

PRAYERS

Butch and Chris – They continue to recuperate. Chris has one more round of chemo. Butch is scheduled to have his knee replaced on June 13th.

Chanice – She is done with dialysis but is suffering from an infection.

Connie – She has a checkup in Rochester tomorrow. We are praying for a good report.

Congregation News

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Ability is what will get you to the top--if you can't marry the boss's daughter!

Those Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning Service:

6/3/18

Bible Class	Colby Crawford
Announcements	Tom Bright
Song Leader	Colby Crawford
Opening Prayer	Colby Crawford
Lord's Supper	Tom Bright
Scripture Reading	Tom Bright
Sermon	Tom Bright

6/10/18

Colby Crawford
Paul Darling
Paul Darling
Paul Darling
Paul Darling
Colby Crawford
Colby Crawford

Bible Classes

Adult	Colby Crawford
Children	Colby Crawford
Toddlers	Cindy Bright
Babies	Anissa Crawford

Sunday Morning

Wednesday Evening

Tom Bright
Linda McBrayer

Birthdays & Anniversaries

June 3rd - Ariana Crawford
June 10th - Kristen Bright

Building Cleanup

Bright

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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

Aberdeen church of Christ

June 3, 2018

Big Words

I'm not talking about the size of the letters, nor about how long the word is. In fact, some of the biggest words I can think of in the Bible are all four letters or less. What I mean by "big" is that many people simply can't get over them; they stumble and reject them. Let me give you some examples.

"Not"

All of us know that one of the most prevalent doctrines in religion today is that salvation is by "faith only." But did you know that in order to teach that you have to stumble over and reject the word "not"? James said, "by works a man is justified, and not by faith only" (James 2:24). I guess it is just too big of a word for many to handle.

"Obey"

So many in the religious world are "turned off" when they hear someone speak of doing something in response to God. But what do they do when Paul says Christ is the "author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him" (Hebrews 5:9)? Guess that is another word too big to understand.

"For"

When you begin to teach about baptism most reject it or will teach baptism is because one is already saved. Strange then that Peter would say we are to be baptized "for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38). Now lest some try to change the meaning of "for", look to the exact same phrase in Matthew 26:28. Here Jesus shed His blood "for the remission of sins." Now was that "because of" sins already forgiven or looking forward to remission of sins? The word must be too big for some.

"One"

Many cry, "Attend the church of your choice" as if there were many, but God has told us in Ephesians 1:22-23 that the church is the body. When Paul wrote the Ephesians he told them there is "one body" (Ephesians 4:4). Now that is not that hard to understand. In the same context we are told there is "one God." Will those who have trouble with "one body [church]" tell us to "worship the God of your choice?" But still the word is too big for them.

Yes, there are "big" words in the Bible. But if we will humble ourselves to God we can understand and obey them.

Tell Me Something Good

Recently a local news program has begun a daily section called “Tell Me Something Good”. They go on the street and ask random people to tell them some good news. Many seem to like this idea, especially as there are so many bad things throughout society on a daily basis!

In 2 Timothy we find a similar situation. Paul is about to die – bad news for the young evangelist whom Paul had mentored for some time! Then in chapter 3 Paul tells Timothy that if he, or any other “will live Godly in Christ Jesus” that they “shall suffer persecution” (12). He even goes on to tell him that “evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse” (13). One begins to wonder, “How much bad news can poor Timothy bear?!” But then we realize that while this is “bad news” it is also a much needed warning for Timothy (and for us!). But it seems to cry out for a “tell me something good” moment, doesn’t it? Well Paul then continues with the inspired message and does give Timothy as well as us something good! Notice what he says in the next two verses:

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.(14-15).

In the midst of all the bad that seemed to surround Timothy (and us) we are told several things that are indeed “something good”!

- **I CAN CONTINUE LIVING GODLY.** In verse 14 we read “but continue” ... the assurance that in spite of what or who surrounds us in this evil world, we can continue in the things we have learned.
- **I CAN TRUST OTHERS!** Again in verse 14 we are told that the things we need to remember “of whom thou hast learned them”. In trying times when it seems no one cares about God and His truth we need to seek and focus on those who continue to teach God’s truth!
- **I CAN BEGIN EARLY TO UNDERSTAND GOD’S WORD.** In verse 15 we find that Paul reminded Timothy that “from a child thou has known the holy scriptures”. False teachers strive to make us think we don’t have the ability to know truth (and thus question them!). But then we remember that God has not given us a puzzle in His word but a message we can all know (John 8:32).
- **I HAVE THE STANDARD WITHIN MY GRASP.** In verse 15 Paul assures Timothy (and us) that the Word we can know is “able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus”. Jesus once asked, “what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?” (Matthew 16:26). But we have been told

something good – we have THE Standard within our grasp to get us to heaven!

“Tell me something good!” It is a great blessing in God’s word to be told good things over and over. Truly we are overcomers of the bad in this world if we determine to follow God’s good news!

Can George be saved?

George never did anything wrong, that you’d notice. He wasn’t one to commit grave errors. He never spoke ill of another. He never cheated anyone, especially not his wife. He never killed anyone, nor harmed anyone bodily. George wasn’t a violent man. He never mistreated or failed to provide for his family.

George seldom missed a church service. He’d come spruced up, more than his usual attire. He could be counted on to occupy his favorite spot on the pew Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Wednesday night. He could be seen contributing in the plate. He couldn’t be heard much to sing, but his mouth usually moved during the song service. Sometimes he might nod during a sermon, but not always. He wasn’t one to lead in worship.

George never taught anyone the gospel. He was the quiet type. As far as anyone knew, he never brought anyone to church, nor did he make an invitation. No one saw any special effort from him to support the work of the congregation. He wasn’t one to speak up in Bible class. It took special effort for him to read Scripture. He wasn’t an elder or deacon or preacher or Bible class teacher.

George was there, that could be said for him. George was a good old guy. He’d loan you a wrench or a power tool. Some years, he’d even make it some nights for a gospel meeting. He had good intentions.

In the judgment day, in his present condition, can George be saved?

Who Am I?

He was an Ethiopian (Jer. 38:7)

He interceded for Jeremiah (Jer. 38:8,9)

He helped remove Jeremiah from a dungeon (Jer. 38:11-13)

Answer last week. **Simon a Tanner**