



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299
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Volume 19 Number 04

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January 28, 2007

The Blue Donkey Speaks

I have a friend who reminds me of Eeyore. Remember him? Eeyore's the donkey from Winnie the Pooh stories. Poor Eeyore is always gloomy about something. He's always losing his tail or rebuilding his house after it's collapsed. When he talks, he's always sad and sluggish-sounding, and you just can't cheer him up. Sounds like a fun guy to sit next to at a party, right?

So what is it about my friend that reminds me of Eeyore? Well, whenever we talk, something is wrong. Even when something good is going on, there's something wrong with that. That's not always a problem because I have a slightly off-kilter sense of humor and don't mind dry, ironic humor. I think it's good to share ups and downs of life with friends. But lately, I leave our conversations wondering if it's good for us to talk about our troubles so often. As we wallow in mucky sadness, our conversations often end with one or both of us feeling down.

The truth is, sometimes I'm Eeyore. In fact, I'm sure a recent conversation with my mom left her wondering whether she'd given birth to a daughter or a gloomy little blue-gray donkey. I wailed and moaned and sputtered and snarled, and I could not be comforted. My tail had fallen off. My house had collapsed.

My Eeyore-ish tendencies remind me of a sermon I once heard that was based on John 5. Here Jesus healed a

paralyzed man who has been lying by a pool that was supposed to have special healing powers. When Jesus asked the man if he'd like to be healed, the man said something like this: "I have no one to help me to the pool to be healed." Then Jesus told the man to "**Get up! Pick up your bed and walk.**"

Think about what Jesus said to the man. Why would He ask a paralyzed man if he'd like to get well? And why would He tell a paralyzed man to just get up and get going? That sounds almost mean, doesn't it.

But according to the preacher, Jesus was challenging the way the man thought about himself. Being well would require a whole new way of thinking and living. He couldn't just depend on others anymore; he'd have to take responsibility for himself. If he wasn't paralyzed anymore, he couldn't lie by the pool. This man had to decide if he was ready to take the new life that Jesus was offering.

That sermon really challenged me to be responsible for the things I spend my time thinking about and talking about. It challenged me to do what I can to get beyond my Eeyore-ish thinking. When I'm upset, I can put on some good music and get moving. Maybe I can do an extra workout and enjoy the good kind of tired I'll feel when I'm done. I can read my Bible or pull out my journal and make a list of the things that are going well. And yes, I can talk to my friends – if I'm doing that to feel better instead of just spreading my

bad mood like a germ-filled sneeze. I can take up my bed and walk.

I don't think that means if you're depressed for a long time, you should just expect yourself to snap out of it. If this happens, you should ask your parents or a school counselor to help you figure out if you just have the blues or if you're struggling with something deeper.

But if you simply have a case of the blues, then I would encourage you to try and look at the bright side more often. That's what I'm trying to do. I'm going to try my best to do things that help me feel cheerful.

I should probably start by reattaching this tail and building up this collapsing house.

LaTonya Taylor
From Crossing the Desk
October, 2005
Jacksonville Church of Christ
Jacksonville, AL

Recently, our preacher put this on our marquee. The front side read:

Thank God for what you have.

The back side read:

Thank God for what you don't have.

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, AR

Dover Church of Christ
Deacons' Meeting Scheduled for
February 5th, 6:00 PM

Lads to Leaders

Will meet every Sunday for practice
from 3:00PM to 6:00 PM.

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

Take a moment to listen today
To what your children are trying to say.
Listen to their problems,
listen for their needs,
Praise their smallest triumphs,
praise their smallest deeds:
Tolerate their chatter,
Amplify their laughter,
Find out what's the matter;
Find out what they're after.
But tell them that you love them,
every single night
And though you scold them,
be sure to hold them tight.
Listen today, whatever you do
And they will come back
to listen to you.

Author Unknown

Listening to a little child is so easy.
They say such cute things that make us
laugh. Their problems are minute, so we
have no problem listening to them at that
age. However, it gets harder when they
get into their teens. There is friction.
We seem to be smart when they are
young, but the older they get the dumber
we seem to get. This usually remains
this way until they are married and have
their own children. Then we get wise
again. There is a period of time that we
seem to lose our reasoning. It runs in a
cycle. Our kids get it, too!

We must love our children and get
their respect. We must be consistent
with our discipline. They need to know
what we expect of them. Also, they need
to know what to expect from us.

Most importantly, they need a spiritual
upbringing. They need to know about
Jesus. "Train up a child in the way he
should go, and when he is old he will not
depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6 NKJV)

Little children are a blessing from God.
Jesus said that unless we become as little
children we cannot enter the kingdom of
heaven. Little children are humble,
loving and forgiving.

They need our love and praise.

Remember Our Sick

Ronnie Clark – test for ulcers clear.
Hoyt Ensey – new complications –
aneurism.
David Guthrie – (Southern Christian
Home) diagnosed with colon cancer.
Jim Lackey – diagnosed with cancer.
Bill McAlister – Back surgery
Wednesday, January 17th.
El Mering – cousin of Marion Helton
and Joan Vance, aneurism, treatment
pending.
Bobbye Meline – in St. Mary's,
condition serious.
Ray Motley – Theresa Motley's father-
in-law, in St. Mary's with pneumonia.
Betty Ortega – close friend of Frances
Kennedy, eye removal surgery, Jan-uary
9th, cancer.
Christy Pickle – Cara Williams' sister,
in Africa for 3 months (internship).
Grace Ann Rowlands - still in
Children's Hospital, LR, slowly
improving.
Summer Russell – friend of Diane
Walters' and Bonnie Vinson injured in
an auto accident 12-23-06, still in AMS,
(coma) head and spinal injuries.
Bud Wait – home recovering.
Pauline Whorton – fell, in St.Mary's.
Shut-ins: Need prayers and visits.
Dover Area: **Bernice Brown**
Evelyn Burton
Mae Vanzandt
Russellville Nursing and Rehab Center:
Evelyn Driver
Thelma Hatcher
Stella Manor: **Louise Killer,**
Mary Lee
Others Who Need Our Prayers:
Daisy Hogins Anderson, Walter and
Thelma Arcynski, Lawrence Boley,
Lloyd Boley, Susie Boley, Gail Brewer,
Ina Dell Cloud, Tom Cloud, Jeff Davis,
Charles Ensey, Barbara Forehand, Sue
Griffin, Charles Hickey, Robert and
Rose Lee, Teresa Phillips, Charles
Proctor, Annie Robinson, Reddie Smith,
Tanya Smith, Stone Family, Jewel
Waldrip and Elsie Youngerman.
Special Children: Bethaney Beasley,
Emmy May, Keith Martin and Noah
Williams.
Military: Darus Brown, Greg Davis,
Steve Ferguson (Iraq), Johnny Ragsdale,
Cole Wetzel and Rudy Will.

Trials

*Happiness keeps you sweet,
Trials keep you strong,
Sorrows keep you human,
Failure keeps you humble,
Success keeps you glowing,
But only God keeps you going!*

*When deeply distraught,
Forget your own despair
And reach out to help others
Who need your care,
For when you bring pleasure
To another human heart,
You followed in His footsteps
And you've had a little part
In answering God, who loves us,
For my dear, I'm sure it's true
That in serving those around us,
We serve and please Him, too.*

Author Unknown
From: Home Touch

The Painter

There was a painter, who was very
interested in making a penny where ever
could, so he often would thin down paint
to make it go farther. He got away with
this for some time, but then another
church decided to do a big restoration
job of painting one of their biggest
buildings. The painter put in a bid, and
because his price was low, he got the
job. And so he set to erecting trestles
and setting up planks, and buying the
paint and, yes, I am sorry to say,
thinning down the paint with turpentine.

He was up on the scaffolding, painting
away, the job nearly completed when
suddenly there was a horrendous clap of
thunder, and the sky opened, and the rain
poured down, washing the thinned paint
from the building. The painter fell off
the scaffold, landed on the lawn among
the telltale puddles of the thinned and
useless paint.

He knew this was a judgment from the
Almighty, so he cried out, "Oh God!
Forgive me! What should I do?"

And from the thunder, a mighty voice
spoke . . . "Repaint, repaint and thin no
more!"

Events

Dover Church of Christ
Children's Church
Every Sunday
11:15 - 12:00 Noon
Ages 4 thru 8
Bible Story and
Activities
Ages 1 thru 3
Nursery Class

CHRISTeens 2007

February 23rd thru 25th
West Side Church of
Christ
2300 West "C" Street
Russellville, AR 72801
wsyouth.org

Deadline for reservations:
January 26, 2007
\$10.00 per person,
payment due by:
February 9th
Registration is limited to
the first 1000 registered
9th – 12th Grades and
sponsors.

A big Thank You goes to
those who contributed to
Southern Christian Home
pick-up on January 17,
2007

Mark Your Calendars

Dover Youth Devo

Sunday, February 4th
After Evening Services

Joan Vance's Home

Men's Regular Monthly Meeting

Monday, 7:00 PM
February 5th
Dover Church of Christ

Dover Men's Devo

Thursday, 7:00 PM
February 8th
Host to be announced

Baby Shower

Sunday, 2:00 PM
February 11th
Misty Pointer
(It's a Boy)
Diapers, wipes, etc.
Dover Church of Christ
Fellowship Hall

Ladies Night

Thursday, 7:00 PM
February 15th
Hostess: Pat McAlister

January Birthdays

03 Mildred Turner
Jon David Vance
08 Mary McAlister
09 Juanita Whitted
11 Kristen Nordin
12 Shawn Bates
Emily Straight
15 Zackary Shelton
16 Rachel Curtis
19 Carolyn Bennett
Tyler Mullins
20 Kaci Statler
21 Julie Moss
22 Eugene Davis
Keri Letson
Troy Meadows
23 Bernice Brown
Pat McAlister
Linda Vance Herron
24 Earl Kennedy
27 Caleb Chance
28 Teresa Motley

If we missed your birthday,
please let us know so it won't
happen again.

"In Search of the Lord's Way"

Now 24/7

The Search Program can now
be accessed at any time on its
website: www.searchtv.org

Mack Lyon's weekly lesson
can be heard and seen on
KARK, Channel 4, Sunday,
7:30 AM.

THOSE TO SERVE

January 28, 2007

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Gary Williams
Jim Killer

Communion

Podium: Allen Veasman
Serve: Lawrence Boley
Marion Helton
Rex McDaniel
Rick Hollis

Scripture Reading

William Boley

Sunday P.M. Prayers

Lawrence Boley
Joe Miller

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

Robert and Juanita Bird

Communion to Shut-Ins

Allen Veasman
Blake Forehand

Greeters

Robert and Juanita Bird

Wednesday Night Devotional

January 31, 2007

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
Sid Womack 967-2367

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper
Rex McDaniel
Chris Moss
Joe Miller

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: Kaeli Miller
Sunday Church: Pat McAlister
Kaeli Miller

Life Lines is a Publication of the Dover Church of Christ

Editor: Pat McAlister, Layout and Design: Joan Vance, Technical Assistance: M. Shoptaw

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