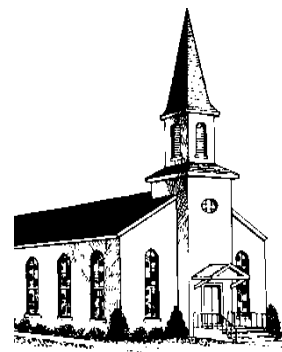


Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

By Pastor Jerry Cummings, Living Hope Fellowship

In Hebrews 12:12-13 we read, "Therefore, strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed."

These verses talk about the condition which we sometimes find ourselves or others in, that is, needing encouragement. It speaks of weariness, weakness, and injury. We are encouraged here to be people who bring strength, help, and encouragement in these times. Indeed, the ministry of encouragement is one that should receive much more attention and gratitude than it does. How many times have we struggled, and what we needed was not more information, or correction, but just some strength and courage to make it through?

In the book of Acts, Barnabas is called the "Son of encouragement". We see him standing behind people like Saul of Tarsus in chapter 9, as well as John Mark later on.

In John, Jesus calls the Holy Spirit, "The Comforter". In the Greek this is the same word as "encourager". This word means, "to call, from alongside". In other words it is not help from above, or from a distance, but from alongside of us. This says a lot of how we must approach people in order to bring encouragement. We must first make contact (alongside) and we must not approach them as one who is higher, better, or authoritative.

Here are some ways we

can help people find encouragement

We can help them look away from the small picture to see the big picture. There is a story about three men laying bricks. Someone asked each of them what they were doing? The first said, "I am laying bricks." The second answered, "I'm building a wall." The third said, "I am building a Cathedral."

All were doing the same thing, but one had a bigger picture. Helping people see this can be the key to helping them go on.

Another way is to take people from the short view to the long view. Pain and difficulty often feel like they will never end. Sometimes we can help people see that there is an end and help them make it through. Also, it can help to show

people that they are not alone. You are there. God is there. Probably others are as well.

There are other times when people are discouraged when the thing we can do is help them find their way to their true source of strength, which is in the Lord. At other times people's struggle is because they are believing some things that aren't true. Truth can be powerful in helping, if it is shared in love as a friend.

Also, we can sometimes help people go from a bad expectation, to an expectation of God's goodness. Sometimes things look impossible when they are not, especially with God. Considering possibilities with someone can bring new hope.

Another way of encouragement can sometimes be to speak faith into people's lives. We believe in them. We believe in God's work in them. We believe God. Also, a personal story of yourself or another who struggled and were helped by the Lord, is the only thing that will help some believe they can make it and take new courage.

Lastly, it is vital to know when to say something and when to be quiet and just be there.

In our world, people receive attention and applause for many things. But when the Heavenly books are opened, I believe much credit will be given to the ones who have helped many just make it through the times when otherwise they might have quit the race.

A WORK IN PROGRESS



A finished work of art is a beautiful thing...whether as simple as a child's painting...or as complex as an old master. The final product is complete when every stroke of color is in the right place. What about a work in progress?

When an artist's work is in progress, it may not be so beautiful. Each slight brush stroke must be placed exactly right to complete the whole picture. If a mistake is made and the paint dries, the artist may have to start all over again.

We all make mistakes in our lives. God is forgiving; He allows us to try again when we have made a mistake. With His help we can make all the right "brush strokes" to complete a beautiful picture...a beautiful life.

Worship in His House this week. Begin with a fresh canvas. When you falter, talk with the Master and He will allow you to try again. Have faith, for "He has made everything beautiful in His time." (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

Sunday 1 John 1.1-10	Monday 1 John 2.1-17	Tuesday 1 John 2.18-29	Wednesday 1 John 3.1-24	Thursday 1 John 4.1-21	Friday 1 John 5.1-21	Saturday 2 John
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Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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ALMENA NEWS

By ESTHER MARBLE
The Almena community was saddened by news of the death of Sidney Geil, son of Alberta Geil.
Betty Baker hip replacement surgery last week at Phelps Memorial Hospital in Holdrege. She is in the Holdrege Memorial Home for Recuperation. It is expected she will be there for awhile.
Dale and Quentin Stiffler, Meridan, visited Esther Marble

Jan. 30. They had been to Blaine Marbles' to hunt pheasants for a few days and were on their way home.
Roxie Melia called her mother, Esther Marble, to tell her that her husband, Clyde, had fallen on the ice and broken his knee cap.
Brant Marble came home Saturday to take care of some business. He returned to Topeka Sunday.

NORTON MANOR

By DORIS MIZELL
Janice (Melroy)Henson from North Pole, Alaska, visited Dale and Katherine Severns last week.
Doris Mizell received word that T.J.Ely was killed in a car accident. He was the husband of her great-granddaughter, Alisha (Humston) Ely. They have two small boys and are expecting another child.
James and Lena Skrdlant's grandson, Jay Howell, wife and daughters came to visit Jan. 27. Jay is to deploy to Iraq on Feb. 25. James' nephew, Roy Skrdlant, and wife came for a short visit. On the Jan. 29 James' brother, Orval, stopped by for a bit.
A birthday party and dinner was planned and held at the Norton Manor Community room for Marie Engelhardt for her 100th birthday Feb. 3. Friends and rela-

tives who came were: Jim and Barbara Johnson, Aurora, Neb.; Lowell and Velma Cochran, Syracuse; Vera Schra, McPherson; Kenneth Johnson, Hays; Harry and Patty Johnson, Arvada, Colo.; Carlene and Ja. Nelle, Holdrege, Neb.; John and Dorothy Nelson, Osborne; Opal Cogdill, Goodland; Falster and Aileen Johnson, Goodland; Colette Craig, Topeka; Charles and Lila Engelhardt, Almena; Dan Engelhardt, Almena; Steve Engelhardt, Hays; Geraldine Packer, Lucille Miller, Mr. and Mrs. John Miller, and Mildred Engelhardt, all from Norton. It was an enjoyable day for each to catch up on where they have been and all hoped Marie will have more birthdays, stay well and enjoy life at its best.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Almena Irrigation District's Annual Meeting

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, February 9, 2007. (1T)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The State of Kansas and the Almena Irrigation District No. 5 to all holders of title or evidence of title as defined in Section 42-701 K.S.A. for and located within in the boundaries of the Almena Irrigation District No. 5 who are residents of the State of Kansas, and are otherwise qualified electors, and to all other persons concerned. You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting

of the Almena Irrigation District No. 5 will be held in the Irrigation Office in Almena, Norton County, Kansas on the 7th day of March, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. At that meeting one director will be elected and other general business pertaining to the District will be conducted. The polls will be open from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

This notice is given pursuant to Section 42-706 (e) K.S.A.

Norman L. Nelson, President
Almena Irrigation District No. 5

ATTEST:
Duane Sell, Secretary

Norton Ordinance to Vacate a Portion of Home Street

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, February 9, 2007. (1T)

ORDINANCE NO. 1558 AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF HOME STREET FROM THE SOUTH LINE OF WILTON STREET TO THE NORTH LINE OF WAVERLY STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTON, KANSAS

BE IT ORDAINED by the governing body of the City of Norton, Kansas, as follows:

SECTION ONE: That the governing body of the City of Norton, Kansas deems it necessary and expedient to vacate all of Home Street from the South Line of Wilton Street to the North Line of Waverly Street, within the City of Norton, Norton County, Kansas as contemplated by K.S.A. 14-423, and

that the same shall be and is hereby vacated.

SECTION TWO: That the land vacated hereby shall revert to the owners of the real estate adjacent thereto on each side of said street.

SECTION THREE: That this ordinance shall become effective 30 days after publication hereof, unless one or more interested parties shall file a written protest before the expiration of said 30 days.

SECTION FOUR: That upon the effective date of this ordinance, the City Clerk shall file a certified copy of this ordinance in the office of the Norton County Clerk and the Norton County Register of Deeds.

Passed and adopted this 7th day of February, 2007.

David N. Corns, Mayor

Attest:
Darla R. Ellis, City Clerk

Estate of Jerry S. Minchew

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, February 2, 9, 16, 2007. (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

PROBATE DIVISION

Case No. 2007-PR-1

In the Matter of the Estate of Jerry S. Minchew, Deceased

(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING AND FOR NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on January 4, 2007 a petition was filed in this Court by Charles E. Worden, the named executor of the Last Will and Testament of Jerry Minchew dated December 26, 2006, praying that the will filed with the petition, be admitted to probate and record, that he be appointed as executor without bond,

and that he be granted Letters Testamentary.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before February 22, 2007 at 9:30 a.m., with this Court, in the City of Norton, in Norton, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four months from the date of first publication of this Notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Charles E. Worden
Petitioner

Submitted by:
Charles E. Worden #7417
WORDN LAW OFFICE
213 S. Kansas, P.O. Box 427
Norton, Kansas 67654
(785) 877-3086

Estate of Alois J. Ryan

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, February 2, 9, 16, 2007. (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

Case No. 07-PR-04

In the Matter of the Estate of Alois J. Ryan, A.K.A. Alois Ryan, Deceased

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED: You are notified a Petition was filed in the above named Court by William J. Ryan as one

of Decedent's Heirs praying determination of descent of all stocks, securities and other property interest owned by Decedent at the time of her death and you must file your written defenses thereto on or before March 1, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. in the above named court at the Courthouse in the City of Norton, Norton County, Kansas at which time said cause will be heard and should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said Petition.

WILLIAM J. RYAN
Petitioner

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