



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299

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My Lines

Micah Williams

When Life Tumbles In

John 14 offers real assistance in time of trouble . . .

There is the promise of heaven. *“Let not your hearts be troubled . . . In My Father’s house are many mansions . . .”* (John 14:1-3) When life tumbles in, nothing helps like the hope of heaven.

There is the paternity of God. *“I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except by Me.”* (John 14:6) God is our father! The insistence of that truth was a hallmark of Jesus’ teaching. If we understand and live on this basis, life never becomes hopeless.

There is the privilege of prayer. *“I will do whatever you ask in My name.”* (John 14:13) Prayer is the Christian crisis management tool. Are you in trouble? Pray! Are you sick? Pray! Are you caught up in some sin? Pray! Whatever crisis, pray! The fervent prayer of the righteous is both powerful and effective.

There is the presence of the Holy Spirit. *“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever . . .”* (vs. 26) *“ . . . the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you of all things, and bring to you remembrance all that I have said to you.”* (John 14:16; vs. 26) When life tumbles in we need to know that we are not alone. (See Psalm 146.)

There is the peace of Jesus. *“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you . . .”* (John 14:27) The peace the world gives is based on things and circumstances. God’s peace is based on relationships. We are equipped to handle any crisis, if we have the proper relationship with God and His people.

God has not promised life without trouble. He does promised hope and help for the hurting!

*Reflections
With: Randall Caselman
The Seeker
Fayetteville, AR*

“LET GO”

- To “let go” does not mean to stop caring, it means I can’t do it for someone else.
- To “let go” is not to cut myself off, it’s the realization I can’t control another.
- To “let go” is not to enable, but to allow learning from natural consequences.
- To “let go” is to admit powerlessness, which means the outcome is not in my hands.
- To “let go” is not to try to change or blame another, it’s to make the most of myself.
- To “let go” is not to care for, but to care about.
- To “let go” is not to fix, but to be supportive.
- To “let go” is not to judge, but to allow another to be a human being.
- To “let go” is not to be in the middle arranging all the outcomes but to allow others to affect their own destinies.
- To “let go” is not to be protective, it’s to permit another to face reality.
- To “let go” is not to deny, but to accept.
- To “let go” is not to nag, scold or argue, but instead to search out my own short comings and to correct them.
- To “let go” is not to adjust everything to my desire but to take each day as it comes, and to cherish myself in it.
- To “let go” is not to criticize and regulate anybody but to try to become what I dreamed I can be.
- To “let go” is not to regret the past, but to grow and to live for the future.
- To “let go” is to fear less and love more.

*Submitted by: Pat Holloway
Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas*

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

OOPS! In my article, two weeks ago, about Merrell Shoptaw, I made an error! (Not my first and certainly not my last.) In mentioning his time on the Dover School Board, I wrote that he had served two or more years. It should have read that he served two or more terms! Each term was for five years.

In apologizing to Merrell I mentioned that I would send a correction, but he said it wasn't necessary. But giving credit where credit is due, there is a lot of difference in 2 to 3 years and 10 to 12 years. I know he served a very long time and that is not an easy job. He accomplished a lot while serving on this board.

Like Merrell said that this was no big deal, but it made me think of how easy it is to blame someone else for something we do. It's hard to admit that we are wrong or that we have wronged someone. And after admitting it, it is even harder to apologize.

We know we sin. We are human. In our prayers we are always apologizing to God for something wrong we have done, or something good we have not done. Do we find this easier than apologizing to someone we have wronged? We shouldn't. Maybe it's because we read about our loving Father who is so forgiving. If we are earnest in our prayers, we know that He forgives because He said so. We can't always be sure about the person we have wronged or hurt. They may not be as forgiving. Maybe we are afraid of rejection.

"Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, long suffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do." (Col. 3:12-13)

When I have offended someone, I hope I can see and know what I have done. Many times we say and do things without really thinking how these things will affect others. That's why it such a good idea to always stop and think before we speak. How would I feel if someone said this to me? If something is not said with meekness and kindness it should be left unsaid.

Also, if someone asks your forgiveness, you must forgive. As Paul said, ". . . bearing with one another, and forgiving one another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."

We received a memorial contribution from Jackie Wisbrock in the memory of her mother, Lorraine Wisbrock.

Remember Our Sick

Doris Karnes Bachand – Pat and Becky's cousin has been diagnosed with cancer. Treatments not recommended. Her family really needs your prayers.

Lloyd Boley – Lawrence Boley's brother, home recovering from surgery. Mass removed, waiting for test report. Donna Gail Brewer – Robert and Juanita Bird's niece, diagnosed with ovarian cancer, has started chemo treatments.

Michelle Crutcher of Batesville, AR, Charlene Clark's niece, diagnosed with liver cancer. Doctors say too large for surgery but still determining their course of treatments.

Wanda Dickerson – John Clark's mother, having test on February 24th at Arkansas Heart Hospital.

Robert Estridge – Pauline Dale's nephew, brain tumor diagnoses.

Thelma Hatcher – second eye surgery re-scheduled for March 3rd.

Bill McAlister – came home from hospital Monday, Feb. 21st. Doctors changing medicine, hoping to get a better blood flow. Please keep him in constant prayer.

John Myers – Tests showed no cancer in other parts of his body. Cancer tumor in lung very small. Will start radiation and chemo treatments

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

Evelyn Burton

Louise Killer

Mae Vanzandt

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Walter Arcynski, Luella Bellomo, Lawrence Boley, William and Susie Boley, Bernice Brown, John Clark, Jeff Davis, Evelyn Driver, Harriet Foot, Charles and Leota Hickey, Bob and Rose Lee, Jerry Martin, Debbie Meyer, Joe Miller, Sandra Mooney, Shirley Pavatt, Teresa Phillips, Esther Sparks, Pauline Whorton, Harold and Mildred Turner, David and Betty Walters and Donald Walters.

Please keep the family of Hulen Skip Hefley in your prayers. Skip, age 40 brother of Debbie Meyer, passed away suddenly February 21, 2005, Arnold, MO. Memorial services will be Thursday, interment Potosie, MO.

Expectant Mothers: Melissa Jackson.

Special Children: Zachary Shelton, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

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

“Hardening of the Oughteries”

Ought motivation can be powerful, but is usually short-lived. We know what we ought to do. We can be shamed into lots of things. But does the fact that we acknowledge an obligation lead us to get it done? Does not being driven by guilt and oughts eventually lose their power?

Oughting others make us feel good, whether said by a preacher to a congregation or by one individual to another. It gives a sense of power and righteous indignation to aim our ought guns at others and fire away. But does it work? How many people have you oughted who actually changed, as compared with those who did not? Experience shows that telling people what they ought to do seldom motivates them to do it. Besides, we ought not to ought our neighbor to make our selves feel good.

Why does oughting lose its power? Hardening of the oughteries can happen when we don't care what we ought to do. Hard hearts. Hard Oughteries. It can also occur when we are bombarded with so many oughts that they lose any effect on us. Some people come to church services hoping for a spanking. They don't intend to change their behavior. They just want to be spanked for all the oughts they violated. Whether we don't care what we ought to do or feel beaten down by oughts, we suffer from hardening of the oughteries.

What can we do about it? Is there a cure? (Can you answer that question without using the word ought?) Jesus said, "If you love Me, you will keep My keep My commandments." (John 14:15) Notice He didn't say, "If you love Me you ought to keep my commandments." If we love Him, we will obey Him, not because we ought to, but because we want to. Maybe we need to stop working on oughts and start working on love!

The song goes, "Change my heart, O God. Make it ever true. Change my heart, O God. May I be like You. You are the Potter. I am the clay. Mold and make me. This is what I pray. Change my heart."

Hardening of the oughteries can be cured only by changing the heart.

Bulletin Digest

Southern Christian Home Truck

March 21st

Dover Church of Christ
Items needed posted on the
bulletin board

Events

Ladies Day 2005

Saturday, March 12th

Registration: 8:30 AM

Program will begin at 9:00 AM

Downtown Church
of Christ
100 W. Church Street
Morrilton, AR

“Just Do It!”

Featuring: Judy Ragsdale
From: Montgomery, TX

Phone: 501-354-2323

Email:
@churchofchristdowntown.org

Lunch will be provided.
All Ladies Invited!

LADIES DAY

Saturday, March 12th

Church of Christ

Mars Hill, AR

Registration: 9:30-10:00 AM

Class: 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Lunch provided

Theme: “According to the
Pattern”
(Hebrews 8:5)

Mark Your Calendars

Men’s Business Meeting
7:00 PM, March 7th
Dover Church of Christ

Men’s Devotional
7:00 PM, March 10th
Dover Church of Christ

Dover Church of Christ
Young Couples’
Night Out
March 12th

Baby Setting provided
Ages: infants to 12 yr. olds
Be sure to get your name on
the sign up sheet.

Ladies Night
7:00 PM, March 24th
Hostess: Diane Walters
Pine Hill Rd., Dover

MEALS ON WHEELS

March 21st thru 25th
Monday thru Friday
Dover Church of Christ

MARCH Birthdays

02	Kelly Williams
03	Bryan Bates Keaton Creel Rick Hollis
06	Timothy Bushea
07	Harold Turner Colton Williams
08	Adam Land
09	Christopher McGuire
13	Matthew Moss
17	Jim Killer
18	Ryan Whiteside
21	William Boley
22	Alan Herron
25	Blake Brown
27	Mike Creel Jessalyn Davis Wilma Johnson Shelby Statler
28	Kaeli Miller

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

DOVER CHURCH
OF CHRIST LADIES
Host Luncheon
March 16th
CCSC, ATU

Ladies Day
April 9th
Dover Church of Christ
“Lighthouse Theme”

THOSE TO SERVE

March 06, 2005

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

John Myers
Lawrence Boley

Communion

Podium: Jim Killer
Serve: Robert Bird
Alan Boatright
Allen Veasman
Andy Land

Scripture Reading

Blake Walters

Sunday P.M. Prayers

James Chadwick
Joe Miller

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.

Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.

Youth of
Dover Church of Christ

Prepare Table for Communion

John and Carrie Clark

Communion to Shut-Ins

John Myers
Lawrence Boley

Greeters

Troy and Rachel Curtis

Wednesday Night Devotional

March 9, 2005

William Boley

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
Rex McDaniel
Joe Miller

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: Carin Chance
Sonia Williams

Sunday Service: Wilma Johnson

Wednesday Class: Pat McAlister

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Dover Church of Christ
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