

RIPPLE EFFECT

A relay was tripped at the Sir Adam Beck Power Station on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls. The stage had been set when the relay was inadvertently set too low a few days before; it tripped at 5:16pm on November 9, 1965. It was this incident that inspired the 1968 film, "Where were you when the lights went out?"

By 5:27pm New York City went down. An estimated 8,000 people were trapped in the subways, traffic lights went out and brought the streets to a screeching halt, 250 flights into JFK Airport were diverted. The entire Northeast Power Grid had gone down, the blackout covered 80,000 square miles and over 25 million people were without power — all because of a relay!

We call it "The Ripple Effect."

As I was growing up, my grandfather had a pond behind his house. When we would visit on Sunday afternoon, we would go fishing. Inevitably someone would pick up a dirt clod and toss it in just to see how long it would take for the ripples to hit the bank on all sides. The clay dirt even produced clods that would skip across the pond like a smooth rock — but you have to be in the hills to have rock, and this pond was in flat farm land.

Paul wrote, "*For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone*" (Romans 14:7. John Donne is famous for his version, "no man is an island". We affect one another as we interact in daily life, no one lives in isolation, no one lives truly to himself alone. We all cause a ripple effect of our own, each day, with most every move we make on some days. We would all be amazed if we knew how far out the ripples of our own life goes.

There has never been, nor will there ever be a ripple effect like the one caused by the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The ripples of His blood, shed for forgiveness of sins, sent waves into the past as well as the future. His life and sacrifice has touched each one of us in a significant and eternal way. We are what we are because of who He was and is.

—Steve Norris

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"church of Christ"

Romans 16:16

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Times of Worship:

SUN: 9:00am - Worship

10:15am - Bible Study

6:00pm - Worship

WED: 7:00pm - Bible Study

Elders:

Bob Gillen 728-1660

Don Gregory 728-9556

Bill Hollins 455-7590

Bob Kerce 728-8382

David Sullivan 728-5878

Charles Willmore 728-4968

Deacons:

Steven Barnes 1-615-765-7032

Tim Brown 728-8879

Tim Green 954-0136

Jayson Little 409-3090

Jim Thompson 728-7604

Scott Vaughn 247-4392

Steve Willmore 728-6308

Jeremy Woods 581-5998

Minister:

Carl S. Sims 728-2679

Secretaries:

Penny Barnes 1-615-765-7032

Jeannette Verner 728-7925

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Karen Green 954-0136

MONITOR

Vol. XXXV

May 19, 2010

No. 20

WHY SO MUCH BIBLE

I don't think I will ever forget when a young preacher visiting one of our Gospel Meetings asked the question, "Why do you all use so much Scripture in your preaching?" It struck me as odd that someone would ask such a question. He then added, "I have found it better to use only a few Bible texts and to illustrate them with many stories and anecdotes to which people can relate."

Is it a mistake to use book, chapter, and verse preaching? Should we get away from using Bible references? Why would some think that this was a good thing?

I respectfully submit that moving away from Scripture is not a good move. Many have come to think like this because they view worship assemblies as entertainment venues. They find searching the Scriptures to be boring and uninteresting, and having less entertainment value. So, they opt for funny stories, or heart-tugging illustrations to stimulate the emotions of the hearer, rather than inspired texts aimed at the intellect.

The Bible is the only message we have from God (2 Tim. 3:16-17). The ideas of men, and the denominational dogmas authored by men, have no power. The power is in what God has authored in the sacred Book (Rom. 1:16). Since the Bible is God's inspired Word, does it make sense for the church of God to spend less time learning it?

Emotional stories and anecdotes which produce chuckles may be fun, but worship is not for fun! The feelings and emotions of men, without Bible instruction, will lead men astray. Human feelings do not save, but divinely-authorized teaching will save (James 1:18-21). Paul instructed the young evangelist, Timothy, to "preach the Word" (2 Tim. 4:2) and to "convince, rebuke, exhort" by use of its teaching. I find no instruction anywhere in the Bible to set aside such sound teaching for entertaining stories. In fact, Paul warned Timothy about the "itching ears" which long for something else, and turn away from truth to fables (4:3-4). The church is to be "the pillar and ground of the truth," and the truth is only found in the Bible (1 Tim. 3:15; John 17:17). Do we need less truth, or more?

No, what ails modern man is not too much Bible, it is too little! Many churches have abandoned the preaching of the Word for mere entertainment. A better question to ask is, "Why is there so little Bible in so many churches?"

—Darwin Hunter

Wednesday May 19, 2010

FOR THE RECORD

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Morning Worship: (May 16) | 254 |
| Bible Study | 144 |
| Evening Worship..... | 130 |
| Midweek Bible Study (May 12)..... | 139 |
| Contribution: (May 16) | \$5,362 |

HOSPITAL

Zora Jetton, Stones River, Rm. 104.

Charles Casper, Erlanger

AT HOME

Dessie Taylor, Fairy Johnson,

Beverly Vanover, Kenneth Poff,

Richard Barlow, Sally Owens, Bill Bouldin,
Frank Penney, Jo Ada Barlow, Dawn Willmore,
Angelique Johnson, Wayne Rigney, Rickey Woods

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL

The Wednesday Night Meal has been discontinued for the summer beginning next week, May 26th.

READ THE NEW TESTAMENT THRU:

Dorothy Bramblett, Betty Ehrhardt

PANTRY ITEMS

Cereal, Canned Corn, Peanut Butter

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to Barbara Teal in the loss of her brother, Joe Moss. His funeral was Thursday, May 13th in Nashville.

BAPTISM

Our hearts were made to rejoice over the baptism of Amy Krontz & Tricia Haynes on Thursday. They live at 39 Sunny Court, Manchester. Phone: 952-5268. Amy has two children. Daughter—Shelby Vanert-Krontz 7/14 & son—Dylan Gerst 6/28. Tricia has a son—Jayden Haynes 9/21. Amy 1/10 & Tricia 3/3.

"The fellow who does things that count doesn't usually take time to stop to count them."

MEN TO SERVE

THOSE TO SERVE, SUN. MAY 23:

9:00AM

Song Leader: Mahlon Crosslin

First Prayer: Don Gregory

Scripture: Jonathan Hall

Closing Prayer: Roger Taylor

6:00PM

Song Leader: Mahlon Crosslin

First Prayer: Wayne Shelton

Scripture: Jonathan Hall

Closing Prayer: Jeff McCullough

A.M.: "The Greatest Advertising Campaign"
(Mark 16:14-18)

P.M.: "But I Must Decrease" (John 3:25-36)

PICK-UP ATTENDANCE CARDS, SUN. MAY 23:

Chris Jeffrey & Ethan Little

NURSERY ATTENDANTS, SUN. MAY 23:

Dawn Willmore & Terri Rigney

THOSE TO SERVE, WED. MAY 26:

Devotional: Carl Sims

Announcements: Steve Willmore

Opening Prayer: Charles Willmore

Closing Prayer: Jim Thompson

Song Leader: Jonathan Hall

CARE BOX

Girl Scout Troop #507 has provided a box in the foyer for Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels, Bathroom Tissue for Shepherd's House Homeless Shelter in Tullahoma. If you have any questions, see Amie Woods.

CARE TEAM MEETING

Ron & Ella Livingston's Care Team #3 will meet Friday, May 21st in the fellowship hall @ 5:30pm. Please bring finger foods and wear old clothes.

FLOOD RELIEF

On Sunday, May 23rd, we will have the opportunity to contribute toward helping victims of the recent flooding in Middle Tennessee.

Your contribution may be made by putting it in the contribution plate at the time of the regular contribution. If you **give by check**, be sure to indicate "**For flood relief**" on the check. If you **give cash**, please obtain one of the envelopes at the back of the auditorium and mark "**for flood relief**" on the envelope.

The full amount given for flood relief will be sent to churches of Christ Disaster Relief. They have already been busy through local churches and much remains to be done.

MOVED

Earl & Wanda Qualls have recently moved to Columbia. Their new address is: 1760 Auburn Lane, Columbia, TN 38401. Phone: 921-840-6285. We will surely miss them and wish them well in their new home.

NEW ARRIVAL

Congratulations to Benjamin & Mallory Laine on the birth of a daughter, Adelle, on Wednesday, May 12th. She weighed 6 lbs 6 ozs. Proud grandparents are David & Karen Browning and great grandparents are Bob & Elizabeth Kerce.



To all at Main Street church of Christ,

Thanks for thinking of me!

I really appreciated all the prayers and thoughts and cards. A Special thanks to Buddy Fetzer's Sunday Morning Class, Shirley Villani, Carl & Carol Russell, Dolores Cranch, Winfred & Virginia Duke, Coy & Jewell Noblitt and I can't leave out my niece, Bev Woods. Don't know how we would have done without her.

Thanks, Ernestine Scott

BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Lessons Graded (5/12-5/19)..... | 1,232 |
| Requests For Personal Contact..... | 1 |
| Students served..... | 493 |

STUDENT COMMENTS

God bless and thanks for everything. I am so excited over these lessons. I have 3 lessons more then I get my certificate! Glory to God. I would love to continue with any other courses you may offer. (Princeville, NC)

THE SAVIOR'S SHEPHERD

"Give a shepherd's care to God's flock among you" 1 Peter 5:2.

You cannot waver nor fall asleep.
For preying wolves appear as sheep;
The newborn lambs require our care,
As easy prey, they need beware
Of prowlers bent on havoc and harm.
Shepherd, shout and sound the alarm!

Your task: protect, defend and feed
All the flock of God, to lead
To verdant fields each ram and ewe.
The erring sheep you must pursue,
Restore the wanderer to the fold.
Shepherd, bring them in from the cold!

Fill your service with purest joy,
Discernment and all wisdom deploy;
Let not this labor weigh on your mind,
Be eager to do the work assigned,
For heaven is for them your goal.
Shepherd, usher to God the soul!

—J. Randal Matheny

UPCOMING EVENT

June 26: Vacation Bible School

Theme: "Faith Is the Victory"