

Heaven

January 24, 2010

"In my Father's house are many dwelling places... I go to prepare a place for

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Charlestown Road Church of Christ

4601 Charlestown Rd.
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Web site:
www.Charlestownroadchurchof-
christ.com

Our Services

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 am
Worship: 10:20 am
Evening: 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Our Preacher:

Roger Shouse 816-260-1257

Our Elders:

Larry Beckham 502-777-7720
Bill Densford 812-944-8446
Lee Quinn 812-207-5178



Our motto for 2010:

"Do you
know my
Jesus?"



When Trouble Comes

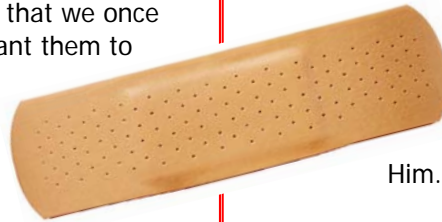
Trouble come in several different ways. It may come to us as physical problems, emotional stresses, financial burdens, family turmoil, or spiritual hardships. It is hard to prepare for the loss of a mate, a job, health or peace of mind. Troubles can take out of us everything that we once believed in. We simply want them to go away, but they don't.

There are some certain things we know about troubles:

We know that troubles will come. In Job 14:1 we find, "Man born of woman is short lived and full of trouble." Jesus said, "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Peace is never possible until we acknowledge the fact that trouble will come. Trying to find a trouble free life is never going to happen. This is not Heaven. There will be pain, sorrow, death and heartache as long as we live here. Instead of trying to escape trouble, we need to learn to "bear our own burdens" (Gal. 6:5).

We know that God is near. God is always just a prayer away. God knows what you are going through. Paul reminded the Philippians, "Let your forbearing spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made know to God" (Phil. 4:5-6).

God is near. Pray. Let God know what is troubling you. Peter wrote, "casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you" (1 Pet 5:7). The Hebrew writer assures us with these words, "for He Himself has said, 'I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you'" (Heb 13:5b). God is near. Take comfort in that. Use Him. Rely upon Him. He cares.



We know that we may never know why. So often our pain is made worse because we desperately want to know why these things happened to us. Often we try to find some reason for our pain. Some believe it is punishment for something that they did. The truth is we may not ever know why. We should simply trust the Lord.

We know that we can lean on others. Our wonderful spiritual family is a great source of help and strength. Among God's people we find comfort, advice, encouragement and help. Use your church family. We are here for you.

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for Thou are with me" (Ps 23:4)

Ten Commandments for Getting Along In Your Marriage

- ① **Thou shall not speak hateful words to one another.** Words have meaning. Kind words strengthens a relationship. Cruel words weaken the foundation of a marriage.
- ② **Thou shall be reasonable, rational, and consistent.** Be real. Do not expect things of your mate that you do not expect of yourself. It is hard to discuss things if one is shouting, screaming, crying, pouting or walking away. It is hard for one to please their mate, if they are changing their mind all the time.
- ③ **Thou shall pray every day for your mate and your marriage.** God is the foundation that will bring a couple through any storm. Pray for your mate's purity. Pray for their spiritual strength. Pray for their growth in the Lord. Pray that you will be the person that God wants you to be. Pray for kindness, forgiveness, and understanding, then practice these things.
- ④ **Thou shall find ways to praise your mate.** It is easy to find fault. Be looking for the good things. Compliment. Praise. Build up. Remember to practice the "golden rule" in your marriage.
- ⑤ **Thou shall do the little things that surprises your mate and brings joy.** Everyone loves surprises. The best are the ones' that we least expect. The sweet notes left in special places, the simple gifts, the special phone calls are proof to our mate that we are thinking of them. They demonstrate a heart that is in love.
- ⑥ **Thou shall not let the problems of the world to become a problem in your marriage.** Your marriage should be a team concept. Support, defend and encourage each other against the pressures, stresses of work and the world. You are one with your mate, not the world! Help your mate when they are down.
- ⑦ **Thou shall take the attention off of self and devote it to the other.** Marriage is not about you, it is about your mate. Find out how their day went. What are they thinking about? What are their dreams? What are their fears? Talk less about yourself and listen more to your mate.
- ⑧ **Thou shall allow grace to be a regular part of the house.** No one is perfect. God extends grace to us. That wonderful gift draws us closer to Him. Grace needs to be in our marriage. Everyone has a bad day. No one is perfect, and no one is the "perfect mate." Treat each other as God treats us.
- ⑨ **Thou shall use conflict as an opportunity to change and be better, not as a weapon of mass destruction.** Disagreements are a part of life and a part of marriage. They are the opportunity to influence, learn, change and be better or they are the means of destroying the person we promised to live with. Use conflicts wisely.
- ⑩ **Thou shall remember that you made a promise to your mate and to God.** You may have called your promise a vow, but you made it. Keep it. It is not conditioned upon your mate keeping their part first. Love is un-conditional. Keep your part of the promise, no exceptions!



Family Connections

News for You

- This evening is our **song service**. Come join us in singing praises to God.

For your Prayers:

- Remember in your prayers: **Cathy Lee, Rex Hauger, Gene Fleming, Gail Stein.**
- **Paul Smith** is at Riverview Center on Eastern Blvd. in Clarksville
- **Louise Morris** came home from the hospital
- **Dick Dewhirst's** cancer has returned. Our prayers are with him.
- **Camile Corley's mother** is recovering from a stroke in Florida
- **Ralph Jackson's brother** fell and broke his hip
- **Greg Powell's mother** is ill
- **Donna Cook's sister** is very ill
- We have several here who are expecting babies. Pray for their health and the health of their baby.

Personal Work Group # 7 meets this morning at Polk's home.

The first evangelistic thrust coming from the Jerusalem church was not a result of intense planning, well thought out strategies, and men who were developed and carefully trained for such a project. Persecution was the reason the disciples "went everywhere teaching" (Acts 8:1-4). Obstacles can become opportunities when we keep our eyes upon the Lord and are ready to serve the Lord.