

Berryville Bible Beacon

Volume 6, Issue 1
January 7th, 2007

Making the Most of One String

The story is told of Italian violinist Nicolo Paganini (1782-1840), that as he was playing an extremely difficult piece of music before a large audience, a string on his violin snapped — yet he continued to play, improvising beautifully. Then without warning, two more strings broke, and he continued the composition playing with only one string.

When he completed the composition, the audience gave him a standing ovation. When the applause eventually stopped, he nodded at the conductor to begin the encore. The violinist smiled at the audience and shouted, “Paganini and one string!” Placing his instrument under his chin, he

played again with that one string.

With the above thoughts in mind, Coach Lou Holtz once said, “The longer I live, the more convinced I become that life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it.” Supporting his conviction with Scripture,



we can note the response of Paul and Silas as they sat in stocks in prison. Instead of bemoaning their lot, they made use of the “one string” they had left — they prayed and sang praises to God (Acts 16:25). As a result of their godly influence,

the jailer and his entire household were baptized into Christ (Acts 16:33).

Are we allowing life’s adversities to discourage and immobilize us? With God’s help, let’s make the most of the “one string” we have left, and complete our spiritual composition (2 Timothy 4:7; cf. Philippians 3:14; Hebrews 12:1).

As long as we keep in tune with Christ, we can sing even when all is dark (Acts 16:19-25).

Mike Riley
El Paso, Texas

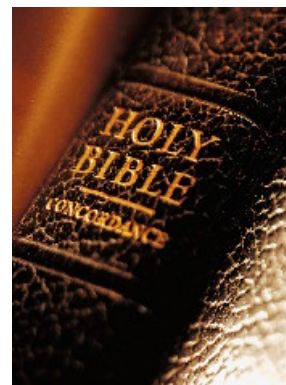
(Editor’s Note: Are we down to our last string? If we are, then let’s make the most of it!)

Welcome To the Berryville church of Christ

- ♦ *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!*
- ♦ **Elders:**
Clay Bozarth
Leon Duncan
Bill Fort
Bruce Foster
Glenn Quigley
- ♦ **Deacons:**
Ken Smith
Rusty Windle
- ♦ **Preacher:**
Kevin Cauley
- ♦ **Phone:**
870-423-3068
- ♦ **E-mail:** bvcoc@alltel.net
- ♦ **Address:** 909 West Trimble, Berryville AR 72616
- ♦ *We are located across highway 62 from Pizza Hut.*
- ♦ <http://www.the-churchofchrist.com>

Bible Studies for the week of January 7th, 2007

AM Sermon	I Resign And I Resolve
Scripture Reading	Philippians 3:13-16
PM Sermon	"More Holiness Give Me"
Scripture Reading	Isaiah 35:1-10
Sunday Class.....	Ethics and Morals
Wednesday Class.....	The Book of Proverbs
Ladies Bible Class	The Book of 1 Thessalonians
Nursing Home Bible Study	The Book of John



“Whenever You Wish”

His reasoning sounded valid. Judas had just criticized Mary's lavish gift to Jesus. The oil with which she had anointed the Lord cost nearly a year's worth of wages for the common worker of the time. "Why was this fragrant oil wasted?" Judas demanded. "For it might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor" (Mark 14:4,5, NKJV). Others were swayed by the argument and also became indignant. (Though Mark attributes the statement to "some" of the disciples, John shows that it was Judas who first murmured, John 12:4,5.)

The words from the betrayer's lips came from a hypocrite's heart. John informs us that Judas didn't really care about the poor. He wanted the money to stay within his thieving grasp (John 12:6). But Jesus' response is what should capture our attention: "Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for me. For you have the poor with you always, and whenever you wish you may do them good; but me you do not have always" (Mark 14:6,7).

There are followers of Christ today who chronically object to expenditures of the church's funds for various projects. While it is a good thing to be careful with how the Lord's money is spent, some go too far in their caution. There is a time to spend cautiously so more work can be done in more places. There is also a time to show lavish love for the Lord. It's a heavy responsibility placed upon those who

“For you have the poor with you always, and whenever you wish you may do them good”

serve the Lord to make sure the church's treasury is managed properly.

But what about the poor? Though Judas used the needy as a guise for his greedy intentions, there yet is a real need to help them. According to Jesus, the opportunities are ever before us: "For you have the poor with you always" (Mark 14:7). We can do good for them whenever we wish.

Do we wish to do good for those who are poor? Or do we attempt to justify

our miserly actions by noting how some take advantage of goodhearted people? True, there are those who fraudulently prey on Christians who want to do the Lord's will. But what about those whose needs are legitimate? Will anyone "wish" to help them? Jesus sees through our words to the real texture of our hearts. He knows the difference between being careful not to be defrauded and trying to hoard money.

Don't overlook the fact that Jesus and the disciples kept a money box in which funds were kept (John 12:6). These funds were used at times to help those who were poor (John 13:29). Obviously, Jesus wished to help the poor. Do we who claim to imitate Jesus have the same wish?

"He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, and he will pay back what he has given" (Proverbs 19:17).

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The Week in Review: December 31st, 2006



Sunday Bible Class.....	54
Sunday AM Worship.....	59
Sunday PM Worship.....	47
Wednesday Night Study.....	56
Contribution.....	\$1526.50
Budget.....	\$1743.39

Kevin's Korner

You have probably already noticed the new bulletin format for the year 2007. Every year I try something a little different just to break things up a bit. I hope that this year's bulletin will be at least as helpful to you as last year's. As I mentioned in last Sunday morning's lesson, I do keep a copy of each of our bulletins in a notebook and have all of the back issues. They are also all published on the Internet on our web site. To date we now have five years of bulletins accumulated and in each bulletin one may read about the history of the congregation. It is an important record. Perhaps if you have some time this year, you can come by and peruse some of those back issues and play "remember when." It is always interesting to do so.

Speaking of "remember when," I brought back a bunch of old 1920s records for Dan Hand from my mother-in-law. The records had been collected by her father in the state of Indiana. They were wrapped in 1950s

newspaper. Dan said it was the July 4th edition. He's going to bring me some of that newspaper for me to frame for sentimental reasons. This goes back to the point I made about our bulletins. History has a strange way of sticking around and reminding us of what happened many years ago. What will our history show? That's a good question for each of us to ask on a daily basis.

Another item that returned with us from Texas was a full-sized trampoline. My sister decided that they did not want it anymore and so they gave it to us. I set it up this past week in the backyard and the boys have been having quite a time bouncing away on it. I tried my hand at it this past Friday afternoon for a bit and ended up with a small friction burn on my right elbow. Isn't it odd how one can get burned in such a manner. Speed combined with resistance will generate heat. We all know that rubbing your hands together real fast on a cold day will warm them up somewhat.

Such a law is also true in the spiritual

world as well. Speed combined with friction will generate heat! This time I'm talking about being swift to react in a tense situation where friction between two people is occurring. The heat, of course, is anger that results from one party or another. What does James say? "Where-fore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God." We are to be quick at hearing, but slow to speaking. This results in being slow to anger as well. And when we get angry with man's anger, we don't do God any favors (nor ourselves for that matter). Ecclesiastes 7:9 says, "Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools." Proverbs 16:22 says, "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." The key, self control! A good resolution.

Kevin Cauley

Announcements

- Please remember in prayer: Shane Blackston, Bill Fort, John Gass, Kim Herring, Flo Millspaugh, Nadine Smith, Mary Young.
- Shut-ins: Lois Bales, Opal Hull, Charlene Pinkley
- Our regularly scheduled elders and deacons meeting is tonight after the evening service. If you have a business item, please see one of these men.
- Our men's breakfast is scheduled for next Saturday morning at 7:00 AM. We hope that everyone can come and be part of this gathering.
- Please remember that the Children's Home truck will be coming in February, so please get your pantry items into the pantry soon!
- Also in February, Mac Lyon will be speaking at the Pine Mountain Jamboree Theater in Eureka Springs. There is a flyer in the back with details.
- Kevin will also be traveling to Costa Rica and Panama in early February for a mission trip. Please remember this effort in your prayers.
- Our pantry item is: Laundry Detergent.

God's Salvation Plan

1. **Hear** the Gospel—Romans 10:17
2. **Believe** on the Lord & His Word—Mark 16:16; John 8:24
3. **Repent** of your sins—Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30
4. **Confess** Christ—Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9
5. **Be Baptized** for the remission of sins—Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27
6. Live a **faithful**, dedicated life—Revelation 2:10; 2 Peter 1:5-10

Welcome!

Visit our web site: <http://www.thechurchofchrist.com>

Times for Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:.....	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:20 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	6:00 PM
Wed. Ladies Bible Class:.....	10:30 AM
Wed. Evening Bible Class:.....	7:00 PM
Thursday Nursing Home Bible Study.....	2:00 PM

Serving Each Other

January 7th, 2007 January 14th, 2007

Sunday Morning

Songs:	Glenn Williams	Ken Smith
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bill Fort	Bruce Foster
Scripture Reading:	Perry Foster	Leon Duncan
Lord's Table	Leon Duncan	Dan Hand
	Michael Morrell	Rusty Windle
(assist)	Brandon Foster	John Gass
	Ray Duncan	Ervin Hand
Closing Prayer	Floyd Bills	Dan Hand

Sunday Evening

Songs:	Rusty Windle	Glenn Williams
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Ervin Hand	Kelly Ray Webb
Scripture Reading:	Perry Foster	Matthew Morrell
Lord's Table	Dale Pinkley	Leon Duncan
	Benjamin Windle	Ray Duncan
Closing Prayer	Floyd Bills	John Gass

Wednesday

Songs:	Clay Bozarth	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Dale Pinkley	Brandon Foster
Invitation:	Rusty Windle	Leon Duncan
Closing Prayer:	Brandon Foster	Glenn Williams

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