



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
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Come Let Us Meditate On Sacred Things

In his 119th Psalm, David promised God, ***“I will meditate on thy statutes.”*** (Psalm 119:48) Across the ages pious men and woman have devoted time in their lives to meditation on sacred things. When we meditate, we seek a quiet place where we can spend time communing with our Father, free from the cares of the world. As we think seriously and solemnly on God and His will for our lives, we find our cares lifted and hearts filled with love and devotion for Him who has done so much for us. Just as we long to spend time with those we deeply love in the flesh, so Christians should long to spend time with the One they love above others.

In his excellent article on Meditation, Thomas Watson, the noted Puritan scholar, suggested the following topics for meaningful meditation:

(1) We should meditate on God’s attributes: **His omniscience.** ***“There is no creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and laid open before the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.”*** (Hebrews 4:13) **His holiness.** ***“Who is like thee, glorious in holiness.”*** (Exodus 15:11) **His wisdom.** **It is beyond our comprehension.** (Psalms 139:6) **His power.** He is almighty. (Genesis 17:1) Nothing is too hard for Him. Genesis 18:14) **His mercy.** (Titus 3:5) **His truth.** (Numbers 12:19) ***“He cannot lie.”*** (Titus 1:1)

(2) We should meditate on the promises of God. The greatest of

these is the remission of sins (Hebrew 8:12) and the gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). Think of the promises of rich blessings in this life and in the world to come, eternal life. (Mark 10:30) Consider the promises of wonderful spiritual blessings in Christ. (Ephesians 1:3) Dwell on the promises of the rewards for faithfulness: a crown of life (Revelation 2:10), a home with the Father in Heaven (John 14:1-3), the tree of life and the river of water of life (Revelation 22:1-3).

(3) We need to meditate on the great love of Christ of us. He loved us so much that He endured the death on the cross to save us. (John 15:13) His love passeth knowledge. (Ephesians 3:19) Nothing or no one can separate us from the love of Christ. (Romans 8:35) Meditating on His love for us will make us love Him more. It will make us ashamed of our sins. It will help us to love our enemies. (Matthew 5:44)

(4) There is a time to contemplate the evil of sin (I John 3:8), its filthiness, the guilt it incurs, and the curse it brings upon us. (Ezekiel 18:4) It will scrub away the attractive façade behind which sin lurks. (Romans 7:13)

(5) We ought to meditate on the vanity and meaningless of all things material. The material things of this life which we greatly desire and highly prize are passing away. (I John 2:17) Only those who do the will of the Father will abide forever. Only those treasures laid up in heaven will be ours eternally. (Matthew 6:19-21)

(6) We should think on God’s wonderful grace which is freely

extended to us and all men. Because God Himself is gracious (I Peter 2:3), He has extended saving grace to lost mankind (Titus 2:11) through Christ (John 1:17). It is sufficient to overcome and defeat every sin. (Romans 5:20) It is freely given (Romans 6:23), yet not unconditional. One can refuse the gift or receive the grace of God in vain (II Corinthians 6:1). He can despise the grace of God (Hebrews 10:29). He can fail of the grace of God (Hebrews 12:15) or fall away from it (Galatians 5:4).

By all means, we should meditate on our spiritual state (I Corinthians 11:28), and our faithfulness (Revelation 2:10). We should think of the small number who will be saved (Matthew 7:14); 20:16). We need to contemplate the end of our lives and how soon this might be (Hosea 4:6) We should ponder the coming judgment (Matthew 25:31-46) and the destiny of the righteous and the wicked. Meditating on these things, we draw nigh unto God and He to us (James 4:8). We will see things of life and eternity more clearly. We will be transformed into the image of the Son of God (II Corinthians 3:18). David said, ***“When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee . . .”*** ***“My soul shall be satisfied.”*** (Psalms 63:6-7) To meditate on sacred things we need not light candles, count beads, repeat mantra or walk some labyrinth. God has revealed to us in His marvelous Word. We need to quietly spend time with Him, thinking and talking to Him about things related to eternity.

John Waddey, Christianity Then & Now

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

“In the Declaration of Independence, the Founders didn’t treat happiness as some fuzzy concept; they believed that people wanted happiness and had the right to pursue it. Along with life and liberty, happiness was the connection between the Creator and our nation’s destiny, and the ability of its citizens to pursue and achieve happiness was a measure of the effectiveness and morality of the state.

“It turns out, happiness has a lot to do with value – and it’s key to the prosperity as a nation. Happy people make better citizens and are vital to a strong healthy nation. Happy people increase our prosperity and strengthen our communities. They make our nation healthy and strong. Happiness, in other words, is important for America.

“The factors that add up to happy lives for most people are not what we typically hear about. Things like winning the lottery, getting liposuction and earning a master’s degree don’t make people happy over the long haul. Rather, the key to happiness and the difference between happy and unhappy Americans is a life that reflects values and practices like faith, hard work, marriages, charity and freedom.

“In general, religious Americans (those who attend a place of worship almost every week or more) are happier than those who rarely or never attend. Of course, not every religious person is happy; neither is every secularist unhappy. Nonetheless, it’s clear that faith is a common value among happy Americans.”

“Why We’re Happy” by Arthur C. Brooks, *Reader’s Digest*, July 2008

“Since you get more joy out of giving joy to others, you should put a good deal of thought into the happiness you are able to give.”

Eleanor Roosevelt

“Happiness and moral duty are inseparably connected.”

George Washington

A Christian life promotes happiness. We have much to be happy about. Faith in the grace of God is our daily sustenance!

Remember Our Sick

Bob Bennett – home, improving.

Nina Cain – Diane Walters’ mother, knee surgery.

Tommy Causey – Shirlye Chadwick’s brother, diagnosed with cancer.

Hoyt Ensey – serious health issues.

Mary Franke – suddenly lost her sight, close friend of the Sheeran, St. Louis.

Paul Griffin – Hospice

Joyce Helton – seeing doctor to schedule colon surgery.

Cleon Johnson – Paul Helton’s mother, had surgery, UAMS, LR.

Robert Paul Leavell – home from hospital, surgery and therapy to follow.

Mary Sue Martin/Betty Ann Johnson both diagnosed with cancer.

Gary Nicholson – Shirlye Chadwick’s son, not improving.

Rodney Pfeifer – pray for success of treatments, several more scheduled.

Dr. Robert Thurlby – having surgery October 8th.

Patsy Wisbrock – lower back surgery, October 8th, AR Surgery Hosp, LR.

Terry Chitwood – Rose Lee’s son, in ICU, Barnes Hospital, St. Louis, MO. Family requests prayers.

Shut-ins - need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton**

Robert Lee

Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:

Evelyn Driver

Melba Hodges

Stella Manor: **Louise Killer**

Mae Vanzandt

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Yvonne Adkisson, Amie Barkley, Carolyn Bennett, Bill Boley, Lloyd Boley, Lois Boley, Susie Boley, Eugene Cox, Troy/Rachel Curtis, Jeff Davis, Pauline Dale, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Sarah Ensey, Carol Graham, Sue Griffin, Joanna & Jim Gurest, Brent Hottinger, Eddie Holloway, Pat Holloway, Ruby Gene Johnson, Dorothy King, Rose Lee, Linda Melton, Julie Moss, Cherry Nicholson, Don Sheeran, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, Juanita Townsend, Ethan Turner, and Judy Will.

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

Our Military: Cole Wetzel, D. J. Bandy and Travis Coe.

Don’t Blame the Monkeys!

Three monkeys sat in a coconut tree,
Discussing things as they ought to be.
Said one to the other, “Now listen you two,
There’s a certain rumor that can’t be true,

That man descended from our noble race.
The very idea is a disgrace.
No monkey ever deserted his wife, starved
Her babies and ruined her life.

And you have never known a mother monk
To leave her babies with others to bunk,
Or pass them on from one to another,
Till they hardly know who is their mother.

And another thing you never see.
A monk build a fence around a coconut tree,
And let the coconuts go to waste,
Forbidding all other monks to taste.

Here is another thing a monk won’t do:
Go out at night and get a stew,
Or use a gun or club or knife
To take another monkey’s life.

Yes, man descended, the ornery cuss,
But brother, he didn’t descend from us!

*Author Unknown
(From Dear Abby –
Keepers Booklet)*

**From: Sid Womack, Elder,
Dover Church of Christ**
(Found in a departed relative’s Bible:

Work as if everything depended on your efforts.

Shine as if everything depended on your shining.

Give as if everything depended on your giving.

Pray as if everything depended upon your praying.

Attend church as if everything depended on your attendance.

Teach as if everything depended on your teaching.

I am only one, yet I *am* one.
I cannot do everything, yet I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do
And by the grace of God I will!

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

Dover's Lawn Mowing Schedule

Saturday, October 18th
Allen Veasman
Jeff Myers

Area Wide Youth Devo
3rd Sunday,
October 19th,
5:30 PM

West Side Church of Christ
At Arkansas Tech
Russellville, Arkansas

Dover Ladies Night
Please make a note of the
CHANGE!
Friday, October 17, 7PM
Home of: Tanya Smith

Mark Your Calendars

2008 – 2009
Lads to Leaders
Leaderettes
Overall Theme:
“. . . *All that You command*
us we will do,
and wherever You send us we
will go.”
(Joshua 1:16)

Lads to Leaders and Leaderettes

Will meet/: First & Third
Sundays, 4PM
Boys: GUARD (Guys
Understanding Authority and
Real Discipleship
Girls: GIFTS (Girls In
Fellowship and Team Study

Southern Christian Home Kaleidoscope Fish Fry and Auction

Saturday, October 11th
Buffet Fish Dinner 5:30 PM
Pleasant Valley Church of
Christ in Little Rock
Tickets: \$25.00 per person
More info: 501-354-2428

October Birthdays

01 Rose Lee
Shannon Nicole
09 Jason Clark
Lisa Mullins
12 Susie Boley
13 Kelley Chance
Cyndie Loper
15 Heath Forehand
16 Bonnie Vinson
19 Robert Lee
21 Brent Brown
22 Kelsi Hottinger
Emma Letson
23 Blake Walters
27 Carin Vaughn

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

WINGS (Women In God's Service)

West Side Church of Christ

Thursdays, (Starting
September 25)

From 9 AM – 11:30 AM

Study: “Conversation Peace
– The Power of Transformed
Speech”

By: Mary Kassian
(workbook/video study)

THOSE TO SERVE

October 12, 2008

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Brent Hottinger
Blake Walters

Communion

Podium: Allen Veasman
Serve: Chris Besterfeldt
Chris Loper
Chris Moss
Dennis Whiteside

Scripture Reading

Rex McDaniel

Sunday P.M. Prayers

Allen Veasman
Alan Boatright

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Keith Moore(CCSC)
VBS Mission

Prepare Table for Communion

Chris & Amanda Besterfeldt

Communion to Shut-Ins

Dennis Whiteside
Chris Ramirez

Greeters

Gary & Sonia Williams

**Wednesday Night
Devotional
October 15, 2008**
Chris Moss

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

Nursery Attendants:

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

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Dover Church of Christ
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