

# BIBLE MONITOR

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“For the faith once delivered unto the saints”

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## BLESSED SPIRIT

Blessed Spirit from above,  
Teach, O teach me how to pray,  
Fill my soul with heavenly love,  
Lead me the celestial way.

When temptations me surround,  
Help me, Lord, on thee to call,  
When iniquities abound,  
Save, O save me, or I fall.

When thou hidest thy lovely face,  
Till the cloud is passed away,  
And I feel the sweets of peace,  
Never let me cease to pray.

When I feel my heart like stone,  
When I have no heart to pray,  
At thy feet, O God, I'd groan,  
“Take this stony heart away.”

Holy Spirit, on me shine,  
Make my evidences clear,  
Then I'll say that God is mine!  
I shall with the Lord appear!

*Gospel Magazine, 1781*  
Selected by Lynn H. Miller  
Newmanstown, PA

## FAKE NEWS

Most of us have probably heard the term “Fake News” in recent years. One definition of Fake News is news that conveys or incorporates false, fabricated or deliberately misleading information, or is characterized as or accused of doing so. The motivation behind Fake News might be to influence the audience to believe a certain narrative, to shape public opinion or even move the audience to action.

While most would clearly object to and reject the notion of Fake News, might we ever be complicit? Do we ever broadcast Fake News in our own lives? In relaying information to someone, have you ever embellished it to stir interest or emotion? Have you ever taken a true story in your life and in sharing your

account of it, contrived a more palatable or exciting version of it to fully engage the audience? In recounting a story multiple times, have you ever changed the tone or the focus depending on your audience? In relaying how someone has hurt or offended you, have you ever intentionally left out key details that, if left in, would present a picture in which you clearly share some of the blame? We all want to be liked and probably most of us have done some of these things. In doing so, could it be that we voice our own Fake News?

We can often see the heart behind this developing early in life. In small transgressions like pilfered cookies or broken toys, it is common for young children to hide the truth or purposely

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mislead to avoid punishment or even redirect it to another, such as a sibling. While we may chuckle or brush these off as insignificant, this same heart can bring about larger problems as it matures.

Along with other things in the apparent cultural slide in recent decades, it seems that honesty and truth have taken a back seat and for certain issues, are even unpopular. In today's world where Fake News abounds, the believer might find themselves asking, "How important is it that we stand firmly for the truth while so few others do?"

In considering this, I think it's good to remember that the truth is so important that it's actually a matter of life and death. Life: Our one and only Lord and Savior IS THE TRUTH ("I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh to the Father, but by me"

John 14:6). Death: The Devil is the father of lies. Speaking to the Pharisees, Jesus said "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." John 8:44

For believers, this world is not our home, and we should neither love nor practice the things of this world. Rather, may we seek and practice the things of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who is the truth. As we walk with the Lord through this dark world, may we let our "... communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil." Matt.5:37

K. Brock

## START NOW

*And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. Gal. 6:16*

Lord, I have given my life to Thee,  
And every day and hour is Thine,  
What thou appointest let them be,  
Thy will is better, Lord, than mine.

*Anna B. Warner*

Start now. You have been given a wonderful opportunity. Before you look away from this page, ask God to take hold of you and allow you to serve Him with all your time and talent. Ask Him to make you “ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.” I Pet. 3:15

Our journey upon this earth is one day at a time. Every day we must go to the inner chamber: our solitary place, and commune with God anew. II Corinthians 4:16 tells us that our inward man is “renewed day by day”. Do it daily and see if you are not transformed. God is able to give you a “peace which passeth all understanding.” Phil. 4:7 Each and every day we must sanctify unto God. Do not allow the devil any advantage over you. Establish a discourse

with God immediately every day and tell Him, “Use me this day.” It may not be for a physical use. You may be used in prayer for others. Just as the Old Testament priests, we are at His disposal. I Chronicles 28:21 tells us: “And, behold, the courses of the priests and the Levites, even they shall be with thee for all the service of the house of God: and there shall be with thee for all manner of workmanship every willing skilful man, for any manner of service: also the princes and all the people will be wholly at thy commandment.” Open your heart to Him. He will not only give you work to do but He will enable you to do it. Remember, it is not our ability that counts, but our availability that counts. Let us ask Him to prepare us.

Lynn H. Miller  
Newmanstown, PA

## **HISTORY REMEMBERED – REVIVE US AGAIN!**

REVIVALS! How special they are! As a child and through my teenage years, it was like getting ready for company! There were several days when I helped my grandparents to clean, sweep, dust and finally mop the church house in its

entirety. It was in that era of time, when the members looked forward to a two-week revival meeting and the Englewood Dunkard Brethren Congregation usually held their meetings in July.

I remember the brethren praying for the revival efforts a few months before the event even started. Some of the early evangelists were: Brethren Reuben Shroyer, A. G. Fahnestock, J. L. Myers, Arthur Rice, Benjamin Lebo, Loring I. Moss, H. Isaac Jarboe, James Kegerreis, David F. Ebling, William Root and Melvin C. Roesch, to name a few.

The revivals started with a Sunday morning and ended with the third Sunday evening. The evangelist was always fervent in preaching the Word and had a heart for lost souls. Many didn't tire from services each night but counted it a privilege to "rest at Jesus' feet.", having a zeal to follow the Lord and wanting to have Jesus rekindle hearts with fire from above. We would hear sermons of Heaven and Hell, Jesus' love, faith, being broken, forgiveness, salvation, conversion, serving Him, His chastisement on those who cared little about serving Him, unity within the home and church, respect and diligence.

In 1967, the evangelist was preaching on eternity. It was a very hot, humid day but there was a little breeze floating in the

church house and the church was full of people. Towards the end of the sermon, the north wind started to blow really hard and the sky became darkened. The evangelist said, "we need to repent before it is eternally too late" and pounded the pulpit. At that instant the electricity went off, the wind ceased and the rain started to pour from the skies. The evangelist finished his few remarks in the dark; a deacon went to the basement to switch the breaker back on and the evangelist gave an invitation to the audience to "come to Jesus." It made an impression!

The Sunday meals were usually held in someone's home so guests could visit with the evangelist. On the last Sunday of the revivals, there was a fellowship meal in someone's home or barn to accommodate everyone for the noon meal. The last Sunday evening meeting was always special to me. The evangelist usually always spoke of Heaven and the last song, many times, was "God Be With You Till We Meet Again." Many came to know the Lord!

Today we need revival just as much. As our brothers and sisters did many years ago, may

we be in prayer for revival in our congregations, in our nation and in the world. May we prepare for our revival meetings by diligent prayer and ask God to revive our hearts in Him so that He could

continue to sanctify us and draw us nearer. And that He would breathe new life into us and into our congregations. May we love the Lord that we would be pleased to serve Him!

We praise thee, O God! For the Son of thy Love;  
For Jesus who died and is now gone above.

Hallelujah! Thine the Glory!

Hallelujah! Amen!

Hallelujah! Thine the Glory!

REVIVE US AGAIN!!

*Brethren Hymnal #731*

Shirley Frick,  
Greenville, OH

## SELF EXAMINATION

Some thoughts about self-examination from 1 Corinthians chapter 11.

*It is assumed by this author that the reader will have his or her Bible opened to the scripture references herein cited.*

We have heard said that Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. Jesus has opened the way by His perfect life, His sacrificial death, and His glorious resurrection. We who trust in Him are born again by the Holy Spirit and seek to walk with Him daily. One could say that the service of the Lord's table is probably the most

sacred of Christian observances for we do shew the Lord's death till He come. Therefore, the word commands us to be prepared for it by examining ourselves. Read verses 23-29. I would like to mention that "unworthily" is an adverb; a word that describes another verb. In this case the verb "eat". We are all unworthy. But Paul is describing the way we would observe the Lord's supper. The sacred emblems of the bread and cup depicting our Lord's body and blood were given as a ransom for all! All saints are welcome at the table, but we do need to prepare ourselves.

So, when we examine ourselves, what are looking for? Anything that would hinder our fellowship with God and our brother or sister. What is the first thing to look for? Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 13:5 "Examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith." Our first question in self-examination should be, "Am I a born again, washed in the blood Christian?" 1 Peter 1:18-19 tells us that we were redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, the spotless Lamb.

I once spoke with a young man who was a son of a Lutheran pastor. I asked him if he was a washed in the blood, born again Christian and his answer was, "I'm not one of those". Well, we need to be sure that we are one of those! Then, how about personal sins? Attitudes, idols, resentment and unforgiveness toward our brother or sister, and the list could go on. If we fail to examine ourselves, the Bible says we eat to our own condemnation. So, a quick question: Who here is without sin? I once asked that of a Sunday school class and requested a show of hands of any who were without sin. I did not see one hand go up! Therefore, each one of us

needs to take a good look at ourselves, especially at the time of the Lord's supper. How do we do that? What tools do we have that would help us in this all-important quest of self-examination?

Well, I have a pair of binoculars. What do we do with these? Binoculars make things that are far away appear closer. Ah yes! I see brother so and so. Look what he is doing. Nope! Why are we looking at someone else? This is not self-examination as commanded by God in His word. How many times have we sat in a revival meeting and experienced a moving message and then think I wish so and so was here to hear that. Well, we were there and what did we hear to apply to our lives?

Now, how about a mirror? Now we are on the right track. This is self-examination and we are to look at ourselves. We often look in a mirror when we are leaving our homes to go out to do business. Often, we will correct those hairs out of place or straighten that shirt to be presentable in public. We need to look into the word of God. How are we living

the character of Jesus? What about a magnifying glass? Yes, that seems to be another good tool. We are taking a close look at ourselves seeking to avoid being superficial. All the while remembering the most powerful tools of all: the word of God, the Holy Ghost, and prayer. In prayer we ask God to reveal to us anything that would hinder our participation in the Lord's supper.

Perhaps it would be good to be in an earnest prayerful attitude during the week leading up to the service. I believe our Lord would delight in such a heartfelt prayer. Repent of anything God has shown us through His word and His Spirit. Then make necessary changes in our lives and ask forgiveness of anyone we may have offended. This should start with those closest to us, such as our spouse for those who are married. The word says if we eat unworthily, we are guilty of the body and blood of our Lord! Very sobering words indeed!

Look at the end of verse 29. "...not discerning the Lord's body." This phrase is used to describe those who eat unworthily. Do we harbor

things like unresolved strife, unforgiveness, or hard feelings toward the body of Christ? Discord, contention, and friction within the Body is never justifiable.

Matthew 18 teaches us how to deal with conflict among brethren. And let us harken to the inspired words of Paul in Ephesians 4:32: "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." It is so serious that God said that if I take communion with those things in my heart, I eat and drink unworthily, eating and drinking damnation to myself.

Look at verse 31-32. For if we judge ourselves, we should not be judged. When we judge ourselves, we are, by the light of the word and the Holy Ghost, seeing our own sins, errors, shortcomings. And we are taking responsibility for them. Let us avoid the "what-ifs", and the blaming of others. When we judge ourselves, we are to take responsibility for our own failures.

God chastises His people as a corrective measure. Hebrews 12 speaks more on that subject.



Look at Hebrews 12:5b-11. It is remarkable how many times the word “sons” is used in those verses. God deals with us as sons. Better to be corrected by God’s chastisement than to be condemned with the rebellious world. We are corrected by the Father who loves His children. Look at Hebrews 12:10-11. These words tell us about the purpose for chastisement. One, for our profit. Two, that we would be partakers of His holiness. Three, as painful as chastisement is, it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness. There is always room for growth!

Verse 33. Tarry one for another. Tarry means to wait for another. Give the one next to you first dibs at the food before us. This implies simple curtesy and sharing the meal in the loving spirit of Jesus.

Verse 34. If any man hunger let him eat at home. The Lord’s table is not the place to pig out! Some of the Corinthian brethren seemed to think it was! See verses 20-22. Be considerate of

the one next to you in the spirit of Jesus. Now let me tell you that I have never seen that happen at any of our love feast occasions. However, Paul was inspired to write to the church concerning this. Let us abhor this error at the Lord’s table. None of us is so perfect that we cannot be reminded of this.

The Lord’s table is an event at which together with the emblems of the bread and the cup is a holy observance. We are remembering the death of our Lord. It is a time of reverence, of reflection, and often repentance. A time we renew our love and commitment to Christ, and to each other. In the book of Revelation, we read these words: The Spirit and the bride say Come! So come to the table. Come prepared. And then let there be a mixture of deep reverence and joy as we observe this most solemn occasion together.

Edward Trone,  
Hanover, PA

## GO AND DO!!

“And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which

stood afar off: And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And

when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed." Luke 17:12-14

This verse was brought to my attention recently. The phrase that stuck out to me was in verse 14, "as they went, they were cleansed." It leaves us to believe that if they would not have headed out toward the priest, they would not have been healed. This got me to thinking about times in my life that God has prompted me to go and do something but it seems impossible or uncomfortable. I have a choice, do I step out believing that God meant what he asked or do I doubt it will work out and don't go? Do I try to figure out how it will work, or do I simply trust that no matter the outcome, God has a plan?

A while back we were feeling a push in a direction, we believed it was God asking us to step out, but in our human reasoning, it didn't seem to make sense. Two different people at two different times gave us this advice, "When God asks something of us, He doesn't always give us the full picture or even the next step,

but He is asking you to trust Him with the outcome. Take the first step, He will guide you and give you direction from there." We wrestled a bit more but finally came to the conclusion that it was God asking and the advice from the two people was correct. The outcome has been different than we expected but God has been faithful to lead us into what He has for us.

In verse 19 Jesus says this to the one man that had returned to praise God. "Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole." Not only did their healing require 'doing', but they also had faith that it would work. We need to be the same. Instead of questioning God's asking and prompting, get up, go and do in faith. The Bible is full of events and accounts of God's faithfulness. We have no reason to doubt Him. He has never lied or come up short on His promise. Psalm 36:5 "Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds."

Your "GO and DO" will most likely look different than anyone else's. It maybe as simple as sharing your extras with a neighbor or giving opportunity

to share Jesus with them. It may be significantly larger than that, maybe starting a study group, a local outreach, and orphanage or clinic in a distant land. Whatever it is, if God is asking it of you, He has a plan for it. Don't stop because you can't rationalize it all the way through in your brain. Take the first, small steps. Take some more and keep listening to the Father. He is a good Father and He has a plan, and He is looking for a willing child to bring the honor and glory back to Him.

The last part of Hebrews 13:5 "for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." And again in verse 8 "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." We can always count on God to have a

way, a miraculous way maybe, a way not possible to human reasoning and thinking, but a way to make Himself receive the glory. The way out or forward may look different than what we imagined or wanted but it will always be there. If God has called you to it, He will provide a way through it. When he does, Hebrews 13:15 tells us it is our responsibility to praise Him for it. "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." and also Psalm 89:1 "I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations."

Joe Cover,  
Dallas Center, IA

## **RECOGNIZING GOD'S PRESENCE IN MY LIFE**

We live in a very busy world. For example, our news media is a 24/7 operation and they work very hard to make sure every moment of the day is filled with something exciting. They are almost obsessed with activity and noise, and they don't weary of running the same thing over and over again.

This busyness has come at a terrible cost, especially to Christians. Our culture does not know how to be quiet. Silence to many people is viewed as a curse to be overcome at any cost. Hence, we have all kinds of activities that will chase silence from our culture. We have gadgets so we can occupy ourselves all the time

with activity that has no real purpose in life.

When I was young, I played a lot of games. Now I'm discovering that older people are playing games on their gadgets. Many are addicted to this kind of thing. Some seem that they are more interested in playing games than in really getting to know and understand God and all of His glory.

I believe as Christians, we need to set an example. Many have allowed so much busyness that there's no room for any kind of quietness. Our problem is that we are trying to compete with the world. If we slacken in one area, we're afraid the world is going to take over.

Psalms 46:10 says "Be still, and know that I am God". This verse indicates that if we are really getting to know God, we have to start by being still, which is a discipline not very well known among church people today. At times, we have the idea that if we are being still, we are not busy enough serving God.

We can sometimes get so busy that we forget who we really are in God's sight. When what we are doing becomes

more important than who we are doing it for, it becomes an idol. The Israelites in the Old Testament were often accused by God of this very thing. We do not believe that salvation comes by "works," however; we believe that the Christian life should be full of good works.

If we are going to recognize God's presence in our life, we are going to have to intentionally separate ourselves from the world. This is probably one of the hardest things for today's Christians to do. We can become so involved with the world that we don't know how to draw the line in separating ourselves from the world to spend time with God. I believe this begins with a willingness to separate ourselves from the world. If we understand the value of spending quality time with God, it should result in a willingness to separate ourselves from the world. But if we don't understand how important it is to spend quality time alone with God, will we take that step of separating ourselves from the world?

Isaiah understood this as recorded for us in Isaiah chapter 6. It was in the silence that Isaiah heard the voice of God.

When he heard the voice of God, he responded by saying, "Here I am, send me." From then on, his focus was on God.

As a Christian, how do I keep this focus on Christ? This can be very difficult, yet it is quite simple. I need to start every day with God. I need to spend time in the Word of God and in fellowship with Him.

Amid the roar of society,

it is refreshing to come upon someone that is spending time alone with God and has obeyed His voice. Apart from this silence and quietness before God, it can be more difficult to hear the voice of God and to recognize His presence in our lives. He is there all the time. May we seek Him, be still and hear His voice.

James L. Snyder,  
Ocala, FL

## CONNECTIONS

*As members of the Bible Study Board our hope in writing monthly articles related to the Adult SS Lessons is that we all see afresh different points of connection that reveal the Word made flesh.*

### Perception or Reality

John 7:20, 24

20) The people answered and said, Thou hast a devil: who goeth about to kill thee?

24) Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

Just prior to v. 20 Jesus makes a comparison between the hostility of the crowd towards him and their own shortcomings in following the law of Moses. They should be upset with themselves for their lack of obedience to the law of Moses. They should be crying out in repentance. Instead, they

ignore their shortcomings and condemn Jesus for healing a man on the Sabbath. The intent of their hearts is hidden from themselves, but Jesus exposes it when he proclaims, "Why go ye about to kill me?" (v.19) Their response is denial and further accusations about the demonic nature at work in Jesus. But

time will prove the accuracy of Jesus' words.

Our very human nature is on display in this scene. We are quick to deny and swift to accuse. We claim the moral high ground and make false accusations. The truth is easily sacrificed in order to keep others off balance and off target. What is Jesus' solution to our all too human predicament? "Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment." What does Jesus mean?

In our ultra-sophisticated day it is difficult to know what the real truth is. Two plus years after our last national election there are still claims that the previous election was stolen. This, in spite of the fact that no such accusation has ever been proven, in multiple court cases in multiple municipalities. The political polarization existing between our political parties has increased the level of hostilities experienced by high school students in their schools. This morning's news included another school shooting where three children and three adults were killed. So far this year there

have been nineteen shootings in school settings where at least one person has been injured or killed. Too often police officers forget their duties and give in to their feelings of anger and murder. Righteous judgment is unknown while perceptions of reality justify violence as the best solution.

Righteous judgment brings us before the One who is truly and totally righteous. Bringing our woes, our failures, our trials, along with our hearts and minds to Him allows God to use us in ways we never imagined possible. What God asks of us and provides for us is sufficient to meet our problems with His solutions. Our typical behavior of fight or flight is replaced with forgiveness and confession. God's grace continues to be available to us through any and all tribulations as we exercise our faith in Him. May our perceptions of God and the reality of His being find a home in our hearts that leads to rejoicing as we glorify Him.

*On behalf of the Bible Study Board*  
Brother Phil Franklin

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## PHIL'S PONDERINGS

As we “study to shew *ourselves* approved unto God...”  
May 2023 Bible Study

### May 7 - John 7:20-36 – Doing Good on the Sabbath Day

Conflict is something that many of us are very uncomfortable with. We frequently choose our words carefully to avoid conflict. But Jesus often is in conflict and frequently initiates it. Our lesson begins with his audience claiming he is demon possessed. Though wrong in their conclusion, Jesus' words and actions are meant to challenge their misunderstanding and expose their lack of spiritual vitality and comprehension. All of the parties in this passage are deeply flawed in what they think they know about Jesus. Conclusions are drawn on the basis of their ignorance. Like him or hate him they are bound to misunderstand him.

Matt 10:34,36: 34 “Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.”

Jesus is not promoting conflict but recognizes the inevitable nature of it when truth and perception meet head on. Truth does not allow falsehood to triumph nor settle for mere stalemate. It is always beckoning us to look beyond our presuppositions and toward the fullness that God alone holds out for us in His Son. In Christ Jesus conflict sharpens our minds and softens our hearts. Stiff necks are taught how to bow before a Messiah who willingly died for our hard hearts and alienated minds.

### May 14 - Luke 1:26-60 – Mother's Day

The narrative of Jesus' conception and the events leading up to his birth are well known to most of us. In spite of the blessing pronounced by Gabriel to Mary there is trouble brewing as well. “How am I going to explain this to Joseph?” Fortunately for Mary, God has already prepared a solution. Mary just needs to trust the Lord in the meantime. Our text begins with, “And in the sixth month...” Luke

isn't telling us the month of the year but rather the difference in age between John and Jesus. If we go back several verses before our text, Luke records that Elizabeth had conceived and hid herself for five months. So it is in the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy that Mary is visited by Gabriel. Shortly thereafter, Mary visits Elizabeth and stays for the better part of three months. It is unclear why Mary heads home just before the birth of John. Their fellowship together was full of joy and the rich awareness of the miracle of each other's pregnancy. Mary received good counsel from Elizabeth as she wrestled with the surprise that awaited Joseph. Mary surely provided for Elizabeth youthful energy for the daily tasks that needed doing. Mary delayed as long as possible before making the return trip to Nazareth. Strengthened by Elizabeth's faith and conviction, she is ready to face Joseph. She knows he is a good man. Yet, her circumstances are unique in human history. Who could believe she is telling the truth? Her trust in the Lord reveals that she is both biologically and spiritually a daughter of David.

### **May 21 - John 7:37-53 – A Prophet or Not**

The "great day of the feast" is of some uncertain origin. It is not commanded by Moses or mentioned in the Law. It may have been a memorial that celebrated water pouring forth from the rock during Israel's 40 years of wandering in the wilderness. A priest would fill a golden pitcher with water from the pool of Siloam and carry it to the temple to be offered as a sacrifice upon the altar. But clearly it is a high point in the celebration taking place. But the memorial only celebrated the satisfying of physical thirst. Jesus speaks out about "living water" that satisfies spiritual thirst. If anyone wants this "living water" they must come to him in faith and drink. The result is a life overflowing from the heart with rivers of living water. The force of Jesus' words overwhelmed the officers who were sent to arrest Jesus and deliver him to the Pharisees and chief priests. His words excited many in the crowd to believe that Jesus must be the Prophet foretold by Moses. Others believed that he must be the Christ while some doubted since Jesus was from Galilee instead of Bethlehem. Even to this day the larger church is divided about the identity of Jesus. Some see him as a great



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man who did good but suffered a martyr's death. Others are more interested in his political positions in order to persuade men of some great cause. Controversy surrounds Jesus. Are you confused about who Jesus is? Believe that he is who he said he is and you will begin to see the biblical portrait of Jesus.

### **May 28 - John 8:1-20 – Eager for the Truth**

Jesus continues to find himself in the midst of scenarios ripe with conflict. But not all arguments and disagreements are settled by lengthy debate. A trap has been laid by those who hope to discredit Jesus. He will be forced to acknowledge the righteousness of the Law or risk trying to evade the penalty of the Law.

Whichever course Jesus chooses, his celebrity will suffer. The culprit is a woman caught in the very act of committing adultery. The Law is clear (Lev. 20:10; Deut. 22:22). Death by stoning is the penalty. They clamor for an answer from his own lips. But Jesus ignores them as though they are not even there. Their impatience rises as they continue making their demands. Suddenly, Jesus stands up and says, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her." (John 8:7) Slowly, one by one, from the oldest to the youngest they walk away.

So how does Jesus minister to this woman who has nearly lost her life? Maybe she needs a lecture on her immorality? The wages of sin is death. The pleasures of sin include chains. You're either a slave of sin or a slave of righteousness. There are many sermons which could be preached. While all the above are true, the strongest message is what she has just experienced. Fear, shame, helplessness, and death have all touched her heart more deeply than any sermon. Jesus is her savior in a way we don't always think of when we hear or read those words. Her executioners have all slinked off into the shadows from whence they came. Her life has been given back to her by the one man who remains. With a single sentence he has conquered those so ready to throw stones. With a single sentence he challenges her heart to a greater obedience. "Go and sin no more." Whether our life has

been given back to us as we have faltered in living out our faith, or stand before our God glorying in His grace, we more fully realize how dependent we are upon the One who saves us.

## NEWS ITEMS

### Thank You

Chad and I along with our children would like to thank you for all the cards, phone calls, texts, gifts, and most importantly prayers. Your support in the past few months has made the journey easier. As of March, my doctor said the cancer is in remission. We give God all the praise for my healing. "Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer". Romans 12:12

Jessica Meyers,  
Dallas Center, IA

### General Conference

The Lord willing, the 2023 General Conference of the Dunkard Brethren Church will be held June 10-14, 2023, at Aldersgate Christian Camp in Turner, Oregon. ([www.aldersgateretreat.com](http://www.aldersgateretreat.com))

The closest airport will be Portland, Oregon. (approx. 70 mi. from conf.) There is a commercial shuttle service from the Portland Airport to Salem. (10 mi. from conf) ([groometransportation.com](http://groometransportation.com)) **Advance reservations are recommended on Groome Transportation** There is a charge for this service. If you miss your scheduled shuttle you are supposed to call them to reschedule. There is Amtrak service to Salem. (10 mi from conf.)

We will run our own shuttle from conference to those 2 locations in Salem as needed. Please let us know if you are planning on using our transportation from Salem to the conference grounds. We are only picking up by appointment. Cell #'s Dennis 503-931-2940 and Norma 503-559-1481. Email [normastamy@yahoo.com](mailto:normastamy@yahoo.com) .

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Lodging reservations should be sent to Dennis and Norma Jean Stamy, 1539 SE Miller Ave. Dallas, OR 97338. Call, text, or email. Cell Phone: 503-559-1481. Email [normastamy@yahoo.com](mailto:normastamy@yahoo.com) If possible please have your lodging requests in by May 1, 2023.

Earliest check in time will be 4 pm on Friday.

There are limited rooms that have a bathroom in them. **IF YOU ARE WILLING TO SHARE A ROOM WITH SOMEONE ELSE, PLEASE LET US KNOW.**

Bedding and 1 set of towels per person will be furnished for the 5 days. There will be the option to have clean towels midway through the conference.

There are RV spots available. Not all have full hookups.

Please let us know if you will be arriving after the 6:30 pm meal time on Friday. We need to have a count for the evening meal. If you will be arriving on Saturday please let us know approx. time so we can adjust meal counts.

If you are staying off site, please let us know which meals you will be there for.

We do need a signed medical release for anyone under 18 without parents attending. We have a form available if you need one. Just let us know.

It will be cool in the late evenings and early mornings, possible upper 40's to low 50's. You will need to bring jackets. Not heavy ones just lightweight. Like a sweater or sweatshirt.

Oregon has a law in place that you cannot pump your own fuel

into your vehicle. They will pump it for you. Everyone needs to be aware of this so you don't try to pump your own. There are a few rural locations that will let you pump your own.

We have a list of popular places to visit. Just let us know and we can email it or if enough time I can mail it to you.

### **Travel Directions to Aldersgate Camps and Retreats:**

From the North:

Exit from I-5 at Exit 252 (Kuebler Blvd.). Turn left at light. Proceed east to stop light at Turner Rd. and turn right. Follow Turner Rd. 4 miles into Turner. Continue to follow the main road through Turner following signs to Aumsville. You will cross Mill Creek on your way out of Turner. Entrance to Aldersgate is 500 ft. on the left.

From the South:

Exit from I-5 at Exit 248 (Turner-Sunnyside Rd). Turn right at stop sign. Proceed 4 miles east on Delaney Road into Turner. Turn right at the stop sign just after the railroad tracks. Follow the main road through Turner following signs to Aumsville. You will cross Mill Creek on your way out of Turner. Entrance to Aldersgate is 500 ft. on the left.

Thank You,  
The Lodging Committee

### **Bible Monitor Submission Schedule – Articles and News Items**

When submitting an article for publishing in the Bible Monitor, please try to submit it to the editor by the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month prior. For example, please try to have an article submitted by June 1<sup>st</sup> if you would like it to be published in the July issue. Likewise, for shorter writings such as news items, please try to submit them by the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the month prior. It is preferred that materials for publishing in the Monitor be submitted by email to [kenbrockdb@gmail.com](mailto:kenbrockdb@gmail.com) However, they can also be submitted by regular mail to 1520 County Road 22.60, Stryker, Ohio 43557.

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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR June 2023**

### **June 4 - John 8:21-41 - The Truth Shall Make You Free**

1. What makes you a disciple of Christ?
2. Other than your slavery to sin, what makes you choose to sin?
3. How have you been set free?

### **June 11 - John 8:42-59 - Christ's Heavenly Origin**

1. Where do you stand?
2. Are you abiding in God's Word and growing in truth?
3. Are you in bondage to do Satan's wishes?

### **June 18 - Genesis 45:1-28 - Father's Day**

1. Do you think Joseph ever wondered why he told his brothers his dreams?
2. How do we, as fathers, return good for evil?
3. Joseph reconciled with his brothers. Do we as Christians have any right not to be reconciled with those around us?

### **June 25 - John 9:1-23 - The Blind Man Healed then Questioned**

1. What causes spiritual blindness in our lives today?
2. How can we, as Christ's followers, be the light of the world?
3. The blind man received physical healing and we today can sometimes experience physical healing. What is the purpose of our healing?

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Mail all donations to: Dunkard Brethren Church, P.O. Box 821, Troy, OH 45373.

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