

Volume 2, Issue 19

May 11th, 2003

## Mother's Firsts

Kevin Cauley

The day that the world sets aside to remember mother's day is ranks among one of the greatest things that has been done by man in the history of man. The old adage is true, "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world" and the influence of mothers all over the world on their children can be seen for generations. Mothers can be an influence for good, or they can be an influence for evil depending upon the attitude of the mother. For mothers, like every other person upon this earth, are not immune to sin.

The word mother, however, generally conjures up within our minds thoughts of harmlessness, purity, love, and devotion. Sad are the reports in which we hear of mothers doing unspeakable things to their children. Disturbing are the times in which we live when we hear of mothers not living up to the standard of motherhood. This emphasizes to us the importance of getting the gospel to all men to hold up the true standard of motherhood as displayed for us within the Bible.

As we remember our mother's today, I would like to call to your mind some questions which likely were answered by your mother at the beginning of your life.

1. Who gave you your first glass of water?
2. Who sang the first song to you?
3. Who heard your first word spoken?
4. Who taught you how to walk?
5. Who taught you how to talk?
6. Who taught you how to keep quiet?
7. Who put a Band-Aid on your first booboo?
8. Who cleaned up your first mess?
9. Who bought you your first toys?
10. Who gave you your first hug?
11. Who gave you your first kiss?
12. Who first rocked you to sleep?
13. Who first worried when you were sick?

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## Kevin's Korner



The terrible storms that moved through north of us this past week were truly devastating to many towns in Missouri. You may be wondering what we can do to help in this situation. This morning, in addition to our regular contribution, we will be taking up a special contribution to help those who are in need in this regard. I know that it is short notice, but there are many who need help at this time. We will coordinate this with the church that is in the area to ensure that the money gets distributed properly. Let's do what we can to help our neighbor in this time of their need.

As many of you know, Monday, Mary Lynn, Charlie and I went to Springdale to see about Glenn Quigley's surgery. Pat and Debbie were there too and so we went out to lunch together. It was a most pleasant time. Glenn's surgery went very well and the last report that I received was that he was walking. We are so thankful to God that his surgery went OK and that he is now back up again. Please continue to pray for his complete recovery.

Tuesday evening I had the privilege of hearing brother Willie Franklin speak once again. John Gass and I went up to Springfield to the Kansas Expressway church of Christ where he was holding a gospel meeting this week. I must say that brother Franklin is a fine gospel preacher. He did an outstanding job preaching on the Unity that God wants. He took his text from Ephesians 4 and helped us to understand that God wants us to have 1) a unifying spirit, 2) the unifying facts, 3) a unifying work, and 4) unifying growth. John Gass and I really enjoyed it.

Austin had another baseball game this past Thursday evening. He and the rest of the "Mets"

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got out there and participated in the nations "pass-time." It is enjoyable to see our little ones get out and have fun at these games. If you have not done this recently, it would be a great opportunity to get out and also to meet some of the other people in our community.

To all those mother's out there, we wish you a happy day today. We are all very grateful for our mothers. Let's make sure we thank God for them and it might not be a bad idea to call your mother either.

# I Can't See Any Harm In It

Jason Hart

Consider these guidelines when determining whether a practice is right or wrong. Cut the article out and take it with you for the next few weeks.

Personal Test: Will doing this make me a better or worse Christian?

The Social Test: Will doing it influence others to be better or worse Christians.

The Practical Test: Will the results of my doing it be desirable?

The Universal Test: If everyone should do this, would it improve or degrade society?

The Scriptural Test: Does the Bible endorse it, or is it forbidden, even inferred as wrong, by the Word of God?

The Stewardship Test: Will my doing this constitute a waste of talent God gave me?

The Character Test: What will be in influence of my moral and spiritual stamina?

The Family Test: Will it bring discredit and dishonor to my family and will it embarrass them?

The Publicity Test: Would I be willing for friends, fellow Christians, the elders, and the preacher to know about it?

The Common Sense Test: Does it agree with plain, everyday, ordinary common sense?

The Fairness Test: Is it honest, and is it practicing the golden rule?

The Problem Test: Is it potentially harmful to me and/or others?

"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:21-22).

Lewisburg, TN

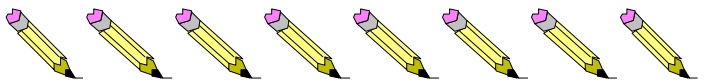
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14. Who first dressed you?
15. Who first listened when you had a problem?
16. Who first took you to worship?
17. Who first read you a story?
18. Who first read to you the Bible?
19. Who first corrected you when you made a mistake?
20. Who first gave you a cookie to make you feel better?
21. Who first said, "I love you" before you even knew what love was all about?



We owe a debt of gratitude to our mothers.

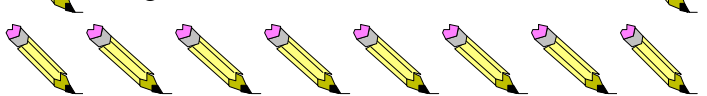
Whether our mothers are living or whether they have passed to their reward, on this day, let us honor them and remember the great things they did for us in our life.



## Our Record

Week of May 4th

Sunday Class.....	58
Sunday A.M.....	70
Sunday P.M. ....	60
Wednesday .....	61
Contribution.....	\$1663.18
Budget .....	\$1760.00



**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

# RELIGIOUS TITLES

*Marvin Rickett*

I recall a couple of times when I was introduced to someone by my brethren as "our preacher." That's fine. But one respondent answered by immediately calling me "Pastor" and the other "Reverend." The world is so steeped in the clergy-laity system and its terms that it immediately equates preacher with Pastor or Reverend. I wince whenever someone calls me by these titles. I do not claim them. I do not want them. I fear the Lord will condemn me if I am content to let others call me that.

Does it really matter that much? Yes, it does! First of all, it supports a system that exalts some over others in the church. It designates a class of "Clergy" above the masses or "Laity." This custom of exalting is foreign to the concept of New Testament Christianity. It is soundly condemned by Jesus. *"It shall not be so among you!"* (Mt 20:25-28). Yet, these titles of distinction create and maintain this class system in the church.

Another objection is the distortion of the meaning of the terms themselves. They are perfectly good words, if used correctly. "Reverend" is a name which belongs only to God. *"Holy and Reverend is His name"* (Psalm 111:9). This is the only place where the word is used in the Bible, and it is applied only to God. No man is ever worthy to wear that name. It is blasphemous to usurp God's place or His name. The only time this word should ever cross our lips is in prayer or in teaching about God.

A similar term is the use of the word "Father" as a religious title for man. It is a name which belongs only to God. He is our only spiritual Father. *"But to us there is one God, the Father"* (1 Cor 3:6). Jesus flatly forbids calling any man on earth Father (Mt 23:9, *"And call no man your Father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven"*). Yet in the face of this plain passage, millions on earth insist on calling a group of exalted men "Father." Stranger still millions of Protestants who disclaim the name Father insist on calling their preacher Reverend. The two terms stand or fall on exactly the same principle.

Two other terms given the preacher are The Pastor and The Minister. Pastor is another term describing the office of elder. The elders of Ephesus were to PASTOR (feed) the church there (Acts 20:28). Minister better refers to the office of deacon. DIACONOS, the Greek word for deacon is often translated minister. Yet, people want to take these terms for elders and deacons and heap them on the preacher! It is too much to put on one man. It creates a one man system--eldership,

deaconship, preacher--all wrapped up into one. Some denominations are run like this, but not the Lord's church!

The Bible designates the preacher according to his function, either preacher or evangelist (Eph 4:11; 2 Tim 1:11; 4:5). They are not distinctive titles. Denominational bodies have reserved the term evangelist for one who travels about holding "revivals," and call the located preacher, Pastor. But this is an artificial distinction. Everyone who proclaims the gospel, whether temporary or located, is an evangelist. His function is not pastoring--unless he meets the qualifications of an elder and has been appointed to the office of elder. Then he is a pastor by virtue of his eldership, not because he is a preacher. Many preachers do not have the qualifications to be an elder and therefore could not be a pastor. It is ridiculous to hear someone call a 25-year-old preacher, Pastor!

Deacons are more properly called ministers in a broader sense. A preacher is a minister in a restrictive sense, minister of the gospel. His function is to minister, that is, preach the gospel. Every Christian is a minister (servant) in its broadest sense. There are many ministries: ministering food, clothing, shelter, health care, encouragement, teaching, love, other labors; to the poor, hungry, sick, distressed, orphans, widows, aged, household and family, neighbor, friends. Every Christian has a duty to serve in these ministries. The preacher has an equal obligation with every other Christian to serve in these ministries. Deacons are appointed to especially serve in these ministries and see that the work gets done. Preachers are to minister the gospel. They have a greater task to proclaim the gospel. They have placed themselves under this obligation. It is right to call the preacher minister in this sense.

Names and designations are important. They mold and shape one's doctrinal outlook. Let's be sure ours is scriptural. Meanwhile, just call me preacher. I like it fine.



## Sunday's Sermons

### For Month Date

**Morning .... I Know My Mom Loved Me**  
Scripture..... 1 Samuel 2:19  
**Evening ..... Q&A**  
Scripture..... NA



## News, Notes and Prayer List



- Today is a day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
- We welcome everyone to our services today. If you are a visitor we invite you to stay around a few minutes after our service so that we may get to know you better.
- Please remember the following in your prayers: Maxine Campbell, Opal Hull, Charlene Pinkley, Glenn Quigley, Oleta Widener.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Art Roberts and Mary Patterson are confined to their homes.
- We extend a hearty congratulations to our graduating seniors, Ray Duncan, Lindsey Moore, and Megan Williams.
- Our VBS is coming fast! Mark your calendars for June 16th-19th. Our theme is "What a Friend we Have in Jesus!" Pick up some flyers in the foyer and invite your friends.
- Friends and Family Day is even sooner than our VBS. It is less than a month away now. Flyers are in the foyer. Invite your friends and your family today!
- Tonight is our regular questions and answers night. Bring your Bibles and prepare to STUDY!!!
- Our monthly potluck is next week. Let's all make an effort to attend! We always have GREAT food.
- If you need to fill out a talent card, please get with Rusty today!
- The latest Reason and Revelations are in the foyer. This issue is fantastic!
- Remember our goals! 125 for Friends and Family day and 100 for VBS each night!
- The Pantry Item for this week is Cream of Mushroom.



## Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Sunday Morning:</b>	<b>May 11th, 2003</b>	<b>May 18th, 2003</b>
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Ken Smith	Bill Fort
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Clyde Atchley	Rusty Windle
<b>Scripture:</b>	George Eddings	Brent Stevens
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Clay Bozarth	John Gass
	Glenn Quigley	Bruce Foster
<b>(assist)</b>	Perry Foster	Ray Duncan
	Sandy Nieves	George Eddings
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Bruce Foster	Bob Moore
<b>Sunday Night:</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Clay Bozarth	Bruce Foster
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Brent Stevens	Bill Fort
<b>Scripture:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Perry Foster
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Bruce Foster	Dale Pinkley
	Hugh Atchley	Matt Bassing
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Glenn Williams	John Gass
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Clay Bozarth
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Bruce Foster
<b>Invitation:</b>	Leon Duncan	Dale Pinkley
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Bob Moore	Larry Elliott
<b>Monthly Assignments</b>		
<b>Announcements</b>	Rusty Windle	
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	Bruce Foster	
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Mary Lynn Cauley	Katie Williams
<b>Communion Carry</b>	John Gass	Glenn Williams

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