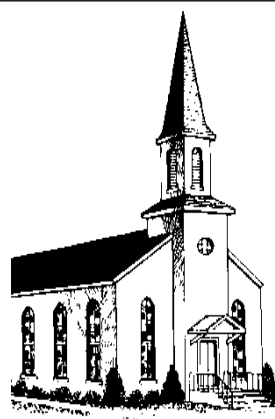


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WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Blessed Are Those Who Mourn", By Pastor Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Church

One of the greatest messages ever proclaimed was delivered by Jesus Christ and is referred to as the "Sermon on the Mount." His message is as relevant today as it was when it was first spoken. Our Lord opens this message not with a joke, but with the Beatitudes.

The Beatitudes cover the glorious hope and are rewards that Christians can expect now as well as in eternity. The second Beatitude is, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." (Matthew 5: 4)

To mourn means to have a broken heart. In the Greek, it means to have a deep inner pain which occurs when something tragic happens, such as a death of a loved one. It also means to have a desperate sorrow over evil and suffering. In this Scripture it is mourning over sin against God and the results of it which leads to spiritual death and eternal separation from God. It is a brokenness of heart that comes from understanding the suffering Christ went through upon the cross and realizing that our sin put Him there.

True Godly sorrow is not "I'm sorry I got caught! I'm sorry I have to pay the price for my sin!" This sorrow focuses on self and simply moans over the personal consequences of it's own sin. It is total self-centeredness that does not consider the heart of God. It leads to death be-

cause it does not lead to repentance.

Those who are God's true mourners live a life of repentance, they mourn over the sins they have committed as well as over the sins of others and they have great regard of God's honor, such

as Ezekiel, Isaiah and Jeremiah. The psalmist who wrote psalm 119 wept "a stream of tears because God's Word was not obeyed." (v. 136)

True mourners sympathize over the afflictions of others. "When Jesus saw [Mary] weeping and the

Jews who had come along with her also weeping" over Lazarus' death, "He was deeply moved in spirit and troubled." (John 11: 33) "Jesus wept." (John 11: 35) They also have compassion on perishing souls such as

Jesus did over Jerusalem and her coming fate. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing." (Matthew 23: 37)

King David found comfort in the everlasting arms of the Lord after mourning over his sin against God. The prophets of God found comfort in the sovereignty of God after they had mourned over the sins of Israel and Judah. Jesus was comforted and strengthened by an angel in the Garden of Gethsemane as He was overwhelmed with sorrow, to the point of death, because of the sins of the world and the results of it.

Do you want true comfort? Then first, mourn over sin in your own life. Secondly, mourn over sin in the church. Thirdly, mourn over sin in the world, and fourthly, be sure to mourn with those who mourn. (Romans 12: 15)

True mourning leads to true comfort and to an unspeakable peace and joy. Jesus was a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering, (Isaiah 53: 3) He can comfort you.

We Need Heroes



- SUNDAY
Psalm 40
- MONDAY
Psalm 41
- TUESDAY
Psalm 42
- WEDNESDAY
Psalm 43
- THURSDAY
Psalm 44
- FRIDAY
Psalm 121
- SATURDAY
Isaiah 42:1-20

For most of us, having someone to admire and look up to is important. We need heroes! Many of us still remember a teacher, a friend, a neighbor or a national figure whose actions influenced our lives in some way.

Today it seems as if there are fewer people we can look up to. When we are coping with our trials and tribulations, we need a hero we can trust who sets a steadfast and wise example. We need a dependable role model.

Jesus of Nazareth was a source of steadfast strength for His disciples and all those He encountered. He cared for this world and loved and forgave everyone, no matter what his or her actions.

Let Jesus be our hero! Worship only God and, as Exodus 20:6 tells us, He will show "...love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments".

Why not learn more about this hero at your chosen house of worship!



Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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NEW ALMELO

By BETTY OTTER

Family coming to spend weekends with Marion and Lorraine Long on Feb. 4 were Joe Long, Leawood; Dale and Rhonda Rice, Canton; Irene Schieferecke, McPherson. Coming for Feb. 12 were Tom and Jan Long, Hays. Leonard and Joan Long and Zack, Logan, came this past weekend.

After suffering a broken leg, Geneva Long is a patient in Via Christi Hospital, Wichita. Her address is Room 5058, 929 N. St. Francis, Wichita, Kan. 67321.

Paul and Linda Becker, Lenora, have a new grandson born Feb. 9. He weighed 7 pounds 6 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. Caden Lee is the son of Raymond and Olivia Becker, Manhattan. Bernice Becker, Norton, and Eugene and Miriam Sansom, Edmond, are his great-grandparents. Paul and Linda attended the

baby's baptism, Feb. 19 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Manhattan. Nathan Becker and Kimberly Williams were godparents.

Russ and Marcia Aumiller and Josh Vahling attended the baptism of their grandson, Lynkon Jeffery Vahling on Feb. 19 at Immaculate heart of Mary Catholic Church in Hays. His godparents were Russ Aumiller and Sonya Herl. Lynkon is the son of Jeff and Kathleen Vahling, Hays.

Family coming to the home of Alfred and Betty Otter on Feb. 11 were Jolene Moss, Cheyenne, Courtney and Aaron of Jewel. On Feb. 17, Will and Tina Ritter, Alyson, and Carson, Olathe came. Over the weekend, they also visited Will's parents, Vincent and Mary Ritter, Leoville, and Anna Reinert, Seguin, Will's grandmother.

JENNINGS NEWS

By LOUISE CRESSLER

Sympathy is extended to the family of Bob Nelson, Colby by the Jennings community. Bob and his wife Pat (Stramel) grew up in Jennings. His funeral was Monday at Colby with burial in the Hoxie Cemetery.

Keith and Helen Muirhead enjoyed a two week agriculture trip to Hawaii. They visited five different islands. Some of the farms they visited were: pineapple, coffee, and Guava Kai, just to mention a few. A visit to Pearl Harbor was one of the highlights and also so sad. A ride in a helicopter to view an active volcano was very interesting.

The children of Edith Foster honored her with a birthday dinner Saturday evening. It was catered by Merle Snyder at Mom's Lil Market. Twenty-two family mem-

bers attended.

United Methodist Women will meet Wednesday. Glenda Johnson led a Bible study. Everyone is invited to join the group.

Jennings City Council met Thursday in the Senior Center.

Card players Saturday evening at the Sunflower Senior Center were Vendla Tacha, Agnes Wahlmeier, Mary Votapka, Eleanor Morel and Louise Cressler. Mrs. Cressler won high. No cards were played the evenings of Feb. 11 or 18 because of the weather. Eleanor Morel won high evening of Feb. 4.

The Jennings School Board meeting is March 6 at 7:30 p.m. The elementary students will present a program, "Music In Our School" at 2:30 p.m. on March 9 in the school lunchroom.

NORTON MANOR

By DORIS MIZELL

Visitors of Bozie and Delores Bozarth were their daughter and son-in-law, Denise and Dave Whisman of Plainville, on Saturday.

Saturday afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Atwell visited Mr. and Mrs. James Skrdlant. At noon their children from Smith Center had lunch with them.

Saturday Marie Delimont had as guests her daughter Judy VanDerVeen of rural Prairie View and Beverly Hawks and her mother Carol of Amarillo, Texas.

Mary Keith enjoyed Denzel Lofgreen's 80th birthday celebra-

tion at the home of Jon and Elaine Lofgreen Saturday evening.

Marie Engelhardt had her 99th birthday at The Manor in February. She is still very active and takes part in the exercise classes. We want to wish her many more.

At a morning coffee, recently, residents were surprised to see the new round tables. Of course, the rolls and coffee were enjoyed.

Doris Mizell attended the Music Festival last Wednesday for the Norton Junior High. David and Jacob Mizell were involved. It is wonderful to see so much talent in our young people.

ALMENA NEWS

By ESTHER MARBLE

Chance and Bryce Marble ate dinner with their grandmother Esther Marble and uncle Harold Shearer Saturday and Sunday. We had lots of fun feeding and playing with the puppies out to Blaine's.

Bill Godfrey visited Esther Marble on Thursday evening.

Betty Baker came by Sunday afternoon and picked up Esther Marble and they went to Norton

for awhile.

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