

Berryville Bible Beacon

Volume 6, Issue 19

May 13th, 2007

Happy Mother's Day!

Today is the day that we know and celebrate as Mother's Day. It is the one time out of the year that we set aside a day to remember and honor our mothers. More telephone calls home are made today than any other day of the year. Many will be taking their mother someplace special to eat. Children will give their mothers gifts and bid them joy and happiness.

There are others whose mothers have passed from this life to the next. While these mothers are not around for us to personally enjoy, we can certainly relish the memories that we have of their example, instruction, and love. Some will, perhaps, visit the grave of their mother. Others may simply quietly reflect upon their mother's life. However we celebrate Mother's Day, the good mother will always hold a special place within our hearts.

We cannot, however, be so naïve as to think that all mothers are good mothers. Sadly, there are some out there who will look upon

Mother's Day with disdain, shame, and disgrace because their mothers were less than adequate. We look around society today and see some mothers who are addicted to drugs, others who beat and abuse their children, yet others who obtain abortions and we wonder how someone could so act. The Bible calls it being "without natural affection" (Romans 1:31, 2 Timothy 3:3). More than ever, we need Mother's Day as a day to not only honor and remember our mothers, but as a day to set forth the example for what a good mother ought to be.

Another troubling aspect to our society is the desire of some to elevate motherhood to the only parental place in the world. Believe it or not, scientists are pursuing the means whereby a woman can procreate independently of a man. These type projects have the support of the radical feminist and lesbian groups. Some see no need for men in society at all. And if you don't think that this is what some desire, there was a

made for TV movie not too many years ago in which men were outlawed. Yes, there is a radical element in our nation that would change motherhood from what we know to be a beautiful creation of God into something bizarre and frankensteinian.

The Bible tells us of that beautiful mother who knows the importance of her relationship with her husband and honors it. She seeks godliness in her life so that she can rear her children to honor God in their lives as well. She respects God's institution of marriage and is faithful no matter what difficulties and burdens may come her way. She knows that there is no quick and easy path through life, but that which the Lord provides for her through His guidance (Matthew 11:30).

So on this Mother's Day, let us remember and know what a true mother is and never seek to change God's pattern for a good mother. Instead, let us proclaim without embarrassment, God's plan for motherhood.

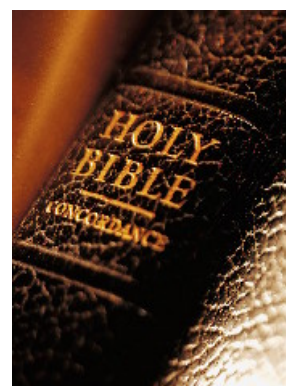
Kevin Cauley

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 May 13th, 2007

AM Sermon	Why Do We Need Mother's Day?
Scripture Reading	Deuteronomy 5:16
PM Sermon	Lessons from the Life of Jezebel
Scripture Reading	1 Kings 16:29-31
Sunday Class.....	The Book of Matthew
Wednesday Class.....	The Book of Proverbs
Ladies Bible Class	Selected Studies
Nursing Home Bible Study	The Book of Acts
Home Bible Study	Devotionals from the Book of John and VOTI



Family

Many Americans who are exposed to other cultures remark on their appreciation for the sense of family which many in those cultures possess. Extended families remain very close and there is often a deeply developed system of mores that demonstrate respect, dependence and obligation. I see this often in Asian and South American cultures. One common symptom of the valuing of extended family is the complicated and extensive set of titles with which various relationships are specified. There may be many words for "aunt" and "uncle" for instance, with "mother's sister", "father's sister", or even "mother's oldest brother" and "mother's youngest brother" all having a distinct title.

Those of us who have succumbed to the modern, fast paced, highly mobile society of "developed nations" rue the loss of such relationships, while acknowledging that we have often done it to ourselves. Wherever the blame may lie, however, there seems to be the feeling that once gone, the close knit extended family will likely never be restored.

It is precisely in this context that the

blessing of Christian fellowship may be best appreciated. In many ways the church becomes (or at least should become) our family. God is our Father. Jesus is our oldest brother. We are all brothers and sisters together in Christ. A wonderful concept, but does that really describe the relationship that truly exists in most congregations or among most Christians? Just as extended fleshly families drift apart without time and attention given to them, so our fellowship in Christ is dependent upon effort.

All the things required to build true spiritual fellowship obviously cannot be covered in one short article. One, however, is of special importance and is suggested in our text. That is the sense of equality that exists in genuine Christian fellowship. "You are all brethren." There are no rabbis, or masters or fathers among us. We are all of equal value and equal "rank" when it comes to God's view of us. That does not mean that our roles are the same. Much New Testament teaching shows that there are many different gifts within the body (cf Ephesians 4:11-13, Romans 12:3ff). But our value in God's sight is equal. Jesus died just as much for the poorest and most uneducated Christian as

he did for the elder or preacher or wealthy person among us. We are brothers!

Another aspect of our brotherhood is that we are all dependent. We are dependent upon God's grace and Christ's blood to save us. And we are dependent upon the love, compassion and mercy of our brothers and sisters to help us walk worthy of our Savior. It is only by the encouragement and support that other Christians give us that we have the ability to resist temptation and abound in good works (Hebrews 10:23,24). It may be that nothing encourages true fellowship as much as the recognition of our mutual dependence. We must learn to look upon other Christians as essential to our well-being, rather than as burdens we must help carry, or perhaps worse, strangers whom we have little desire to know. Even before affection and love we acknowledge need. I need you. You need me. Once that is recognized and we reach out mutually to meet those needs, then the affection and love naturally follow. And we come to know real family, that established by God the Father and Jesus his Son.

Mike Brooks, Forthright, 2004

The Week in Review: May 6th, 2007



Sunday Bible Class.....	60
Sunday AM Worship.....	75
Sunday PM Worship.....	63
Wednesday Night Study.....	58
Contribution.....	\$1868.05
Budget.....	\$1743.39

Kevin's Korner—Granny

As most are aware, last week my grandmother (my dad's mother) passed away and the funeral was this past Tuesday. I've had some time to think and reflect on many things, especially when driving ten hours in one day. Initially my dad had asked me to do the funeral, but then decided it might be too hard on me and asked the local preacher there to do it. I have to admit that I couldn't think of a single thing to say those few days I thought I was going to preach it. But the more I reflected the more some old memories came back to me about her life.

One of the first memories I have in life is being on the old home where she and my father's dad (Charlie) lived. They were sharecroppers and they lived a hard life. After the funeral, dad drove by some of the fields in which they lived and worked picking cotton. They were planted with corn now and I didn't see anyone working in the fields as machinery has pretty much replaced manual harvesting these days. That early childhood memory was being out in the field granny and picking a few balls of cotton. She would give us a little

paper lunch sack and tell us to go out there and fill it up. To us it was just plain fun to run out into the cotton field and fill up our little sack. It wasn't until many years later that I learned that a real cotton sack was much bigger and took a lot longer to fill than a little paper one did. It was back breaking work.

We drove by the field where they did that work, but the old house that was there had been torn down. All that was left was a couple of barns grown over by wild vines and trees. In the early 70s, that place was one of the few remaining without an indoor toilet. It had an outhouse in the back yard and that's where all kinds of important business was conducted.

Not too long after my grandfather died in 1971, granny moved to a house in town. She was poor and she had two adult children with special needs for whom to care. She received assistance from the government, but it wasn't much. She supplemented that income with jobs at one place or another. She worked as a checker at a local grocery store for a while. She also received government food stuff which she would always put away or freeze in her freezer in which she kept

all sorts of wonderful things that would magically appear out of the cold abyss when we wanted to eat something. She was generous with what little she had, often giving us blocks of government cheese that she couldn't eat or didn't want. She didn't want good food to go to waste.

She must have lived in more than a dozen or so different houses and apartments. At the end of the long drive from Austin to Paris, Texas I remember dad stopping to call and ask for specific directions to the new houses. It always made for lively conversation between my mother and father. I don't know how many times she moved, but it seems like as soon as I would get used to her being in one house, she would then move to another one.

The move invariably involved her salt and pepper shaker collection, which was most predominantly displayed in the kitchen anywhere they would fit. She had hundreds of them from every corner of the earth it seemed. They were fascinating to little eyes.

I'm glad to say that granny was a Christian and that I hope to see her again some day.

Announcements

- We extend our sympathies to the families of Ora Cauley, Kathryn Davis, and Dorothy Rorex.
- Please remember in prayer: Edna Brennan, Brian Guess, Opal Hull, Bill Powell, Van Smith, Bill Webb, Nancy Williamson, Mary Young.
- Our monthly potluck is scheduled for next Sunday. All are invited.
- Our monthly elders and deacons meeting is scheduled for this evening.
- There will be a memorial day cookout at the Cauley's on Monday, May 28th. Everyone is invited to come. Please bring any side dish that you would like to bring. We'll be having hamburgers and hotdogs. Also bring your favorite lawn chair. You can start coming around 11:00.
- Also don't forget our friends and family day on June 3rd. Let's make it a big year this year and invite everyone we know to come and be with us!
- Brother Moises Umaña has been invited to Mabelvale to speak this coming Wednesday night, so today will be his last day with us. Let's pray for his safe return to Costa Rica this Friday.
- Our pantry item is: deodorant.

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.the-churchofchrist.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

May 13th, 2007

May 20th, 2007

Sunday Morning

Songs:	Bill Fort	Ken Smith
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Rusty Windle	Bill Fort
Scripture Reading:	Matthew Morrell	Brandon Foster
Lord's Table	John Gass	Leon Duncan
	Bruce Foster	George Eddings
(assist)	Ray Duncan	Michael Morrell
	Brandon Foster	Jerry Roller
Closing Prayer	Michael Morrell	Glenn Williams

Sunday Evening

Songs:	Bruce Foster	Rusty Windle
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Dan Hand	Michael Morrell
Scripture Reading:	Perry Foster	Ken Smith
Lord's Table	Dale Pinkley	Ray Duncan
	Benjamin Windle	Floyd Bills
Closing Prayer	John Gass	Dan Hand

Wednesday

Songs:	Clay Bozarth	Bruce Foster
Opening Prayer:	Bruce Foster	Rusty Windle
Invitation:	Dale Pinkley	Leon Duncan
Closing Prayer:	Leon Duncan	Matthew Morrell

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