

To grow or not to grow — that is a challenge

A friend of mine just celebrated his birthday. I won't say how old he turned, but he is older than I am.

As we grow older, we face new challenges for sure. Part of the challenge of growing up is you have to deal with birthday cards people give you, like the, "You know you're over the hill when:"

Your friends wear black to your birthday party. Your boss is younger than you are. The candles cost more than the cake. Your arms aren't long enough to hold your reading material. You think heavy metal is lead.

When you sit in the rocking chair, and you can't get it going. You burn the midnight oil until 9 p.m. There's more hair stuck in your drain than on your head. You know you're over the hill when buzzards are circling your house in the morning.

A person can laugh at those, or it



steve rains

● moments from calvary

can bother him. I prefer to approach my aging as, in the light of eternity, I am really young!

It is one thing to grow older in the Lord; it is another thing to grow deeper in the Lord. How does a person grow in their relationship with the Lord? That is a great question and one that has been asked through the ages.

When it comes to spiritual growth, is it you, or is it God? Is it faith in God or is it your effort that causes you to grow? The Apostle Paul addresses that in Philippians 2:12-13.

He shows us that the question can be solved by looking at two sides of the same coin. That it's not just you, but it is God. That it's not just God, but it is you. God wants to walk close to you and you to Him. He wants to cleanse you and purify you so you can walk free from the destruction of sin.

If that is going to happen, then a few things must occur. First, understand your example. Philippians 2:12 says, "Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence, continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling."

If you read the first part of chap-

ter 2, you see the example of Christ. If you say you are a Christian, then that is who your life is suppose to emulate. If you want salvation, if you want to work out your salvation, then you have to know who Jesus is and how Jesus lived.

So do you want to be like Christ? The second thing that must occur in our life is we have to take responsibility (verse 12). Paul says, "work out your salvation."

Some think that means work for your salvation; others think it means work at your salvation. Your salvation is not by works. There is no way you can earn a place in heaven. Nothing you can do will make you righteous enough to be acceptable before God (Ephesians 2:8). You must fully depend on Him. Salvation, eternal life, comes by faith alone.

The term "work out" is a secular

mining term. It is used in terms of extracting ore, silver, gold and gems out of a mine. It is bringing them out from the inside.

In other words, at salvation, when you give your heart to Christ, God places a new heart (person) within you. Therefore you become a new man or woman.

The struggle then for the Christian is to take that which is inside of you, and let it be evident outside of you. It is allowing people to see that precious treasure that has been deposited in you (2 Corinthians 4:4). There is a lot more we could say on this, but there is one more thought I want to include in this column, and I am running out of room.

Understand the seriousness of this. It is a serious thing to be a Christian. We have to understand how important this relationship with God is. Paul says, "with fear and trem-

bling."

Friend, if you are a Christian, then Christ should be first priority in your life. Your eternal hope is no casual deal. I am convinced of this — heaven will be wonderful for everyone who has prepared themselves for it, but heaven won't be the same for everyone.

You may be saying, "Steve, this is kind of heavy today. You need to lighten up!" All I can say is this — life is too short, and eternity is too long to dance around the issue. Do what God said and work out your salvation!

Check us out at calvarygospel.net or e-mail us at calvarycolumn@st-tel.net.

Steve Rains is the pastor at the Calvary Gospel Church, Fourth and College. Go to the church's web site at calvarygospel.net or e-mail Rains at calvarycolumn@st-tel.net.

Health care costs going to paperwork

We're all aware that the cost of health care continues to increase, which keeps many Kansans from getting the quality care they need and deserve.

There are a variety of reasons for the increase in health costs, but one of them is the huge proportion of health care dollars being spent on administrative costs.

Thirty cents of every health care dollar goes to paperwork. In Kansas, that adds up to over \$3 billion every year that isn't spent on caring for patients.

Kansas is working to change that by using technology to reduce administrative costs and reduce the chances of harmful medical errors.

One of the best examples of the need for new thinking in health care can be found in our wallets. Most of us have ATM and credit cards that we can use quickly and easily anywhere in the world.

Compare this to your health insurance card, or in most instances cards, which usually carries no information beyond what is printed on the card itself. The physical copying of health insurance cards when you go to the doctor costs time and

money, and it increases the likelihood of errors, which then cost more time and money.

There's no reason the same technology that's used on billions of ATM and credit cards can't be used on health insurance cards. That's why we're working with health care providers and business leaders to create an electronic health insurance card that would reduce costs and reduce the chance for errors.

The use of "smart cards" will also reduce the need for duplicative tests and provide a doctor with important information in order to be more fully informed about your medical history, such as alerting her to the potential for harmful drug interactions.

This is part of a broad initiative we have underway to use technology to provide more affordable, higher quality health care for more Kansans, and it's part of our commitment to promoting efficiency in the services Kansans use on a regular basis.



kathleen sebelius

● governor

Worship warms the heart



Calvary Gospel Church

Pastor: Steve Rains, Ben Coats, youth pastor
Fourth & College • 890-3605

Sunday: Kid's Church: 10:30 am
Morning Service: 10:30 am
Evening Service: 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Adult mid-week service: 7:00 p.m.
Youth @ the Rock House: 7:00 p.m.
Small Group Ministries meets through out the week.
www.calvarygospel.net

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Pastor: Father Norbert Dlabal
307 W. 13th • 890-7205

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
4:30-5 pm Saturday or by appointment

Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am
Spanish Mass:
Sunday: 4 pm

Sonrise Christian Church

Ninth & Caldwell • 899-5398

Minister: Charles E. Kerr, Jr.

Sunday: Worship Service: 9:30 am
Sunday School: 10:45 am
Team Puppeteers: 6 pm

Wednesday:

Junior/Senior High Meeting: 7 pm
Adult & Children's Classes: 7 pm
Jets, 4th grade and under: 3:30 - 4:30

Word of Life

Joursquare Church

10th & Clark • 899-5250

Pastor: John Coumerilh

Sunday: Worship Celebration
and Kids' Church: 10:30 am
Wednesday: K.W.A.M.!

Age 3 through grade 6, 6:30 p.m.
(during school year)

Pleasant Home Church

Serving the rural community

for over 100 years

Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70

Pastor: Charlie Busch
694-2242

Sunday: Worship Service: 9 am
Sunday School: 10 am
Evening Service: 6 pm

Bible Baptist Church

Pastor: Michael Estep

Fifth & Broadway
890-7368

Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am
Morning Service: 10 am
Evening Service: 6:30 pm

Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 pm

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO
(719) 346-7984

Sacrament Meeting: 10 am

Sunday School: 11:15 am
Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 am

Iglesia Del Dios Vivo

La Luz Del Mundo

Spanish Speaking Church

Minister: Esteban Ortiz B.

1601 Texas • 899-5275

Daily Prayer: Sunday thru
Saturday: 5 am & 6 pm

Sunday: Sunday School: 10 am

United Methodist Church

Brewster:

Pastor:

Worship Service: 10:45 am CST
Sunday School: 9:45 am CST

Winona:

Minister: Rev. Bob Winters

Worship Service: 9 am CST
Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

Pastor: Rev. Ted Amos

Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233

Sunday: Worship Service: 9:30 am

Sunday School: 8:30 a.m.

Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups,
Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups,
Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship

Special Notice: Handicap Accessible, Hearing
Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler
Nurseries Available

Kanorado

United Methodist Church

Pastor: Leonard Cox

399-2468

Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am
Worship Service: 10:15 am

Church of the Nazarene

Pastor: Bob Willis

Third & Caldwell

899-2080 or 899-3797

Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 am

Worship Service: 10:50 am

Evening Service: 6 pm

Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 pm

First United Methodist Church

1116 Sherman

899-3631

Pastor: Rev. Janet Hernandez

Saturday: Informal Worship: 5:30 pm

Sunday: Sunday School: 9:15 am

Worship Service: 10:30 am

Goodland Bible Church

109 Willow Road • 899-6400

Pastor: Chad DeJong

Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 am

Morning Worship: 10:45 am

Evening Worship: 6 pm

Wednesday: AWANA (Winter)
and prayer: 7 p.m.

First Baptist Church

Pastor: Travis Blake

Fifth & Center • 890-3450

Sunday: Sunday School for all ages:
9:15 am (Child care provided)

Morning Worship: 10:30 am

Wednesday: Bible study 7 p.m.

Call church for information

Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m.

Wheatridge Center

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

13th & Center

Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969

Priest: Father Hal Lycett

Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m. Sunday

10:00 a.m. Thursday

Morning Prayer: 8:00 a.m. Wed. - Sun.

For emergencies Wed. - Sun. 890-6969

Sr. Warden for emergencies

Mon. and Tues. 890-3320

Harvest Evangelical

Free Church

104 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-7918

Pastor: Brian Fugleberg

Sunday: Worship: 9:30 am

Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.

Wednesday: Youth group
meets at 7 p.m.

at Scherlings', 827 Caldwell.

Seventh Day Adventist Church

1160 Cattletrail

Pastor: Jim Martin

Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 am

Worship Service: 11 am

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

13th & Sherman • 890-6161

Pastor: Scott Grimshaw

Sunday: Christian eduction/fellowship:

10:15 a.m.

Worship Service: 9 am

Wednesday: Confirmation: 6 pm

Church of Christ

401 Caldwell

890-6185

Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 am

Worship Service: 10:45 am

Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 pm

**The following sponsors urge YOU to attend
your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:**

Short & Son Trucking

Hwy. 24

Koons Funeral Chapel

North Main

Good Samaritan Center

208 W. 2nd

KLOE/KKCG/KWGB

3023 W. 31

Sunflower Contest

RULES

• Write down as many words (at least 3 letters) that you can think of using the word "Nutrient"

• Do not use proper names

• Bring your completed list to The Goodland Star- News office at 1205 Main or at our booth at the Fair

by 12:00 p.m. by Monday, August 14th

Winner will be announced in the Friday, August 18th edition

1. _____ 26. _____

2. _____ 27. _____

3. _____ 28. _____

4. _____ 29. _____

5. _____ 30. _____

6. _____ 31. _____

7. _____ 32. _____

8. _____ 33. _____

9. _____ 34. _____

10. _____ 35. _____

11. _____ 36. _____

12. _____ 37. _____

13. _____ 38. _____

14. _____ 39. _____

15. _____ 40. _____

16. _____ 41. _____

17. _____ 42. _____

18. _____ 43. _____

19. _____ 44. _____

20. _____ 45. _____

21. _____ 46. _____

22. _____ 47. _____

23. _____ 48. _____

24. _____ 49. _____

25. _____ 50. _____

(If you have more than 50, please attach an additional sheet)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Age _____

Winner of the Sunflower Contest will
receive a FREE 1 year subscription to:

The
Goodland Star-News

Clean out closets, attics and garages with classified ads! 899-2338