



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299

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Email: staff@dovercoc.org

January 16, 2005

My Lines

By Micah Williams

Lived Out Grace

We all love grace, without it we would be lost. Grace is what we rely on, contemplate on and live with.

But grace can be taken advantage of; grace is free but can be lost. ***“You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.”*** (Gal. 5:4)

James is an exposition of the Law of Love. ***If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF,’ you are doing well.***” (2:8) James consistently shows us that love is simply lived out grace. God in His mercy has shown grace to the humble of heart. ***“But He gives a greater grace. Therefore, it says, ‘GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.’”*** (4:6) As He expects us to extend that mercy into the lives of those around us. Lived out, ***“Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor can salt water produce fresh. Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full***

of mercy and good fruits, unwavering without hypocrisy. And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.” (3:12-18)

Contrary to a lot of popular myth, no where does James teach us one is saved by works. Rather, he argues that one who is saved will live a life of grace and mercy toward others.

Look at what he says about helping those without clothing or food. ***“If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,’ and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what is that? Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.”*** (2:15-17) Because we receive from God, we give as a demonstration of our faith in Him.

A man (Bonhoeffer) made a distinction between “grace” and “cheap grace”. Cheap grace takes for granted God’s goodness but does not lead to a life of loving commitment; he writes . . . “Grace means forgiveness of sins proclaimed . . . cheap grace is preaching forgiveness without repentance, baptism without church discipline, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus, living and incarnate.”

This is what James is talking about . . . Christians who are Christians in name only. They have not patterned themselves after the Master. They have not followed the cross. They are not living out grace. The grace in their lives is cheap – it is worthless. ***“Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be miserable and mourn and weep; let***

your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will care for you.” (4:7-11)

James tells us discipleship (walking the talk) means to actively seek to sow love and mercy in our world.

Watch your tongue, serve and be humble, riches, etc. It means serving the poor, it means taking care of the widow. Further, it means to make sure employers do not take advantage of employees. ***“Come now you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which are coming upon you. Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten. Your gold and your silver have rusted; and their rust will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. It is in the last days that you have stored up your treasure! Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields, and which has been withheld by you, cries out against you; and the outcry of those who did the harvesting has reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. You have lived luxuriously on the earth and led a life of wanton pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. You have condemned and put to death the righteous man; he does not resist you.”*** (5:1-6)

James is just as much an apostle of mercy and grace as Paul or Peter.

What James is telling us is that Christians are those folks whose lives are full of lived out grace.

Please note: our website is:
www.dovercoc.org

Our new E-mail address is:
staff@dovercoc.org

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

Alec, my grandson, has always been fascinated with moles. I guess this began when he was about three years old. One, or more, moles had made havoc in my yard. He wanted me to dig it, up. He wanted to see the creature. I told him we would look it up in the encyclopedia. So, during each of his visits we would get the "M" book out and look up the mole. The picture looks much bigger than the mole actually is. Moles are fast but very small.

It works out better now that Alec is older and taller. He gets the book out for himself. During this holiday visit I found the book on the coffee table. (He can reach it to get it out but not to put it back!) This made me realize that he is still fascinated with the mole.

Most of us have wondered why God made mosquitoes. The same goes for moles. Why did God create moles? Moleskin is lightweight, warm, soft and thick. At one time it was used to make coats and jackets, but it does not wear well. They eat mainly worms and insects. They seldom eat plants, but their digging often spoils lawns, gardens and fields.

The mole's front paws turn outward which allows them to shovel their tunnels. It is almost blind, but it does not need keen vision in its underground tunnels. Also, it does not have external ears, but hears very well anyway. Its nest may be several feet underground. It comes near the surface searching for food. This is what we see on our lawns.

God probably made the mole, as He did many other animals and insects, to keep us from being over-come with worms and insects. Nature is a wonder in itself!

A mole's life if not to be envied. He is always in darkness. We can be like that, too. When we let "things" in our lives take us away from God, we too, will be in darkness. We were created to be the light and to glorify our Creator.

Unlike the mole, we know we were created for a purpose; God's purpose. "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (Eph. 2:10)

Remember Our Sick

Walter Arcynski – St. Louis, MO has been hospitalized. They receive our Life Lines.

Thelma Hatcher - Second eye surgery rescheduled for February 14, 2005.

Keith Martin – St. Louis, MO, special little boy almost one, has been hospitalized with an infection.

Debbie Myers - on Wednesday, January 5th, saw her doctor again. Good news, for now the scheduled surgery has been cancelled. The hardware will not have to be removed if they can clear-up the infection.

Noah Williams – St. Louis, MO, almost two, weighs 16 lbs. More surgeries coming up.

Shut-ins: Needs your prayers and visits. All live in the Dover Area.

Evelyn Burton

Louise Killer

Mae Vanzandt

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

William and Susie Boley, Bernice Brown, John Clark, Barbara Dawson, Evelyn Driver, Lacey Gregory, Charles and Leota Hickey, Bob and Rose Lee, Jerry Martin, Joe Miller, Sandra Mooney, Shirley Pavatt, Teresa Phillips, Zachary Shelton, Henry and Edna Smith, Esther Sparks, Gordon Roughton, Juanita Townsend, Pauline Whorton, Harold and Mildred Turner.

Military: John Allen, Jeremy Carter, Greg Davis, Paul Holt, Chris Pearson, Tom Pickle, Terry Robinson and Adam Schrepfer.

Megan Elizabeth Stone arrived December 20, 2004, 6 lbs., 12 oz.

Christine and Michael appreciated our prayers, the delivery went well.

Sympathy & Prayers

Mabel Feilke, June Walters' sister passed away. Please remember June in your prayers. June receives our Life Lines.

Olive Walker, Don Sheeran's sister passed away January 3, 2005, St Louis, Mo. Please remember this family in your prayers. Don receives our Life Lines.

"Songs of the Night"

**In the quiet of a peaceful night,
I take the time to reflect
on my day.**

**I give thanks for the abundant
blessings**

That God has sent my way.

**I'm thankful for the bounty
of the earth,**

**And for the beauty of the birds in
flight.**

**I hear the voices of nature –
The melodious songs
of the night.**

**I hear the melody of the
singing breeze,**

**While I whisper a grateful prayer,
In concert with the promise**

from God –

That He will always be there.

**I hear the rhythm of
nature's songs,**

In harmony with an angel's voice,

**I close my eyes to sleep
in peace –**

**And to the songs of
the night – rejoice.**

By: Charles Clevenger

New Boston, Ohio

Via Country Extra

Events

Youth Outreach University!

January 14th Thru 16th

Morrilton Downtown
Church of Christ

Grades 7 Thru 12

Students: \$15.00
Elders: Free

Keynote Speakers:
Jon Binkley
Willie Franklin

Parents are encouraged to
bring and/or go with their
children.

For More information
See Doug Wilson

Devotional Scrapbooking Class

January 18th
Thru
April 12th

Every Tuesday
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Theme: “Fruits of the Spirit”

Dover Church of Christ

For more info see:
Karen Womack

Mark Your Calendars

Ladies Night

January 20th
Thursday, 7:00 PM

Hostess: Joyce Helton

MEALS ON WHEELS

January 24th
Thru
January 28th

(Monday thru Friday)

5th Sunday Potluck and Children’s Program

Dover Church of Christ
January 30th, 6:00 PM

TEEN DEVO

Sunday, January 16th
5:00 to 7:00 PM

Hosted by: Church of Christ
Student Center at ATU

Pray for Our Nation and Our troops!

January Birthdays

- | | |
|----|-----------------|
| 01 | Alexis Boley |
| | Billy Walters |
| 02 | Sandra Mooney |
| | Marilyn Veasman |
| 07 | Chris Moss |
| 08 | Micah Williams |
| 11 | Velva Bates |
| 13 | Doug Wilson |
| 16 | Carrie Clark |
| 20 | JoAnn Killer |
| | Teresa Parker |
| | Patsy Wisbrock |
| 22 | Bennie Lou |
| | Meadows |
| 26 | Klaus Mullins |
| 28 | Bill McAlister |
| | Jack Escue |
| 29 | Troy Meadows |

If we missed your birthday
please let us know so that it will
not happen again.

Dover Church of Christ Teachers’ Appreciation Banquet

January 29th
Saturday, 6:00 PM
At the
ATU C.C.S.C.
building on campus.

THOSE TO SERVE

January 16, 2005

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

1st: Rex McDaniel
2nd: Rick Hollis

Communion

Podium: Earl Whitted
Serve: Robert Bird
Alan Boatright
Allen Veasman
Andy Land

Scripture Reading

Chris Loper

Sunday P.M.

Prayers

William Boley
Doug Wilson

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.

Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.

Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

John and Carrie Clark

Communion to Shut-Ins

Paul Helton
Paul Williams

Greeters

Earl and Frances Kennedy

Wednesday Night Devotional

January 19, 2005

Earl Whitted

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
7:00 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams
Church Office: 479-331-3428
Or Cell: 479-264-9244

Elders:

William Boley 858-7131
Jim Killer 331-2802
Allen Veasman 331-2156

Deacons:

Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper
Joe Miller

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: Charlene Clark
Patsy Wisbrock

Sunday Service: Marilyn Veasman

Wednesday Class: Joan Vance
Kaeli Miller

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Dover Church of Christ
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