

THE TRUMPETER



First United Methodist Church of Shattuck, Oklahoma

MARCH 2016

A Note from Pastor Rick...

A NEW PERSPECTIVE

I will thank you, Lord, among all people. I will sing your praises among the nations. Psalm 108:3 NLT

The following story is shared by J. Clif Christopher from his book; "The Church Money Manual."

"Hello, God, it's Clif. We need to talk. Things are really bad, and I am just a little bit afraid. The world around me just seems to be a real mess, and I don't know where to turn but to you. I hope you have time to listen.

For the third day in a row I have lost a lot of money in the stock market. I am down nearly 15% from where I was just a week ago, and if you want to throw in the week prior to that it is even worse. Lord, I don't want to work forever. I would like to retire. I have this plan, and it is all messed up today. I don't know if I ought to buy, sell, or stay put. Please, Lord, what can I say?

My air conditioner quit working last Sunday afternoon, and it was 104 degrees outside. Now, Lord, which is hot. When the house gets hot, it makes it hard to sleep or study or think. This wasn't a bill I had counted on having to pay either. Have you had to get an air conditioner repair person lately on a Sunday? Please, Lord, what can I say?

I was on my way to the office when one of those little dashboard lights came on and said I have a problem. Oh, no! With the market down and the air conditioner broken, now my truck is in need of some work. When I got it to the repair shop they told me it would be \$750. Where does that come from? I thought this truck was warranted for 100,000 miles but apparently not for this repair. Please, Lord, what can I say?

I got out of bed last week and felt a sharp pain up my leg. It came from my heel. Man, it really hurt. Do you know what it is like to have a nail in your foot? Yeah, I forgot; I guess you do. Anyway, I went to the foot specialist and got a special orthotic for "only" \$500. My foot is feeling better, but gosh I don't like feeling like stuff is breaking all the time. Please, Lord, what can I say?

That foot stuff was not nearly as bad as waking up and having half my tooth break off while eating cereal. Right...cereal. Not exactly crunching ice. It was just Cheerios, and now I have this big hole in my mouth where a tooth used to be. I don't even want to tell you what a crown costs, but let's just say it was worse than the foot. Please, Lord, what can I say?

I guess I am done, though I have a lot more I could tack on. Any word on this?

Continued...

...continued

THE LORD: Nice to hear from you, Clif.

You might start with “thank you, Lord, that I have any money to lose and that I can even ask such ridiculous questions like buy, sell, or stay put.” Then you could move on to “thank you, Lord, that I have a house. Air conditioning is a nice thing, I am sure, but do you know how many people in the world don’t even have a house?”

I am sorry your truck had a part that broke, but after 80,000 miles some human-made parts break. How many vehicles do you own now? Is it two or three? How about a “thank you, Lord, that I don’t have to walk everywhere?”

Your feet hurt too, It is amazing how you humans have trouble with stuff that my chimps and gorillas never seem to struggle with. My fault or yours? Anyway, it might make you feel better if you went over to the VA and visited some of my children who are fighting for your freedom in Afghanistan. They don’t have any feet left to hurt..

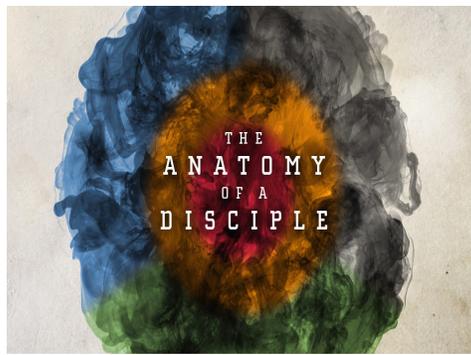
I am sure that having a tooth break off was traumatic for you. How many different dentists did you find available to you in the Yellow Pages? What a blessing that such persons exist for you. Do you know that there are a lot of countries that don’t have a many in the entire nation as you have in your little town?

Why don’t you just your next conversation with “thank you, Lord” and then go from there. This new perspective might help a bit.

This is a wonderful conversation, Clif. It just reminded me of how blessed you really are. Now what else do you want to say?”

You know even when your world seems to be falling apart around you, remember you are blessed and spend those first moments in prayer thanking our Lord.

Pastor Rick



Bible Study will begin March 2nd

You’re a believer. You’re a follower of Christ trying to mature in your faith. And while you’re waiting to grow, you end up sinning again and again. So you try to be good, and try to do more, and hope to grow spiritually. But grow to what?

The Anatomy of a Disciple: So Many Believers. So Few Disciples. Is an incredible fresh, practical and relatable read, identifying 8 elements of Christ’s life that ought to be reflected in yours: Humbly Submitted. Biblically Formed. Sacrificially Generous. Morally Discerning. Relationally Healthy. Intentional Blessing. Culturally Engaged. Inclusive Community. What if you knew exactly what a disciple of Christ looked like? What if you knew with certainty-whether or not-you were actively becoming more like Him? Do you think your spiritual life would look different? Do you think it would feel different?

Offering a common language of what is generally understood as a complex idea, The Anatomy of a Disciple, provides awareness of what God intended for authentic and sustainable spiritual growth, and what He intended for His disciples, as well as substantial resources allowing you to respond to what He is calling you to do.

Announcements

- **Sunday Evenings** : Youth at 6:00p
- **Wednesday Mornings**: Men’s Prayer Breakfast at Ed’s
- **Wednesday Evenings** : 6:00p 6th-8th grade Bible Study; 6:30p Potluck Dinner/7:00p Adult Bible Study; 7:00p HS Youth Bible Study
- **Friday 3/4 & 3/18**: 9:30a Coffee & Conversation
- **Sunday 3/6**: 8:00a Trustees Meeting
- **Monday 3/7**: 1:00p UMW Meeting
- **HOLY Week March 20 to 27**
- **Sunday 3/20 Palm Sunday**; 8:00a Council Board Meeting
- **Thursday 3/24 Holy Thursday**; 7:00p Maundy Thursday Service
- **Friday 3/25 Good Friday**: 7:00p Good Friday Service
- **Sunday 3/27 Easter Sunday**: 10:00a Easter Brunch *no Sunday School.

February servants for God...

Liturgist: 3/6 Katelyn Trobaugh; 3/13 Kevin Schultz; 3/20 Troy Bullard; 3/27 Greg Huenergardt

Counters: 3/6 Charmagne Reeves/Cathy Beeson; 3/13 Angela Moore/Dennie Jenkins; 3/20 Gina Huenergardt/Rusty Royal; 3/27 Ann Peetoom/ Drenda Schultz

Greeters: (9:00am) 3/14 Beverly Baker; 3/27 Rusty/Alison Royal;
(11:00am) 3/6 Troy Bullard

Children's Sunday School: 3/6 Rusty Royal; 3/13 Laura Trejo; 3/20 Emily Moore

Meals on Wheels Delivery: 3/28 Bob/Lana Burgtorf; 3/29 Neysa Anderson; 3/30 Nancy Bonine; 3/31 _____; 4/1 _____



1st United Methodist Church of Shattuck, OK



www.fumcshattuck.org

First United Methodist Church Shattuck

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

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Visit us on the web at
www.fumcshattuck.org

Join Us

9:00a The Connection
Casual, Contemporary, Worship

9:45a Caffeine Connection
Coffee, cookies, conversation

10:00a Sunday School Groups
Classes for all ages

11:00a Traditional Worship
Great worship for our Great God

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