

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

“Looking For Love” — By Terry Laughlin, Living Word Church

What the world needs now is true love — true Biblical love. But just what is Biblical love? There are four types of love. The Greek language (the original language of the New Testament) uses four separate words that describe different kinds of human affection that are all translated as ‘love’ in English.

The Greek word ‘eros’ is defined as a passionate emotion. It is physical sexual attraction, infatuation or lust for power, wealth or fame. It is also indicative of the strong feelings of patriotism. It is commonly selfishly motivated and arises from a person’s own inner desires.

The Greek word ‘storge’ is an affectionate emotion. This love is a naturally born emotion and is typical of the bonds between parent and child or the attraction between a loyal citizen and a trustworthy ruler.

Both of these types of love are very unstable and are easily affected by present circumstances. They can wax cold and wane depending on the whim of the day.

Unfortunately, these are the very two types of love that seem to be most widely sought after. Certainly most forms of media and music promote these forms of ‘love.’ It is interesting to note that neither of these words is used for the love found in the New Testament.

A third type of love is ‘phileo.’ This is the cherishing and endearing love of a husband and wife, family members for one another, or the love of life-long friends. It is a deeply tender

love that holds someone or something ever so dear to the heart.

So what is true Biblical love that only comes from God? “But God demonstrates His own love for us in this; While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. This is ‘agape’ love, the most supreme love, the love of God. It is selfless and sacrificial. It is a love that is controlled not by emotion, but by the mind, the reason and the will. It does what is right no matter what the circumstances. It goes so far as to love those that do not deserve to be loved.

Completing God’s Work



“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching;...he who contributes, in his liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.” Romans 12:6-8

God has given us individual abilities and talents, tools with which to build His kingdom upon the earth. Not only does God want us to be happy and enjoy our lives, but He has also given us work to do. What an honor that our Heavenly Father has placed us upon the earth to serve Him with gifts we have been given.

One excellent way to serve God is through your local church or synagogue. We each have a unique gift we can contribute to God’s body of believers. As you worship this week, perhaps you can discover what strength you have. By serving with your strength, you can do your part to complete God’s work.

This is the love Jesus Christ has shown us by dying on the Cross for our sins. He was sinless and guiltless. Without Christ, we are wicked and full of sin, deserving death and eternal separation from Almighty God.

This love is available to each of us, but it must be received. Jesus was crucified between two guilty criminals. One mocked and scorned Him up to the time of his own death. The other looked to Jesus in faith and believed, receiving forgiveness. Which one will you be — the mocker or the believer?

Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are My friends if you do what I command.”

Invite Jesus Christ into your life and heart today and enjoy His sacrificial love for you and be enabled to sacrificially love others.

SUNDAY Acts 7:1-29	MONDAY Acts 7:30 - 8:3	TUESDAY Mark 1:21-39	WEDNESDAY Acts 4:23-31	THURSDAY Ephesians 3:1-21	FRIDAY Ephesians 6:10-24	SATURDAY Colossians 4:2-18
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Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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NORCATUR NEWS

By NORCATUR NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Betty Reid visited Minh and Wanda Nguyen in Lone Tree, Colo., from Dec. 18-26. They had Christmas dinner with Minh’s brother, Dr. and Mrs. C. Nguyen; Sue Kani and friend, Michael, from Dallas and Austin; and Bibi Nguyen and her fiancé, Eric Chen, from Minn. On Dec. 26 they stopped to visit with Wilbur Hix in Norton.

Kaitlyn Stapp was selected to the All Tourney team, and won the free-throw contest, at the Oberlin Invitational Basketball tournament held Jan. 18-22.

There were 19 people in attendance at Senior Citizens Friday, Jan. 21. Winners were Esther Miller, Oran Milner and Beth Johnson. Next meeting will be Friday, Feb. 4, at 7 p.m. in the Educational Building.

Dee Magers opened her oven door to put four loaves of bread in to bake recently, and the bottom heating element was in the process of burning out. What to do? She called Betsy Jakowski who said, “Bring it over. I’ll turn the oven on and by the time you get here, it’ll be ready.” Aren’t good neighbors great?

Birthdays and anniversaries: Dennis and Judy Shirley - Jan. 29; Larry Dick - Jan. 31; Tracey Hartzog, Beth Johnson - Feb. 2; Francis and Arlene Hix - Feb. 4; Karen Bailey - Feb. 6; Brad Long - Feb. 7; John Milnes, Eric Milnes, Meagan Rhodes - Feb. 8.

Rea and Dee Magers visited and had lunch with Uncle Marion and Aunt Lorraine Long, near New Almelo, on Saturday, Jan. 22. Later they visited Allie and Ruth Vahling. Ruth is a first cousin to Dee.

Rex and Merle Cozad no sooner returned from vacation than they had to put Rex into the hospital with pneumonia.

Recent overnight guests of Veda Wood were Dwight and Teresa Wood, McCook. They came to practice with the music group started by Ron Temple. Fred Molzahn visited and had supper with them.

Ona VanGundy visited Sunday

afternoon, Jan. 23.

The next pool tournament at the Cardinal Bar and Grill will be held Monday, Feb. 7, due to Valentine’s Day.

The Lyle chapter of the United Methodist Women is closing due to lack of members. They plan to continue working as a group but not as members of the organization.

Word has been received of the death of Galen Ankenman, Norton, on Monday, Jan. 24. His funeral was held Wednesday, Jan. 26, at the Enfield Funeral Home in Norton.

Reminder from the Norcatour United Methodist Church: Clayton office hours are Thursday from 9:30-11 a.m.

The Norcatour Commercial Club will sponsor a free-will fund raiser pancake supper on Sunday, Feb. 13, in the All-purpose Room at the Norcatour City Building from 5 to 7 p.m. Proceeds will be used to assist the Decatur County Museum in moving St. Mark’s Lutheran Church.

The Cardinal Bar and Grill will be open for a Super Bowl Party on Sunday, Feb. 6, at 1 p.m.

THREE PRAIRIE UNIT

Three Prairie Unit members and 2 guests, Doris Fae Jackson, a former member and Lee Arnold, met Thursday, Jan. 20, at the Cardinal Bar and Grill at 10 a.m. They signed valentines to be sent to the veterans for Valentine’s Day. Coffee, muffins and cinnamon rolls were served. They plan to meet in February and March to update their scrapbook.

WELCOME HOME

Marine Corporal Russell James recently returned from a 3-month tour of duty in Iraq. His unit was in Al Fallujah, Ar Ramadi and Habbaniyah, all towns or cities west of Baghdad. He plans to travel to Norcatour to visit his parents, Larry and Terri James, and friends, in the near future. Currently stationed at Fort Gordon, Ga., he can be reached at: Cpl. R.A. James, 1702 Apt. C, Valley Park Drive West, Augusta, Ga., 30909.

NEW ALMELO

By BETTY OTTER

On Saturday, Jan. 15, the Knights of Columbus held their annual membership supper. Door prizes went to Jim Ninemire, Alfred Otter and Raymond Slipke. To conclude the evening a film was shown of the New Almelo school students and their teachers in 1963. The film was taken by Andy Stephens and brought many memories.

Jan. 16, the annual Knights of Columbus basketball free throw contest was held in the New Almelo parish hall. The winners will go on to compete in the district free throw contest. The winners were Raven Brown in the 12-year old girls division; Jacob Mannel in the 12-year old boys division; and Justin Heikes in the 13-year old boys division. The district competition will be held in WaKeeney.

Gary Long visited his parents, Marion and Lorraine Long on Jan. 16. Marion’s brother, Ernie Long, Lenora, visited earlier in the week.

Rea and Dee Magers, Norcatour, visited Marion and Lorraine and Allie and Ruth Vahling. Spending the weekend at her parents home was Rita and Bill Barker, Hays. On Sunday, Joe and Rose Ann Long, Leawood, and Tom Long,

Hays, visited their parents.

Roger and JoAnn Long spent the weekend with their daughter and family, Renee and Jack Cella in Denver.

Jeff Vahling, Hays, visited with Marcia and Russ Aumiller and Josh Vahling on Saturday. They cut a load of wood for Jeff to take back to Hays.

Mark Otter, Anna and Marshall, Ulysses, visited with Alfred and Betty Otter the past weekend.

Alfred Mindrup was recognized by the Norton County Conservation District for his hard work and dedication in caring for a living snow fence. He planted the living fence along the north side of the highway at New Almelo in 2001. Due to drought conditions he hauled lots of water over the years to give this living snow fence a start. Even with this extra care, 100 of the trees died.

Knowing how important this living snow fence would be for the protection of the highway and the town of New Almelo, Alfred found volunteers to replace all of the trees that died. Many people will benefit for years to come from all of the time and hard work he did to keep this living snow fence alive and growing.

JENNINGS NEWS

By LOUISE CRESSLER

It was a busy week in Jennings: the United Methodist Women met Wednesday afternoon at the church; Jennings City Council met Thursday evening at the Senior Center; and Heritage Associates annual and regular meeting was Thursday afternoon at the museum. The annual report and election of officers was held.

The Sunflower Senior Citizens Potluck Supper will be Saturday at 6 p.m. Bingo will be played. Everyone is asked to bring a prize valued at \$3 or more. Everyone is welcome

Darlene Larue and Louise Cressler met with Steve Jones, the Housing and Urban Development inspector on Jan. 19 for their inspection of Friendship Village apartments.

Lawrence Jennings returned home from the Oberlin hospital Thursday. He is feeling much better.

Several in the community have been ill with respiratory ailments and/or stomach flu.

Wayne and Louise Cressler visited his dad, Walt Cressler, Friday at Hoxie. They attended a program by the Rev. Larry Booth.

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