

A publication of the Center Church of Christ 110 Hurst Street Center, Texas 75935

Volume 8



October 24, 2021

Bears and Friendship

Number 38

Periodically, I enjoy going through old boxes of pictures and picture albums. Not long ago, I came across some pictures taken on a vacation in Yellowstone Park when I was but a young lad. Yes, they had cameras back then!) There are many details of that trip that are admittedly somewhat "sketchy" to me, however there is one incident that I remember vividly. There were signs everywhere that said, "Do Not Feed The Bears". I of course could not read the signs, but I remember my mother and grandmother talking about them at length, especially after this incident occurred. I don't know if my grandfather didn't see the signs, couldn't read the sighs, or if the language was too complex for him to comprehend. However, for whatever reason, we stopped the car to watch the bears and he decided to throw out a cookie. Notice, I said bears, plural. He throws out one cookie and there are two bears. It was not one of his shining moments, intellectually speaking. Well, thinking of that story, made me think of all the humorous stories of people and their encounters with bears.

One of those relates that two friends mutually promised to assist each other if they were presented with danger. They had not gone far on a hike into the woods until they saw a bear coming toward them in a rage.

There was no hope in flight, but one of them, being very active, sprang up into a tree whereupon the other one threw himself flat on the ground, held his breath and pretended to be dead. He remembered having read that this creature, the bear, would not prey upon a dead carcass. The bear cam up and after smelling of him some time, left him and went on. When he was out of sight and hearing, the hero from the tree called out, "Well, my friend, what did the bear say to you? He seemed to whisper to you very closely." "So he did" replied the other, "and he gave me this good advice. Never associate with a scoundrel who, in the hour of danger, will desert his friend."

Obviously, something like that could not happen. I mean, really, everyone knows that the only bears that can talk are Yogi, Boo-Boo, and Winnie the Pooh. However, it makes us pause and ask, what is a real friend? I am quite sure that there will always be many definitions. It is something that all of us have our own ideas about. However, there are some things we can all agree on. A friend is your friend when things go wrong, as well as your friend when all is right. A true friend does not make critical statements about you to others. A real friend will not listen while others make uncomplimentary remarks about you.

A friend is someone you call in the dark of night that you have had car trouble and he comes, even though it is 100 miles away and raining and he is tired. A friend is someone who comes to your house at ten o'clock at night to help you carry out a chair your wife saw a mouse run into. A friend is there to give you support when those you love are sick or dying. A friend is someone who knows all about your warts and loves you anyway. I think you (Continued on Page 2)

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

GUEST SPEAKER

Matt Perkins

FOR THE PANTRY....

Cake Mix

Bears and Friendship – continued from page 1

get the concept.

Jesus is the best friend you and I will ever have. There is no record of his ever forsaking anyone. He was forsaken, but he did not forsake. The actions and words of Christ were pure and right toward all men. We should be the Lord's friends. Jesus said, "henceforth I call you friends." No greater honor was ever bestowed upon the human family. Friends of Jesus Christ! What a blessing! But remember, a friend does not forsake. Friends of Christ are loyal to Christ. Those who fail him are not his friends.

It is good to have true friends. I don't know what we would do without them. We should ever be thankful for them. But, though we have many friends on the earth, they can do very little for our salvation. When we think of the best things in life and the life that is yet to be, we long for the "friend that sticketh closer than a brother." May we never destroy that friendship.

tp

Ways To Improve the Local Church

1. Take a definite interest in the planned program of work of the local church.

2. Attend every Bible class, worship service and every gathering of the church possible.

3. Constantly keep in mind those who are unsaved and continually pray and work for their salvation.

4. Plan your own personal program of work and entertainment so that a portion of it may be devoted to the services of the church.

5. Resolve to influence somebody each day in behalf of the Lord either by speaking to them personally or by living a Godly life before them.

6. Refrain from loose and hurtful talk that will not help you, will not help the church and will not help anyone else.

7. Make new members and visitors feel at home and that "it is good to be here"

8. Do something every day that will definitely help the church, and that will prove the worth of the Lord's religion to those about you.

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On The Lighter Side....



[&]quot;HOW COME I HAFTA BEQUIET? ARE PEOPLE TRYIN' TO SLEEP? "

Miscellaneous

Mark Your Calendar!



Sunday December 5th Our Next Covered Dish Luncheon

> Make Your Plans To Be Here!

UPDATED PANTRY ITEMS

The truck from Sunny Glen Children's Home will be here the week of November 15th to pick up what we have in our pantry for them. The following is an updated list of pantry items for the next four weeks.

October 24TH – Cake Mix October 31st – Cake Frosting November 7th – Kids Fruit Drink Pouches November 14th All-purpose liquid cleaners

Let's fill our little red wagon and make sure we collect these items for their grocery pick-up!

How Do You View Things?

Suppose you look at the world through a pink pane of Glass. Then, you have a pink world. Suppose you look through a dirty pane of glass. Then you have a dirty or filthy world. Suppose you look at everything through a yellow pane of jealousy, or the red pane of envy. Then you disfigure everything. And if you look at these things through a sour or disgruntled disposition, you will not see anything that is sweet or lovely. The cynical heart has a charmless world. Cleanse your mental glasses. Then, the people about you will be more attractive. The world is not half as evil as evil minded people think it is.



Those To Remember In Prayer

We extend our sympathy to **Mike O'Brien** and his family in the passing of his aunt, Mary Fleming. Services were conducted this past Wednesday.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Sue Hagler, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, Ted and Joyce Holt, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Melvin Williams

"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 John Fincher (Dale Fincher's uncle) Gayle Foster (Cancer) Dalton Hendrix (Joyce Holt's great-great nephew) Sandra Hogan (friend of Roxie Bostick) Julia Keffer (Bobbi Holder's mother) Laurie King (Co-worker of Mike O'brien,) cancer : 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 Tate (Mike and Roxie's son and daughter-in-law) Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's mother)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Amanda Bradshaw, Leland Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw Jeremiah Molloy and Lucas Tate

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

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Across The Preacher's Desk

Sometimes, the best thing we can do is just get out of the way, not make any comment and let the Word of God do all the talking. The dictionary defines obedience as "compliance with an order, request, or law or submission to another's authority."

That said, here is what Jesus said in the Sermon on The Mount in Matthew 7:21; "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." (KJV)

Here is that same passage in some other translations:

"It is not everyone who keeps saying to me 'Lord, Lord' who will enter the kingdom of Heaven, but the man who actually does my Heavenly Father's will." (Phillips)

"Knowing the correct password—saying 'Master, Master,' for instance—isn't going to get you anywhere with me. What is required is serious obedience—*doing* what my Father wills." (The Message)

"Not all those who say 'You are our Lord' will enter the kingdom of heaven. The only people who will enter the kingdom of heaven are those who do what my Father in heaven wants." (New Century Version)

Seems like this concept of "obedience" that is "Living God's Kind of Life" just might be important.

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

God's Plan of Evangelism....

Each one bring one!