion pictures, radio and television."
3. "Present homosexuality, degeneracy and promiscuity as normal, natural and healthy."
4. "Infiltrate the churches and replace revealed religion with social religion. Discredit the Bible and emphasize the need for intellectual maturity which does not need a religious crutch."
5. "Eliminate prayer or any phase of religious expression in the schools on the ground that it violates the principle of separation of church and state."
6. "Discredit the family as an institution. Encourage promiscuity and easy divorce."

What we as Americans are doing (or allowing to be done) to ourselves is shameful and tragic. The extent of the moral and spiritual deterioration is frightening to the thoughtful person. What are we doing to our children? What kind of heritage shall we leave them? Parents Awake! And Arise!

The pure and unadulterated gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is the only answer to the spiritual revival that is needed both in the individual, in the community, and throughout the land. The need is urgent!

### Who Am I?

She was a daughter of Saul.  
She became a wife of David's.  
She helped David escape from Saul.

Answer last week. **Gamaliel**

## SELF-PITY

It has been said that self-pity is a deadly poison that will twist your perception, defile your attitude and choke the life out of your spirit. Your passion and inspiration will wither away and leave your heart cold, your senses dull and your mind blinded. Self-pity can leave you struggling with bitterness and resentment, indifference, doubts and confusion and even depression. You will become someone who is unpleasant to be with and unresponsive to the help and love offered by others until your soul can be cleansed of this poison and your life renewed. How do you break the grip of self-pity?

**1. Engage God every day of your life.** By this we mean prayer, study, meditation, worship, devotion and fellowship. Seek to understand God, praise Him, spend time alone with Him, then humble yourself to Him and follow Him. God is the Good Father and Christ is the Good Shepherd (**Matt. 7:7-11; John 10:11**).

**2. Take to heart the sincere encouragement of others.** Surround yourself with and reach out to others who want to love you with the love of the Lord (**Heb. 10:23-25; Col. 4:6; Phil. 2:1-4; Gal. 6:1-5**).

**3. Remember the good you have received from the Lord.** Also the good you have been privileged to do already. Focus on the good you are given the opportunity to do today and plan for the good yet to come (**Jas. 2:14-26**).

**4. Take forward action.** There are many things you may respond to with self-pity: circumstances or situations--sinfulness or mistreatment from others--your own weaknesses and faults. One step at a time, one day at a time, meet whatever is troubling you. Do not wallow in the opposite extremes of self-pity or denial. Get up and do something about it (**Phil. 3:1-14**).

Specific situations will call for specific actions and attitudes. However, these four suggestions will help to build our lives in all that we do. The focus of these truths--God and His goodness--will be a shield against the poisoned dart of self-pity--or they will cleanse the heart and soul if it has already been poisoned. Allow the grace and mercy of God to save and heal you and your life--as you give yourself in obedience to His Word. If you do that, your life can only get better! Truly, the best is yet to be!