

Let's Visit

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Be Ye Kind

Ephesians chapter 4 is like a gold mine of scripture. There are many rich nuggets there for our learning. It is in that chapter that God's 7 point program of unity is put forward. In verse 3 we are exhorted to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. Verse 15 encourages us to speak the truth in love. In verse 25 Paul pleads to put off lying and speak the truth with our neighbors. Verse 26 tells us to be angry and not sin. All of these passages are valuable for our consideration.

While Jesus was on earth, he preached in the synagogue in Capernaum. In John 6 we are told that when he finished preaching, many of his disciples said about his sermon, "this is a hard saying, who can hear it?" Well, in Ephesians 4:31-32 we have one of those "hard sayings" of the New Testament. Here Paul writes, *"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice; And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."*

There is a law of purity which forbids all manner of uncleanness. It forbids adultery, fornication, lasciviousness and such things. The law of purity is binding and those who violate it dishonor God. They also suffer grave consequences. Just as there is a law of purity, there is a law of kindness. The law of kindness is just as binding as the law of purity. Those who violate it also dishonor God. They also bring upon themselves divine displeasure.

Being kind means that we are to be kind in our thoughts. What we would like for others to think about us, we should think about them. We do not want others to think evil of us, to be bitter in heart toward us or be angry at us. We do not want others to hold malice against us. We therefore should not think evil of others. We must think good of them.

We also must be certain that we are kind with the

words we speak. As someone once wisely said, "always make your words soft and sweet in the event you someday have to eat them." What we want others to say about us, we should say about them. Whether to our face or behind our back (the preferred method of most folks!) we want others to speak well of us. We would not want them to tell ugly tales about us, to smear our good name or speak unkindly about us to their friends. Well, then, we must not speak evil of others.

We want others to say good things about us. We want them to recognize our good deeds and noble traits of character. We want them to promote friendly relationships. Since this is what we want from others, we are under solemn obligation to say good things about them.

This also involves being kind in our actions. It would be good for us to remember a "hard saying of Jesus" from Matthew 7:12 *"Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them."* We do not want others to do unkind things to us, we would not want them to injure our body, our wound our spirit, destroy our property or hurt the people we love. Then, we must do no injury to them.

We want others to perform kind deeds toward us and help us in times of misfortune. We want them to lift us up when we are fallen. If we want others to be kind to us, then God requires we be kind to them.

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In Search Of The Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSLA 12 – Shreveport -7:30 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 239-6:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 307 -6:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



Today's Sermon

"The Hand Of Faith"

Our text comes from Matthew 14:31. It's the experience of Simon, walking on the water. All is well until he takes his eyes off Jesus, and that's when he goes swimming.

What Do You Save?

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21)

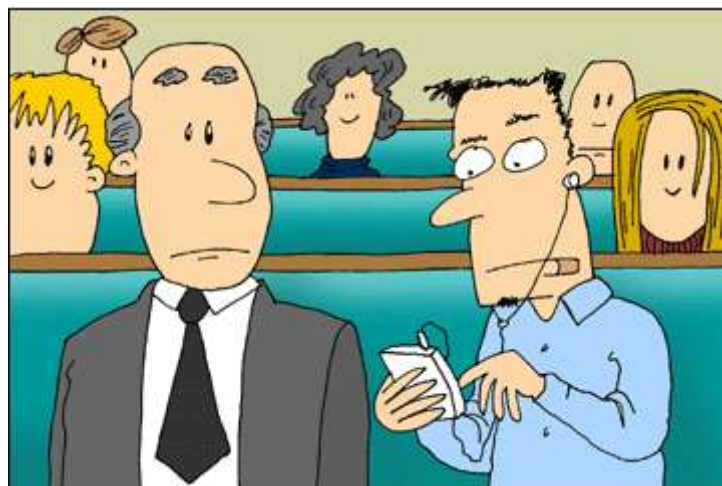
Tell me what a man saves and I will be able to tell you what kind of a man he is. That which is saved is usually an indication of what a man considers to be important to him. Men save money and accumulate a large bank account because they consider money important to them. Some men save string, others save pins, and still others make collections of various kinds.

It is important that we lay up treasure in heaven. He who fails to do so has neglected the most important of all savings. A man may be rich by the standards of the world, but be a pauper in the sight of God because he has not saved the spiritual treasure which the Lord counsels us to obtain of Him. Earthly treasures must be left behind. Only that which we have sent on ahead of us will count for anything at all when death approaches. Why not take inventory and answer the question. "What do you save?"

-Foster Ramsey

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On The Lighter Side. . .



THIS IS AN OK SERMON, BUT I'VE GOT A FEW BETTER ONES ON MY MP3 PLAYER

*We reform others unconsciously
when we walk uprightly.*

For The Pantry. . .

February 12 – Pork n' Beans

IT'S BETTER TO HAVE
A LITTLE CHURCH
THAT IS REAL THAN
A BIG CHURCH
THAT IS ARTIFICIAL.

A.W. TOZER
WWW.REVIVAL-LIBRARY.COM

Each One Bring One!

53 in '23

Invite Someone Each Week!

Miscellaneous



Those To Remember In Prayer

Mike O'Brien is scheduled for eye surgery
in Houston on Tuesday.

Ron Cone (Laura Miller's dad) is hospitalized at Christus
Santa Rosa Hospital in New Braunfels with fluid on his lungs

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw,
Martha Jean Golden, Geneva Graves, Alice Hall,
Thelma Hinton, Louise Johnson, Lisa Miller
Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother),
Minion Bean (Mike O'Brien's mother) recovering from a fall
and hip surgery), Ana Blair (friend of Debra Pate) Celina
Danley (Sister of Joyce Danley) multiple health issues, Hugh
and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law
dealing with multiple health issues) Sandra Fuller (friend of
Betty Miller) Roy Garcia (friend of Tim and Norma Perkins
recovering from brain surgery) Suzie Hogan (Roxie Bostick's
sister) Suzanne Ihlo (Martha Jean Golden's sister recovering
from a stroke) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing
with memory issues) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah
Fletcher, multiple health issues) Reba Miley (friend of Debra
Pate) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle) heart and blood
pressure issues; J. C. and Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's mother
and father) Calvin Turner (recovering from back surgery)
Clark Paul Williams (LaResa Livingston's cousin)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Leland Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw
Jeremiah Soape, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

If you want someone added to the prayer list, please fill
out a card and put it in the offering plate.

Put This On Your Calendar.....



March 5, 2023

This is our next "Covered Dish Luncheon"
when we have "Pack A Pew Sunday" and will
celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries for
March, April and May.

Make your plans to be here and invite others to
come and help you pack your pew!

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING – next
Sunday, February 12, 2023 in the church offices
immediately following the morning worship.
All men of the congregation are encouraged to
attend.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL – Our next
Wednesday night meal at 6:00 p.m. prior to our
evening services will be February 22, 2023.

Make your plans now to be here!



SAVE THESE DATES!

April 21st, 22nd and 23rd

Phil Sanders
is coming back to Center!

Area Wide Singing on Friday Night.
Preaching on Saturday night
Refreshments following the singing and
Covered Dish Luncheon following the
Sunday Services.





Across The Preacher's Desk

King David could not build a temple, but he wrote a psalm! Three temples, one after another, crumbled in the dust, but the psalm lives today in the hearts of millions. Through three thousand years, the Twenty-Third Psalm has been a source of inspiration. It is the Christian's great symphony, the theme of which is God's care for His own.

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."
Or, as Paul says it, "My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus"

After announcing the theme, the writer gives us the three R's of the abundant life. They are Rest, Refreshment and Restoration. First, "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures." Second, "He leadeth me beside the still waters." Third, "He resotreth my soul."

Rest and relaxation are essential to our well being. Many a man or woman is in the hospital today because they could not afford to rest or could not rest. God makes us rest and then he leads us beside the still waters for refreshment. Restoration just naturally follows rest and refreshment. How wonderful are the still waters that God leads us to. Hopefully, after spending time in worship, you will come away rested, refreshed and restored.

it's something to think about. . . .tlp

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
53 in '23!**