

## The Ocean Waves of Life!

Have you ever stood in the ocean when the waves are rolling in? If you are not prepared and standing with your feet firmly set, the waves can easily knock you down. The Bible uses this idea of "standing firm" and "holding fast" when describing how we need to be living our lives. The term "hold fast" is defined as "to continue to believe in or adhere to an idea or principle." The closely related word "steadfast" is defined as "resolutely or dutifully firm and unwavering."

**We are to hold fast to God and be obedient to Him.** "It is the Lord your God you must follow, and Him you must revere. Keep His commands and obey Him; serve Him and hold fast to Him" (Deuteronomy 13:4).

**We are to hold fast to our faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Savior.** "Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession" (Hebrews 4:14).

**We are to hold fast to the teachings that we have received through the Bible.** "So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter" (2 Thessalonians 2:15).

**We are to continue steadfast in the work of the Lord.** "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Are we standing firm or letting life's worries wash us away like ocean waves?

- Brad Tolbert, Monticello church of Christ, Monticello, AR (*Bulletin Digest*) -

## A Good Christian Attitude

A good Christian attitude will mean that we love the Lord, and are growing as a Christian. This kind of attitude will help you win in your struggle against sin. A good Christian attitude will help you be humble, and submissive toward God and His word. As a general rule, persons who have a good attitude find it easier to serve God. Accepting personal responsibility for both your attitudes and your actions is a big thing to God. Once you know, and are willing to accept personal responsibility you need to follow through on what is expected of you. Fulfilling responsibility with the right attitude is not a burden, but rather a source of joy. "For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself" (Romans 14:7). God has blessed you with certain abilities. Happiness comes as you use those abilities in His service. Study your Bible and obey God, in order that you may have a Christian attitude. Let's go to heaven together. I love you.

- Charles Box, Walnut Street church of Christ, Greenville, AL (*Bulletin Digest*) -

*A smooth sea never made a successful sailor.*

## News & Notes

**SHUT-INS:** Russell Martin, Mary Jane Bowers. **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore, (Room 210). **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl, 1745 Pointe West Way, Vero Beach, FL 32966.

## CELL PHONE vs. the BIBLE

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?



VS.



1. What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?
2. What if we flipped through it several times a day?
3. What if we turned back to get it if we forgot it?
4. What if we used it to receive messages from the text?
5. What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?
6. What if we gave it to our kids as gifts?
7. What if we used it when we travel?
8. What if we used it in case of an emergency?
9. Would our cell phone company understand if we only paid on our bill what we could afford that month?

This is something to make you go ... hmm ... where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phones, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill. Makes you stop and think, where are my priorities? And no dropped calls!

Trust in the Lord and ASAP (Always Say A Prayer).

- Author Unknown (via *The Encourager*, Southside Church of Christ, Killeen, TX)

## ABHOR

One sure lesson history teaches us: the more association we have with evil the less evil it appears. The commonness of vice makes it seem harmless and respectable. But neither ugliness gets pretty nor wrong gets right by association; we just get more accustomed to it. We change - not the evil influencing us. Thus, through a gradual process, environment can tempt the purest to pursue the things once despised.

Lest we come to adore what we now abhor, may we not take these simple but deadly steps: associating with evil, condoning evil, approving evil, embracing evil, addiction to evil.

*"Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good."* (Rom. 12:9)

- Olden Cook (*Bulletin Digest*)