



Healing A Fracture

St was obvious that she (i.e., Christ's bride at Philippi) wasn't feeling her "normal" self. Typically, she was a hardworking, energetic, and active (Philippians 1:5,6) lady, but in recent days she was uncharacteristically weak and uncoordinated.

A family member suggested that she set up a doctor's appointment (Philippians 4:3). Her symptoms didn't demand an immediate visit to the ER, but they couldn't just be ignored either (Mark 3:17). That nagging "ache" served as overt evidence of a deeper, underlying problem. Then too, failure to get treatment might make her more susceptible to other, more serious, ailments which could threaten her entire system (1 Corinthians 12:26).

Her doctor, a trusted family practitioner, ran a few tests and confirmed his diagnosis -- she had suffered a small "fracture" (Philippians 4:2). As a result, he recommended a combination of therapies and scribbled (Hebrews 1:1,2; 2 Timothy 3:16) a prescription on his notepad -- Philippians 4:4-7:

Take A DAILY DOSE of joy. "Rejoice in the Lord always" (v. 4). Unlike Paul, who could find joy in the confines of a Roman prison, some members of the Philippian fellowship experienced despair. They focused on the dispute (i.e., fracture) between Euodia and Syntyche (which in turn, affected the whole congregation). The apostle cautioned against this inappropriate emphasis and suggested that the saints needed to "keep on rejoicing" in view of their relationship with the Lord (Matthew 5:10-12).

EXERCISE gentleness. "Let your gentleness be known to all men" (v. 5a). The word translated "gentleness" means strength under control and referred to the taming of a wild animal. When an animal was brought under control by a trainer, it retained all of its physical prowess, but the trainer controlled the use of it. Euodia and Syntyche, like the other Philippian members, must have had strong personal

feelings, but needed to exercise control over them (2 Peter 1:6). Losing their tempers and/or tongues would only exacerbate this congregational wound (Proverbs 29:11).

Remember that THE DOCTOR IS always ON CALL. "The Lord is at hand". If she really wanted to help mend the fracture (John 5:6), the church needed to remember the nearness of the Lord (Hebrews 13:5b-6; Psalms 119:151; Matthew 28:19; Acts 17:27) and that he genuinely cared about this situation (1 Peter 5:7; Hebrews 2:17). The realization of his present nearness would have a calming and reassuring effect.

Cut anxiety out or your DIET. "Be anxious for nothing" (v. 6). The Greek word translated "anxious" means to draw in different directions. Some church members were pulled apart with worry over the disagreement between their two sisters in the Lord. Even though these women believed the same gospel, stood for the same doctrine, and had their names in the Book of Life (Revelation 3:5), some Christians could only fret (Luke 10:41). Paul, under inspiration, suggested that this useless (Matthew 6:27) activity needed to be cut completely out of the Philippians' spiritual diet.

Communicate your SYMPTOMS to the Great Physician. "... By prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God" (v. 7). The concerns of the saints were to be taken to the throne of God. Even though He was already aware of the Philippian fracture (Matthew 6:8), the church needed to step out in faith and leave this problem in his skillful hands (Daniel 6:10,11).

"There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul."

Mike Benson
via <http://www.forthright.net>

Potpourri From "The Preacher's PC"

The late Tom Landry, Coach of the Dallas Cowboys, once said, "My job is to make others do what they don't want to do in order that they can do what they've dreamed about doing all their lives."



I am sure everyone has dreamed of going to heaven, but often times there are many who are not willing to do what it takes. This is where encouragement comes in. We need to encourage one another to faithfulness. The Hebrew writer said, "exhort one another day by day, so long as it is called To-day; lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin" (Heb. 3:13). Paul told Timothy to "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine" (2 Tim. 4:2).

We owe it to our family and friends to encourage them to "do what they don't want to do in order that they can do what they've dreamed about doing all their lives."

Jesus was preparing His disciples for tough times. He was about to ascend to the Father and they would be on their own - left to find their way through this world alone. And yet,

they would not be alone - for He would send them the Comforter. In 1520 Ferdinand Magellan battled for an entire year to find a passage around South America. There at the very tip of the continent, in its icy waters he encountered some of the worst weather anywhere on earth. Raging seas, towering ice floes, and a mutinous crew plagued his efforts. When he finally made his way through those straits (which today bear his name - the Straits of Magellan), he entered into a great body of water that lay beyond, and as he and his men lifted their faces to heaven and gave thanks to God, he named the new ocean "The Peaceful One - the Pacific Ocean."

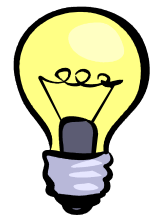


Jesus desires to lead us to a place of peace. It is His hope to direct our feet and steer our lives from the paths that would lead to hell to His place of peace. "Let not your hearts be troubled" (Jn. 14:1), He says, for "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (Jn. 14:6). But, remember, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Mt. 7:21). Friends to find that place of peace, in the midst of the raging seas of our world, we must obediently rely on the word of God. The word of God is our comforter.

A well-meaning friend, trying to comfort Thomas A. Edison, said, "It must be very discouraging to fail seventy-nine successive experiments." Edison replied, "I am not discouraged in the least, and I've not made one failure. I've just learned seventy-nine ways it cannot be done."

Thomas Edison had a quality about him that we could use - perseverance. All too often we give up too soon. When a single disappointment or failure comes our way we quit. We, more times than we care to admit, allow failure to break us instead of make us.

We all have goals or tasks that we want to accomplish. It seems that at times we take one step forward and two steps back in trying to accomplish these goals. So, often times, we give up. If these goals are really worthwhile we need perseverance.



The apostle Paul declared, "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord" (1 Cor. 15:58). And remember, We "can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth" us (Phil 4:13).

Tom Moore, Editor

Sermons and Study Topics

Week of 10/24/04

Morning	The Old and the New: Understanding the Difference
Scripture	Matthew 5:17-20
Evening	Lessons from the Life of Elijah
Scripture	1 Kings 17:1-7
Sunday Morning Bible Study	The Book of Hebrews
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	The Book of Micah

Weekly Record

Week of 10/17/04

Sunday Class	59
Sunday A.M.	70
Sunday P.M.	55
Wednesday	51
Contribution	\$1479.16
Budget	\$1778.13

The Bear And The Red Hot Stove

Once in a dense forest a big bear broke into a cabin of some hunters. They were out at the time but had left a fire in a pot-bellied stove. The bear saw the red hot stove and figured it was an enemy, so he ran over and put a bear hug on it. Naturally, he was severely burned, but Mr. Bear thought the enemy was trying to fight back, so he squeezed a lot harder and was burned even more. The more he squeezed the more he was burned. What a vicious circle for a vicious bear to be in!

There are many people who would say, "What a dumb animal to hug something to his own hurt!" But it might be they are doing the same thing. How many people are there who hug worldliness (lying, dancing, adultery, wearing immodest apparel, drinking, etc.) to themselves and re-

fuse to part with it? Let someone warn them of the danger and they will hug it all the more. Many cannot bear to part the sin of worldliness, and yet they cannot be saved while holding on to it (1 John 2:15-17). Too many of us are acting a great deal like that bear.

We often profess a desire to go to heaven, but all the while we hang to those very things

that will prevent our going. The penman of the book of Hebrews wrote, "Wherefore seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so



easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us" (Heb. 12:1).

Paul wrote, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God" (Col. 3:1-3).

What would make a person want to "gamble" on the eternal home of his (or her) soul (Mt. 16:24-26)? As Christians, we ought to "let go" of anything that has the potential for hindering our being in heaven.

Mike Riley
El Paso, TX

Kevin's Korner

We have several events coming up to kick off the "holiday season." Sounds like it is to early to mention the "C" word, but the truth is that in a few weeks, Thanksgiving will be upon us—YIKES! While the holiday season is usually very busy, we need to remember to put first things first. It will be tempting for us to say, "Well, perhaps I can miss services to 'catch up'." Let's not fall into that trap. Instead, let's put God first and everything else second.

We have been so blessed to have several visitors over the past few months. Some of them are becoming "regulars" and we are truly thankful for this. If you have not gotten to meet some of these folks over the past several weeks, I would highly recommend that you take some time this Sunday to get to know a few of

them. They are certainly making an effort to be with us; let's make an effort to get to know them!

Well, we've seen all of the television ads, read all of the articles in the newspapers, and listened to the various debates hither and yon, and now it is time for us to cast our votes. Absentee voting is going on right now and the general election day is only a little over a week away. We have an opportunity to use our Christian voices to stand up for our beliefs and values in this election. Will we do it? I hope that each one will get out and vote for the candidate that best upholds what God holds to be true, decent, and holy.

Somehow, someone subscribed our e-mail address to a daily newsletter in which a doctor (MD or PhD, I presume) sends counseling research. If one of you out there did that for me, thank you. I enjoy getting these

"Counseling Research News" items. They contain helpful information. For example, this past week, one of the article dealt with teenage alcoholism. Did you know that 31% of all households in America have a problem with teenage alcoholism? That's 1/3 of our nation! It is time that we gave the liquor industry a wake up call. Our people are suffering and dying due to their greed. Will we take action?

Elders:

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

Deacons:

Ken Smith, Brent Stevens,
Rusty Windle.

Preacher:

Kevin Cauley... 870-423-6707

- We are truly thankful to God for the wonderful new Lord's day that he has given us today to worship him in Spirit and in Truth!
- Let us remain constant in prayer for the following individuals: Gary Bragg, Toy Peach, Bill Powell, Iola Trost, Joe Westlake, Billy Wiley.
- Ruby Hand has been moved to St. Francis hospital in Tulsa. Her condition continues to deteriorate. The family requests prayers.
- Please remember our shut-ins, Curtis Hull and Edith Mischler.
- Tonight immediately following services there will be a reception for Raymond and June Kimes downstairs here at the church building.
- Also after services this evening we will have our monthly youth devotional at the Cauley's house. Please bring chips, dips, drinks, and desserts.
- Next Sunday afternoon at 2:00 PM we will have our quarterly singing at the nursing home. Please make your plans to attend this event!
- This coming Saturday, October 30th, at 6:00 PM, all are invited to celebrate Trish Foster's 40th birthday. The event will be held in the basement of the church building. Please bring games.
- Monday, November 1st, there will be a ladies night out at Cassville. If you would like to attend this event, please see Tiffany Windle.
- Friday, November 5th, we will have our annual costume party at the Windle's house. The party will start at 6:30. Please bring chips, dips, drinks, and desserts.
- Fall Back—Remember to set your clocks back one hour this coming Saturday!
- The pantry item for this week is Sugar.

Welcome!

To the Berryville church of Christ.

Family Times for 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

Serving One Another

	October 24th, 2004	October 31st, 2004
Sunday Morning		
Songs:	Ken Smith	Brent Stevens
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bob Moore	Clay Bozarth
Scripture Reading:	Jerry Roller	Ken Smith
Lord's Table	John Gass	George Eddings
(assist)	Bruce Foster	Leon Duncan
	Ray Duncan	Jack Gentry
	Perry Foster	Raymond Kimes
Closing Prayer	Bill Fort	Rusty Windle
Sunday Evening		
Songs:	Glenn Williams	Ken Smith
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Dan Hand	Brent Stevens
Scripture Reading:	Bruce Foster	Jack Gentry
Lord's Table	Dale Pinkley	Jerry Roller
	Brent Moore	Ray Duncan
Closing Prayer	Brandon Foster	George Eddings
Wednesday		
Songs:	Bruce Foster	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Kevin Cauley	Ken Smith
Invitation:	Dan Hand	Leon Duncan
Closing Prayer:	Ray Duncan	Dale Pinkley

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