



Sharing In The Power of God

Food is the fuel that keeps our bodies running. Without it we become sluggish and weak. Spiritually, we must also feed or grow too weak to go through life.

Peter wrote, "Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever" (1 Peter 1:22-23, NKJV).

As Peter teaches, when we "obey" our souls are "purified" through the process of being born again (John 3:1-5). We stay purified through loving and fellowshiping our brethren and staying connected to God. Since we are born "through the word of God," we endure in it forever. Cultivation of this word in our heart is the most important way to prevent the withering of faithlessness.

In Ephesians 1:15-23 we read Paul encouraging the Ephesian brethren because of their strong faith. He instructs them in how they can increase their faith and how they are blessed because of their faith.

First, the power is given only to the faithful. Paul writes, "and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power" (Ephesians 1:19).

Rechargeable batteries are a marvelous invention that illustrate the power of God. Batteries are worthless on their own. They provide power and then when the power has dissipated, they are discarded. With rechargeable batteries they are plugged into the power source and become renewed. When the power is gone, the batteries are worthless again until they are returned to the power source. The power is not in the battery but in the charger. To have the power God wishes for us to have, we must be in Christ (Romans 6:3-4; Galatians 3:27).

When we become a child of God we gain access to this renewable power source, by the grace of God. We are simply tools, not the source of the power. Without God's power we begin to fade until we are lifeless.

Second, the power results from the Word. David Dewitt writes, "Many years ago a woman in a remote area went to great expense to have

electricity installed in her home. She was the first one in her area to do so. A few months after the wiring the electric company prepared her bill and noticed that she had hardly used any electricity. They sent out a repairman thinking something was wrong. He noticed that the meter was running and asked her if she used her electricity. She said, 'Of course we do. We turn on the lights every night so we can see to light our lamps and then we turn the lights off.' Doesn't that sound ridiculous? Having all of the power that you need and the ability to tap it all of the time but only using it enough to get by."

We have an even greater power through the Word of God and we neglect it and futilely try to make our own light. This "power" of God is in the "glory" which is through the "knowledge of Him" which was "worked in Christ" (Ephesians 1:18-20). This power comes from Christ and it is renewed in Scripture. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life" (John 8:12).

*Richard Mansel
via Forthright Magazine
www.forthright.net*

'Twas A Sheep



*'Twas a sheep, not a lamb, that
strayed away,
In the parable Jesus told -
A grown up sheep that had gone
astray,
From the ninety and nine in the fold.*

*Out on the hillside, out in the cold,
'Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd
sought;
And back to the flock, safe into the
fold,
'Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd
brought.*

*And why for the sheep should we ear-
nestly long,
And earnestly hope and pray?
Because there is danger if they go
wrong,
This may lead the lambs astray.*

*For the lambs will follow the sheep,
you know,
Wherever the sheep may stray;
When the sheep go wrong, it will not
be long
Till the lambs are as wrong as they.*

*And so with the sheep we earnestly
plead,
For the sake of the lambs, today;
If the lambs are lost, what terrible
cost,
Some sheep will have to pay.*

“How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?” (Matthew 18:12)

**Happy Birth-
day/
Anniversary!**

We would like to wish a happy birthday and anniversary to all who have such in the month of January!

Birthdays

Edward Cauley 11th
Charlene Pinkley.... 12th
Glenn Quigley 15th
Rex Gentry 15th
Wilma Morris..... 21th
Neva Welch 26th
John Gass 28th
Jack Gentry 28th

Anniversaries

Brent and Shawna ... 5th
Glenn and Pat..... 15th
Jerry and Carolyn .. 28th



Bible Studies for the week of January 16th, 2005

- AM Sermon..... Attitudes Toward Giving
- Scripture Reading..... Psalm 96:8-9
- PM Sermon..... Anatomy of A Command
- Scripture Reading..... Galatians 6:10
- Sunday Class The Book of Hebrews
- Wednesday Class..... Studies On The Cross

Kevin's Korner

I suppose the first thing that I should report on this week is our new arrival. Edward Kavanaugh Cauley was born on January 11th, 2004 at 8:16 AM. He weighed 7 pounds and 11 ounces and measured 18 1/2 inches long. He and his mother are home and well. His brothers are also very excited about his arrival. And his dad is surviving it all quite pleasantly. It has been a while since we've had a new born in the house and it has been a pleasure to be reminded. I'm very thankful to God for a healthy child and wife and I continue to ask your prayers as "Eddie" grows and as Mary Lynn continues to recover. Thank you so much.

Foy and Mary will be leaving tomorrow morning early and heading back for Hemphill, Texas. I've appreciated their company and the efforts that they have made to watch over Austin and Charlie while Mary Lynn was in the

hospital (and I with her). While there was a definite purpose for their visit, I don't feel as if I've been able to spend near as much time with them as I would have liked. Foy, however, has to get back to his work and it is a good work that he is doing in Hemphill. We bid them Godspeed!

My parents also have left. They went home this past Wednesday. They ran into the storms that come our way Wednesday evening on their way home and had to stop a few times to let the rain pass. They did, however, make it safely home. They too came to help and a great help they were. My mother will be coming back in a few weeks, Lord willing, and we will continue to have some much needed help around the house.

On a completely different note, I was appalled to learn that someone had recently stolen one of my credit card numbers and had recently

used it to purchase nearly \$2000.00 of items. Fortunately, my credit card company had their eyes open and were alerted to the purchases as appearing abnormal. They sent me a letter even before I knew what had happened and subtracted the charges as fraudulent and refused to pay for the merchandise. This got me to thinking about fraud. Fraud is basically portraying oneself as something one is not. In this case, someone else was portraying me to merchants and creditors. But there is a greater fraud that we can perpetrate upon mankind, namely, the fraud of claiming to be a Christian when we are not. How many people in the world today claim to be a Christian, yet they do not speak like a Christian; they do not live like one; they do not practice Christian worship. One day the frauds of religion will be exposed and no payment will be made.



"One day the frauds of religion will be exposed and no payment will be made."

Records for the week of January 9th, 2004

Sunday Bible Class	68
Sunday AM Worship.....	84
Sunday PM Worship.....	67
Wednesday Night Study.....	52
Contribution	\$1795.88
Budget.....	\$1778.13



Praises, Prayers, and Proclamations

Announcements

- We are thankful to God for this new Lord's Day. It is the day we honor His Son and the Love that He has shown us through Him. Let us worship in spirit and in truth!
- We express our sympathies to the family of King Gladden who recently passed away.
- Please remember the following in your prayers: Joanne Alvard, Mary Lynn Cauley.
- Please remember our shut ins: Curtis and Opal Hull and Edith Mischler.
- Our monthly potluck meal is today! Please join us downstairs after worship this morning for a meal together.
- Our quarterly singing at the nursing home is scheduled for the last Sunday of this month at 2:00 PM. I hope to see you there!
- We now have a regular Bible study at the nursing home on Thursday afternoons at 2:00. We are studying the book of Matthew. All are invited.
- The elders have decided to take up a collection for the victims of the Tsunami. If you wish to contribute, please mark your check or an envelope for this purpose and put it into the collection plate during the time of the offering.
- Our pantry item is: Rice.



Welcome!

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 Each Other

	January 16th, 2005	January 23rd, 2005
Sunday Morning		
Songs:	Brent Stevens	Ken Smith
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bruce Foster	Bob Moore
Scripture Reading:	Leon Duncan	Brent Moore
Lord's Table	Dan Hand	Bill Fort
	Rusty Windle	Bruce Foster
(assist)	John Gass	Ray Duncan
	Irving Hand	Jack Gentry
Closing Prayer	Dan Hand	John Gass
Sunday Evening		
Songs:	Glenn Williams	Rusty Windle
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bob Phillips	Ken Smith
Scripture Reading:	Brent Moore	Bruce Foster
Lord's Table	Leon Duncan	Dale Pinkley
	Ray Duncan	Perry Foster
Closing Prayer	John Gass	Brandon Foster
Wednesday		
Songs:	Kevin Cauley	Glenn Williams
Opening Prayer:	Brandon Foster	Ray Duncan
Invitation:	Leon Duncan	Dan Hand
Closing Prayer:	Bob Phillips	Glenn Williams

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