



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299
Web site: www.dovercoc.org

Volume 27

Number 22

Email: staff@dovercoc.org

June 7th, 2015

(For the next few weeks, we will have articles from speeches given at our April 25th, 2015 Ladies' Day. we had 4 speakers from our congregation.)

Theme: The Gift of Holiness

1st Speech: "Be holy, because God is holy."

By: Patty McAlister

(Continued from last week)

Being holy does not come easy, but it's not impossible or God wouldn't have asked it of us. Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, a writer of most of the New Testament books, struggled every day. He said he had fought the good fight, striving for the crown of righteousness that would be his at the end. How did Paul do it with all the persecutions he suffered? He tells us to meditate on things that are true, things that are noble, things that are lovely, and things of good report. Paul knew the effort was worth it all. Turn the bad things over to God.

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, who denied knowing Him three times, also had to struggle being holy. This was probably on his mind every day. He became the first preacher of the gospel on the day of Pentecost. He became important

in the early church. He wrote two very good books on Christian living in the New Testament. He overcame his guilt. He said, "You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation." (1 Peter 2:9) (There's that word "holy" again!)

We will never reach the quality of God's holiness. We aren't expected to. His thoughts and ways are beyond our imagination. His ways and thoughts are higher than the earth. (Isaiah 55:8,9)

Being holy does not mean that we will never sin. As we overcome sin, we grow stronger and more dedicated to a holy life. We must continually work toward being more Christ-like. He is our perfect example, not others. How can we know what to do? Jesus tells us, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord', will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons, and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from Me, evildoers!'" (Matthew 7:21-23) "It won't be those who profess to know Christ who will

enter heaven, but those whose lives are holy." ~ Jerry Bridges

Again, I want to say that it won't be easy. Jesus tells us that, when He says, "Enter by the narrow gate, for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few that find it." (Matthew 7:13,14) Those words tell us it won't be easy but it's not impossible.

I want to quote what Jerry Bridges wrote in the preface of his book, *The Pursuit of Holiness*. "We can say the pursuit of holiness is a joint venture between God and the Christian. No one can attain any degree of holiness without God working in his life, but just as surely no one will attain it without effort on his own part. God has made it possible for us to walk in holiness. But He has given us the responsibility of doing the walking. He does not do that for us."

We don't wake up one morning being holy. It should start after we come up out of the water of baptism. However, that is only a start. As I mentioned before, we (*continued on next page*)

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

“Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. Be sober; be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” (I Peter 5:7-8)

We understand that the devil wants us. He wants those who try to follow Christ. Those outside of Christ are his already. He leaves them be. But he puts a stumbling block in our way. He makes sin appealing. If we are doing nothing toward our spirit life, he leaves us alone too. As Peter said, he seeks us, and certainly not to help us. He wants us to be destroyed.

“Every time the devil reminds you of your past, remind him of his future!”

Reminding us of our past sins can hinder us in what we need to do today. This is one of his greatest assets. God has forgiven our past sins, so we don't need to dwell on it. Making us dwell on the past is a mighty tool of the devil!

“The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.” (Revelation 22:10)

There is a place reserved for the devil and his angels, and followers. A place we don't want to go. It seems he doesn't want to go alone, so he tries to tempt us. He tempted Jesus. He tempts us.

Jesus said, “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.’” (Matthew 25:41)

The devil is cunning. He really likes our excuses. I'm too tired, I did it the last time, I'm in too much pain, or there are so many more that he enjoys. He likes these excuses that keep us from doing the Lord's work. Some of these excuses are legitimate, but we don't use them when we want to do something else.

We must be strong to fight this cunning devil. Fight the snare of the one who only wants to destroy us in the end, for eternity!

Remember Our Sick

Dennis Drewry – recovering at home
Paul Helton – being treated for infection. , improving.

Rick Hollis – recovering from gallbladder surgery.

Melba Horton – having by-pass surgery on May 29th at Arkansas Heart Hospital.

Liliya McDaniel – needs our special prayers.

Chip Porter – needs our prayers.

Earl Whitted – three weeks therapy for knee pain.

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: Billie Nichols

Legacy Heights:

Bonnie Vinson

Juanita Whitted

Russellville Nsg & Rehab:

Joe Miller

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Carl Adkisson, DJ Bandy, Amie Barkley, Bettye Barton, Nubbin Boley, Austen Cathcart, Donna Chambers, Troy/ Rachel Curtis, Johnny Estes, Leota Hickey, Ronnie Leavell, Rose Lee, Daniel Loper, Bea McDaniel, Liliya McDaniel, Linda McDaniel, Connie Myers, Becky Miller, Julie Moss, Larry Reynolds, Michael Tindall, Jon Vance, Joan Vance, Justin Vaughn, Joyce Walters, and Patsy Wisbrock.

Military: Pray for our service men and women

Expectant Mothers:

Rachael Robinson

Jessica Walters

Andrea Henson

Deborah Cloud Arambula

Jillian Church

(Continued from front page)

The Gift of Holiness

have to pursue holiness, just as we pursue other Christian gifts. We can have enormous help from our Father, His Son and the Holy Spirit. We learn this from a study of His word and through our prayers to the heavenly Father.

When I started working on this speech, I thought of the old song, “*Lord, I want to be a Christian.*” The third verse says, “Lord I want to be more holy in my heart.” And “in my heart” is exactly where holiness will be found. It won't necessarily be an outward show of Christian work. We can do all kinds of Christian work, come to church every time the doors are open and still not be holy. It has to come from our heart to be pleasing to God! “Be holy, for I am holy!” James tells us to purify our hearts. Draw near to God, He will draw near to us.

We can't continue to live a sinful life, but God does not require a perfect, sinless life to have fellowship with Him. However, He does require that we be serious about holiness. We must rid our lives of sin and try not to justify what we do. We must make a sincere effort to live a life of holiness. Let the Holy Spirit guide you in a life of holiness that is pleasing to the Lord.

Being holy is a direct blessing from God. Because with it comes peace and contentment, knowing we will have an eternal life with Him. Now, back to our verse in Hebrews; “Pursue holiness, for without holiness, no one will see the Lord!” And all of us do want to see the Lord!

~ Patty McAlister

EVENTS

Ladies' Devo

June 18th

@ 6:30 pm

Hostess:

Mary Stamps

Men's Business

Meeting

June 8th

@ 7:00 pm

Fish Fry

4th of July

5:00 pm

(more info to follow)

We would like to offer our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of

Earl Gray

Who recently passed away.

(Justin Vaughn's grandfather)

Mark Your Calendars

Dover Church of Christ

Children's Church

Every Sunday

11:15 - 12:00 Noon

Ages 4 thru 8

Bible Stories and

Activities

Ages 1 thru 3

Nursery Class



Lawn Care

June 6th

Marion Helton & Alan

Boatright

June 13th

Chris Moss & Matthew Moss

June Birthdays

- 01 Sandra Boatright
02 Chase Chance
Liliya McDaniel
03 Allen Veasman
04 Michelle Helton
Jeff Myers
08 Cannon Chance
11 Joe Miller
12 Tina Davis
14 Kenna Rae Jackson
15 Joan Vance
19 Dmitri McDaniel
Zackary Nordin
22 Janelle Miller
28 Tanya Smith
Joyce Walters

In Search of the Lord's Way

The Search Program can now be accessed any time on their website

@

www.searchtv.org

Mack Lyon

or

Phil Sanders

weekly lesson can be heard and seen on LR KASN TV 38 Sunday @ 7:30 a.m.

THOSE TO SERVE

June 7th, 2015

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Earl Stamps
Donny Forehand

Communion

Podium: Michael Robbins
Serve: Allen Veasman
Blake Walters
Brent Hottinger
Brett Cains

Scripture Reading

Alan Boatright

Sunday P.M.

Prayers

Gary Williams
Marion Helton

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.

Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.

****Young Men****

Prepare Table for Communion

Lads & Leaderettes

Communion to Shut-Ins

Donny Forehand

Greeters

The Elders

Wednesday Night Services

@

6:30 p.m.

Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes

9:45 A.M.

Sunday Morning Worship

10:45 A.M.

Sunday Evening Worship

6:00 P.M.

Ladies Tuesday Bible Class

10:00 A.M.

Wednesday Bible Classes

6:30 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams

Church Office: 479-331-3428

Or Cell: 479-264-9244

Elders:

William Boley 858-7131
Allen Veasman 331-2156
Sid Womack 967-2367
Chris Loper 331-3313

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Rex McDaniel
Chris Moss
Michael Robbins

Life Lines is a Publication of the Dover Church of Christ

Editor: Pat McAlister Layout and Design: Tina Davis Technical Assistance: M. Shoptaw

Dover Church of Christ
P.O. Box 299
Dover, AR 72837
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