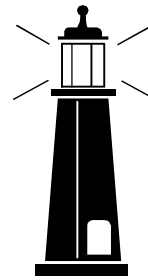


The Berryville Church of Christ

Bible Beacon



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

Volume 2, Issue 12

March 23rd, 2003

“Take Root Downward; Bear Fruit Upward”

Kevin Cauley

“**A**nd the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward” (Isaiah 37:31). Someone once suggested to me that this verse should be the masthead of a bulletin. I thought that this was a fine idea because this is exactly what the church is trying to accomplish. This verse is particularly powerful in relationship to the church for which it was suggested. The Strickland Grove church of Christ, which has roots that stretch back to the 1850s is a small congregation North of Georgetown, Texas and continues to remain spiritually sound today. This congregation is exemplary of this verse.

According to this congregation’s history there had been many a lean year when many thought that there would be no more Lord’s body in this location. Even in recent years, attendance was small and were it not for the steadfast perseverance of the faithful few, the congregation would have withered up and died. The survival of this congregation has been maintained due to the strong roots that were put down long before our day and the continued efforts of the faithful to hold onto those roots and never let go. If any church is to survive, we **MUST** take root downward and hold on to those roots faithfully.

The roots that we must hold onto, however, are not carnal, but spiritual. Notice Psalm 1:3 “And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.” This tree was planted in the right place at the right time and was given the right nutrients to prosper. As a result, it flourished. If we hunger and thirst after righteousness

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Kevin’s Korner

What a wonderful spring week we have had this past week.



I know that everyone rejoiced when March 21st rolled around and we experienced our first full day of Spring. We have had quite a winter this past year but the snows are gone and the trees are in full bud and blossom. Several flowers are blooming around the area as well. It is the time of year that life is renewed and we witness the wonder of God’s regeneration in the natural world. And to experience this natural phenomenon in the Ozarks is quite breathtaking. Let’s give thanks to our God for Spring and all the blessings that are associated therewith.

This past week we had some visitors during our potluck meal. Rob and Tracy Moore and their children are Mary Lynn’s and my friends from long ago. Rob has recently been instrumental in helping us obtain some additional assistance for the work in Costa Rica. This work is definitely moving along. As Bill announced a few weeks ago, we want to send a group down there to work this year in helping to establish the new congregation in Coronado. Please keep this in mind as you make your plans for this summer. July is our current target month. We need to know if this is a good time for you in going to work in this effort. Please get with Bill regarding this opportunity.

Monday I had a wonderful opportunity to head out to the Quigley’s place for a little exercise. On the way, I met the Quigleys going the opposite direction in their car. It seems that Pat had broke a bone in her hand the previous day and had to have the doctor take care of it. Well, I started loading up the wood and Glenn came back and finished helping me. Then we commenced to cutting down one of Glenn’s cherry trees. Although Glenn looked nothing like George Washington, the cherry tree fell just the same. We did have rather a hard time getting it out of some of the other

trees, but eventually we got enough of it for our purposes. Subsequent to the cherry tree chopping, I took my dog for a walk in the woods. We had a great time hiking up and down the hills and hollows. We found a creek and started walking down it. Eventually we decided to head back. It was a very good walk and I got some very good exercise. The dog had a good time as well and surprisingly enough, stayed very close to me during the whole trip. I've included a picture below.

As you all know, the war with Iraq has begun. Our men as well as the Iraqi people need our prayers. Please pray that God will end the cycle of evil that has existed in that country for many years, that we will have as few casualties as possible on both sides of the conflict, that God will take care of the little children who are innocent of all this, and that a door will be opened for the preaching and teaching of the gospel of Christ. As Christians we have no enemies. We want the gospel to be preached to all men and for them to respond in a sincere heart of repentance and belief in the ONE will can save them.

Yesterday, after volunteering at the Community Center, we went to Charles Elliot's birthday party at Pizza Hut. We want to wish Charles a very happy birthday.

After returning home, I learned that Lucille Wright had fallen from her wheel chair in the nursing home and had broken her hip. She had surgery yesterday and is currently in intensive care. The surgery took several hours to complete.

This next week will be the gospel meeting in Stark City, MO. Mary Lynn and I are planning on going Tuesday evening. If you would like to go with us or follow us up there, please meet us at the church building Tuesday evening around 5:00 PM. This should give us plenty of time to get up



there before the meeting starts. The theme of this meeting is "What does the Bible Say?" It is being held by brother Max Patterson. I have read some of his articles and they are very good. I am sure that those who choose to go to this meeting will not be disappointed.

(Continued from page 1)

(Matt 5:6); search the scriptures to see whether the things taught are so (Acts 17:11); contend earnestly for the faith (Jude 3); and generally immerse ourselves in things which are good and holy (Gal.5:22; Phil.4:8) we will be taking root downward into the right things. If we take root downward in the popular opinions of modern society, in the doctrines of men, or in our own personal preferences for religion we will surely be uprooted. Jesus said, "Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up." (Matthew 15:13).

Once we have rooted ourselves in the right things and are ready to bear fruit, let us remember, that it is God that gives the increase! (1 Corinthians 3:7). We have been promised that we will bear fruit if we are seeking God first in our lives (Matt.6:33; Mark.4:20,31,32). But this fruit comes not of our own devising, but from the hand of God. He is responsible for any growth that results, NOT US. We must recognize our role as sowers and waterers and so labor.

Many today want church growth without putting down the roots. It just does not work like that. It is an agricultural fact that healthy fruit will not grow until the plant has a well established root system. But for the plant to grow, it must make a commitment. You have never seen a plant of its own volition walk up and move to another location. When the seed falls and sprouts, it is committed to the place where it stands. To get the growth that we desire, we must make the same commitments. If we are patient, steadfast, and willing to do the work of the Lord, God will bless us with growth in HIS time (1 Corinthians 15:58). We want the kind of growth that yields permanent results. Sometimes this means growing in a way that challenges our patience. The growth of the Oak tree is slow, but strong and the tree can live for many hundreds of years. This is the kind of growth that the church should desire.

Elders: Clay Bozarth, Leon Duncan, Bruce Foster, Bill Fort, Glenn Quigley

Deacons: Ken Smith, Brent Stevens, Rusty Windle.

Preacher: Kevin Cauley 870-423-6707

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

IMMODEST DRESS

Tom Moore

We are in that time of the year when the skirts start to rise, the blouses start to lower, clothes begin to peel off, and men start to lust. Yes, Spring is just around the corner. As the spring ends and the heat of summer surges ahead many generally wear less or lighter clothing. There is nothing wrong with adjusting our clothing to fit the weather, so long as it adequately covers our bodies. In today's fashion world our women and young ladies are encouraged to wear scanty provocative clothing - especially when the weather is warm. In our day a host of women are wearing clothing that is immodest, clothing whose main purpose is to show off their body - sex appeal is behind much of today's clothing. What is most saddening to me is that the immodest fashions of the world is being bought and put on by many of our women and young ladies in the church, and immodest apparel is being worn in the worship assembly.

God's people must dress in such a way as to show forth moral convictions and to manifest that he or she has respect for their own body. The apostle Paul declared, "In like manner, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefastness [i.e. a sense of shame] and sobriety [moderation - NKJ] ..." (1 Tim. 2:9). The Arndt-Gingrich lexicon says that "modest" here means "honorable and respectable." Paul is saying that women must dress themselves in such a way which indicates moral chastity, purity, and a sense of decency. Women should dress in such a way that professes godliness (1 Tim. 2:10). When a young girl wears a dress so short that it is difficult for her to sit or bend over without her undergarments showing - friends, that's clearly immodest! That is not professing godliness!

We know that both men and women must dress modestly, but I find it very enlightening that Paul's instruction in 1 Timothy 2:9 is directed to

women. This was not done by accident. Biologically and psychologically men and women are very different. While there are some exceptions, it is a proven fact that men are more easily aroused sexually than are women. The Lord understood this, and for that reason commanded men not to look on a woman to lust after her (Mt. 5:28). When women dress in skimpy or revealing clothing they are promoting the sexual stimulation of the opposite sex. It is wrong for a man to lust after a woman who is not his wife, but it is also wrong for a woman to dress in such a way as to tempt a man to lust after her. Our young girls are very naive in this regard, and our more spiritually mature women need to in a very gently and loving way help our young ladies to see that the way they dress has a profound impact on their character, how people perceive them, and how boys will look at them.

Some are going to argue, "The guys need to get their minds out of the gutter!" Others will say, "I am not ashamed to reveal my body, it was the body God gave me, and I am proud of it." Then a few will say, "Well, they are going to lust anyway." And on, and on, and on the argument can go. The real reason that most members of the church insist on wearing immodest clothing is simply this: God's will is not important enough for them to yield their own will to His.

It is puzzling to me why women professing godliness will wear clothing exposing their body causing men to lust after them. Husbands should not allow their wives to wear clothing that would encourage men to look on their wife in an inappropriate fashion. Father's should not allow their daughters to dress in a manner which would encourage the wrong kind of attention? Husbands and Fathers can and must stop immodesty immediately among the women of their family. Immodesty is expected in the people of the world, but should not be found among the people of God!

Sunday's Sermons

For March 23rd

Morning Rejoice in Eternity

Scripture 1 Peter 4:13

Evening The Character of Abraham

Scripture Hebrews 11:8-10

Our Record

Week of 3/16

Sunday Class	68
Sunday A.M.....	88
Sunday P.M.	69
Wednesday	59
Contribution.....	\$1992.21
Budget	\$1760.00

News, Notes and Prayer List



• We want to welcome all of our visitors. You are our honored guests and we invite you back at every opportunity you have to be with us.

- Please remember the following in your prayers: Connie Atchley, Charles Swink.
- Lucille Wright fell and broke her hip this past Saturday morning. She had surgery on Saturday and is now recovering in room 100A of the Berryville Hospital. The family asks for no visitors until Tuesday. Delma Johnson was moved to the Berryville nursing home this past week. Janice Keck had a small stroke this past week, but is improving at home. And Pat Quigley broke her hand this past week. Please remember all of these in your prayers.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Art Roberts and Mary Patterson are confined to their homes.
- Next Sunday is our quarterly singing at the nursing home, please make your plans to attend.
- If you would like to host the youth devotional at your home the sign up list is in the back.
- Today is the potluck and fellowship at the Smith's house out at Quigley's Castle. The Smith's have graciously opened their home to us for a Spring celebration. There will be singing, eating, and game playing, so come and let's have a great time.
- If you and your family have not yet had your picture taken, please get with me today to do so. I need those pictures by the end of this month.
- Tonight please stay after services to address House to House and Heart to Heart.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Salad Dressing.



Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Sunday Morning:	March 23, 2003	March 30, 2003
Song Leader:	Bill Fort	Brent Stevens
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bob Moore	Glenn Quigley
Scripture:	Ray Duncan	Brandon Foster
Lord's Table:	Matt Bassing	Larry Elliott
	Bruce Foster	Ken Smith
(assist)	Ray Duncan	Clyde Atchley
	Perry Foster	Matt Bassing
Closing Prayer	Rusty Windle	Bruce Foster
Sunday Night:		
Songs:	Rusty Windle	Ken Smith
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Ken Smith	Dale Pinkley
Scripture:	Bruce Foster	Rusty Windle
Lord's Table:	Dale Pinkley	Glenn Quigley
	Brandon Foster	Brent Moore
Closing Prayer	Brent Stevens	Bill Fort
Wednesday		
Songs:	Bruce Foster	Rusty Windle
Opening Prayer:	Glenn Williams	Dale Pinkley
Invitation:	Brent Stevens	Kevin Cauley
Closing Prayer:	Brent Moore	Matt Bassing
Monthly Assignments		
Announcements	Glenn Quigley	
Worship Coordinator	Brent Stevens	
Communion Prep	Pat Quigley	Debbie Smith
Communion Carry	Leon Duncan	Ray Duncan

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 bvccoc@alltel.net to contribute information.

For questions or comments, please call (870) 423-3068 or write us at:
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