



Teacher Appreciation Dinner

Friday, April 13 at 6pm
at Nick's Restaurant.

Looking forward to honoring the servants of Jefferson Avenue whose love for God and his people have inspired them to share knowledge of God's Word with old and young alike.

WE THANK YOU

THIS WEEK'S LESSON

Sunday Morning Worship

The Purpose of Patience
James 5.7-11

Sunday Evening Worship

Are the Bible Documents Reliable?

PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY →



GOOD NEWS

We had a wonderful Ladies Day last weekend! It was an uplifting time of teaching and fellowship. About 175-200 women attended either Friday or Saturday (including many from neighboring congregations). Thanks to Anna Gilbert and Carrie Simpson and their helpers for planning such a great event.

PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE

"Patience is a virtue." When and where did this saying originate? Some say it dates back to Cato the Elder in the 3rd or 4th century. The first known recording of this expression is in *Piers Plowman*, a narrative poem believed to have been written by William Langland between 1360 and 1387. The saying is similar to the Latin expression: *maxima enim, patientia virtus* (patience is the greatest virtue). Still others attribute this expression to Chaucer in *The Canterbury Tales*.

Regardless of its origin, it is a common truth. Patience is truly a virtue. It begs the question: Are you a patient person? Are you patient with people at work? At school? In your home?

It's important to be patient with the people around you, especially those who are young. After all, people grow and mature at different rates.

- Thomas Edison's teacher said he could never amount to anything and advised his mother to take him out of school.
- Winston Churchill was admitted to school in the lowest level classes, and never moved out of the lowest group in all the years he attended Harrow.
- Albert Einstein seemed so slow and dull that his parents feared he was mentally deficient.

One observer has said, "Great minds and high talent, in most cases, cannot be hurried and, like healthy plants, grow slowly."

So be patient with the big people and little people in your life. Remember what the apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13: "Love is patient."

Buddy Johnson



Collins' Corner

MATTHEW 7:7-11

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every-one who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”

When Jesus tells those in the crowd to ask, and it will be given to them, what do we think that he means? Does he mean that God will give us whatever we want, all we have to do is ask for it? Surely that can't be it, right?

We need to check out, first of all, the context of this passage. This teaching is coming right after the discussion on judging others, and right before the discussion of the golden rule (treat others as you would like to be treated). It stands to reason, at least with me, that this section on prayer must have something to do with how we treat other people. After all, a majority of the Sermon on the Mount deals with, or at least touches, that very subject. So, I think it makes sense to assume that Christ is specifically asking them to pray for something more along the lines of wisdom in their relationships rather than a new car or new house. What we know about God and what we teach about God has to be consistent with the character of God throughout all of scripture. I can't take this one passage out of context and assume that God will give me whatever I want — that doesn't match the character of God in the entirety of scripture at all.

Christ also wants us to know that, when we pray, we are praying to a good God. So, how should we view the goodness of God? I think we can know that God is good because, in any and every situation, we can see Christ abundantly. God is good because he gives us what we need: grace, mercy, love, peace, justice. All of those are things that we need each and every day, and God gives those to us each day. Regardless of the circumstances in my life, those things that God gives us do not change. My victories or defeats don't legislate if God will be gracious, loving, or merciful today. Those things don't determine if God will allow me to have peace today. God gives me those things every day because he is a good God.

Matt



Earful from Evan

On Wednesday night the young adult class is studying How Satan Works using Scriptures and Screwtape Letters as a discussion guide. Screwtape Letters is a book written by C.S. Lewis that contains letters written from a senior demon (Screwtape) to his inexperienced nephew (Wormwood) regarding the best ways to secure the failure of faith of an unsuspecting young man. With this imaginary correspondence C.S. Lewis gives us a penetrating insights into how the unseen powers of evil work to ensnare those who seek to follow after Christ.

One of the letters received by Wormwood has this message: By the very act of arguing, you awake the patient's reason; and once it is away, who can foresee the result? Even if a particular train of thought can be twisted in our favor, you will find that you have been strengthening in your patient the fatal habit of attending to universal issues and withdrawing his attention from the stream of immediate sense experiences. Your business is to fix his attention on the stream. Teach him to call it 'real life' and don't let him ask what he means by 'real' – Screwtape

Satan's work on the hearts and minds of this world is truly evident today. Lewis draws out that Satan doesn't even have to convince the lost that God isn't real. Sometimes his efforts are to just keep us concentrated on the stream of immediate sense experiences. This could be fulfilled today in a number of ways. From all the media our eyes can indulge in, all the technology to occupy our hands, and all the work, hobbies, interest, that occupy our time our minds are fed a continual worldly stream. This enables Satan to occupy his space while preventing deep reflective reasoning to take place. Indeed we call this life. How many times have days or weeks gone by where one hour of thought and meditation on God, my relationship to Him, and my relationship to others through Him has not been given.

Jesus on the other hand states in John 10:10: "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

While Satan wants to still our minds and hearts away from the true gift of Jesus so they will be void and empty, Jesus came so our lives can be enriched. So our thoughts and hearts are filled with His glory, love, and mission to be shared with the world. As much as Satan tempts us to focus on the stream of 'real life' our challenge is to meditate on the words of our Father and His Son. To dwell on the reality of His Kingdom and our relationship with Him will bring the spiritual blessings we so desperately need. **Evan**

News & Announcements

Remember in Daily Prayer!



IT'S A GIRL!

Congratulations to Michael & Kayla McCord on the birth of their new daughter, **Amalie Grace**, born Thursday morning at CRMC. She weighed 8lbs 4oz and was 19.5 inches long. **Callan McCord** is the proud big brother!!!

Angela Leffew, sister of **Johnny Bates**, **is now cancer free!** They are still trying to get her blood levels up and she goes back in a month for a follow-up.

Lou Ann Watts, wife of **Davis Watts**, was diagnosed by her doctors as having a stroke on Friday. She is improving but **the doctor requests no visitors at this time.**

Kay Thrasher's son-in-law, **Steve Bertini**, is home now following a hospital stay for prostate cancer. He will go back in a week. He is the husband of Candy Carrington.

Kathy Adams is at home under the care of hospice.

Walter Fitzpatrick is home recuperating from surgery. Please no visitors at this time.

Herman Bean is now back at home.

Those who are dealing with cancer: Kathy Adams, Linda Alcorn, Kenneth Allen, Dean Boles, Kaye Bowman, Rene' Canfield, Helen Carr, Walter Fitzpatrick, Jan Immel, Rhett Massey, Paula Palk, Jan Shepherd, Marty Smith and Lester Sparks



April Showers Bring May Flowers, and also Wedding Showers:

♥**Bridal Tea** for **Angela Wilson**, bride elect of **Paul Leddy**, will be Sunday, **April 22, from 1:30—3** in the Fellowship Hall. They are registered at Borden's Jewelry, Amazon, Target and Kohls.

♥**Bridal Tea** for **Caitlyn Burg**, bride elect of **B.J. Matheney**, will be Sunday, **April 29, from 1:30—3** in the Fellowship Hall. They are registered at Borden's, Amazon, Wal-Mart and Belk.

Young-at-Heart: April 25 - Chocolate Fantasy Night we will honor Lads2Leaders/Leaderettes in the Fellowship Center following the service. Sign-up sheet is on the Family Board..

Young-at-Heart: Historic Trip to Bell Buckle, Tennessee, **Saturday, May 5.** We will have lunch (on your own) at the Bell Buckle Café. It is rated in the top 10 restaurants in Tennessee. After lunch, you will be able to shop in the Historic Bell Buckle antique shops. More detailed information will follow. For information, see Larry Harkleroad.

Our Shut-Ins

Remember Our Shut-ins:

Bethesda: Jan Shuster, Cornelia Steakley & Lyda Taylor

Heritage Pointe: Peggy Cooper

NHC: Rubye Anderson, Evelyn Solt

Signature Health-Algood: Matilda Craighead

At Home: Hugh & Kathy Adams, Herman Bean, Sue Clack, Margaret Cunningham, Mary Dyer, Wilma Judd, Peggy Mackie, Ralph Medley, Pat McCanless, Robert & Jean Reeves, Claudine Smith, Ed & Rosella Smith, Frances Smith, Marty Smith, Jimmy Stafford and Jordan Terry

Shoes for Africa:

Remember to bring your shoes for Africa by the end of this month, for toddlers, children, teens and adults. They need "gently used and clean" tennis shoes, walking shoes, sturdy sandals or boots. No flip flops or high heeled shoes.



We need teachers for:

Adult Wednesday night auditorium class from May—August

Children's Bible Hour - two teachers

VBS teachers and others - sign up on the Children's Board.

OPENING FOR HOUSEPARENTS AT HAPPY HAVEN

Employment applications are available at the Happy Haven office or website: <http://www.happyhaven.org>. See the notice on the Family Board or Houston Bynum.

30's & 40's Cookout: Save the date **Saturday, June 9** at 5:00pm, the Milton's will host a cookout at the farm. Watch for more details later.

