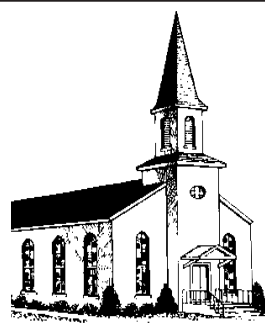


Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

Happiness... or Holiness? — By Terry Laughlin, Living Word Baptist Church

We Christians have sometimes made a mistake when leading others to Christ in allowing (or encouraging) them to believe that, once they are born-again children of God, there will no longer be any trials in their lives.

This may be especially true when they come to us as unbelievers having made total messes of their lives and the lives of those persons around them. They may have been involved in multiple marriages with additional relationships that did not even involve marriage. More than one of these may have given rise to children being born.

They may have been involved in deviant sexual lifestyles or pornography. They may be, or have been, addicted to drugs or alcohol. They may have prison records. They may have driven loved ones away by physical, verbal or emotional abuses.

Whatever the case may be, accepting Christ is just the beginning, and a new Christian needs to understand that so they won't become discouraged. Nehemiah 8:10 says that "The joy of the Lord is our strength," but joy and happiness are not the same thing. The "joy of the Lord" is a deep sense of satisfaction and contentment that God loves you deeply, is always with you and has everything under control.

Likewise, an absence of trouble is not a sign of true spiritual-

ity. In fact, Jesus said to His disciples, "In this world, you will have trouble." Not particularly cheery news. However, He then added, "But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Many of the sins mentioned above are life and mind-controlling sins that can never be broken outside of total redemption and cleans-

ing found through receiving forgiveness in Christ Jesus. Although Jesus Christ may deliver one person instantaneously and completely from one or more of these debilitating sins, he may allow another to rely on His grace to fight former temptations. That person may endure agony of the soul as they are delivered over a much

longer period of time.

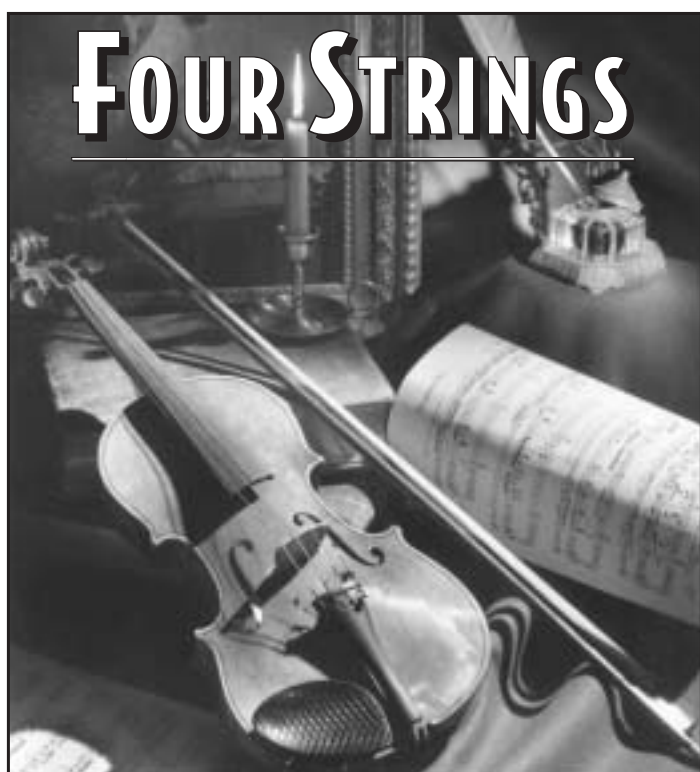
Also, most times, we are not delivered from the effects of our former sinful lifestyles. When asked by someone what to do about previous divorces and remarriages, the Rev. Billy Graham said, "You can't unscramble eggs," a practical way of saying that you must start anew in the Christian life, repairing and restoring where it is humanly possible but trusting the remainder to God's hands.

God is not interested in our happiness. He is interested in our holiness. And we cannot muster up true holiness. This, too, must come from Him. To be holy before God requires being completely surrendered to Him, having a quiet and gentle spirit of obedience and devotion to His Word. His desires must become our desires, His heart our heart, His Spirit our spirit.

When this is a reality in your life, then and only then will that deep, abiding joy and contentment pervade your life: in health or in sickness, in trouble or without, in peace or in persecution, in calm or in calamity. Earthly happiness can be destroyed in a moment by a sudden death, a bad medical report, financial collapse, a request for divorce, a phone call from jail regarding a wayward child's actions, loss of a job or destroyed dreams.

Happiness is fleeting. True Godly joy and holiness are eternal.

Which do you choose?



FOUR STRINGS

Only four strings! But these four strings offer endless possibilities of tone and harmony. They open to us new horizons of beauty and happiness. And yet, improperly played, these four strings can bring forth unbelievable discord!

There are four strings in life with similar possibilities. They are mind, character, courage and faith.

The truths that fill our minds, the ideals that mold our character, the purposes to which our courage is given, the realities in which we believe: these can fill our lives with rich beauty and happiness or drab ugliness and sorrow.

Through the centuries our churches and synagogues have been the maestro of these strings of life — helping people bring forth the harmony and beauty God has put in their souls.

You can find music in everyday living through regular worship and prayer. As Psalm 100:2 says, "Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs."

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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- SUNDAY**
John 14:1-14
✚
- MONDAY**
John 14:15-31
✚
- TUESDAY**
John 16:4b-15
✚
- WEDNESDAY**
John 16:16-33
✚
- THURSDAY**
Acts 1:1-11
✚
- FRIDAY**
Acts 1:12-26
✚
- SATURDAY**
Romans 8:1-17

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JENNINGS NEWS

By LOUISE CRESSLER
Mrs. Mabel Brendt, Page City; Mrs. Myrtle Kropp, Colby visited Larry and Alice Mizer Wednesday to Saturday. The ladies are sisters. Thursday they visited Wilma Mader and saw all her nice quilts. Friday they went shopping in McCook. Evenings were spent playing cards and quilting.

George and Carolyn Launchbaugh, McGraw area visited Sunday with Larry and Alice Mizer.

United Methodist Women met Wednesday May 4. Attending were Rachel Carter, Helen Rhodes, Lila Jennings, Kay Brown, Mildred Tacha, Darlene LaRue, Marilyn Noone, Ruth Chance, Kathy Nauer, Louise Cressler, Glenn and Betty Krebs. Marilyn Noone gave the program "To Have a Home", Courageous Women Leading the Way". Ruth gave Quiet Moments. Hostess were Kay and Darlene.

Jennings City Council met Thursday evening May 5 at the Sunflower Senior Center. All council members were present. Guests Bill Nelson, Raymond Yahne and Violet Krizek expressed their concerns to the city

council about potholes in some alleys and street by the highway park; City sign at north end of Kansas Ave.; finding a home for school pictures and trophies after the end of school. Council thanked them for coming. B-H Paving, Scott City finished filling the crack in the streets. Oath of office was administered to Mayor Bob Jones; Councilmembers Don Bolt and Louise Cressler. These are four year terms. City Superintendents were appointed. Council President Louise Cressler, City Clerk Sue Long and City Treasurer Hope Brown was appointed. Letters will be sent to property owners whose lots need mowing. City will sponsor Memorial Day dinner at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, May 29 at the Senior Center. Drinks will be furnished.

There was a school board meeting Wednesday to discuss the territory map and ending school. The public is urged to attend.

Graduating seniors returned from their trip Wednesday.

Visiting Helen and Bud Rhodes Friday were Lisa Rhodes and grandson Caden Rhodes (son of Jessica Rhodes), Norcatur; Corey Grace and son Noah of Wamego.

NORTON MANOR

By DORIS MIZELL

Dorothy and Joe Foland attended the 80th birthday party of Enid Foland at Almena on April 30. She is the wife of Joe's brother, Gene Foland. Gene's three children, by his first wife Judy, were there and their children. Carolyn his oldest daughter flew from Sacramento, Calif. The building was packed with old high school friends, relatives and Almena friends. We had a lot of visiting and recalling of incidents of bygone years.

Mary Schoen and Mary Keith spent last week at Branson, Mo. On route Mary Keith stayed overnight with her sister Flora Sanders and Kenny. Mary Schoen visited Kathryn Klasson our old friend.

Connie Lillich and Brian Volgamore, Atwood were Monday afternoon visitors of Doris Mizell.

Linda Keith visited Thursday evening with Mary Keith. Amy Slovak and Toree had lunch with Mary that same day.

Doris Mizell visited Patty Foster, Jennings Thursday afternoon. The two of them then visited Edith

Foster who lives at Friendship Village, Jennings.

LaDonna Koch and son Hildreth, Neb., visited Mary Keith and Mr. and Mrs. James Skrdlant. LaDonna is the women's sister.

Mary and Roger Vanover, Jake and Diedre brought supper and spent the evening on Mother's Day with Rena Garwood.

Diana Greving joined Mary Keith for the Mother/Daughter Banquet Friday evening at the Christian Church.

We want to welcome our new residents to the Manor. Katherine, Kohr, 303 and Helen Rodriguez in 304.

Sunday, Carolyn and Roger Linsenmeyer, Beatrice, Neb., came to spend Mother's Day with Doris Mizell. After church at Clayton where they were joined by Patty Foster they went to Jennings for the dinner put on by the Lions Club. Jerry Foster joined them there and they spent some time at the Fosters home. Coming to Norton they stopped to visit the Ray Mizell family before returning to Nebraska.

PRAIRIE VIEW

By VIVIAN JANSONIUS

The Prairie Homemakers Family and Community met April 25 at the Community center in Long Island. President Judy Van Der Veen conducted the meeting with 13 members, two guests and two children present. Roll call was answered by "Your Fantasy Job". Pat Hammond and Diana Greving attended the District meeting where they heard a lesson on "Dwarfism", presented by Cynthia Kaup of Oxford, Neb. Sommer McClain of Nebraska was Miss Teen International Pageant. Door prizes were won by Vivian Jansonius and Miss McClain. Beverly Schemper also received a gift from her Secret Pal. Hostesses were Mrs. Van Der Veen and Sue Newlan.

Others attending were Cynthia Kaup, Gloria DeWitt, Linda

Hultgren, Anissa Kats, Belva Leydig, Julia Schemper, Wanda Schemper, Isabelle and Deacon Schemper.

Harlan Van De Wege and Vivian Jansonius went to Hays April 28. They ate supper with Jerol and Jennifer De Boer, Kelsee and Taylor, Mark Grieve, Kaiden and Megan, Heath and Lori Bogart, Kali, Alex and Kambri, all of Hays. Lisa Grieve was working and couldn't attend. After their meal, Mrs. Jansonius attended the High Plains Mental Health meeting.

The Gleaners of the Prairie View Reformed Church met May 5 at the church. Wauneta Schemper of Long Island was in charge of the lesson and Hazel Jansonius had devotions. Goldie Barker was the hostess.

ALMENA NEWS

By ESTHER MARBLE

Ann Johnson of Denver called Esther Marble Thursday night to find out what we heard from Brant and how my family was. She also asked about Dick and Betty Baker and Keith Chandler and other friends she remembered from here.

Jean Leuszler was a guest of Joyce Eckhart at Logan on Mother's Day. Those attending for a corporate dinner were Bob and Sue Jackson, their three college students, Jim and Wilma Jackson and Bill Foster, Karen Navis and

Emily of Kearney. Afternoon callers were Al and Bonnie (Lambert) Plummer of Burns, Ks.

Visitors of Reva Smith the last couple of weeks were Nina Melroy and son Tom, Joyce Quinn, Fleta Hanlon, Steve and Carla Hawks, Virgil and Anne Severns of Fairbanks, Ala.; Mary Jane Van Patten, Esther Marble, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Severns, Florence Lambert of Norton and Mr. and Mrs. Al Plummer of Burns.

Ellis and June Fisher visited Esther Marble Wednesday afternoon.

The paper you read for the news you need!

THE NORTON TELEGRAM