

## KNEE-JERK REACTION

A knee-jerk reaction is an emotional rather than a logical or reasoned response to something. The term originated from the medical reflex test that causes the knee to jerk forward immediately when bumped right below the knee cap. It is used figuratively to refer to an unthinking reaction.

Thinking through problems before reacting impulsively is the opposite of a knee-jerk reaction. A responsible thinker will examine the situation carefully before taking action (James 1:19). He will seek to come up with a wise response (Colossians 4:6), while a person prone to knee-jerk reactions tends to react emotionally and subjectively to a situation or problem (Proverbs 18:13).

Knee-jerk reactions produce unwise decisions and actions. Some foolish government rules and laws, resulting in much expense and waste, are due to a knee-jerk reaction to something someone has said or done.

When engaging in discussion of a religious topic one may develop the habit of instantly replying to the comment of another--saying the first thought that comes to mind, especially if the topic is controversial or important and the views are contradictory (Proverbs 29:11). Some false doctrines have come about due to men's quick and unstudied reaction to what another has said or written. The worst-case scenario happens when a spiritual warrior engages one who has taken an extreme position, and in the heat of battle winds up believing and teaching the other extreme. Truth is virtually always between the extremes.

Since truth is so important, especially in religion, let us always endeavor to be a responsible thinker--thinking and acting wisely in response to the comments and actions of others (Ephesians 5:15).

- Author Unknown -

(via Forum church of Christ in Huntsville, Arkansas)

Jesus  
LOVES  
me

Karl Barth was a famous philosopher who spent many years studying the Scriptures. He was once asked, "What is the greatest theological discovery you have ever made?"

He thought and said simply, "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so".

Can you remember where you were the first time you heard those words? I can't, because, quite honestly, I don't remember not knowing it. The words are sung by children literally all over the world, and frankly, I do not know a message more needed by every child, and adult, than those simple words with the life changing message, Jesus Loves Me This I Know, For The Bible Tells Me So.

Jesus Himself said, "This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:12-13).

Can you imagine that? Jesus loves me!

*"What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"*

MATTHEW 16:26

via Bridge Street Church of Christ, New Martinsville, WV -

*Christians are the salt of the earth and should be the sugar, too.*

## 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).

**PANTRY:** Canned fruit.

**SICK & SHUT-IN: AT HOME:** Randy Waite, Shirley Beagle, Randy Beagle, Charlie & Barb Delong, David McCoy, Marlene Evans, Russell Martin, Emma Rine, Alex Harless, Rick Beck, Josh Morrison. **FOX:** Doris Dunham. **CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:** Sarah Miller (Room 6). **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore (Room 210). **IN TENNESSEE:** Steve Higginbotham. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

**GRIEF & LOSS WORKSHOP SERIES: April 25-28 at St. Clair Ave. Church of Christ.** Dean Miller of Villa Rica, GA will conduct this series. Details on the back of our April calendar and posted on the bulletin board.

## GOSPEL MEETINGS

Weirton Heights----- April 11-16 ----- Terry Jones  
Sunday: 9:30, 10:30 a.m.; 6:30 p.m.; Mon. - Fri.: 7:00 p.m.

Hillview Terr., Moundsville ----- April 18-23 ----- Emanuel Daugherty  
Sunday: 9:45, 10:40 a.m.; 6:30 p.m.; Mon. - Fri.: 7:00 p.m.

## Effort Not Wasted!!

A young woman, who was a great lover of flowers, had set out a rare vine at the base of a stone wall. It grew vigorously, but it did not bloom. Day after day she cultivated it and watered it and tried in every way to coax it into bloom. One morning, as she stood disappointedly before it, her invalid neighbor, whose back lot adjoined her own, called over and said, "You can't imagine how much I



have been enjoying the blooms of that vine you planted." The owner looked, and on the other side of the wall was a mass of blooms. The vine had crept through the crevices and flowered luxuriantly on the other side.

So often we think our efforts are thrown away because we do not see the fruits. We need to learn that in God's service our prayers, our toil, our crosses are never in vain. Somewhere they bear fruit and hearts will receive a blessing.

Maybe that is why the apostle Paul was so insistent on the unity of our efforts in Christ. Because he knew that our efforts would be given increase by God (1 Cor. 3:6) so a man would not have to boast in self but would surrender life to the glory of God. Let us be about our Father's business.

- Author Unknown -