

Having The Heart of Jesus

*Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall.
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the king's horses and all the king's men
Couldn't put Humpty Dumpty together again.*

Doesn't this describe our generation? Our world is falling apart. Nations are in trouble, families are hurting, relationships rupturing, churches dividing, COVID-19 seems to have changed everything about us. Our problems appear unsolvable. What do we do? What can we do? Where is the glue to reassemble the disarray we're seeing? There is an answer...

Have the mind of Christ. *"Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus" (Philippians 2.5).* The answer is our personally developing the mind of Christ. The Greek here is *phroneo*. It speaks of an understanding, an attitude, a disposition of mind, heart. Indeed, the glue to fix our broken world is found in thinking like Jesus, behaving as He behaved, reacting to people and life's circumstances as He reacted. Having the heart of Jesus means we think and live as He thought and lived. Do we want our religion, our faith, to come alive in an exciting lifestyle?

A heart of humility. *"Who, being in the very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing" (Philippians 2.6-7).* Humility is a willingness to say: *"Thy will be done."* A willingness to become nothing for the sake of others. A willingness to place the interests of others before our own. Humility is treating others, regardless of skin color, social status or religious preference as God treats us.

Becoming a servant. The heart of Jesus was that of a servant. In His ministry, we see Him: Healing the sick. Casting out devils. Calming the storms in people's lives. Forgiving the woman taken in adultery. Feeding thousands. Teaching the multitudes. Restoring the fallen. Genuine servanthood is losing ourselves in service to others; when we don't have the time, when it's not convenient, when we would rather be doing something else, doing for others when it's really someone else's responsibility. Husbands, have the mind of Christ, love and serve your wife and children. Wives, have the mind of Jesus, love, respect, submit to your husband. Children, be like Jesus, care for your parents. Preachers, teachers, deacons, Elders, have the attitude of Jesus, serve the church. As children of God, having a Jesus heart means we serve others, even our enemies. Wouldn't this attitude go a long way in curing our world's ills?

Love and obey. *"Being found in appearance of a man humbled Himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on the cross" (Philippians 2.8).* Jesus struggled in the garden with the will of God. But in the final analysis it was *"not My will, but Thine be done."* His love for us compelled His behavior. Now God calls us to such love and obedience. *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself... If anyone loves Me, he will obey My teaching. My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make our home with Him" (Mark 12.30-31, John 14.23).*

Indeed! Our Humpty Dumpty world can be fixed with the heart of Jesus... Amen?

- © Randall Caselman, *Lifelines*, Bella Vista Church of Christ, Bella Vista, AR -

Peace rules the day when Christ rules the mind.

News & Notes

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES: ALL services are at the church building. **Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.** The Covid-19 restrictions still apply (masks & distancing).

WV CHRISTIAN: Today is the last day to sign up for a new subscription or renewal (names will be submitted to *WV Christian* this week). Group rate is \$8 per year. Sign-up sheet on the desk in the foyer. Give your money to one of the Elders or to Rico.

PANTRY: Pancake mix and syrup.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: John McClung (son of Keith & Elaine), 3493 Warren Meadville Road, Cortland, OH 44410. Rick Beck (minister at Weston, WV).

SICK & SHUT-IN: Charlie Delong, David McCoy, Skip Haught, Jim Hadley, Jenny Rhodes, Ernie Robinson, Cam Adamson, Marlene Evans, Shirley Beagle, Russell Martin, Doris Dunham, Alex Harless. **FOX:** Tom Postlethwait. **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore, (Room 210). **IN TENNESSEE:** Steve Higginbotham. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

THANKSGIVING LEFTOVERS

The Thanksgiving holiday is over and most of us are having leftovers until the food is gone. While we enjoy family and friends during such days, the significance of giving thanks to God every day is far more important than any earthly joy we receive from such a one-day event.

"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God" (1 John 3:1).

The first thing in the morning and the last thing at night—and often in between—should be devoted to giving thanks to God for His gift of every spiritual blessing through His Son. In Christ we have Spiritual food upon which we can feast day after day and never consume it all.

His Word never becomes stale, nor is it a "leftover," but is God's complete food for His children. Eat heartily and drink deeply with thanksgiving to God every day!

- John K. Wills, Owingsville church of Christ, Owingsville, KY (via *Bulletin Digest*) -

THE AVENUE OF PRAYER

The story is told of the ship's captain of the long ago who became dangerously ill while at sea. He had a well supplied medicine chest but he had failed to bring along a doctor.

He set the ship's telegraph to work until a doctor could be found. North, south, east, and west until finally a doctor was found. The doctor prescribed medicine and the captain's life was saved.

Now, let us notice a striking difference between the operator of the wireless and the Christian who prays to God. The former sends a message "hoping" someone will hear. He knows not where his message is going. He knows not if it will be received. However, he who prays knows who will hear and "knows" his request will be considered by a loving Father.

My brethren and friends, let us take full confidence in the avenue of prayer which God has given. As the penman says, "the prayers of the righteous avail much" (Jas. 5:16; Prov. 15:29).

- Shan Jackson (via *Beacon*, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL) -