

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Happiness...or Holiness?"

By Pastor Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Church, Norton

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 spirituality. 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 cleansing found through receiv-

ing 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?

A Day of Hope



Sunday Isaiah 55.1-13	
Monday Isaiah 56.1-12	
Tuesday Isaiah 57.1-21	
Wednesday Isaiah 58.1-14	
Thursday Isaiah 59.1-21	
Friday Isaiah 61.1-11	
Saturday Zephaniah 3.8-20	

In this season of autumn, following several dismal, damp days, there often comes a perfect day with clear, blue skies. The sun is bright; there is a crisp, invigorating breeze. The leaves on the trees are orange, red and gold...the colors so intense they glow.

It's a day that brightens our mood; a day of hope. We feel a surge of happiness and expectation; we are reminded of God's love for His world. Experience that hope and happiness this autumn and all through the year at your house of worship. Let the steeples and chimes beckon you. Each day God sends is a day of hope, but aren't we especially reminded of His hope on a brilliant autumn day?

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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NORCATUR NEWS

By NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Recent visitors of Rea and Dee Magers were Bob Jones and Marguerite Clark, and out-of-towners Dennis and Maggie Skalka, San Antonio, and Doyle and Pat Magers, and Doug and Pam Magers, Ashland, Ohio. A barbecue was held Friday, though the wind chased everyone inside. Those present were Toots Magers, Doyle and Pat Magers, Doug and Pam Magers, Jeff Magers, Judy and Charlie Easton, and Janie Engelhardt. They all visited on the phone with Doug and Doyle's mother, Wilma Magers, in Ohio.

Virgil and Joyce Price drove to Lamar, Colo., the weekend of Sept. 29, to visit his sister, Bula Kelley, who is in a nursing home

there, and also visited with Charley and Carolyn Kelley. Charley brought Bula to their home, where all spent the afternoon visiting. On Sunday, Sept. 30, Virgil and Joyce had breakfast with Bula at the nursing home before returning to Norcatour.

MUSEUM TIDBITS

Recent donations included a Norcatour Rural High School letter sweater belonging to Larry Hix, a copy of the Norcatour Register dated Oct. 13, 1899, from Dorothy Ward; letters, postcards, tablet and picture from Wava Reames, including a photo marked at the bottom, "E.D. Macfee, photo artist, Norcatour, KS"; and a softball including signatures from the Norcatour Oilers ball team, from Les and Lynn Ward.

NEW ALMELO

By BETTY OTTER

On Saturday, Sept. 22, Alfred and Betty Otter and Roberta Bruinekool, attended the funeral of their cousin, Frank Wessel, in Angelus.

Family spending time at the home of Alfred and Betty Otter the last few weeks were, Tom Otter, DeSoto; Jim Moss and Courtney and Aaron, Jewell. Mark Otter was home to attend the funeral of Earl Mortensen.

Funeral services were held at St. Joseph Church, New Almelo, Saturday, Oct. 13 for Eugene Streit, 58, Omaha, Neb. Father Vincent Thu Laing officiated. Burial was in the St. Joseph Cemetery. Eugene was the son of Henry and Marie (Nusse) Streit. He grew up on a farm northwest of New Almelo. He attended grade school at New

Almelo. He attended St. Joseph's Military School in Hays, graduating in 1967. He served in the U.S. Navy until 1969. He then lived and worked in the Hays area, moving to Omaha in 1997. He married Karen Berens in 1970. They had one son, Sean. Karen died in June of 2007.

Survivors include: one son, Sean Streit, Schoenchen; one grandson, Logan, Hays; one granddaughter, Madison, Hays; four brothers, Duane and Eleanor Streit, Cheyenne, Wyo., Adrian and Emma Jo Streit, Omaha, Joseph and Mary Streit, Hays and James and Deanna Streit, Colleyville, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his wife, parents, one brother, Victor Streit, one sister, Gwendolyn Bruggeman, two sisters-in-law, Gloria Streit and Patricia Streit.

JENNINGS NEWS

By LOUISE CRESSLER

It is a cloudy cool morning here. We did not get any measurable rain over the weekend.

Stan and Ramona Shaw visited his mother, Carol Shaw, Selden, Sunday afternoon.

United Methodist Women met Wednesday, Oct. 3 for Bible study led by Vicki Bailey.

Sunflower Seniors Potluck Supper was held Tuesday, Oct. 9.

Men from Norton Correctional Facility worked in Jennings Monday and Tuesday.

Stan and Ramona Shaw are happy to announce the arrival of their first great-grandchild. Tyce Austyn Bollars was born Oct. 5 at the Platte Valley Medical Center in Brighton, Colo., to Kyle and Lisa Bollars. He weighed 5 pounds 13 ounces. The proud maternal grandparents are Kevin and Colleen Wagoner, Sharon Springs. Wilfred and Alice Wagoner are the paternal great-grandparents. Carol Shaw, Selden is the great-grandmother.

Dave Haurly, Wichita, helped several days in the corn harvest at the Votapka farm.

Drake Rowh, Hoxie, broke his elbow. He had surgery, putting a pin in it, last Thursday in Hays. Drake is the son of Jason Rowh and great-grandson of Mary Votapka.

Chuck and Jo Mowry of Boise, Idaho, visited several days with his sister, Dorothy Jones, and nephew Bob. They were on their way to Yuma, Ariz., for the winter.

United Methodist Women met Oct. 3. The Pheasant Hunters Supper for Nov. 3 was planned. Vicki Bailey led Bible Study. The topic was "Dehydrated Heart — With Heart Headed Home" and "When Death Becomes Birth". Ladies present were: Helen Rhodes, Kay Brown, Terri Hanke, Vicki Bailey, Kathy Nauer, Patty Foster, Glenda Johnson, Lila Jennings, Rachel Carter and Louise Cressler. Kay Brown served cookies and tea.

The Jennings Housing Board met Thursday. Several from Jennings attended the Clayton Bazaar and Auction also the Leoville Supper and Auction. On Thursday Pastor Glen Krebs, WaKeeney, conducted a presentation on the Capitol Campaign Drive, at the Jennings United Methodist Church.

The community extends sympathy to the family of Laura Vecera, Smith Center, former Jennings resident. Laura died Saturday, Oct. 6. Her funeral was Thursday Oct. 11 at Smith Center.

Amanda Wahlmeier, Phillipsburg, fell and broke a bone in her Achilles heel. She is a granddaughter of William and Rachel Carter.

Sunday Bud and Helen Rhodes attended the baptism of their great-grandson, Jackson Earl, son of Megan Rhodes and Justin Amos at the Episcopal Church in Hays. The family gathered for a picnic dinner at the park afterwards.

Karen Steuve, Gardner, visited the weekend with her parents, Bud and Helen Rhodes and attended the baptism also.

The Jennings City Library is now a Hot Spot for free Wireless Internet to anyone who wishes to use it with their laptops.

It was good to see children in church Sunday. Matt and Sarah Coiner have three foster children; Julia Camas, age 9; Alondra Camas, age 10 and Daisy Camas, age 8 attended. Also Ann DuBois and two daughters, Salina, attended church.

Have you noticed how nice the ditch north of the highway going through Jennings looks? We have the men from Norton Correctional Facility to thank for cleaning it out.

Claudine Bennett is doing well and may soon get to come back from Denver to Cedar Living Center, Oberlin.

Glenda Harris of Grand Junction, Colo., was an overnight guest of the Lawrence Jennings on Oct. 4. She was en route home from Glen Elder where she had spent two weeks visiting with the Bud Johnstons and with her mother, Daisy Stratton, who is living at Hill Top in Beloit.

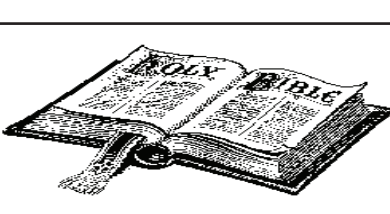
Brendan Jennings, Hastings, Neb., spent Friday night and Saturday with Lawrence, Lila and Brett Jennings on Oct. 5-6. Lee and Judy Ploussard of Oberlin were Saturday visitors also.

Brian and Westley Jennings, Solomon, spent the past weekend at the farm with the Jennings family.

Lawrence and Lila Jennings were in Denver Oct. 7-8 where he had doctor checkups. They were houseguests of Marcia Casey. Other Sunday dinner guests there were Marlene Hounshell, Andrew, Samantha and Emily Hounshell, Derek Cook, Jackie Standage and Milt Sherwin.

The Heritage Associates of Jennings met at the Czech Museum on Oct. 4. Neoma Tacha presided over the meeting with directors Larry Mizer, Bob Tacha, Dean Gawith and Lila Jennings present. Glenda Harris, Grand Junction, Colo., was a visitor that day.

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