

In
search
of...

Truth & Right

Tim Henderson, Editor

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“Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.” Phil. 4:8 (NASB-U)

A publication of the
**Wellsburg
church of Christ**
Which meets at:
112 Sunset Ave.
Wellsburg, WV 26070
304-737-1422

We appreciate so much your presence here with us today. We would like to extend an invitation to join us at any of our other times of worship.

TIMES OF SERVICES
SUNDAY
Bible Classes* 10:00 AM
AM Worship 10:45 AM
PM Worship 6:30 PM
WEDNESDAY
Bible Classes* 7:00 PM
(* Bible Classes for All Ages)

Today's Sermons:
*AM: World or Heaven
... Your Choice!*
PM: Alexander the Great

Audio CD's are available free of charge in the foyer.

*Please visit our website:
www.truthandright.org*

If you have any questions regarding what we teach and practice, please feel free to ask.

Fully Embracing God's Will

Gary Henry

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might ...”
Ecclesiastes 9:10

As each new day reveals to us what God's will is, we need to throw ourselves wholeheartedly into whatever work the Lord sets before us. If we are Christians, then the adage *“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might”* applies to us in a unique way. If we've submitted ourselves totally to the Lord, then what our *“hand finds to do”* will never be anything but what He wills for us to do (Colossians 3:17). Consequently, we can give our best to every single task the Lord puts on our “desk.”

When we commit ourselves unreservedly to the Lord, what we are asking Him to do, in effect, is to show us the

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path He wants us to follow, on the understanding that we will follow wherever He leads and do whatever He wills. But He doesn't reveal what He wants us to do in advance; He does it one day at a time. So if you've prayed for the Lord to open the doors that He wants you to go through, **then the doors that are open to you today are the ones He wants you to go through!** (You did believe that the Lord would answer that prayer, didn't you?) The work He wants you to do is the work that is right in front of you. **Today's work has been sent by Him**, and if you refuse to do it with all your might, then you need to reconsider whether you are actually willing to do the Lord's will.

And don't forget: we can consider the difficult things no less than the easy ones to have been sent by the Lord. There is just no way around having to deal with some difficulty. But in reality, if it's the **right** road we're on (and the Christian will always make sure that it is), then it doesn't **matter** whether it's an easy road or not. So the advice of Confucius turns out to be especially good advice for Christians: "Wherever you go, go with your whole heart."

If we have committed ourselves to God and prayed for Him to set our agenda and send our way what He wants us to do, then there need be no doubt in our minds that that prayer will be answered. That being true, we can embrace everything that comes our way with a whole new confidence. Believing that it is His will, whether easy or hard, we can dive into it and give it all we've got. **There need be no holding back for those who live within His will.**

"Wherever you are, be all there. Live to the hilt every situation you believe to be the will of God" Jim Elliot

The Encourager is Encouraged

Gary Henry

"For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established — that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me" Romans 1:11,12

The process of "Encouragement" is rarely a one-way street. Almost without exception, the encourager is encouraged in the very act of trying to encourage someone else. And the reverse is also true. By neglecting to encourage others, we deprive ourselves of much-needed encouragement that we might otherwise receive.

Paul's relationship with the Christians in Rome is interesting. He expected, when he got to Rome, to encourage their faith, but he also expected to be encouraged by them as well. Great apostle though he was, he needed the mutual strengthening that would come from their association. He needed their strength hardly any less than they needed his. But his encouragement would come from helping them — not by saying, "What can you do for me?"

Perhaps the mutual nature of encouragement is one reason that so many of us spend so much time in the dark valleys of discouragement. We spend so little time trying to encourage anyone ELSE, it's little surprise that we find ourselves so downhearted. Epidemics of discouragement should be expected in societies that are as self-centered as ours. One of the most disheartening things in the world is to be focused on whether others are lifting us up and brightening our spirits as they "ought" to be doing.

But even when we're encouraging others, we won't be encouraged if we don't LISTEN to ourselves. When we're figuring out what the other person needs to hear, we usually discover things that WE need to hear, but those lessons will be lost on us if we don't listen to our own instruction. And really, why should our friends take our advice if we're not willing to take it ourselves? "Physician," our friends might say, "heal yourself" (Luke 4:23).

But teaching — whether by instruction, exhortation, or encouragement — can be a wonderfully beneficial exercise. It can help both parties, the giver no less than the recipient. So look for somebody to encourage. Find out what truth THEY need to hear, and then listen to that truth YOURSELF. You'll be encouraged.

*"We cannot hold a torch to
light another's path without
brightening our own"*
Ben Sweetland

Slowly But Surely
Gary Henry

*"Therefore do not cast away
your confidence, which has
great reward. For you have need
of endurance, so that after you
have done the will of God, you
may receive the promise ..."*
Hebrews 10:35,36

What the Hebrew writer said is certainly true of all of us: We have need of Endurance. Some days in this world we may enjoy, but others we must simply endure. And even the enjoyable days must be "endured" while we wait for the best day of all: the day of our

Lord's final appearing (Hebrews 9:28).

Patience is a wonderful quality in general, but I think we sometimes need to be more patient with **ourselves**. In regard to our spiritual growth, we expect too much too soon, and we find ourselves developing a crabby, ill-tempered disposition. "After all the effort I've put into it, why aren't things getting any better?" But we should understand that as long as our earthly pilgrimage lasts, we will never be anything more than "on the way" to our destination. Or to change the illustration, we will never be anything more than "works in progress." We see the need for patience with other people — why can't we be more patient with ourselves?

It helps to be reminded that growth, whether physical or spiritual, is an "incremental" process. An increment is a small change in something, so small as to be barely perceptible. And that's how growth usually occurs: by small changes. So what we must do is patiently make regular investments in our growth, trusting that the result will be seen later, even if we can't see it right now.

"My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing" (James 1:2-4). Isn't it interesting that James says we must let patience have its perfect work? We can go through all the growth-producing events in the world and not be profited by them if we give up before the process is complete.

But finally, we must not let patience with the process of growth turn into **complacency**. We must accept the fact that growth doesn't take place very **quickly** right now, but we must never tolerate the fact of no growth — for not to be growing is to be dying.

*"Be not afraid of growing
slowly, be afraid only of
standing still" Chinese Proverb*

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Matt Ferrell
Announcements	Chuck Isinghood
Song Leader	Earl Miller
Scripture	Hosea 10
Reader	Ken Prager
Prayer	Dan Marton
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Don Coen, Sr.
Fruit of the Vine	Ed Roberts
Serve	Blake Headen
Serve	Terry Smith
Closing Prayer	Don Coen, Jr.

Please inform the one in charge of announcements if you are unable to fulfill your responsibilities.

Sunday PM

Announcements	Chuck Isinghood
Song Leader	Dan Marton
Scripture	Hosea 11
Reader	Matt Ferrell
1st Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Communion	Tim Henderson
Closing Prayer	Ed Roberts

Wednesday

Announcements	Chuck Isinghood
Class Prayer	Matt Ferrell
Song Leader	Tim Henderson
Invitation	Dan Marton
Closing Prayer	Don Coen, Jr.

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

Traveling:

- Harold & Linda Marshall will be traveling this week

Recovering:

- Cary Lancaster
- Marie Roberts
- Ann Rudolph

Prayer Requests:

- Merl Frey
- Zeda Goddard, also her sons, Dallas and Terry, and her daughter Tammy Garrison
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband, as he continues to deal with cancer treatments.
- George Hutto, preacher from Alabama diagnosed with cancer
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Alfred & Mary Jane Myers
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Chris Shane
- Monty Wallace, Charissa Wallace's father
- Corey Williams, a friend of Tim & Anna Henderson is undergoing cancer treatments.

Don't forget our Shut-ins

Nursing Home:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

At Home:

- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Betty Hunter
- Pauline Midcap

Send them a card—give them a call—let them know we are thinking about them.

If someone needs to be added to this list, please call:
304-914-2262 or 304-914-2263