

PRAYERS

Chris (Anita’s daughter in law) – DRs are concerned with her test numbers.

Linda McBrayer – Was injured at work and had stitches in her head.

Congregation News:

Daylight Savings Time ends next Sunday morning. Be sure to roll your clock back one hour Saturday night.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Don’t repeat anything if you are not willing to put your name to it.

Those Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning Service:

10/28/18

11/04/18

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

Bible Classes

Sunday Morning

Wednesday Evening

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

November 4th – Cade Bonen

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

October 28, 2018

MAKING EXCUSES FOR OUR FAULTS

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).*

We Just Made It!

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 NKJV “Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. (25) And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. (26) Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. (27) But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.”

To say I wasn't very athletically inclined as a child is an understatement. Don't take that the wrong way. I loved sports and even “made” the swim team, but some kids just seemed like naturals in comparison. But at the end of every season, no matter how many times I struck out, even at T-ball, you still got a trophy. Everybody wins, and everything is all sunshine, snow-cones and pizza parties.

In Paul's letter to the church at Corinth, he writes regarding “*a race*,” but it's not like any modern day competition for kids. In Paul's day, the Greek contests were very different. There was no 1st, 2nd or 3rd place. There was one winner, and the rest were losers.

In comparison, Christians are certainly running a race, but we are not competing against one another. We are competing against ourselves. We are challenged to battle our own weaknesses that can so easily turn into sin. We must have the resolve to wake up every morning knowing that we are going to have to “*fight the good fight*” (1st Timothy 6:12) or else.

Another difference between the competitions the Greeks raced and the Christian race is that in Christianity, we can all be winners. That is not to say that we “will” all be winners, but that we all have been given opportunity to win through Christ Jesus, our Savior. This is not something we are to do alone either. Unlike the Greeks, the Christians can help one another during the race. As a matter of fact, it's necessary to help one another in order to win (Hebrews 10:24).

Just like the Greek competitor, that can see victory within his grasp; we too, when we assemble together, get a taste of heaven that drives us onward. When Paul says, “I run thus: not with uncertainty,” (1st Corinthians 9:26) he's not being haughty or prideful. Paul simply understands that the Christian race is not a race for speed and strength, but one of perseverance and steadfastness and “pressing on” (Philippians 3:14).

The Christian's race is that of a spiritual nature. The reward is not some tangible trophy that will collect dust over the years, but one that will be awarded when this life is past. This race is not like some fad diet that only lasts for a month or so, it's the race of a lifetime for a lifetime. We must be sure that we follow the rule book (God's Word) and not grow weary of doing good. God has given us His very best that we might have redemption and not become “disqualified.”

The Most Valuable Discovery

In 1847, Sir James Simpson of Edinburgh discovered the use of chloroform as an anesthetic in surgery. Some have claimed that this was the most significant discovery of modern medicine.

In his later years, Sir James was lecturing at Edinburgh University and a student asked, “What do you consider to be the most valuable discovery of your lifetime?”

Sir James answered quickly, “My most valuable discovery was when I discovered myself a sinner and that Jesus Christ was my Savior.”

Similarly, at age 82, near death, almost blind, and with fading memory, John Newton, author of the timeless song, “Amazing Grace,” spoke these words: “My memory is nearly gone, but I remember two things: I'm a great *sinner* and Christ is a great *savior*.”

The book of Romans makes clear these significant truths that Simpson and Newton articulated.

The *problem* is sin (3:10, 23).

The *penalty* for sin is death (6:23).

The *power* of God unto salvation is the “Gospel” (1:16).

The *provision* for sin is Christ's death (5:8).

The *price* paid for sin is His blood (5:9).

The *process* by which we contact that blood? By placing our faith and trust in Jesus (5:1), confessing Christ (10:9-10), turning from our sins in repentance (2:4), and being buried with Christ in baptism (6:1-4). Then, we are to dedicate the rest of our lives in service to Him (6:12-18; 12:1).

The most valuable discovery that YOU can make is your Savior too!