



Debt Reduction Day



Next Sunday, April 29th

"...let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly,
or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7

Refresh Your Faith

I am often asked, "How can I get my spiritual life going? I'm in a rut, about to run out of steam." The most common ailment among us is a stagnated or stale spiritual life. Paul wrote Colossians 3:1-17 to help revive and refresh our faith. I find five principles that work.

1. **BE HONEST AND SINCERE.** "...seek those things which are above." (v.1) Both are necessary to begin rejuvenation. Our desire for holiness must be genuine. We must be sincere in our efforts to honor, please and obey Him.

2. **ADJUST YOUR FOCUS.** "...set your affection on things above." (v.2) To aid us in pleasing Him, we must set our eyes on Jesus and things relative to godly living.

3. **PUT AWAY HINDRANCES.** "...put off all these." (vv.5-9) All things that would retard progress in our spiritual growth should be avoided. You must not make it your habit to practice sin.

4. **DEVELOP GODLY HABITS.** "...put on therefore." (vv.10-17) A vital part of spiritual well-being is the cultivation of good habits: Spend time daily in the Bible. End your reading with a prayer for wisdom to live what you read. Don't miss any worship or Bible study assembly. Say something good about God's Son and His church to at least one person every day.

5. **CRUCIFY SELF DAILY.** "For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God." Implied in all of chapter 3 is the necessity of the death of selfishness. Check your attitudes and ambitions often each day to be certain that self is dead and that Christ is alive in your heart, thoughts and actions.

Try following these principles for 30 days and you'll notice pleasant results. His Word will enrich and empower your life, His peace will rule your heart, and you will see how great it is to be part of the family of God.

- Stewart Gillespie, *Bulletin Digest*

A Christian should not follow the crowd, but rather show them the way.

News & Notes

CONGRATULATIONS: To Blair & Jennifer Haught on the birth of a son, Owen Emerick on April 16th. The proud grandparents are Skip & Sue Haught. Best wishes to all.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Don & Donna Parsons—16291 Irish Ridge Rd., Apt. 3 - East Liverpool, OH 43920. Phone: 330-932-0170.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Those with health concerns: Brian Reynolds (son of Don & Marlene Reynolds & brother of Holly Phares), Hunter Robinson (grandson of Ernie & Diane Robinson), and Hershel Morgan (family friend of Linda Carson).

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All the ladies are invited to help with this good work. **Money donations are needed for supplies.**

PANTRY: Pancake mix & syrup.

DEBT REDUCTION DAY: Next Sunday's entire contribution will be used to reduce the debt on our building. "Purpose in your heart" and pray about this day of giving.

SICK & SHUT-IN: AT HOME: Ruth Brewer, Jackie Parsons, Mary Beth Robinson, Lloyd Cowdery, Mabel Sprout, Virginia Rickerd, Bette Gentry, Fred & Jean Larrimore, Sr., Fred Larrimore, Jr., Cheryl Stackpole, George & Betty Dunn (Pat Wright's parents). **NURSING HOMES: Fox:** Ray Baker. **Calcutta Health Care:** Glenn Beagle, Virginia Clutter (sister-in-law of Eva Stefl). **Netwick:** Ruby Kenny. **Rivendale:** Ione Asher. **Weirton Geriatric Center:** Edna McKitrick, Ila Plum.

A Lesson For Us All

A few years ago at the Seattle Special Olympics, nine contestants, all physically or mentally disabled, assembled at the starting line for the 100 yard dash. At the gun, they all started out, not exactly in a dash, but with a relish to run the race to the finish and win. All, that is, except one boy who stumbled on the asphalt, stumbled over a couple of times and began to cry. The other eight heard the boy cry. They slowed down and looked back. They all turned around and went back...every one of them.

One girl with Down's Syndrome bent down and kissed him and said, "This will make it better." All nine linked arms and walked across the finish line together.

Everyone in the stadium stood, and the cheering went on for several minutes. People who were there are still telling the story. Why? Because deep down we know this one thing: What matters in this life is more than winning for ourselves. What truly matters in this life is helping others win, even if it means slowing down and changing our course.

- Author Unknown

MEETINGS

Southern Hills	Apr. 22-25	Jeremy Main
Weirton Heights	Apr. 22-26	Steve Stevens
Horse Cave, KY	Apr. 29-May 2	F. Higginbotham
St. Clair Ave., ELO.....	May 6-9.....	Roger Rush