

## Discouragement

It was once announced that the devil was going out of business and would offer all his tools for a price — his price!

On the night of the sale the tools were all attractively displayed; and a bad-looking lot they were. Malice, murder, hatred, envy, jealousy, sensuality, deceit, and all other implements of evil were spread out, each marked with its price.

Apart from the rest lay a harmless-looking wedge-shaped tool, much worn and priced higher than any of the others. Someone asked the devil what it was. "That's discouragement," was the reply. "And why do you price it so high?" "Because," replied the devil, "it is more useful to me than any of the others. I can pry open and get inside a man's consciousness with that when I could not get near him with any of the others; and when once inside, I can use him in whatever way suits me best. It is so much worn because I use it with everybody; very few people yet know it belongs to me."

It hardly needed to be added that the devil's price for discouragement was so high that it was never sold! He still owns it and is still using it. Don't be his next victim. Encourage yourself in the LORD, in the fellowship of His people!

It is equally easy for GOD to supply our greatest as well as our smallest wants, to carry our heaviest as well as our lightest burden — just as the ocean bears the battleship as easily as it does the fisherman's vessel.

- Author Unknown

## KINDNESS

Mark Twain once observed, "Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see." Of course, kindness is a demonstration of love and the Apostle John wrote, "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." (1 John 3:18)

Love is like a tonic. A doctor once stated that many of the world's ills could be cured with love. A critic asked, "What if it doesn't work?" To which the wise physician responded, "Double the dose."

Why don't you "show a little kindness" as you travel life's pathway? You will help heal a lot of hurt.

- Johnny Melton, *Bulletin Digest*

### ME?

*When the church seems dead and the work is slow;  
When the attendance is off and the songs too low;  
When the prayers of the saints lack fervor and power;  
When the preacher's sermons seem stale and sour;  
Why not pause with self-examining eye, and ask ... "LORD, IS IT I?"*

A Christian is one who does not have to consult his bank book to see how wealthy he really is.

## News & Notes

**SYMPATHY:** To Danny Spencer at the sudden and untimely passing of his wife, Stephanie. She was the daughter-in-law of our Dean and Sandy. Remember this family in prayer at this time of sorrow.

**NEW CONVERT CLASS:** Each Sunday a.m. Bible Class in Room 406. This class is for those who were baptized in the last three years.

**COVERED DISH DINNER & EARLY P.M. SERVICE:** TODAY at about Noon at the Fellowship Bldg. This will be followed by an early afternoon worship service at 2:00 p.m. (instead of 5:30 p.m.) at the church building. This early service only applies once each month following our fellowship dinner.

**CARE & SHARE BEARS:** Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All the ladies are invited and urged to help in this good work.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES:** Each Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m. Men are urged to attend this good class.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Next Saturday, Feb. 10th, 8:30 a.m. at the Columbiana, OH Church of Christ. Sign-up sheet on the desk in the foyer.

**GETTING BETTER ACQUAINTED:** In an effort to become better acquainted with families in the congregation, the Elders & Minister would like to make home visits or arrange a visit here at the building. This is entirely on a voluntary basis. A sign up sheet is available TODAY.

**ADDRESS REQUESTED:** Araya White, c/o Autumn Morteo, 6862S. Hood Ct., Unit 2, Wasilla, AK 99623. A request was made for this to be repeated.

**PANTRY:** Cereal & crackers.

**REMEMBER WITH PRAYERS & CARDS:** Alex Harless, (granddaughter of Charlie & Barb Delong; 24 years old with cancer), 108 Eleanor St., Mingo Junction, OH 43938. Sharon Pugh (Charles' wife), 1601 - 31st Street, Vienna, WV 26105. Sharon had recent cancer surgery. Dan Shroades, Jr. (needs kidney transplant), 1113 Skyline Drive, Tocco, Ga 30577. Dan is Pat Allison's cousin.

**SICK & SHUT-IN:** Tim Adkins, *St Elizabeth*, Boardman. Mary Jane Bowers, *Trinity West*, Steubenville, OH. At Home: Carolyn Pallard, David Stefl, Bill & Carol Stillwell, Russell Martin, Linda Wiersbicki, Fred Larrimore, Blondenia Orr, Betty Henthorne, Doris Dunham. **FOX NURSING HOME:** Mary Nelson. **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller, Jim Mick. **CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:** Ella Beagle. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

## THE BIBLE — YET IT LIVES!

Generation follows generation, nations rise and fall, kings, dictators, presidents come and go - **YET IT LIVES!**

Torn, condemned, burned, hated, despised, cursed, doubted, suspected, criticized - **YET IT LIVES!**

Condemned by atheists, exaggerated by fanatics, misconstrued and misstated, ranted and raved about - **YET IT LIVES!**

Its inspiration denied - **YET IT LIVES!**

**IT LIVES AS ...**

A lamp to our feet, a light to our paths, a standard to childhood, a guide for our youth, an inspiration for the matured, a comfort for the aged, food for the hungry, water for the thirsty, rest for the weary, light for the heathen, salvation for the sinner, grace for the Christian.

To know it is to love it. To love it is to accept it. To obey it means life eternal.