

Playing Second Fiddle

Victor Borge was once asked what instrument was the hardest to play. His response: "Second Fiddle!" Then he went on to say that "playing second fiddle is a great deal better than being left out of the orchestra." Our world has been led to believe that biggest is always best and that first place is the only place. The prevailing sentiment seems to be that if you aren't at the top you are at the bottom; if you can't be first fiddle, then there's no need to fiddle at all.



John 13:1 confronts us with an astonishing scene. The night He is betrayed and the night before He will die an agonizing and unjust death on the cross, the Son of God is found playing second fiddle. After eating supper with His twelve apostles, verses 4 and 5 say, He "rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel, and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded." As culture and necessity of that time dictated, a basin of water and towel were available in the room where they dined that evening, but there was no servant there to perform the lowly chore of washing tired, dirty feet. None, that is, until the Son of God rose from supper and lowered Himself down on His hands and knees to serve. The orchestra was there, but the Conductor had to play second fiddle!

How was Jesus able to humble Himself to wash dirty feet? And more than that, how was He able the next day to go to the cross and die an agonizing death in order to wash dirty souls? Ephesians 5:1-2 reveals the force that enabled Him to play second fiddle. That passage tells us to follow or imitate God and walk in love even as Christ loved us and gave Himself as an offering and sacrifice to God. Serving as Jesus did involves doing things we may not want to do, unpleasant things like helping with dishes, folding laundry, straightening up our room, disciplining the kids, paying bills, serving at a church activity, or forgiving someone who has wronged us. Love is required.

A man who was once a patient in a Christian mission hospital observed the way the nurses worked hard all day, doing some of the dirtiest and hardest work he'd ever witnessed. One day he commented to a nurse, "I wouldn't do your job for a million dollars." The nurse paused from her work, smiled at the man and said, "Neither would I."

Are you loving and serving the Savior who loved and served you?

- (adapted), Dan Gurney, via Tanner Church of Christ - Tanner, AL

He profits most who serves best. – Arthur F. Sheldon

News & Notes

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Join the ladies to help with this good work. Money donations are needed for supplies - see Donna Stevens.

PANTRY: Toilet tissue, soap, deodorant.

LADIES INSPIRATION DAY: Saturday, Sept. 27th, 9:00 a.m. at Southern Hills. Speakers: Tresie Shultz, Crystal Spencer, and Karen Taylor.

OUTERWEAR GIVEAWAY: One-time giveaway for the community, Sat. Oct. 18th. Clean, useable coats, gloves, boots and blankets are needed. Give items to one of the deacons.

LADIES WORK DAY: Saturday, Oct. 25th, 9:00 a.m. to assemble care baskets.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Derek Thompson (son of John & Sharon Sprout and son-in-law of Sharon Williams). Derek was recently deployed to the Middle East for his third tour of duty.

THOSE WITH PHYSICAL PROBLEMS: City Hospital: Ella Beagle. At Home: Jim Beagle, Bob Cyphers, Don Reynolds, Bertha Seman, Pauline, Clutter, Bobby Hadley, Mabel Sprout, Virginia Rickerd, Harry Nice, Michelle Hanlon, Dan Williams, Blondenia Orr, Jenny Rhodes, Bette Gentry. Remember and encourage others confined to their homes and in nursing homes. They are listed on the bulletin board.

MEETINGS & LECTURES

McKinleyville	Sept. 21-25	Different Speakers
CHESTER	Sept. 28-Oct. 2	Steve Higginbotham
New Philadelphia	Oct. 5- 8	Frank Higginbotham
Weirton Heights	Oct. 12-16	Ed Mellott
Eight Mile	Oct. 19-24	Frank Higginbotham
WVSOP (Moundsville)	Oct. 26-30	Different Speakers

HELP WANTED

If you cannot be a doctor, or a nurse so trim and neat,
You can call and give some comfort to the sick one on your street.

If you cannot give a dollar, you can give a word of cheer
To the folks who always need it, any day or any year.

God is always glad to use you; money never does it all.
He needs willing souls for service summer, winter, spring and fall.

(Author Unknown)