

Church of Christ

77 Cogan Avenue
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
(518) 563-2970

March 18, 2018

THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING TO OUTGROW!

I was watching an old “Leave it to Beaver” television show the other day and a phrase struck me, because it applies to me.

Beaver (the little 9 year old boy), was having to deal with a fear in his life. His mother said to the father (Ward), “But he is 9 years old, he should be past that (fear) by now”. To which the father replied, “No matter what your age, there is always something you have to outgrow.”

When I heard that it immediately touched something inside of me, because I understand the principle as applied to my life. I remember being a young man in my late teens and thinking, “I’ll be glad when I am older and don’t have to have all of these struggles.” Of course I had no idea what life was about at that time. My “Big” problems then are insignificant as I look back on them.

One of the things I have learned through the years is life is all a matter of faith. It’s what you believe... what you really believe... that directs your thoughts, decisions and actions in life. It is our faith structure in our lives that determines what is really important to us at any given instance. And once that faith structure is in place, (most of the time), we don’t face the problem of deciding at the last moment whether an action, a decision, a stand we take, is right or wrong in our life.

Now having said that, I know that is a “Great Generalization,” because as the father in the television show said, “No matter what your age, there is always something you have to outgrow.”

Each of us have some level of faith, some greater than others, not everyone is the same in this area. That’s why one of my favorite passages is Mark 9:22. In this passage a man is asking Jesus for help, explaining about the problem his son having with seizures. Look at what happened as he explained: “The evil spirit often throws him into the fire or into water, trying to kill him. Have mercy on us and help us, if you can. “What do you

mean, ‘If I can’?” Jesus asked. “Anything is possible if a person believes.” The father instantly cried out, “I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!”

I kind of like this modern paraphrase of this section of scripture that says, “If you can do anything, do it. Have a heart and help us!”²³ Jesus said, “If? There are no ‘ifs’ among believers,” (MSG). This sounds kind of like the Star Wars character Yoda speaking to Luke Skywalker doesn’t it, he said, “There is no try... there is only do or do not.”

I wish I were that mature and that my faith was that strong all of the time, but it’s not. I know that God has a plan for my life and that he is in control, but some times I let a little doubt creep into my heart. Because, “no matter what your age, there is always something you have to outgrow.” The problem is that some choose to stop growing. Some choose to pull back in their shell of safety and comfort and not grow to be what God intends for them to be. I’m still struggling and I’m trying my best to grow into what God has in mind for me. I believe, God, help me to overcome my unbelief.

Russ Lawson

<http://myunexpectedadventure.com>

PRAY FOR...

Alley, Donna & family: struggles
Ballard, Nikki: struggles with moving
Ballard, Sophie: Nikki’s niece, struggles
Bennett, Jim: health
Bickford, Eddie: surgery reschedules to 3/29
Blier, Christina: health and struggles
Brownwood, Donna: Melinda’s relative, health
Burna, Bonnie and: Carl’s aunt, cancer
Buskey, Tonya: Jackie’s sister, heart surgery
Carter, Kelly: Melinda’s co-worker, cancer
Cech, Matthew and Terry: health
Collins, Mary: Patty’s friend, struggles
Darling, Wendy: Carl & Cindy’s sister, broken ankle
Deeton, Mike: Katelyn’s friend, heart
Duprey, Karina: Earl’s niece, cancer
Elders: Alfred and Doug
Forette, Kevin: John’s friend, cancer
Gundrum, Eloise: one year-old, cancer
Jackson, Jessah: Amber’s friend’s daughter, leukemia
Kashorek, Lori: new treatment options for lung cancer
Laramy, Paul : Steven’s brother, motorcycle accident
Lebeau, Steve & Gail: John’s friends, health struggles
Lernineau, Sean: Carl’s relative, struggles
LePage, Jim Sr. and Gail: Jim L’s parents, health
Miller, Jody: struggles
Missions: Brazil, Ghana, Malawi, Ukraine, Zambia
Phillips, Florence: in nursing home
Richardson, Elizabeth: Eddie’s sister, health
Spencer Carrie: Alfred’s niece, health
Stapleton, Katelyn: struggles
Stowe, Kayonna: Nikki’s niece’s friend, cancer
Stroffregen, Orton: Katelyn’s friend’s baby, health
Taylor, Robert Jr.: Nikki’s dad’s preacher friend, dying.
The Oasis Project
Traveling: Mary Clackler
Whitfield, Freda: Mary Chambers’ mother, health

“Continue to help us keep this list updated and to pray for those mentioned in previous bulletins.”

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www.plattsburghchurch.com

shepherds serving under the Good Shepherd:

Alfred Chambers, 901-205-8584
Doug Kashorek, preacher, 563-0835
c645-1509

available: Fri 9-3 or by appt.

Schedule of Services

Sunday
Bible Class 10 A.M.
Morning Worship 11 A.M.

Wednesday
Bible Classes 6:30 P.M.

Welcome to Worship

The church of Christ that meets in Plattsburgh invites you to attend any of our services. We love having visitors and are honored for you to attend. We seek to follow the New Testament in all that we do in our worship services. Our primary aim in worship is to glorify and honor God by worshipping Him "in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24) Trusting in the promise of the gospel message, we now live out obedience to God's Word as our only authority and pattern for our lives and the church. We want to encourage you to come and learn, worship, grow, and serve the Lord with us! "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1).

From the Shepherds ...

This seems to be a busy spring as we have several events on the horizon that involve our youth or the church as a whole and serving projects such as inside and outside work and Magi Boxes. We're hosting our Spring Sing on 4/29. So, grab your calendar and plan to attend today's Family Meeting right after service until 1 p.m. Your input is valuable.



We've Got Class!

Join us Next Sunday at 10 a.m. for: Adults: John's class--Search For Truth, lesson 8 Youth classes as well ... and don't forget to meet at Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Munchie Moments

Fellowship Meal: our next 4th Sunday meal is 3/25 after morning service. Please invite a friend and bring a dish to pass.

Men's Prayer Breakfast: the next 1st (okay, 2nd) Sunday breakfast is on 4/8 at 8 a.m.

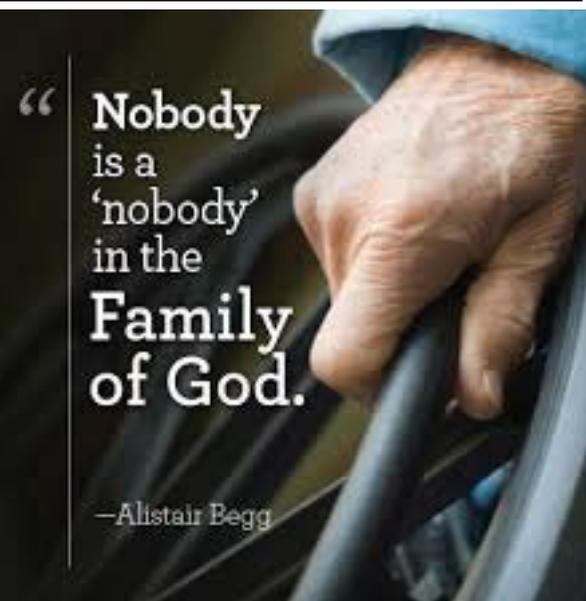
The Oasis Project

The Oasis Project will be every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30-5:30 p.m. For confidentiality reasons, if you are not vetted, please stay away from the church building during those hours. Thank you.

Doug's Devotional

"He replied, 'My mother and brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice'" Luke 8:21.

Whenever I taught process writing at a local college, I would show my students the really terrible instructions for putting a trampoline enclosure together that I endured when my kids were young. Part C could be added if parts A and B that I had just attached were taken apart; part D could only be added if parts A, B, and C were taken apart, etc. God's Word is not like that. B.I.B.L.E., some have said, stands for Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth. By way of exegesis, we find out here that Jesus indeed did have physical brothers, but John 7:5 adds that at this time in Jesus' ministry they did not believe in Him. So, in this period of popularity, with the crowds so large that His unbelieving physical family is unable to get to Him, Jesus points out that in God's eyes it is those who hear His word and put it into practice who are the closest to Him. It is those who truly love and study the divine instruction book and apply it in daily living who are part of Jesus' family. We say that "blood is thicker than water," but in this case Jesus' blood is thicker than our genetics. Are you family?



Sundae Toppings

Today: 12:30 p.m. Family Meeting
3/25, 12:30 p.m. Fellowship Meal
4/1, reverse 5th Sunday (April Fools!); Easter
4/8, 8 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
4/15, 12:30 p.m. Ladies' Time



Key Word Search

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 a.m., 11a.m. 7 p.m.



In Search of the Lord's Ways:
"Jesus Understands"

Key to the Kingdom:
"2 Kings: Blessings or Burdens"

2018 Weekly Bible Reading Plan



Day 78-2 Samuel 9-13
Day 79-2 Samuel 14-18
Day 80-2 Samuel 19-23
Day 81-2 Samuel 24; 1 Ki. 1-4
Day 82-1 Kings 5-9

Don't quit. Recommit!

Mark Your Calendar



3/14-20, Mary Cl. is traveling
3/24, Mary Ch's birthday
3/26, Donna's birthday
3/27, Shirley's birthday
3/29, Miller anniversary ('08)
3/30, Nick's birthday; Eddie's birthday in Christ ('08)
3/31, Crump anniversary ('17)
4/7, John's birthday in Christ ('13)
4/9, Chris' birthday in Christ ('17)
4/19 Eddie's and Amber's birthdays
4/27-29, Wetzel Rd. Youth Rally
4/29, 3-6 p.m. Spring Sing (here)
5/5, Men's Day: Open Bible study in VT

Magi Box Time

See Mary for the list of items to gather for the M.A.G.I. boxes. The boxes should be available by March 18.

Today:3/18

Announcements: Doug
Opening Prayer: Jim L
Song Leader: Alfred
#470, "Victory in Jesus"
#560, "Living By Faith"
#313, "The Old Rugged Cross"
Talk/bread prayer: Chris
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Anthony
Pass/collection prayer: Garth
#409, "Savior, Lead Me"
Scripture Reading: Carl - Luke 8:19-21
Lesson: Doug "Put It into Practice"
#650, "Send the Light"
Closing Song: John
#242, "Sing Hallelujah to the Lord"
Closing Prayer: Steven
Subs: JB, HG, TM

Next Sunday: 3/25

Announcements: Alfred
Opening Prayer: Tyler
Song Leader: Steven
Talk/bread prayer: Howard
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Carl
Pass/collection prayer: Chris
Scripture Reading: Anthony - Colossians 3:12-17
Lesson: Doug "Whatever You Do"
Closing Song: Garth
Closing Prayer: Jim L

Wash & Wear

- the cleaning sign-up for this season is on the fridge. Taking a turn is appreciated & needed.
- the church's blue polo shirts in a variety of sizes are \$15 each (to cover cost only).

Week of March 11

Bible Class	24
Morning Worship	38
Wed. Bible Class	
Contribution	\$642.80
Weekly Ave. Needed	\$575.00