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Weariness

There are times in all of our lives when we feel overwhelmed. I remember reading a story about a woman named Susie. It seems that Susie called a friend and asked her how she was feeling. "Terrible" she told her. "My head is splitting and my back and legs are killing me. The house is a mess and the kids are driving me crazy." Filled with compassion, Susie said, "Listen, go and lie down. I'll come right over and cook you some lunch, clean up the house and take care of the children while you get some rest. By the way, how is Sam?" The woman said, "Sam, who is Sam?" "You know, your husband Sam" Susie replied. "I don't have a husband named Sam" the woman said. Susie exclaimed, "My heavens, I must have dialed the wrong number." The woman then asked, "Are you still coming over?"

Immediately, you recognize the fact that she was weary. That is something that happens to all of us from time to time, we grow weary. We grow weary in our day to day living as parents, grandparents, husbands, wives, employees and employers. In the world of social work, they have a name for weariness. They call it "burnout"

It happens when a very dedicated, committed person suddenly wakes up and realizes they are tired. Tired of giving, tired of doing, tired of serving. They find the joy of service is gone.

What is true in the secular world is also true in the spiritual world. The writers of the New Testament all realized that from time to time, those faithful workers for the Lord become weary, and the issue is addressed in a number of scriptures. Paul addressed it in Galatians 6:9 when he wrote, "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Paul would also write in II Thessalonians 3:13, "But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing." Often we wonder why those in the Lord's work grow weary. One reason is that often there are not observable results. We live in a result oriented society. When you play golf and make a good score, you have the score card. When you fish, you produce a stinger of fish and take a picture for proof.

In the secular world, we can measure success in tangible ways,. Service to the Lord however is not always easy to measure. We may labor years and years and not know the results of our work. As a result, wwe grow weary. We begin thinking nonvisible results mean no results. When God commissioned Isaiah in Isaiah 6:9, he told him to deliver the message of God to a people who would not hear and would not see. Jeremiah likewise was commissioned by God to deliver His message to the peole. The only results Jeremiah ever received were his own ridicule and torture. He even despaired of his own life. That is why he is called the "weeping prophet". Isaiah and Jeremiah both labored for God with absolutely no positive results in the way that the world measures results. Can you imagine how weary they must have become.

Sometimes, those who face criticism can become weary. It does not matter what the worker in the Lord's vineyard is doing, there is always a critic. Someone says, "we don't do it that way" or "We've never done it that way before" or the real killer, "oh no, we never do THAT!"

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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

"Every Sunday Is Memorial Day"

Tomorrow marks the observance of Memorial Day in the United States. For the Christian, every Sunday is Memorial Day as we observe the Lord's Supper.

For The Pantry. . . Rice

Weariness - continued from page 1

We must overcome being weary in well doing. We must focus on our eternal reward, knowing we shall reap if we keep on sowing good work. Paul tells us that if we do not grow weary in doing good, but continue to sow good, we will reap eternal life. We must focus on our service to the Lord. We must ignore those who are not working and hindering the work of the church by their criticism. In our service to the Lord, we will encounter hardship. We will sometimes encounter hostility. The Bible recognized God's people sometimes get weary. Yet, we are promised we shall reap if we do not faint.

tp

It All Depends. . . On Your Point of View!

The story is told of two wealthy church members, a lawyer and a merchant, who joined a party that was going around the world on a mission trip. Before they started, their minister asked them to observe any unusual things they might see in the mission countries through which the mission party was to travel. They promised to do so. In Korea, they saw a boy pulling a plow while an old man tried to guide it. The lawyer was amused and took a snapshot of the scene. "I suppose they are very poor," he said to the missionary, who was their guide. "Yes", was the quiet reply, "that is the family of Chi Num. When the church building was being built, they were eager to give something to it, but they had no money. So they sold their only ox and then gave the money from this sale to the church. This spring they are pulling the plow themselves."

The lawyer and the business man were silent for some time. Then the business man said, "That must have been a real sacrifice."

"They did not so call it," said the missionary. "They thought it was fortunate they had the ox to sell."

-copied

On The Lighter Side. . .



"The sermon was good, but I think you could've used a couple jokes to jazz it up a bit."

It does not take a real smart person to please the Lord. Just an obedient one.

If you listen to the "neverdos" it is neverdone.

Miscellaneous

Save The Date!



September 11th

Begin right now to pray for this to be a great day, invite your friends and neighbors to come and plan to be here!

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Did You Notice...?

If you didn't notice them when you came in, be sure to see the beauitiful new flower arrangement on the credenza in the foyer. They were a gift to the church from Lieza Klein and her family and we are most grateful for them.



"I can safely say, on the authority of all that is revealed in the Word of God, that any man or woman on this earth who is bored and turned off by worship is not ready for heaven."



Those To Remember In Prayer

Gene Bradshaw continues to have intestinal problems Geneva Graves has been having heart issues and trying to get her medication regulated.

Thelma Hinton is having heart issues and attempting to get the proper medication for those issues.

Betty Willis is hospitalized in Shreveport with tumors in her head. She is currently scheduled for surgery this week.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Shirley Chatham** (friend of Betty Miller) in her recent passing.

We also want to continue to remember in prayer all those who have been affected by the tragic events in Uvalde this past week, including families who lost loved ones, children who witnessed the tragedy and first responders who had to witness and process the effects of evil personified in an individual who took so many innocent lives and destroyed so many families.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Geneva Graves, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, Ted and Joyce Holt, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother) Ana Blair (friend of Debra Pate) Donna Boullion (Ted and Joyce Holt's niece) **Gil Boullion** (Ted and Joyce Holt's nephew) back surgery Becky Chance (friend of LaResa Livingston) Gayle Foster (Cancer) Dalton Hendrix (Joyce Holt's great-great nephew) Sandra Hogan (friend of Roxie Bostick) Suzie Hogan (Roxie Bostick's sister) Wendy Johnson (friend of Norma Perkins) Laurie King (Co-worker of Mike O'brien,) cancer : Bruce Ligon (friend of Tim and Norma Perkins) Liam Martinez (11 months old) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle) heart and blood pressure issues; Katilyn Tate (Roxie Bostick's daughter-in-law) Jared and Natalie Bostick (Mike and Roxie's son and daughter-in-law) Marc Tate (Jana O'Brien's brother) Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's mother) Tina Vaughn - cancer

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE Amanda Bradshaw, Leland Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw Jeremiah Soape and Lucas Tate

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

Each One Bring One! 52 in '22 Invite Someone Each Week!



Across The Preacher's Desk

There is a tender story told in Mark 14:1-9 of something which happened during some very difficult days for Jesus. The Jewish leaders were plotting his death and He was surrounded by his critics and His enemies. In this narrative, we see Him going to the little village of Bethany. It is the night before Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and He goes to a party in His honor in the home of Simon, a leper.

Picture the scene as Jesus is reclining at the table and John tells us Mary came and anointed the feet of Jesus (John 12:1-3). Well, the critics began to raise their voices and talk about her. Jesus said to leave her alone, she had done what she could.

Have you ever thought about the love that caused her to do this? Have you ever experienced that kind of love? An unexpected act of pure love, that is what you see in this beautiful story. She loved Jesus and she did what she could. She didn't have much, but what she had she gave to Jesus. Not to Simon the Leper, not to Peter or James or John. What she did, she did for Jesus.

God loves us more than we can ever love Him. You see, we can never pay Him back for what He has done. God doesn't require the debt to be repaid. He just wants us to accept what He has done and to love Him for it. He wants us to live a life obedient to His will. He only wants us to do what we can.

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

The Lord's Plan For Evangelism –

Each one Bring one! 52 in '22!