

*In
Search
of ...*

Truth & Right

GENESIS

Tim Henderson, Editor

Volume-05

Issue-23

01/02/2011

"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 Sermon:

Our Purpose

*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.*

Resolutions for the New Year

Andy Sochor

via-Plain Bible Teaching—12-31-2010

As one year quickly draws to a close and we look forward to a new year, we usually take some time for self-evaluation and making resolutions to improve our lives. Many resolutions that are made have to do with our lives here on this earth: improving our finances and health, eliminating bad habits, etc. These are all good, but we must remember that improving our spiritual lives is far more important.

"For bodily exercise is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come" (1 Timothy 4:8).

In the new year, you may get in shape, eat healthier, quit a bad habit, and get out of debt. Those are all great goals. But none of them will matter if your spiritual life isn't in order. So as you make your resolutions for the new year, here are six suggestions for improving your spiritual life.

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Bible Study

The wise man wrote, *"Incline your ear to hear the words of the wise, and apply your mind to my knowledge"* (Proverbs 22:17). Growing in knowledge is a pursuit that requires effort on our part. Paul told Timothy, *"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth"* (2 Timothy 2:15). It is important to develop a *habit* of Bible study. The Bereans were commended to us because they were *"examining the Scriptures daily"* (Acts 17:11) rather than blindly accepting what some preacher had to say (*even if that preacher was the apostle Paul*).

Prayer

We are encouraged to *"pray without ceasing"* (1 Thessalonians 5:17). These prayers must be offered *"in faith without any doubting"* (James 1:6). Does this mean that God will give us *anything* as long as we ask *in faith*? John helps answer this question: *"This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him"* (1 John 5:14-15). The requests that God grants are those which are made *according to His will*. This is really what is meant by the phrase *"in faith,"* since *"faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ"* (Romans 10:17). This year, in addition to strengthening your habit of prayer, grow in your ability to pray *in faith*, according to the will of God.

Righteousness

As Christians, we have been *"freed from sin,"* and been made *"slaves of righteousness"* (Romans 6:18). The only way we can truly be *slaves of righteousness* is to *"practice righteousness"* (1 John 3:7). Therefore, we must continue our quest to overcome sin and be more like Christ. We should be able to say, as Paul said, *"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me"* (Galatians 2:20).

If there is any sin in your life, find it and deal with it. Find the *"way of escape"* (1 Corinthians 10:13) that has been promised and take the appropriate steps to eliminate that sin.

Service

One of the ways we show love for God is by showing love for others (1 John 4:21). This love is not to be merely a verbal expression, but should be manifested in our actions. John wrote, *"Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth"* (1 John 3:18). So how will our love for our brethren be exhibited in our actions? Paul told the Galatians, *"through love serve one another"* (Galatians 5:13). A little bit later, he wrote, *"So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of faith"* (Galatians 6:10). Let us learn to do what we can with our resources and abilities so that we might do good to others and help those who are in need.

Teaching

In order to teach, one must be prepared to teach. This goes back to our point about Bible study. But teaching involves more than just having the ability to give a proper answer (1 Peter 3:15). We must have the *courage* and *conviction* to be willing to teach. This is why Paul requested prayers on his behalf — so that he would *"make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel"* (Ephesians 6:19). He told the saints in Rome, *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek"* (Romans 1:16). Once we know the gospel and learn how to teach it to others, we must develop the boldness necessary to speak up when we have the opportunity, rather than keep silent, ashamed to tell others about the word of God.

Time Management

This one may seem like it has more to do with our physical lives. It certainly would impact that, but the way in which we use our time also has a bearing upon our spiritual lives. Paul said, *"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the*

most of your time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16). Everything we talked about in this article requires time. On top of these things, we also have obligations at home, work, and school. If we are to continue to grow spiritually, we must learn to manage our time so that we are able to devote ourselves to Bible study, prayer, righteousness, service, and teaching.

Foundations

Gary Henry

via-Enthusiastic Ideas—01-01-2011

"Be sure of the foundation of your life. Know why you live as you do. Be ready to give a reason for it. Do not, in such a matter as life, build an opinion or custom on what you guess is true" (Thomas Starr King).

If we're serious about improving our lives and making progress, we need to pay primary attention to the foundations upon which we live. Whatever we try to "build" in the year ahead, it can be no better than the quality of our most basic principles. And if we tolerate flaws in our foundations, we doom ourselves to an inevitable collapse, in the long run if not in the short.

Solid foundations require hard work. Foundational work often seems unexciting, and so we're tempted to spend as little time on it as possible. The result is a life built on principles haphazardly cobbled together from whatever materials lay at hand. Too often, the concepts that guide our conduct are little more than those we've picked up from entertainers and advertisers. But lasting foundations require a bit more effort. It takes real work to think things through carefully.

The dangers of a weak foundation may not be outwardly obvious. Even the most serious defects in a person's principles may not show up until the structure of that person's life is seriously tested. Indeed, it may not be until the very end that it becomes apparent that a human being's life has been founded on a faulty basis. So it's important to look beyond the PRESENT circumstances of our lifestyle. Just because our house of cards hasn't collapsed yet, that doesn't mean it won't.

Trends and fads can't be counted on to tell us what our principles should be. What

is "in" today will be "out" this time next year. When we're laying the foundations of our lives, it is much better to consult the time-tested wisdom of many generations. This wisdom may be counter-intuitive. What

our great-great-grandparents learned through long experience may be scorned by today's common sense, and the best strength in the world may be mocked as weakness by the popular culture. Yet as J. R. R. Tolkien reminded us, "All that is gold does not glitter, and all who wander are not lost." It is often true with principles as well as with people: the first shall be last, and the last first.

*"All that is
gold does not
glitter, and all
who wander
are not lost."*

—JRR Tolkien—

*"Do you wish to rise? Begin
by descending. You plan a
tower that shall pierce the
clouds? Lay first the foundation
of humility"*

—Augustine of Hippo—

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Bryan Legg
Announcements	Harold Marshall
Song Leader	Ed Roberts
Scripture	Mark 7:1-16
Reader	Ken Prager
Prayer	Dave Harless
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Don Coen, Jr.
Fruit of the Vine	Matt Ferrell
Serve	Dan Marton
Serve	CJ Isinghood
Closing Prayer	Wayne Campbell

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

Sunday PM

Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Song Leader	Harold Marshall
Scripture	Mark 7:17-37
Reader	Nathan Marshall
1st Prayer	Dan Marton
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Communion	Ed Roberts
Closing Prayer	Dave Harless

Wednesday

Class Prayer	Chuck Isinghood
Announcements	Harold Marshall
Song Leader	Nathan Marshall
Invitation	Bryan Legg
Closing Prayer	Earl Miller

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

Sick/ Poor Health:

- Phyllis Coen
- Zeda Goddard is in Trinity East, room 307
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband.
- Robert Schwerferger, Alberta Headen's brother-in-law diagnosed with brain cancer.
- Grace Lancaster, in Golden Oaks
- Ronald Lancaster
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Harold Marshall, as he continues recuperating from his surgery.
- Kitty Morgan, is at Carriage Inn in Steubenville.
- Alfred and Mary Jane Myers
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- Gabriel Taylor, 5 year old great grandson of Don & Phyllis, dealing with cancer.
- Trudell Tennant

Don't forget our Shut-ins

Ann's Retreat:

- Josephine Clow

Brightwood Center:

- Shirley Campbell

Valley Haven:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

At Home:

- Mabel Fleming
- Zeda Goddard
- Betty Hunter
- Pauline Midcap
- Ann Rudolph

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 contact Tim Henderson