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THE LEVITE

A quarterly publication from Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

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1 Chronicles Chapter 23: (...in part....)

Verse 24: These were the sons of Levi after the house of their fathers;..... that did the work for the service of the house of the LORD,

Verse 30: And to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and likewise at even;

Verse 32: And that they should keep the charge of the tabernacle of the congregation,in the service of the house of the LORD.



Pastor's Message:
"Who Are You Following?"

Pastor David Webb

In our culture, the term "follow" is used to indicate how one person monitors another's activity on social media. For example, "Suzy follows" Sarah on Twitter". 30 years ago the only way you "followed" someone in this context was to have close contact with them via personal interaction, exchange of written notes or letters, or phone calls.

Allow me to offer to you a quote told me by a successful business man with a degree from a public university. He said "I feel that someone should condemn being involved in Twitter, Facebook, or other up and coming social sites. As far as I am concerned they have little or no use for anyone, much less the Child of God. I hate to think that people in our church can identify with this." He continued, "Before I cancelled my Facebook account a few years ago, I had already been contacted and had interaction with old girlfriends, and all manner of people that I had no business interacting with in this manner. It is a hotbed of trouble"

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Lessons From Our Children

Brother Don & Sister Debbie Woolett
 Kidz Church Directors

Greetings from "Transformation Junction"

Matthew 18: 3-4: 3"Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."



This is a powerful scripture! So why did Jesus approach this topic using children as our example? One commentator says it like this: "Jesus' statement actually urged disciples to adopt childlike humility. The desire to be the 'greatest in the kingdom' displayed a pride that was inconsistent with genuine discipleship."

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HPC First Lady:

Battles of the Mind

Sister Genell Webb

Sleepless nights, anxiety, loss of appetite or overeating, fear, doubt, paranoia; all these are symptoms of someone a doctor may diagnose as being clinically depressed. All of these symptoms do not seem to be areas a child of God would be suffering. Maybe it is the time we live in? Maybe it is the way the enemy is attacking these last days? Maybe it is of one's own making due to busyness or what they are "consuming"? Whatever the reason, even for a born-again Christian, these are real feelings, real trials, real stumbling blocks that, if they are not called out for what they are, will destroy a person.

So many times, people who find they are experiencing one or all of these symptoms put on a false front to their family and the world around them as to not draw attention to the fact they are struggling. Perhaps pride is an issue; one not wanting to admit weakness in these areas. They put it off thinking it will pass only to find, as time goes on, the weakness of our physical bodies takes a toll, draining one of strength to fight back. At this point, if help is not sought after, people make irrational decisions, oftentimes to the detriment of their families, their salvation, and even their life.

The good news for the saint of God is this: the enemy may be using our minds as a battleground, but we can fight back and fight back we must!

II Corinthians 10:3-4

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but MIGHTY through GOD to the PULLING DOWN OF STRONGHOLDS;)"

Don't be caught unaware! Situations that make one a target for such battles...

- ◆ A person in a "lukewarm" state regarding their spiritual discipline and dedication.
- ◆ Someone physically weak in body, i.e. being ill, being sleep deprived.
- ◆ Those with family who live in constant states of depression.

When Christ had fasted forty days and nights in the wilderness, the Bible says, *"afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came..."* It was in Christ's weakness that Satan came to tempt Him. Christ gave us the example to live by in that he fought every temptation with the Word stating, *"It is written..."* If we recognize our areas of weakness, we can fortify ourselves for battle. How do we fortify our minds? With the Word of God!

Sis. Beth Ralston once gave some very good advice that has benefited me many times over. She said, "I have to bring my mind in subjection again and again." Does not the Word state that as well?

II Corinthians 10:5

"Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;"

As soon as thoughts of doubt, fear, or disobedience enter our minds, we must be self-disciplined to reject those thoughts with the Word as Christ did. Here are some scriptures I use to go to battle:

When we cannot sleep, Lord, your Word says, *"When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet."* Proverbs 3:24

When we are afraid, Lord, your Word says, *"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."* II Timothy 1:7

When we need peace, Lord, your Word says, *"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."* Philippians 4:7

When we feel overwhelmed, Lord, your Word says, *"Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For thou has been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy."* Psalm 61:1-3

The Word of God is alive and is our greatest weapon to battle the enemy. No matter how hopeless we feel, how dark the cloud is hovering over us, we have victory through the Word. It is God's will for us to live in peace and full of faith. We only need to take Him at His Word.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." Isaiah 26:3



Associate Pastor's Pen:

"Where Have All the Heroes one?"

Brother Zane Estis

2Kings 6:15

"And when the servant of the

man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?" 2Kings 6:16 "And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." 2Kings 6:17a "And Elisha prayed,..."

In July of 2006, Sister Estis and I were preaching in Maryland and went to Washington D.C. on an off day. If there ever was a city that remembered its heroes, it would be D.C. We went by Arlington National Cemetery and saw the changing of the guard for the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They've guarded it non-stop, even in the midst of hurricanes, because that tomb represents just some of our nation's heroes.

I wonder if we have lost our ability to have heroes? I wonder what would happen if we truly had "Spiritual Heroes" in our lives and families again?

I picked up this quote some time back. I hope you enjoy it. Fred Smith -"We cannot live fully without heroes; for they are the stars to guide us upward. They are the peaks of our human mountains. Not only do they personify what we can be, but they also urge us to be. Heroes are who we can become if we diligently pursue our ideals in the furnace of our opportunities. Heroes are those who have changed history for the better. They are not always the men and women of highest potential, but

those who have exploited their potential to society's behalf. Their deeds are done, not for honor, but for duty. Through our studies of heroes, we enter the realities of greatness."

How many of you, when you were a kid, had a hero?

All true heroes show people that success does not hold a candle to significance!

Who were your heroes when you were young?

You can tell a lot about a person's values by who their heroes are.

Even being called into the ministry I had heroes. I can remember, as a young preacher, the number of heroes I had. I would listen to one of their sermons and would do everything I could to preach just like them. (If you knew my heroes, you would say that I still have portions of their disciplines and idiosyncrasies inextricably woven into my life.)

Observations Concerning Heroes:

First observation: I wanted to be like them. Something I've noticed about my heroes in the past is that I wanted to be just like them...right or wrong. The good news is they caused me to stretch. The bad news is, if we take it too far, we can lose our own uniqueness.

Second observation: They changed as I changed. Some of them ceased to be heroes after a while. I was growing, and, as I grew, I grew out of some of them.

Third observation: I changed as they changed. Some of those heroes grew away from me. As I watched and looked at their life, some of them were no longer my heroes. I can think of one especially who was a hero of mine, and, as I grew, I saw some major dents in the armor. Because of that, I lost some of the intrigue and esteem for that person. I had changed and found they were no longer a hero.

Fourth observation: Our interests are the same. If you're going to have a hero, it's because they're doing something you are usually interested in.

Fifth observation: My greatest joy was their approval.

Sixth observation: I receive inner strength when I reflect on them.

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Next Issue
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Usher Chronicle:

Obedience of ONE Man



Brother David Whelan

Throughout scripture we find the numerical advantage of God's people.

Leviticus 26:8: And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight....

Deuteronomy 32:30: How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their rock had sold them, and the Lord had shut them up?

I want to tell you a story about the power of ONE; about the influence on the world of ONE obedient soul and how God can bless that obedience and use the ONE.

ONE man was raised in the arms of the Midwest near a major city. Born to a family of 11 with a lot of mouths to feed, the family might be compared here in Hodgenville to just plain country folk. They spent their weekends killing game that would be the meat on the table for the coming week. They were poor, but knew what soap was. Each child had 2 pairs of clothes: one set for school, one set for work. The children could expect to get some education, but not too much, because their labor was needed to help provide for the rest of the family. They were, by necessity, tightly knit -- one might even say clannish.

Being led by a father that was raised in the Catholic Church, the family had occasionally

attended services at the local Methodist Church, but to say they knew the Lord would be stretching it a long way. Again, honest, working people, but clearly lost. Another generation of poverty might have been enough to drive them to petty crime or worse were it not for ONE man.

The ONE Man came of age around the early 1950's, just right to be involved in the Korean conflict. He was inducted into the army infantry branch, after his boot camp and initial training. He soon found himself in Korea facing both Korean and Chinese troops that sometimes provided proxy assistance to the enemy there. The conflict was marked by battles over hills that were walked away from the next day, by mud, by cold, and by carnage. It was an early indication of how the war in Vietnam would be; Nasty. The ONE man was a long way from home.

"LORD, IF YOU WILL SAVE ME FROM THIS, I WILL SERVE YOU AND I WILL BUILD YOU A CHURCH"

they were overrun where a signal was given to have the unit all move in the same direction so they would stay together instead of being scattered. During the battle for one hill, intelligence came down that the Chinese had a huge force assembled on the other side of the hill. Before the unit could execute an orderly pullback or defense, they were attacked by a superior Chinese force and were overrun. **For reasons only God knows**, the ONE man and 3 others went the opposite direction from their unit. The remainder of the unit became casualties. Within a few hours, the ONE man and the 3 other soldiers were rounded up by the Chinese and sent to a POW facility.

Once in the POW camp, the 4 soldiers and others previously captured were forced to dig a trench deep enough for a man to stand. When complete, the prisoners were marched into the ditch. A guard at the far end of the ditch locked a magazine into an automatic weapon and began shooting the men in the ditch. No doubt many prayers came from these men. One such prayer came from the ONE man: "LORD, IF YOU WILL SAVE ME FROM THIS, I WILL SERVE YOU, AND I WILL BUILD YOU A CHURCH." The firing continued until it reached within 3 men of the ONE man.

The guard was out of ammunition. While he was reloading, a Chinese senior officer arrived and stopped further executions. **The Lord had heard the ONE man!!**

In July of 1954, about 2 years later, the ONE man arrived back home to his waiting family. That year was **Christmas in July**, a celebration. The ONE

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Brother Jim Miller family

The ONE Man's unit had a standard procedure for when



Sister Evelyn Whelan

Youth Encounter: *Amazing Grace*

“But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ (by **grace** ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: that in the ages to come He might shew the exceeding riches of His **grace** in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by **grace** we are saved through faith; and that not of ourselves: **it is the gift of God.**” —Ephesians 2:4-8

God's **grace**: we hear about it almost every church service, in countless songs...as holiness people, talking about God's grace is an almost common facet of our lives. Everyone, but especially young people, tend to take things for granted too easily; the common things in our lives are looked over in our rush to live life.

There was once a family who went on vacation to a beautiful small city in the Southern US. The family flew down and rented a car to drive to their river-front rental house to stay for the week. The parents and the kids both had a lot of fun that week, and on the last day of their stay, they went out for a picnic in a public park. While they were there, one of the children started to notice the large numbers of homeless people that were everywhere around there in that beautifully manicured park. Walking past these poor souls were obviously upper middle class people acting like they didn't even exist. The child ate her lunch, all the while watching as person after person walked past the droves of unfortunates wandering aimlessly, sleeping under benches, begging for food or money, and drinking out of public fountains. As the family finished their lunch and started packing up to head back home, they noticed a man not far away digging through a trash can for something to eat. He pulled out some jelly packets that someone had thrown away and started eating them like they were a steak and mashed potatoes dinner. The dad picked up the extra food that the family had, food that they were just going to have to throw away, and took it to the man. His reaction was one of almost childlike joy. He leapt on the dad and hugged him and thanked him with tears flooding down his face, and walked away holding the little bit of sandwich meat and bread like it was a kings feast.

The contrast drawn in this story is one we don't like to think about very often. The world today will come up with all kinds of reasons to explain the difference between that child and the homeless man. Some of those reasons, such as drug usage, jail time, and disability, may indeed be factors, but the only thing that kept that family from being in the same situation as those homeless people was the **grace of God**.

The definition of grace is the free and undeserving favor of God, as manifested in the salvation of a sinner and the bestowal of blessings on the saints.

In today's society, the "cool" or the "norm" is to always look at the bad side of life. "Misery loves company", as the old saying goes, and as young people especially, we are pressured to be negative and ungrateful. We say, "Well, I don't have this" or "I can't go there" or "They have a better ____ than me", all the while forgetting how blessed we are!! By God's grace, there is enough food on the table; by God's grace, holiness and truth is preached to us every service; by God's grace, we have a roof over our heads; by God's grace, we are saved; by God's grace, we can receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost so that we don't have to walk alone!!

Although he is not by any means a theologian, Abraham Lincoln hit the nail on the head about our society, and sometimes us as Christians, when he said, "Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us." As holiness people, let us challenge ourselves to counteract this statement!! Let us never find ourselves taking God's sweet grace for granted!! We cannot let His blessings become so commonplace that we forget to thank Him for them.

"NONE OF US WOULD HAVE MADE IT, EXCEPT BY THE GRACE OF GOD."

When Ephesians 2:8 says "For by grace ye are saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God", it is speaking of much more than simply salvation from eternal punishment in hell. It is saying that it is the gift of God that we are saved from the worst things that life has to offer, through His grace, His free and undeserving gift.

We are a blessed people! In closing I would like to say that no matter how the enemy may try to get you to dwell on all the things that are going wrong, how much he may fight you saying that God is not blessing you or that God does not care for you... think of God's grace!! Think of how His undeserved blessings rain down upon each of us every day of our lives; how He protects us from dangers, both physical and spiritual, that we cannot even see; how He spared us from being homeless and eating jelly packets out of trash cans; how He fills us with the Holy Ghost to sustain us when the going gets rough...the list goes on and on! None of us would have made it, except by the grace of God. So next time the enemy tries to get you down, or get you to think negatively, remind him about God's AMAZING GRACE!!!!

.....from page 4

Obedience of ONE Man

man was changed; he was dark, he had seen and done too much. Over the coming months and years, the ONE man would put aside his promise made to God in that ditch. It would no doubt trouble him and drive him as he remembered those words and replayed that scene in his mind. By 1956, the ONE man was in full crisis. Alcohol and other worldly pursuits were destroying him. At last, he flipped an Oldsmobile and skidded several hundred feet down the highway on the top. With gas leaking from the car onto the roadway, he walked away. That was it, he had run from that promise too long!

The ONE man told his extended family, amounting to about 35 people, that he had decided to live for God and that he would be going to church on Sunday. The family thought this to be quiet comical. One family member said, "I would have believed he was going to cut his arm off sooner than I would have believed he would show up at church."

The very next Sunday, the 35 souls (riding in 7 cars) showed up at a local Baptist congregation. Their rough clothes, less than churchlike behavior, and the fact that they were from the wrong side of the tracks did not impress the congregation. Although they did not tell them never to return, the cold shoulder let them know they were not welcome there.

Not to be deterred, the ONE man decided to go to another local congregation, the "Cook" church, so called for the name of the pastor at the time. Happenstance would have it that Bro. Cook was away and had an evangelist filling in for him the day that the ONE man and his family showed up....35 strong in 7 cars.

The family loved the church and the church people, so much so, they came back Sunday night and Wednesday night. Someone, following the leading of the Holy Ghost, decided it was time to have a revival. In the course of the coming days, ALL 35 PEOPLE WERE SAVED, including the ONE man.

The ONE man did more than make good on his promise to the Lord. God blessed him and used him as an elder and board member of that church. The Lord used the ONE man to build the church he promised and was its pastor until his death. The ONE man's son is the pastor at that church today. Among the treasures he laid up in heaven are countless stories of his work among the people of the area. God greatly blessed him and used him, BUT that is not the end of the story!

Among the 35 family members of the ONE man was ONE man's brother. ONE man's brother has touched my life and has now touched yours via this article and probably in other ways that are going to be apparent to you very soon. The ONE man's brother married a girl from the Cook church. They had children, one of which married a young Bible school student from Pennsylvania. The Lord used and prospered them. They also had children and eventually moved to KY and to HPC. The ONE man's great nephew became a friend of mine and the first time I was ever brought to HPC was with him. He and others became the face of Holiness to me. The ONE man is indirectly responsible for the walk I and my family enjoy with the Lord.

The ONE man is Bro. Jim Miller. The ONE man's brother is Bro. Don Miller, who is the father of Sis. Ruth Miller Astor, who is the Mother of my friend, Bro. Andrew Astor. That "Cook Church" is none other than The Bethel Chapel in Granite City, IL (host of the Sunset Hills Youth Camp our kids attend every year). That revival is still known at Bethel Chapel today as the "Miller Revival"!

By now you are doing the math alluded to in the scriptures above. The power of ONE soul, obedient to the Lord is evident. Can you imagine the number of souls that have been touched by this family? When I look at how the Lord has used the Astor family alone, the numbers are mind boggling. Consider that there were 35 in that extended family, of which we have been touched by only one branch.

**Become that ONE man – surrendered, obedient, and available.
Touch the future for The Lord!**



11 of 14 Miller siblings with mom (Sister Mildred Miller)

THE LEVITE

.....from cover

“Who Are You Following?”

Public society used to call a man who “followed” a woman who was not his wife or family member ...a “stalker”.

Now it is commonly accepted, even in the church, for married men to be following single young women, only now they call them a “friend”.

We now have married women, following single young men and under the auspice of being “friends”.

Ethical boundaries are being ignored and obliterated.

Moral values are being thrown to the wind by insecure individuals who need to build a personal following to make them feel important. They judge their importance by how many” Followers “or “Likes” they accumulate.

Comments are posted about the men of God, the things of God, and the preaching of the Word of God that would never be said face to face. Simply because there is a screen to hide behind, they spew their negativity, proving they have replaced God with themselves upon the throne of their heart. These comment in any way they see fit because of the false anonymity they feel by being disconnected by a screen from the person or events they are commenting upon.

There are so-called “Christians” following *Hollywood Stars* who oppose the very mention of the name of Christ and openly promote the sins that He shed his precious blood to remedy.

Some so-called “Dedicated followers of Christ” are following secular *Music Icons* that spread their wicked blasphemy through the ear buds of this godless generation.

We have individuals who boast themselves of being “Holiness” yet following fitness experts and justify their following of them because it promotes a healthy lifestyle, ignoring the fact that the promotional photos displayed are indecent, lustful and sensual.

Moral values are being thrown to the wind ...

Others are posing as “Concerned Christians” who are gossipmongers following backsliders, who make a mockery of everything they once stood for, lived and preached.

And we are following them?

John Piper said, **“One of the great uses of Twitter and Facebook will be to prove at the Last Day that prayerlessness was not from lack of time.”**

Pete Cashmore (founder of Mashable) said, *“We are living at a time when attention is the new currency: With hundreds of TV channels, billions of websites, podcast, radio shows, music downloads and social networking, our attention is more fragmented than ever.”*

And we wonder why **there is** no revival!

◆ Young adults, sitting in pews, pretending to “use their Bible on their phone or Ipad” all

the while surfing the web or checking social media updates.

◆ Middle age mothers who are more worried about if their “bathroom mirror selfie” makes them look fat, than why their marriage is on the rocks.

◆ Teenagers posting photos of themselves, lips puckered, presenting themselves in some provocative pose, at the same time claiming to be dedicated to representing Christ to this lost generation?

◆ Homes in disarray.

◆ Husbands who engage in a virtual gaming world all hours of the night while their family sleeps.

◆ Intimacy between husbands and wives wane.

Why? All because they are consumed with their own lust in a world that will leave them old, cold, empty & alone.

One preacher recently scolded a group he was talking to for “*drooling over this world*”.

Some may entertain the thought that I have an out of date opinion on this issue. However, my basis for believing this way is anchored in the words of Jesus found in *Luke 9:23* ***And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.***

We must stop following people and start following God again!

THE LEVITE



ISRAEL

Brother Claude Powell

Israel – How shall I describe you?

In Zechariah 2:8, the Bible says that you are the apple of God’s eye and “*he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.*”

Reborn in 1948, the nation of Israel is approximately 5,500 square miles sitting in the middle of Muslim countries that would like to destroy her, but God says, “NO!” Psalm 83 gives a full blown picture of what the nations would like to do to Israel, but God says, “NO!” Since 1948, Israel has blossomed producing food, flower, and electronic gadgets and medical care from the minds of Israel.

God has blessed her.

However, there is something shaky in the world. On November 29, 2012, the United Nations voted 138 to 9 against Israel in order to form a Palestinian state. When you see 138 nations vote against Israel, you can see Psalm 83 coming into view. If you go back to look at all the nations that rose up against Israel, you will see they have fallen in the dust of time and history, but Israel is still a nation and on the move.

How does this affect us? In Genesis 12:3, God said, “*And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee.*” Does America want a blessing or a cursing? I choose a blessing!

In closing, “Israel by Divine right.”

Psalm 122:6 says: “*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.*”

THE LEVITE

.....from cover

Lessons From Our Children

Small children tend to be very:

•Eager

Several scriptures tell of Jesus calling a little child unto him. (Matthew 18:2; Matthew 19:14-15; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15-17) Children enjoyed being close to Jesus. They are eager or, we could say, excited about being in the presence of The Lord. Not once does the Bible record a time when a child was skeptical of Jesus.

How teachable are you?

What about us? Are we as thrilled to be in the presence of The Lord as our children are, or do we take it so for granted that we fail to recognize when the Lord is moving in our midst? These can be very convicting questions.

•Trusting

Proverbs 3:5 “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”

A child can fully trust without fully understanding. As adults, we tend to try to figure things out, but, if we can’t, we then hold back. In other words, we say we trust the Lord, but there are times our actions betray us.

•Forgiving

Colossians 3:12-13 “...and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.”

Watch children as they play. When, not if, a quarrel arises, it can be a fury, but in a short time the quarrel is forgotten and never mentioned again. They continue to play together as if nothing happened. They are very forgiving.

Adults tend to hold a grudge, want to prove they are right, or are not willing to admit they were wrong. We must pray for a tender heart of forgiveness! Without it we will soon find ourselves drifting from The Lord’s forgiveness.

Matthew 6:15: “But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

•Teachable

When a child receives proper instruction, they do their best to please the instructor. They are very teachable with a great desire to please.

Proverbs 19:20: “Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.”

John 12:48: “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.” Jesus was speaking here.

•How teachable am I?

•How teachable are you?

•How much do we want to please God our Heavenly Instructor?

Matthew 18:5-6: 5 “And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. 6 But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.”

Here at HPC, we do our best to nurture our children. Yes, they have a lot to learn, but we can learn a lot from them.

The Lord is greatly blessing our “Kidz Ministry”. We have seen several children saved this year.

I just can’t say it any better than Psalm 126:3 “The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.”

THE LEVITE

...continued from page #3

“Where Have All the Heroes Gone?”

Tell me your heroes, and I will tell you your values. Here is a very probing question: If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, who would it be? Believe me—this is true of young people and adults alike: Show me your heroes, and I will show you your future.

Socrates said, “Talk of your heroes that I might not only know who you are, but who you will become.”

That's why I am concerned with a culture that idolizes sports stars and props up politicians. We emulate who we want to be like, for better or worse. So let me ask you, **are there any Biblical heroes in your life? Are there any missionary all-stars on your walls?**

My Bible hero, as of late, is Elisha. He is a picture of Godly-ambition. (Not self-ambition, as pictured in the life of Abner.) He is well noted for his life of fire. He's a wealthy man, as shown by his abundance of oxen, yet at the thought of following the Prophet Elijah, he burns his form of income and calls for a town barbecue to eat those oxen. Elijah tries to shake him all along the trail, but the young preacher won't budge! He has lid-lifting moments when he sees chariots of fire, and, therefore, does not bat-an-eye when surrounded by the iron chariots of Syria. You can almost hear the preacher as he says under his breath, “Syria...that's the best you got?” He prays for his servant's eyes to be open so the understudy can see “they that be with us are more than they that be with them”. And in turn prays that his enemy's eyes would be blinded. Wow!!! God uses him to save a city! What a bold preacher! What an example of faith! What a man of prayer and fire.

That's a hero in my book!! I know who I want to have the fire just like....it's Elisha....he's a hero of mine.

In my office, I keep a small picture of J. W. Tucker (some of you that have come by on Sunday mornings before service have seen it.) He's truly a silent hero of mine. He was a Pentecostal missionary to Africa who gave his life, much like that of Jim Elliot in South America. He continually reminds me of the ultimate cost some of us may have to make for our faith. His steady countenance strengthens me and his indirect yet penetrating stare compels me. I often think to myself, “What would he say if he were in this room?” We all have a way of following someone, and, if we do, then I want that someone to influence me to be more like the Ultimate Hero: Jesus Christ.

The Wycliffe Missions, that have done such a great job translating the Bible into so many foreign languages, did an ad years ago that was the most successful recruiting ad in their history. It's a picture of a strong young man who is wading through a swift moving jungle river. He's got a canteen by his side and sweat has filled his shirt. He's still got the remnants of dirt on his face. The caption said, “Jim was voted most likely to succeed; now look at him.” And below that it has this paragraph: “It's too bad, Jim had it made. Personality, initiative, a college degree with honors, success and the good life was his for the asking.

But now look at him: backpacking across some jungle river. Giving his life to a preliterate people barely out of the Stone Age, painstakingly creating a written alphabet from a previously unrecorded babel of sounds. Working night and day translating the pages of the New Testament, exposing the senselessness of superstition and ignorance, relieving pain and introducing the possibility of health, building a bridge of love and understanding to a neglected people—and to think, Jim could have been a success.”

If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, who would it be?

When they ran that add, they had more young people than ever sign up. Why?

Because they gave them something bigger than themselves and showed them what all true heroes show people; that success does not hold a candle to significance!

That's what real heroes do....they influence me to take the long look and remember that a life of significance keeps its focus on the Kingdom to come!

So let me ask again—**who are your heroes?** Are they Godly men (or women)? Is your assessment based on fame, skill, notoriety, talent, money or a host of other things that worldly heroes are brought to the forefront over? Or do men that pull down heaven and cast out hell still catch your attention?

For better or worse—we will slowly be etched into the characteristics of the silent heroes our hearts consider worthy enough to muse upon.

Testimony of Triumph

Baffled Doctors - Touch of God

Sister Angie Taylor

I am honored to be able to share my testimony with you all. This journey was one of the scariest things I walked through but looking back I can see God's hand guiding me through.

In Nov of 2013, I had went to the doctor because of a sore throat, after an antibiotic I still didn't feel over it. I was also experiencing uncontrolled weight loss, hair loss and a soreness in my lower body that caused great pain when standing and walking. I went back to the doctor and he ran a few simple tests, and bloodwork and said he'd call me with the results. I was not prepared at all for the phone call one Sunday afternoon. The scan revealed a mass in my lung, and a cyst on one of my many enlarges lymph nodes, and my liver in severe distress. My husband and I walked into church that night with the biggest burden that we've ever carried. I'll never forget seeing my husband come off the drums to run the isles, knowing that nobody in the church had any idea what we were going through. That same night in the alter I was praying and I felt something I had never felt before. It's hard to explain but I felt a peace, that peace that passes understanding. I never knew exactly what those words meant until that night. Although things got worse before they got better and the potentially bad news kept rolling in, I never lost that peace.

The next two months were met with more scans, specialists, a surgery, and more bad news,

but not any definite answers. I was finally told they thought the mass was possibility cancerous. It was the dreaded thought that lingered in the back of my mind. Hearing cancer was hard because as I was also broken hearted over

I never knew exactly what those words meant until that night.

my mom, who was laying on her death bed with lung and liver cancer. This made it especially tough to hear that they thought I may have cancer as well.



Sister Angie Taylor
Husband Elijah,
Sons: Jamin, Weston, & Lawson
Daughters: McKenna & Avalon

We finally heard back from the biopsy on my lung which showed NO CANCER in my lung and strangely enough the cyst was gone! Praise the Lord, finally good news. The post operation appointment left my doctors baffled. My doctor left the room

twice to call another doctor to find out where to go next! They finally chose to have one more test ran, and that also came back clear.... Showing only a reaction to the strep I had months earlier. The doctors could not diagnose any medical issues, and chose to treat the issues they knew that I had. They knew my liver was shutting down and my thyroid was acting up. So they did one final blood draw to determine where to start the process of finally getting me back to full health. I'll never forget a week later sitting across from my doctor to get my final results and prescriptions, and he kept saying he didn't understand as he was scanning my chart. He finally said that he didn't really understand but that my body was healing itself, before they had a chance to treat me. My liver function were in normal ranges, and my thyroid was completely normal as well. He told me to go home and let him know if anything changed. As I was walking downtown on that very snowy day, a little ray of sunlight was shining down through the buildings and the dark clouds. I instantly felt that same peace I felt that Sunday night. The Lord was showing me His glory, through the darkness and clouds there He was! **I knew something miraculous had taken place.**

The next week or two I regained my strength and was back to taking care of my family. I never want to take this miracle for granted. **The doctors were completely baffled, and I KNOW God touched me.**

I am a living testimony of what the power of God can do!

THE LEVITE

Guest Columnist

Things To Save Your Pastor's Life



Pastor Phillip Sanders
Faith Church
Salem, KY

2Timothy 4:13 "The cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books. but especially the parchments."

This verse was written by Paul to Timothy. He was in the Maritime prison for the sake of the Gospel. His life was winding up and one of his last request was for 3 things, a coat, books, and the Bible (parchments). I would like to say something about these 3 things that will save your pastors life.

• **1. The coat:** You may ask "how can a piece of clothing save my pastor's life?" A pastor is demanded to be dressed appropriately and for the occasion. A suit and tie are in constant demand. I have always thought it would be nice if there was someone in the church who took it upon their selves to make sure their Pastor dressed sharp. I'm referring to providing the means with gift cards, trips to stores (not discount outlets, etc) and pay the bill. The coat that Paul refers to speaks to me of several things:

One is "comfort". What a comfort that your Pastor would receive to know someone cared about him enough to provide his uniforms for the job.

Another is "memories". Memories every time he puts that suit on his mind will remember the victories that God has worked in your life. And last but not least, I can't imagine anyone not wanting their Pastor to dress classy.

**Imagine if all
of the Pastors
were taken
out of the
world at once...**

• **2. Books:** Every Pastor needs a great library. Find out what he collects, who his favorite authors are, gift cards are great for this. Most people never get close enough to their Pastor to find out what his hobby's are. If it's hunting, buy him subscriptions to hunting or fishing magazines. One of my members gave me a subscription where I received a box each month of lures and tackle. Paid hunting trips, fishing trips, pay for his vacation. What does this have to do with "books"? It's the refreshing of the mind. To know that you have helped relieve some of the pressure of "caring for the church daily" instead of adding to it will definitely help extend your Pastors life.

• **3. The Bible:** Every Pastor must have time with his Bible. Our 21st century lifestyle can be very demanding. Your Pastor is first a husband and a father, then your Pastor! Demands are constantly upon him for visitation-new attendee's, hospital, sick, disgruntled etc... The care of the facilities, even though he may not do it himself, he's still concerned. The future of the church: building, missions, Christmas, Easter, usher, men's, women's, children's, choir etc. is upon the heart of any good Pastor constantly, let alone the outside ministries he is involved in or promoting. These and other "cares of this life" can crowd out "Bible time". You can save his life by making sure he has ample time for the Word of God, honor and protect it, avoid intruding, intervene for him with those that do, volunteer to help with some of the above mentioned concerns.

Imagine if all of the Pastors were taken out of the world at once, what would it become. There are ample Pastor "killers" in our land.

Make a determination to be a "life saver" to your Pastor.

THE LEVITE



Sunday School Narrative

I Believe

Brother Danny Compton

I would like to begin by saying “**thank you**” to everyone who has been so faithful to Sunday school week after week. It has been a blessing to see our Sunday school department grow the way it has. To those of you who have not taken full advantage of Sunday school, I invite you to join us every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

I **believe** that you will find it to be a wonderful addition to your church going experience.

Churches across our country have shut down Wednesday night service. Many have shut down Sunday night service. Will Sunday school be next? Not at Hodgenville Pentecostal Church!!

Our Wednesday night service is made up of three ministries:

- children’s service,
- youth service, and
- adult service.

After all that, we still have around 110 people in the sanctuary. Our Sunday night service is attended nearly as well as our Sunday morning service, while Sunday school runs around 130 to 160.

The people of Hodgenville Pentecostal Church are some of the most faithful people I have ever been around, but the time has come to step it up.

Hebrews 10: 25

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”

This involves far more than erratic attendance. It’s about being completely sold out to the cause of Christ. It’s an outward indication of an inner condition. It’s about keeping the home fires burning. I would love to see perfect attendance, but this involves

...the time has come to step it up!

far more than perfect attendance. It’s about the body of Christ interacting in worship and fellowship. It’s about the backslider finding their way home. It’s about the lost getting saved.

It would be easy to say everything is great, so let’s just ride it out until The Lord comes back.

• **I believe:** Greater things are on the horizon for Hodgenville Pentecostal Church.

• **I believe:** Attendance will continue to rise because of the dedication of God’s people.

• **I believe:** People will continue to get saved because of the drawing power of the Holy Ghost.

• **I believe:** Revival will grow and spill out into the community.

• **I believe:** The Lord is the author and finisher of our faith, and that He will continue to equip us for the work He has laid at our doorstep here at H.P.C.

These are exciting times, and I look forward to seeing what The Lord will do next!

Hebrews 13: 1

Let brotherly love continue

THE LEVITE

Services

Sunday School - 10:00 am

Sunday Morning Worship - 11:00 am

Sunday Evening Worship - 6:00 pm

Wednesday Night - 7:30 pm

