

Letters to Corinthians highlight importance of love

In his letters to the Corinthian congregation, the apostle Paul gave warnings on several important topics for Christians, including not following men, guarding their associations and the importance of love.

At 1 Corinthians 1:10-17, Paul warned the congregation about following men, rather than Christ. Different groups following different apostles were causing divisions in the congregation. Likewise, following men, rather than Christ, has a divisive influence today.

Paul said there: "Now I exhort you, brothers, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that you should all speak in agreement, and that there should not be divisions among you, but that you may be fitly united in the same mind and in the same line of thought. For the



sharon corcoran

• use it or lose it

disclosure was made to me about you, my brothers, by those of the house of Chloe, that dissensions exist among you. What I mean is this, that each one of you says: 'I belong to Paul,' 'But I to Apollos,' 'But I to Cephas,' 'But I to Christ.' The Christ exists divided. Paul was not impaled for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I am thankful I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one may say that you were

baptized in my name. Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. As for the rest, I do not know whether I baptized anybody else. For Christ dispatched me, not to go baptizing but to go declaring the good news, not with wisdom of speech, that the torture stake of the Christ should not be made useless."

Paul did not become egotistical when given such attention; instead, he was offended that the attention was given to him and not to Christ. He immediately shot it down to prevent following men from dividing the congregation, thus making Christ's sacrifice useless in that it wouldn't save any who were led

away from the faith by following men's teachings.

Another threat to the congregation's unity and faith was the toleration of serious sin.

At 1 Corinthians 5:1, 2, Paul writes: "Actually fornication is reported among you, and such fornication as is not even among the nations, that a wife a certain man has of his father. And are you puffed up, and did you not rather mourn, in order that the man that committed this deed should be taken away from your midst?"

In verses 5 and 6, Paul cites the reasons the man should be "taken away from their midst," that he be "handed over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, in order that the spirit may be saved" and that "a little leaven ferments the whole lump."

Removing the man from the congregation is discipline for him, hopefully to move him to change, and it protects others in the congregation from picking up his bad ways.

Paul warned the Corinthians of that danger again in chapter 15, verse 33: "Do not be misled. Bad association spoil useful habits."

In 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 Paul says, "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels but do not have love, I have become a sounding piece of brass or a clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophesying and am acquainted with all the sacred secrets and all knowledge, and if I have all the faith so as to transplant mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. And if I give all my belongings to feed others, and if I hand

over my body, that I may boast, but do not have love, I am not profited at all."

Paul then explains in verses 4-8 what love is and is not: "long-suffering and kind," "not jealous, does not brag, does not get puffed up, does not behave indecently, does not look for its own interest, does not become provoked. It does not keep account of the injury."

By the time Paul wrote his second letter to the Corinthians, the man spoke of earlier had repented of his sin. Paul urged the congregation at 2 Corinthians 2:6, 7: "This rebuke given by the majority is sufficient for such a man, so that, on the contrary now, you should kindly forgive and comfort him, that somehow such a man may not be swallowed up by his being overly sad."

Hay rack ride, caroling Sunday

Everyone was urged to dress warm on Sunday and meet at the United Methodist Church for Community Christmas Caroling. Hay rack ride and warm refreshments followed.

There are a couple of births to report, the first being Faith Nichelle, born Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2006, to Whitney Ditmars of Goodland. Grandmother is Mary Crabtree, Wooster, Ohio. Great-grandparents are Willis and Joyce Crabtree of Brewster.

The second is a boy named Landon John Wright on Sunday, Dec. 3, 2006. Parents are Jessica and Robert Wright of Atlanta, Ga. Great-grandmother is Vi Bowman of Brewster.

Pauline Lemmer is in a nursing home in Sharon Springs. Her address is 408 E 6th, Prairie Manor Good Samaritan, Sharon Springs, Kan., 67758. Also, anyone who would like to send Nettier Mills a



betty jo baird

• brewster news

card, send it in care of Ruth Cooper, 1103 North Business, 81 & 287 Highways, Decatur, Texas, 76234.

Dani Bedore made the first team in *The Salina Journal's* All-Area Volleyball Team. Audrey Hoyt and Avery Schultz received honorable mention.

Dani Bedore, Audrey Hoyt and Avery Schultz made the first team on the Western Kansas Liberty League team. Megan Allen received honorable mention.

Tuesday, Dec. 5, Duane Jones fell while taking out the trash and broke his hip. They flew him to Greeley, where their daughter

lives.

Larry Werth cut his fingers pretty bad on Sunday and was taken to Denver for surgery.

Nadine Kammer also fell on Tuesday; her ankle is sore, but she is okay. We need to keep all these people in our prayers, and everyone should be extra careful in these winter months.

Instead of ending my news letter this week like I normally do, I would just like to say: Go out this week and do a kind deed for someone.

They may need to be taken to an appointment, need food or clothing. They may just need someone to talk to. It will make you feel good inside, and they will see Christ in you. Try it; you will like it. Talk to you next week.

Low light causes plants to shed

At this time of year, house plants can start to look unthrifty and may even shed leaves. Most of this is the plant responding to low light levels.

Not only is the day shorter but the angle of the sun means sunlight must travel through more atmosphere before it reaches us in the northern latitudes. Each of these factors means less light energy reaches our houseplants.

Houseplants respond to this stress by stopping growth and dropping leaves if necessary. So how can we tell if leaves are being dropped due to stress or due to other factors?

Normally, stress is the culprit if leaves are dropped throughout the plant so a general thinning occurs.

The next question, then, is what do we do about it? Well, you can add supplemental lighting or just wait until longer days and



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• ag notebook

higher light levels allow the plants to recover.

Unfortunately, people often are not patient enough and decide the plant needs more fertilizer or water to perk it up. Remember the problem is low light, not a lack of fertilizer or water. Adding extra fertilizer or water won't help and may actually harm the plant.

Everything needs to be balanced in the plant. If there is plenty of sunlight, the plant can use plenty of water and plenty of fertilizer. Under low light levels, the plant is unable to use much fertilizer, and the nutrients just stay in the soil where they can build up and may

eventually burn roots.

Excess water can actually

drown roots. Therefore, it is important to do a good job of watering and fertilizing during the winter. Water only when the soil is dry one inch deep in the pot. You can learn to judge whether a plant needs water just by weight.

Reduce or eliminate fertilizing during the winter months. If the plant still looks thin in the spring, cut it back so that it can put out new, thicker growth. Also, knock the plant out of the pot in the spring and make sure it isn't rootbound. If it is, move it up to a larger pot.

Picture-perfect holidays not reality for most

During the holiday season, family images portrayed by the media focus on the happy family and perfect family gatherings. In reality, such get-togethers are often much less than perfect for a variety of reasons.

In recent years, the structure of the American family has changed a great deal.

Divorce, remarriage and single parenting add a different dimension to family dynamics, which sometimes contributes to difficulties this time of year. New family members, including stepchildren, require changes in family interactions.

For many families, deciding where to gather for a family event can be a decision that requires a great deal of planning,



high plains mental health

• plain sense

communication and compromise. For families of divorce or remarriage, this can become even more of a challenge, trying to satisfy the wants and needs of everyone involved.

Children often feel unfairly pulled back and forth between divorced parents and their new households and between several sets of grandparents.

This becomes even more difficult when divorced parents have not maintained good communica-

tion in regards to their children.

Discussing holiday plans and expectations early in the year can help everyone feel more comfortable and will help reduce last-minute confusion and conflicts.

Children will also feel better when they know where they will be and when.

In addition, as families grow and change, so do holiday rituals and traditions. Such changes are not always welcomed by all members of the family and can result in bad feelings.

It is a good idea to talk about family traditions with the goal of

preserving past traditions that are special, as well as encouraging new ones.

The holiday season is considered a time of giving and forgiving. With good communication and planning ahead, family experiences can help strengthen all who are involved.

Contributed by Karen Schueler, manager, Consultation and Education Department. The views expressed here are those of the individual writer and should not be considered a replacement for seeking professional help.

Mail questions to High Plains Mental Health Center, Plain Sense, Consultation and Education Department, 208 E. Seventh, Hays, Kan. 67601. Internet site: www.highplainsmentalhealth.com.

Kansas Chautauqua needs two host towns

Bar-room smasher Carry Nation, newspaper editor William Allen White, poet Langston Hughes and controversial goat-gland doctor J.R. Brinkley will return in June as part of the Kansas Humanities Council's "Famous Kansas Chautauqua."

The agency is looking for two Kansas towns to serve as host for the family-friendly, history-centered festival of learning June 14-17 and 21-24.

Humanities professionals will portray the famous Kansans under

a tent in the city park each evening. Daytime activities would include a living history theater camp for kids, field trips to historical sites and workshops and presentations.

Host communities need to make a cash contribution toward program costs, coordinate local activities and partner with the council in publicizing and promoting the event.

The application to host the event is available on-line at www.kansas-humanities.org or by calling (785) 357-0359. Applications are due by Monday.

Making gift buying easier draws holiday customers

As Christmas approaches, think of creative ways to market to holiday shoppers. You could offer a wish list service. Let customers register for gift items they would like to receive to make gift buying easier for their family and friends.

You could also create gift packages. Put various lotions and soaps in a pretty basket; add a soothing candle, and then top with a bow.

Another idea is to use food items — pasta, bread, a jar of sauce, parmesan cheese — everything you need for a nice Italian dinner. Put a movie and microwave popcorn in a cute popcorn bowl.

This idea could also work for a service. Offer a gift basket with hair care products and a gift certificate for a haircut and a style. The ideas are limitless. For a finishing touch, attach a candy cane, mistletoe, or some festive holly. Be creative and make the holidays merry for your customers and your business.



jamie morphew

• business tips

With the year coming to a close and a new one knocking on the door, take time to look back and plan forward. What things did you do well this past year? How can you continue to improve and build on these things? What things fell short of your expectations? What can you learn from these experiences?

After evaluating the past year, determine what you want to do next year and the steps to take. Set goals and put them in writing. Establish times throughout the year to evaluate your progress. Remember, improvements rarely happen by accident. You must plan for them then work to achieve them.

It's easy to dwell on problems and spend your energy throwing pity parties, but doing so won't lead to positive solutions. What issues do you commonly complain about in your business? Lack of customers? Lack of money? Lack of quality employees?

Pinpoint an issue, then spend more time thinking of solutions than you do dwelling on the problem. Focus your energy on finding the positive instead of wasting it on the negative. Developing a problem-solving mindset is essential to your success and your happiness.

Microsoft Excel is an excellent financial management tool. Once you learn some of the basic functions and formulas, you can create numerous spreadsheets to help manage your business.

A loan amortization schedule is simple to create and allows you to

instantly see what extra payments can do to your loan.

Another helpful spreadsheet you can create is a cash flow statement. Many business owners learn the hard way that income and cash flow are not the same.

A cash flow spreadsheet can help you predict cash shortages and plan accordingly. Learning how to use tools such as Microsoft Excel takes time, but the benefits far outweigh the costs.

These tips are brought to you by Western Kansas Business Consulting, a joint effort of five Kansas counties to boost business success, formerly known as Western Kansas Enterprise Facilitation Consortium. We offer free and confidential business consulting in Kearny, Lane, Scott, Sherman and Wichita counties. For information or to set up an appointment, contact Jamie Morphew, business consultant, at (620) 874-0771 or e-mail wkbc@wbsnet.org.

student of the week



Name: Sarah Borneman
Parents: Bill & Donna Borneman
Grade: Senior
Age: 17

We've nominated this student because: Sarah always comes to class well prepared. She has performed well in the classroom and is always willing to help others if they don't understand. There is no doubt that Sarah will be very successful in whatever career she chooses to pursue.

Student Comment: I enjoy being around my friends and the activities we share. I will always remember the Science

Olympiad trips and all the times in the library.

Activities involved in at school: FCCLA, Scholar's Bowl, NHS, Science Olympiad, Les Chantes and American Red Cross Youth Volunteers.

My choice of movies, books, and games: I enjoy reading the classics, including *To Kill A Mocking Bird* and *Pride and Prejudice*, watching chick flicks and comedies, and listening to all types of music.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: go to college to pursue a business degree in accounting or finance.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: happy at a job I enjoy and possibly starting a family.

Favorite Quote: After awhile you learn that sunshine burns if you get too much, so plant your garden and decorate your own soul, instead of waiting for someone to bring you flowers and learn that you endure, that you are really are strong, you do have worth.
— Veronica A Shaftshall

matters of record

District Traffic
The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court:
Nov. 11 — Maria Delrosario Hernandez, \$219 for speeding.
Anthony S. Stevens Sr., \$117 for overweight load.
Nov. 12 — Victor L. Pate III, \$150 for speeding.
Nov. 13 — Rodolfo Jonael Cid-Perez, \$132 for speeding.
Cyrus M. Moffett, \$144.50 for speeding.

Ezequie Rodriguez-Escareno, \$120 for speeding.
Nov. 14 — Zerefino L. Garcia, \$120 for speeding.
Nov. 15 — Pjeter Gjonikaj, \$139 for overweight load.
Nov. 16 — Wayne A. Adams, \$166 for motor carrier safety rules and regulations and \$100 for motor carrier safety rules and regulations.
Mhammed Baoudi, \$166 for motor carrier safety rules and regulations.

Fernando Cota, \$166 for motor carrier safety rules and regulations and \$100 for motor carrier safety rules and regulations.
David L. Floyd, \$132 for speeding.
Steven C. Kahla, \$126 for unlawful acts with vehicle.
Nov. 17 — Kimberly M. Goodwin, \$165 for speeding.
Michael P. Spera, \$138 for speeding.
David E. Stoll, \$126 for improper

parking.
Tammy L. Stuckey, \$156.06 for speeding.
Nov. 18 — Earl S. Chadderton, \$144 for speeding and \$60 improper driving on laned roadway.
Frank G. Demoss, \$120 for speeding.
David W. Larson, \$138 for speeding.
Tina A. Lewis, \$144 for speeding.
David H. Lopez, \$132 for speeding.

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