



THE LIGHT WE LEAVE BEHIND

Wise men know that it is impossible to live an isolated life. Tennyson said, "I am part of all that I have met." And Paul declared, "None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself."

William Barclay tells of a young man who lived a careless life. But in his study of biology he came to an amazing discovery. Through a microscope he watched certain of those living things whom you can actually see living and dying and begetting others in a moment of time. Arising from the microscope, he said, "Now I see it. I am a link in the chain, and I will not be a weak link anymore."

It should be apparent that there is an intimate connection and mutual dependence existing among all of us. We were brought into the world by others. We did not grow up without others, nor learn to walk, or to talk, without the help of others. And all that we learn from reading we learn from others, many of whom have been lying for a long time in their graves.

You can never be a self-contained individual. You were influenced by those around you; and, for better or worse, you will influence others. Will that influence raise a mortal to the skies? Or will it drag an angel down? It's up to you. Phillips Brooks said, "No man or woman of the humblest sort can really be strong, gentle, pure, and good without the world being better for it, without somebody being helped and comforted by the very existence of that goodness."

In a little cemetery stands a white stone marking the grave of a dear little girl, and on the stone are chiseled the words. "A child of whom her playmates said, 'It was easier to be good when she was with us.'" Who can estimate the worth of such a life?

Were a star quenched on high, for ages would its light,
Still traveling downward from the sky, shine on our mortal sight.
So when a great man dies, for years beyond our ken,
The light he leaves behind him lies upon the paths of men.
- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow -

You, my friend, have the wonderful power of influence. Use it wisely, that others might walk aright in the light you leave behind.

John Gipson, *Living - Principles on Living the Christian Life*
(A 50 year collection of articles) © 2019, used by permission of the author.

A good example is the best sermon.

News & Notes

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES: Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m. only and Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. The Covid-19 restrictions apply (masks & distancing).

SYMPATHY: To the **DeLong Family:** Barb, Terri, Bonnie, Jane, Charles, the sisters, extended family members, and many friends at the recent passing of Charlie. God's blessings and comfort to this family and all who knew and loved him.

PANTRY: Noodles & crackers.

REQUEST FOR CARDS: **Josh Morrison**, 428 Burnside Rd., Canonsburg, PA 15317. **Cheryl Renfro Walker** (Cheryl has cancer), 229 Belgium Lane, Chester, WV 26034. **Gerald Joy** (member at Southern Hills with health issues), 144 E. Main St, Salineville, OH 43945.

SICK & SHUT-IN: WEIRTON MEDICAL CENTER: Shirley Beagle. **AT HOME:** Emma Rine, Jim Hadley, Barb DeLong, David McCoy, Marlene Evans, Russell Martin, Alex Harless, Mary Johnson, Rick Beck. **FOX of ELO (Rehab Suites):** Marilyn Miller. **CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:** Sarah Miller (Room 6). **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore (Room 210). **IN TENNESSEE:** Steve Higginbotham. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

Does Jesus Care?

Does Jesus care when my heart is pained

To deeply for mirth and song;
As the burdens press, and the cares distress,
And the way grows weary and long?

Does He care when my way is dark

With a nameless dread and fear?
As the daylight fades into deep night shades,
Does He care enough to be near?

Does Jesus care when I've tried and failed

To resist some temptation strong;
When for my deep grief I find no relief,
Tho' my tears flow all the night long?

Does Jesus care when I've said "good-by"

To the dearest on earth to me,
And my sad heart aches till it nearly breaks -
Is it aught to Him? Does He see?

O yes, He cares; I know He cares,

His heart is touched with my grief,
When the days are weary,
The long nights dreary,
I know my Savior cares ... He cares.

Frank E. Graeff, 1901
(Lyrics from the Hymn)

A Brief Tribute to Charlie DeLong

Charlie lived a Christ-centered life, quietly going about doing good; an example to all.

He was a former Deacon, song leader, and teacher of the Gospel.

He was a leader and perfectionist in the reconstruction of our church building 25 years ago and thereafter. With Charlie's oversight the work was done right and to the glory of God.

Charlie will truly be missed!

*Words will not wipe
away your tears and hugs
may not ease the pain
but hold onto your
memories because forever
they will remain.*