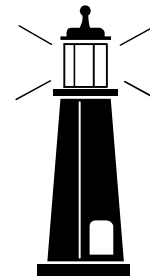


The Berryville Church of Christ

# Bible Beacon

"Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)



Volume 1, Issue 21

June 16th, 2002

## The Quiet Revolutions of Christianity

Kevin Cauley

How does a person change the world? Some people are naturally charismatic and can energize multitudes toward action and change. There are others who boldly dare to personally governments by laying down their life. And yet others through armed conflict enact change in their area of the world. But how does the Christian change the world? Do we take up arms? Do we sacrifice our lives for change? Do we move great mobs of people to demand change? Paul wrote some very sound words in 1 Thessalonians 4:11. He wrote in part, "and that ye study to be quiet. . . ." The New King James Version says, "that you also aspire to lead a quiet life. . . ." It is not through great personal leadership that Christianity advances; it is not through high-profile martyrdom or through waging war that Christianity moves forward, but through the quiet revolutions of the individual mind and conscience.

Christianity is a religion focused upon individual faith. Faith does not occur within a mob mentality. Faith does not occur within a democratic society. Faith does not occur within the masses of those in a dictatorial regime. Faith occurs in the individual heart and mind. It is a process that is solitary and singular within the individual's thoughts and desires. It comes through hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17)—notice, *hearing* the word of God. Hearing is an individual activity. No one else can hear for us. We must hear for ourselves. When the hearing is mixed with simple trust and obedience, the individual has faith. The revolution occurs within the mind on the spiritual level and the heart is forever changed to reflect that new belief.

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## Kevin's Korner

By the time you read this bulletin, my family and I will most likely be in Yellowstone National Park!



We have been planning this vacation since last year and all are very excited about it. I visited Yellowstone as a boy, but have not been back since. My wife has never been, and my boys have never been, so we are REALLY looking forward to sharing some new experiences together as a family. I would be remiss if I did not offer a word of thanks to the elders and to the congregation for such opportunities as this. Thank you for your generous support of me and my family in allowing us to have this time together. It is very much appreciated and I thank God at every opportunity for being able to work with such a wonderful congregation. I pray that our labors together will be long and fruitful.

Our Family and Friends day was a great success. We had several visitors and we encouraged several members as well. Our VBS will also be over by the time this bulletin comes out (although it is going on as I am writing it). I know both our Family and Friends day and our VBS are successful! Our events are always a success when we do what God wants us to do! We read in 1 Corinthians 15:58, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." Our work is NEVER in vain as long as it is done by the authority of Jesus Christ. When we depend upon God and His will for our lives, we will be successful. Maybe not by the world's definition of success, but certainly by God's definition!

Be sure to be thinking about your nominations for elders. The deadline to submit nominations is

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June 23rd. That is next week! Remember, please submit only names that you know are qualified. Also please keep this process in your prayers and that everything would be done according to God's will.

Rusty and I were talking at McDonald's the other day. We are planning a "float trip" for all of those who want to get out on a canoe and ride down the river. It looks like July 6th is going to be the best date at this time. Several in the congregation own canoes or know people who own canoes. If you have a canoe or a small boat that you would like to use during the float trip, please contact Rusty about that.

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Christianity is a religion focused upon individual commitment. Commitment is not a loud and noisy event. It occurs within the recesses of the heart and soul. While its results are seen through action, commitment itself is silent and individual. Jesus said to those who were contemplating following him, "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. . . . So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:28-30, 33). The point Jesus is making is that it is folly to commit to something which you cannot complete. Jesus wants everyone to know that if they make the decision to follow Him, they must stick to that decision. But that decision is individual and singular. It must be a commitment on the part of the individual to take up the cross of Christ—no one else can make that decision for you.

Christianity is a religion focused upon the individual's response to Christ. No one can force another person to be a Christian. There must be a revolution of the heart in order for one to become a Christian. Can others encourage, plead, exhort? Yes! And this helps the individual make the decision that he needs to make, but the decision, nonetheless, still belongs to the individual. So don't look for a noisy display of outward show in true Christianity. That is not how it is done. True Christianity involves working steadfastly (1 Corinthians 15:58), patiently, lovingly, tenderly, quietly. How does a person change the world? It changes one heart at a time.

## A HIGHER POWER THAN YOU AND I

Who is it that makes the sky so blue  
Who made the clouds just that color too?  
Who was it I wonder that could really do  
Such wonderful artwork for me and you?

Did you ever notice how perfect the color  
Of the leaves in the fall with their colorful hue?  
Have you noticed the sunrise and its brilliance  
Doesn't it make you stand in awe at its greatness?

There are so many wonders and beauties around us  
How could we not believe in a higher power?  
Yes my friend I do see the hand  
Of a higher power than mortal man.

You see the sky and the clouds are so perfect  
The colors of fall so beautifully depicted.  
The grass is so intricately patterned  
The waters so many different colors and hues.

Only God with His greatness and power  
Could have made a world of such awesome wonder.  
Only God who can see all of our hearts  
Could know that we hunger for that art!

Think of the music of the wind in the pines  
The melodious harmonies of the creatures at night.  
What beautiful symphonies we can encounter  
If we but stop and take time to listen and ponder!

Our God He is great and wondrous and alive  
Just look at the night sky and stars of light!  
We are so blessed and so very right  
If we but accept the God of all wonder and might!

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Psalms 8:1 & 3

- 1) "O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!  
who has set thy glory above the heavens.
- 3) When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers,  
the moon  
and the stars, which thou hast ordained"

### **Times of Worship and Study**

Sunday Morning Bible Class:.....9:30 AM  
 Sunday Morning Worship: ..... 10:30 AM  
 Sunday Evening Worship: .....6:00 PM  
 Ladies Bible Class: ..... 10:30 AM  
 Wed. Evening Bible Class:.....7:00 PM

# Knots That God Has Made That Cannot Be Untied

**Tracy Dugger**

I needed some rope to tie down something in my truck so it would not fall out while I was driving. I needed one more piece and all I could find was a green rope that had several knots I had previously tied. I was able to untie every knot but one. So I sat down and attempted to work apart that knot. I even used a screwdriver to try to get between the overlapped pieces of rope. But I could not do it. I never did untie that knot.

That episode reminded me of that which God tied together in His Word. There are certain things that God has connected with other things that regardless of how hard some try, they cannot untie. Consider with me some knots that God has made that cannot be untied.

1.The Knot of Baptism. God has connected baptism to the remission of our past sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16) and being saved (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21). God tied the knot and we dare not try to loose it.

2.The Knot of Pure and Godly Living. A Christian is not permitted to live like the world, but to live in a sober, righteous, and godly way in the sight of God (Titus 2:11-12). To participate in the sins of the flesh (Gal.5:19-21) is to try to untie the "not" of verse 21: "...they which do such things shall NOT inherit the kingdom of God."

3.The Knot of the Permanency of Marriage. Prior to telling us that there is only one cause for divorce and remarriage (Matt.19:9), Jesus explained, "What therefore God hath joined together, let Not man put asunder" (Matt.19:6b). A marriage may be dissolved legally, but God does not dissolve it unless it is for fornication (Matt.5:32) or at the death of the other mate (1

Cor.7:29).

4.The Knot of Heterosexual Marriage. Marriage is not for homosexuals. God made Eve for Adam, not Steve. Jesus explained, "Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?" (Matt.19:4-5).

5.The Knot of God's Goodness and God's Severity. Some misunderstand God's nature. They see Him only as a God of gentle acts, void of strictness. This is not the God of the Bible for inspiration affirms: "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off" (Rom.11:22). Paul further stated, "for we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God (Heb.10:30-31).

God means what He says, Some will not learn that God is true to His Word until it is too late (Matt.7:21-23).

Let me get back to my rope story. I finally had to take my pocket-knife out and cut that portion of rope from the rest. In essence, this is what some do to these Scriptures. They do a "knife job" on them — they either cut and paste them together, redefining terms until they do not mean what they did, or they just cut them out of their mind completely. May we ever respect the knots God has tied.

**Elders:** Clay Bozarth, Bill Fort, Glenn Quigley  
**Deacons:** Leon Duncan, Bruce Foster, Dale Pinkley, Ken Smith, Brent Stevens, Rusty Windle  
**Preacher:** Kevin Cauley 870-423-6707

## Sunday's Sermons

**For June 16th**

**Morning** ..... **Larry Elliott**  
 Scripture..... TBA  
**Evening** ..... **Larry Elliott**  
 Scripture..... TBA

## Our Record

**Week of June 9th**

Sunday Class .....	69
Sunday A.M.....	87
Sunday P.M. ....	70
Wednesday .....	83
Contribution.....	\$1279.87

## News, Notes and Prayer List



- Please remember the following in your prayers: Geneva Atchley, Regina Horton, Opal Hull, Art Roberts, Oleta Widener.
- Lucille Wright is in room 504 of the Berryville nursing home.
- Jessica Lovelady is also in the nursing home in room 307.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Elsie Meadows and Mary Patterson are confined to their home at this time.
- There will be no bulletin next week due to my vacation.
- Please remember our singing at the nursing home at the end of this month—June 30th! Let's all plan on coming and making this another great event for our aged in Christ!
- There are several who are traveling this week and they have all requested that the congregation remember them in prayer for safe travel.
- Please remember your nominations for the office of elder. They are due next week, Sunday the 23rd.
- A float trip has been scheduled for July 6th. Please contact Rusty Windle with any questions. If you have a boat that you would like to let the float organizers borrow for a day, please let Rusty know.
- Elders and Deacons meeting will be next week instead of today.
- Our VBS was a great success! All of the kids had a wonderful time this week and the adults did as well! Thank you EVERYONE for all of your hard work and effort that you put into this years VBS to make it a SUCCESS!!!
- The Pantry Item for this week is Deodorant.



## Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Sunday Morning:</b>	June 16th, 2002	June 23rd, 2002
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Bill Fort	Larry Elliott
<b>Preacher:</b>	Larry Elliott	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Rusty Windle	Clay Bozarth
<b>Scripture:</b>	Brent Stevens	Brent Moore
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Raymond Kimes	Leon Duncan
	Bruce Foster	Bill Fort
<b>(assist)</b>	Ray Duncan	Ken Smith
	George Eddings	Brent Stevens
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Bob Moore	Glenn Quigley
<b>Sunday Night:</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Bruce Foster	Rusty Windle
<b>Preacher:</b>	Larry Elliott	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Bill Fort	Larry Elliott
<b>Scripture:</b>	Perry Foster	Ken Smith
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Ray Duncan
	Rusty Windle	George Eddings
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Clyde Atchley	Bob Moore
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Clay Bozarth	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Bruce Foster	Rusty Windle
<b>Invitation:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Brent Stevens
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Clyde Atchley	Glenn Williams
<b>Monthly Assignments</b>		
<b>Announcements</b>	Ken Smith	
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	Bill Fort	
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Gladys Kimes	Pam Pinkley
<b>Communion Carry</b>	Glenn Williams	Kevin Cauley

The "Berryville Bible Beacon" is published by the Berryville church of Christ. Please contact Kevin Cauley at work at (870) 423-3068 or at home at (870) 423-6707 or e-mail [bvcoc@alltel.net](mailto:bvcoc@alltel.net) to contribute information.

For questions or comments, please call (870) 423-3068 or write us at:  
**Berryville Church of Christ**  
 909 West Trimble Street, Berryville, AR 72616