



# Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ  
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## The Christian Life . . . A Deposit!

Leota Hickey's April 25, 2009,  
Ladies' Day Speech

Memories are comparable to bank accounts. We deposit money into our bank accounts . . . This money buys us "Things." The Christian accounts are deposits of faith: we get these by the study of the Word of God and doing everything we can to follow that Word.

In Luke 19 Luke tells about a wealthy chief tax collector who was probably in charge of a district with others under him. This was Zaccheus. Tax collectors were Jewish Agents and they were especially hated for helping the pagan conquerors and frequently defrauding their own people. They were regarded as outcasts and sinners. They worked for Rome and often demanded unreasonable payments. They would demand more than they had to give back to the Roman Government. This was how they became rich. They could not serve as judges and were expelled from the synagogues. In the eyes of the Jewish community, this disgrace extended to their families.

You know the story of Zaccheus. He was a little man who climbed up in a Sycamore tree to be able to see Jesus. Jesus told him to come down so that He, Jesus, could stay at his house. The people who saw this marveled that Jesus would stay with a sinner. Jesus recognized this tax collector as one who walks in the footsteps of Abraham's faith – even though he was a tax collector – after he realized who Jesus was,

He told Jesus that he would give half of his goods to the poor and if he had taken anything from any man by false accusations, he would restore them fourfold. Then Jesus said to him, **"Today salvation has come to this house, because he is a son of Abraham."** (19:9) Zaccheus began making deposits into a spiritual account.

Also in Luke 19, Jesus tells the parable of a certain man who went to a far country to receive for himself a kingdom. He called his servants and gave them each ten pounds and told them to put the money to work until he returned. When he returned, having received

the kingdom, he sent for the servants to see what they had gained with it. You know the story, the first one earned ten more. The second one earned five more and the third one gained nothing. So the king asked the third one why he didn't deposit the money so that he could have at least collected interest when he came back.

The servant said, *"I was afraid of you because you are a hard man."* He wanted to keep the money safe. So the king took the money away from the third man and gave it to the one who had earned ten more. This parable is about spiritual gain. Jesus said, *"To everyone that has more, will be given more but as for the one who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away. The meaning is that those who seek spiritual gain in the gospel for themselves, and others, will become richer in the faith, and those who neglect or squander what is given them will become impoverished, even losing their soul."* The Gospel is given to every person who professes to believe in Christ and does His will. The same word is given to all, that all may believe and be saved. We take that word and deposit it into our hearts and let it grow. So as for deposits, we should seek to gain knowledge of spiritual things, not worldly things and deposit them into our account with God.

Whatever we have – a lot or so little, we are all the same at death. We take nothing with us.

I had a dear mother, who was ambitious, but never had much of an opportunity in her day to gain a lot. Married at 19, she lived through the great depression with a young family. She had five children in five years. She gave birth to stillborn twins, my two brothers and me.

She and my older brother and I were sitting with my youngest brother who was dying of lung cancer at age 54. My mother was apologizing to us because she had not been able to give us more "things" when we were small. We assured her that she had given us what we needed. Every parent seems to want something better for their children than what they, themselves, had.

Our growing-up days were not bad. We played ball in the back yard with cousins, rode horses to the back forty, ice skated on a frozen creek bed, had plenty of fresh vegetables from a huge garden, cut down our own Christmas

trees from the farm and made our own decorations. She and my Dad gave us love, warm clothing and a roof over our heads. We also did a lot of hard work on that farm. She also taught us about God's word. That was the best gift of all and I am still withdrawing from her deposit in me.

Then her son, her youngest child died soon after that. This was the darkest day of her life. But God was merciful to her in that she was barely aware, with the oncoming of dementia. In 1997 her sister died. In 1998 she lost a grandson who was 39, my youngest child (the darkest day of my life) and in 1999, she lost a great-grandson, age 13, my grandson and my daughter's youngest child. (This was the darkest day of my daughter's life.) In 2000 my mother's oldest son, my oldest brother, died and in 2002 my mother went to her reward, at the age of 94. She had five children, four of them died before she did. All of our losses were tough ones.

James says, *" . . . the trying of your faith worketh patience."* I read in an old Power for Today: "The adversities of our lives can be opportunities for God to become more real and more significant than ever before. Sometimes we can see farther through a tear than through a telescope." Hebrews 13:5, says, ***"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as you have; for He has said, 'I will never leave thee, not forsake thee.'"***

**Yesterday is a memory  
Tomorrow is a mystery  
Today is a gift from God  
That's why it is called . . .  
The "present."**

There is a poem by Mary Alice Michaels entitled: Memories to Treasure

As clear as a loving word  
Or a touch of a hand so warm and dear,  
Are the memories of our loved ones  
That we treasure and hold dear.  
A favorite song or picture  
Often causes us to recall.  
The many special times,  
That were the dearest ones of all.  
And although time eases the loss,  
You will never be far apart,  
Because God's gift of memory,  
Will always be a treasure in our heart.

## Lines for Ladies

*By Pat McAlister*

There has always been controversy about baptism. Is it necessary for salvation! Or, can we just ask Jesus to come into our heart, as many would say?

What do the Scriptures have to say about it? Why was Jesus baptized? He had no sin to wash away. Maybe, just maybe, He did it as an example to us, to show us how important it is.

After Paul was blinded on the road to Damascus, he asked the Lord, "*What do you want me to do?*" Paul had been on his way to persecute Christians. Jesus did not tell him, "put Me into your heart, did He? He told him to go to Ananias to get instructions. After his sight was restored, he "*arose and was baptized.*" (Acts 9:18)

Then there is the story of Peter and Cornelius. Cornelius and his household believed, they were all baptized. (Acts 10)

Philip, one of those chosen to help with the church, was sent to an Ethiopian Eunuch. The eunuch was a believer in God, but did not know about Jesus. After Philip preached to him, the eunuch said, "*See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?*" How did the eunuch know about baptism unless Philip had told him? After the eunuch's confession of belief, he was baptized. (Acts 8)

On his missionary journey to Philippi, Paul meets Lydia and her friends, worshipping and praying at the river outside the city. Paul taught them about Jesus. She and her household were baptized. (Acts 16)

After Paul and Silas were imprisoned at Philippi, they began praying and singing praises to the Lord. The Lord caused an earthquake and loosed their chains. Thinking they had escaped the jailer drew his sword to kill himself. Seeing the prisoners were still there, he asked Paul and Silas, "*Sirs, what must I do to be saved?*" Paul said, "*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you and your household will be saved.*" And immediately he and all his family were baptized. (Acts 16)

Those who do not believe baptism  
- continued – same page, column 3

## Remember Our Sick

**Shirley Chisum** – Athel Hill's daughter, diagnosed with cancer, treatments started.

**Jim Dempsey** – friend of Leota Hickey, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

**Pat Holloway** – high risk lung surgery July 9th, Baptist Hospital, L.R.

**Walter McQueen** – blockage, arterial gram, stint June 16, home recovering.

**Cindy Martin** – Joplin, Mo. Colin cancer. Daughter-in-law of Barbara Dawson., cousin of Marion H & Joan V.

**Ray Nichols** – having some tests run June 22nd, pace-maker surgery June 23rd.

**Gary Nicholson** – many health issues.

**Christine Sheeran** – first test, benign. Second test shows serious problems.

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton**  
**Robert Lee**

Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:

**Joyce Austin**  
**Evelyn Driver**  
**Lorene McNutt**

Stella Manor:

**Louise Killer**  
**Janice Brashear**

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Yvonne Adkisson, Amie Barkley, Betty Bailey, Iris Bates, Bob/Carolyn Bennett, Susie Boley, James & Shirlee Chadwick, Troy & Rachel Curtis, Jeff Davis, Pauline Dale, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Sarah Ensey, Larry & Rhonda Freeman, Carol Graham, Sue Griffin, Carl Keathley, Joe Kline, Rose Lee, Janette Litch, Daniel Loper, Linda Melton, Helen Moore, Julie Moss, Kristen Nordin, Mary Ann Rutherford, BJ/Don Sheeran, Reddie Smith, Tanya Smith, Sherry Strick, Juanita Townsend and Judy Will.

Special Children: Zeke Church, Garrett Hogan, Tiffany Knight, Elysia Lee, Keith Martin, Zackary Shelton, Cody Tackett and Noah Williams.

Our Military: D. J. Bandy, Jr., Travis Coe, Byron Lee, April Morgan, Billy Joe Ralston and others serving our country.

## "The Stump"

*From Home Touch*

His father takes him into the forest, blindfolds him and leaves him alone. He is required to sit on a stump the whole night and not remove the blindfold until the rays of morning sun shines through it. He cannot cry out for help to anyone. Once he survives the night, he is a man.

He cannot tell the other boys of this experience, because each lad must come into manhood on his own. The boy is naturally terrified. He can hear all kinds of noises. Wild beasts must surely be all around him. Even some human might do him harm.

The wind blew the grass and earth, and shook his stump, but he sat there, never removing the blindfold. It would be the only way he could become a man . . .

Finally, after a horrific night, the sun appeared and he removed his blindfold. It was then he discovered his father sitting on a stump next to him. He had been at watch the entire night, protecting his son from harm.

We, too, are never alone. Even when we don't know it, our Heavenly Father is watching over us, sitting on the stump beside us. When trouble comes, all we have to do is reach out to Him.

**Continued from column one, same page:**

is necessary for salvation have used the example of the thief on the cross. They say, "The thief was not baptized!" However, this thief still lived under the old covenant. Jesus had not died on the cross, putting the new covenant into effect. Also, Jesus had the power to save the thief because He knew his heart. The new covenant does instruct us to be baptized for the remission of our sins. How can we go to the Father unless our sins are washed away?

Jesus, in His own words, said "*Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.*" (Matthew 7:21 NKJV)

There are many other scriptures about baptism. Get your concordance and look them up. Read them and see if baptism isn't one of the commandments of the new church. Have you been baptized?

## 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

\*\*\*\*\*

### Camp Caudle

Camp Sessions are as follows . . .

Music Week: July 5th thru  
11th, ages 14 and up.

Living Stones Week: July 12<sup>th</sup>  
thru 18th, ages 14 and up.

Teen Week: July 19<sup>th</sup> thru 25th,  
13 years old by October 1st to  
High School graduates.

Registrations: mail to Camp  
Caudle, POB 1311, Dover, AR  
72837

Items needed: ice-pops, pre-  
sweetened fruit punch &  
lemonade in canisters, canned  
soda, cookies, etc., bring to  
church office.

### Dover Church of Christ Vacation Bible School July 27th thru 31st

### Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Class Cancelled for July 7th and July 14th

## Mark Your Calendars

Dover Church of Christ  
Dover Youth  
at Randall & Diane's  
Sunday, July 5th, (following  
Evening Services)

Dover Men's Devo  
Thursday, July 2nd, 7 PM  
Host: Sid Womack

Dover Ladies' Night  
Thursday, 16th, 7 PM  
Hostess: Cara Williams

### PARKING LOT "GIVEAWAY"

Saturday, July 18th  
From 7:00AM thru 2:00PM  
at the Dover Church of  
Christ's parking lot.

Need Clothes, all sizes,  
Household items, linens,  
Decorative items, Small  
appliances, microwaves,  
mixers, vacuums, Tools,  
Baby items and children's  
items. (Do not bring anything  
you would not use yourself,  
broken or too large for the women  
to move around).

Collecting will begin Wednesday,  
July 15 thru Friday, July 17, in the  
basement of the church building.

## July Birthdays

01 Silas Powers  
15 Chris Ramirez  
Diane Walters  
16 Kim Statler  
Rex McDaniel  
23 William Robbins  
Emily Walker  
Earl Whitted  
25 Becky Miller  
26 Valentina Penno  
30 James Chadwick  
31 Wyatt Henson  
Kim Miller

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

\*\*\*\*\*

### JULY 4th CELEBRATION!!

Saturday, 5:30 PM  
Dover Church of Christ

All Kinds of Games,  
Watermelon Eating  
Contest, etc.

Meat & Buns furnished!

Note on sign-up sheet what  
you are bringing & how  
many guests. For more info  
see: Shirlye Chadwick

# THOSE TO SERVE

*July 05, 2009*

**Sunday A.M.**

**Announcer:** Randall Walters  
**Song Leader:** Merrell Shoptaw

## Prayers

Lee Henson  
Larry Mahan

## Communion

**Podium:** Allen Veasman  
**Serve:** Gary Williams  
Jim Killer  
Kevin Nordin  
Marion Helton

## Scripture Reading

Earl Whitted

**Sunday P.M.**

## Prayers

Jim Killer  
Joe Miller

# SPEAKER

**Sunday A.M.**

Micah Williams

**Sunday P.M.**

“Singing Night”

## Prepare Table for Communion

Earl & Mary Stamps

## Communion to Shut-Ins

Chris Loper

## Greeters

Jim & JoAnn Killer

## Wednesday Night Devotional

**July 08, 2009**

Randall Walters

## 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  
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

## Nursery Attendants:

**Sunday Class:** JoAnn Killer

**Sunday Church:** Pat McAlister  
Kaeli Miller

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