

When life throws you a lemon, make lemonade

This past Sunday evening we had an incredible prayer time at Calvary. I love that service. It is really the service that I use to gauge what is happening here. It is the life line of our church. If the prayer life of our church is weak, then the rest of what we do will be lacking.

I like what EM Bounds said, "Prayer is the slender nerve that moves the hand of an omnipotent God."

As our time progressed in our service, we just really began to pray for our community. We all know that rural America faces challenges not just here, but everywhere. We all have been affected by the local businesses that have closed their doors.

As we were praying for our community I couldn't help but think of the book of Nehemiah and the report he heard about his beloved Jerusalem. The city was in ruin, and the people were scattering. What does this man of God do? It says in chapter 1, verse 4,



steve rains

• moments from calvary

"When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven."

I want to encourage you today, tomorrow, next week, and next year that when you see opportunities to overcome you take Nehemiah's approach! Don't take the low road of grumbling and griping. In other words don't suck on the lemon, make some lemon-aid.

What happens if we decide to grumble and complain?

Here is a lesson from Scripture put so well by Pastor Timothy Satryan: "In the twelfth chapter of Numbers we read that "Miriam

and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman whom he had married, for he had married a Cushite woman. And they said, "Has the Lord indeed spoken only through Moses? Has he not spoken through us also?" And the Lord heard it."

As the leader of the masses out of Egypt, Moses endured far more criticism than he deserved. In Numbers 14, we read how God sent a whole bunch of people to die in the desert because of their incessant complaining. When Moses' own family picked up the sour song, God came to Moses' defense. To Miriam and Aaron, He said, "Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant, Moses? So the anger of the Lord burned against them." (Numbers 12:8) In other words, "Just who do you think you are criticizing Moses like that?"

Notice God's deep feelings. He didn't wait

for their explanations. And they didn't wait long for the consequences. God just said, "Enough!" He hates it when we dwell on the perceived faults of another with no view to their good. You don't have to be a Bible scholar to feel God's heat in this true account. He considers criticism a sin and He won't tolerate it. Obviously, we want to soften that judgment and call criticism a weakness or a bad habit or poor people skills. While criticism is all that, it's also a whole lot more.

If you have a critical attitude toward someone, you are hindering your fellowship with God! He hears that bitter spirit come out in your words and wants nothing to do with it. Makes you wonder, if your spiritual life feels like a wilderness right now — dry, cheerless, and joyless — maybe it's because you've allowed a critical attitude to creep in. It's a choice that not only injures your horizontal relationship with others, but also your vertical relationship with God.

It's your choice! When He says, "Don't!" what He really means is, "Don't hurt yourself!" When God says, "Don't criticize," it's not because He wants to deprive us of some satisfactory experience. He is actually saying, "That goes against the nature of who I have made you to be." Fish were made to swim. Birds were made to fly. People were made to live in fellowship with God. When we criticize others, we break that fellowship with God. We hinder our own joy, and our life becomes like a wilderness." Or another way of saying it, we look like we are licking a lemon. Instead choose to make some lemon-aid!

Let's take the high road in life, and be people who live above reproach. I am convinced God sees treasures in people, let's see through His eyes.

Steve Rains is the pastor at the Calvary Gospel Church, Fourth and College. Go to the church's web site at calvarygospel.net or e-mail Rains at calvarycolumn@st-tel.net.

matters of record

District Traffic

The following fines have been paid in the Sherman County District Court. All ages are at the time of the ticket.

Dec. 31, 2007: Ivan Boasher, 50, The Woodlands, Texas, \$126 for speeding, 85/70.

Dana A. Dudley, 41, Tulsa, Okla., \$126 for not having a child in a safety restraint.

Jan. 1, 2008: Shad S. Ali, 23, Aurora, Colo., \$144 for speeding, 88/70.

Carl L. Beckwith, 34, Fultondale, Ala., \$138 for speeding, 87/70.

Jennifer J. Denison, 37, Colorado Springs, \$114 for improper parking.

Charles T. Drolshagen, 24, Golden, Colo., \$156 for speeding, 90/70.

Danny E. Harvey, 57, Sparko, N.V., \$138 for speeding, 87/70.

Gregory W. Jinkerson, 24, Trot, Mo., \$192 for speeding, 94/70.

Randall L. Daise, 53, Kanorado, \$144 for speeding, found guilty in a bench trial.

Diane L. Gontz, 48, Burlington, \$108 for speeding.

Hannah N. Morton, 20, Goodland, \$30 for not wearing seat belt as required, wearing only shoulder strap.

Jan. 2: Casey W. Duke, 29, Canon City, Colo., \$114 for speeding, 78/65.

Benjamin Garcia-Carrillo, 42, Aurora, Colo., \$126 for speeding, 85/70.

Jose A. Hernandez, 46, Wichita, \$174 for speeding, 97/70.

Kristy J. McBride, 47, Greenwood Village, Colo., \$150 for speeding, 89/70.

Jan. 3: Jeffrey A. Bartz, 46, Oak Point, Texas, \$138 for speeding, 87/70.

Jose H. Casiano, 26, Aurora, Colo., \$183 for speeding, 93/70.

Stephen P. Conner, 18, Salt Lake City, \$165 for improper parking.

Richard Florez, 45, Wichita, \$144 for speeding, 86/70.

Darrell G. Garner, 42, Goodland, \$114 for speeding, 78/65.

Christopher J. Fedrizzi, 40, Eagle, Colo., \$138 for speeding.

Jan. 5: Kristen B. Ashcraft, 30, Newberry, S.C., \$156 for speeding, 90/70.

Nathan L. Gregory, 28, Meeker, Colo., \$150 for speeding, 91/70.

Wendell R. Koehn, 31, Texhoma, Okla., \$120 for improper parking.

Jan. 6: James Oliver Bell Jr., 60, Windsor, Colo., \$108 for speeding, 77/65.

Kathleen M. Heermann, 20, Grain Valley, Mo., \$132 for improper parking.

Jose L. Hernandez, 22, Aurora, Colo., \$156 for speeding, 90/70.

Nathaniel G. Hulse, 19, Denver, \$144 for speeding, 88/70.

Jan. 7: Joe Aquirre, 34, Kanorado, \$30 for not wearing a seat belt.

Robert D. Barbour, 40, Millerstown, Pa., \$166 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations, log book 11-hour rule.

John D. Keller, 20, Owensville, Mo., \$126 for speeding, 85/70.

Matthew P. Moellers, 19, Tulsa, \$126 for improper parking.

Jeffery J. Morgan, 65, Guthrie Center, Iowa, \$166 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations, not having seven days log.

Jan. 8: Michael A. Aldridge, 56, Russell, \$166 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations, driving over 14 hours.

registration.

Stanley R. Hitchcock, 53, Burlington, \$183 for speeding, 78/55.

John A. Keeble, 22, Atlanta, \$114 for speeding, 83/70.

Jan. 10: Louise E. Chase, 58, Naples, Fla., \$138 for improper parking.

Paul H. Cummings, 44, Shattuck, Okla., \$116 for not having an oversize permit on a 12.5 foot wide load.

Harold L. Foster, 63, Thebes, Ill., \$166 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations, not having seven days log.

Aaron L. High, 21, Kensington, \$120 for speeding.

Jan. 11: Isaac M. Ashcraft, 19, Kansas City, Mo., \$138 for improper parking.

Craig A. Baily, 47, Evergreen, Colo., \$132 for speeding, 86/70.

Leonard J. Greenfield, 41, Dudley, N.C., \$166 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations, log book 70-hour rule.

Christopher V. Baade, 41, Larkspur, Colo., \$566 for driving under the influence of alcohol, first conviction; \$90 for refusing to submit to a preliminary breath test; \$72 for speeding; and \$30 for not wearing a seat belt.

Brandon R. Bombeck, 28, Shelton, Neb., \$120 for speeding.

Nicholas S. Kough, 20, Scott City, \$183 for improper parking and \$30 for not wearing a seat belt.

Jeffrey D. McHugh, 20, Columbia, Mo., \$201 for improper parking.

George H. McClelland, 90, Goodland, \$126 for failure to maintain a single lane and \$30 for not wearing a seat belt.

Jan. 12: Darrell C. Aplanalp, 52, Rangely, Colo., \$126 for speeding, 85/70.

Alonso Cano, 26, Hoxie, \$266 for transporting an open container.

Eva M. Connors, 18, Fruita, Colo., \$210 for speeding, 95/70.

Roswitha W. Costello, 51, Oakgrove, La., \$126 for improper parking.

Susan L. Hoxie, 48, Nampa, Idaho, \$165 for speeding, 91/70.

Joshua J. Moore, 28, Belleville, Ill., \$126 for speeding, 85/70.

Jan. 14: Callen W. Graczyk, 44, Lockport, La., \$156 for speeding, 90/70.

Jan. 15: Marla Harrison, 51, Goodland, \$126 for speeding, 70/55.

Stanley D. Lee, 41, Jones, Ala., \$191 for being over weight limits on wheels and axles.

Jan. 16: Monty Otto Brisboy, 41, Mt. Pleasant, Mich., \$164 for being over weight limits on wheels and axles.

Brandon Joseph Lee, 28, St. Francis, \$108 for speeding, 77/65.

Jan. 18: Jonelle L. Knuteson, 24, Fort Sill, Okla., \$120 for speeding, 84/70.

Jan. 20: Denon A. Burrier, 27, Arvada, Colo., \$126 for improper parking.

Jan. 21: Steven L. Gross, 36, Parker, Colo., \$165 for improper parking.

Todd S. Kelley, 25, St. Louis, \$126 for speeding.

Jan. 22: Joe Bennett, 62, Goodland, \$166 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations, log book 11-hour rule.

Jan. 23: Steven A. Hass, 38, LeMars, Iowa, \$123 for being over weight limits on wheels and axles and \$100 for not having seven days log.

Jan. 25: Skyler Eby, 18, Goodland, \$126 for following another vehicle too closely.

Stanislav Kompaniets, 54, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, \$166 for violating motor carrier safety regula-

tions and \$72 for speeding. Mark P. Milligan, 52, Evergreen, Colo., \$132 for speeding, 81/65.

Jan. 29: Darius A. Bussen, 52,

Sharon Springs, \$156 for speeding, 85/65.

David W. Miller, 62, Attica, \$166 for violating motor carrier safety

rules and regulations, no log book, and \$100 for expired medical card.

Jan. 31: Archie N. Murray, 67, Lamar, Neb., \$108 for speeding, 77/65.

Feb. 1: Guillermo E. Mendez, 67, Wray, Colo., \$126 for following another vehicle too closely and \$30 for not wearing a seat belt.

Worship warms the heart

Calvary Gospel Church

Pastor: Steve Rains, Ben Coats, youth pastor Fourth & College • 890-3605
Sunday: Kid's Church: 10:30 am
 Morning Service: 10:30 am
 Evening Service: 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Royal Rangers Missionettes 6:30 p.m.
 Adult mid-week service: 7:00 p.m.
 Youth @ the Rock House: 7:00 p.m.
 Small Group Ministries meets through out the week.
www.calvarygospel.net

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Pastor: Father Norbert Diabal
 307 W. 13th • 890-7205
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 4:30-5 pm Saturday or by appointment
Mass Schedule:
 Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am
Spanish Mass:
 Sunday: 12:30 pm



Word of Life

A Foursquare Church

10th & Clark • 899-5250
Pastor: John Coumerilh
Associate Pastor: Ben Coumerilh
Sunday: Worship Celebration and Kids' Church: 10:30 am
Life Groups - call for times and locations
www.wordoflifegoodland.org

Pleasant Home Church

Serving the rural community for over 100 years
 Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70
Pastor: Perry Baird
 890-3375
Sunday: Worship Service: 9 a.m.
 Sunday School: 10 a.m.
 Evening Service: 6 p.m.

Bible Baptist Church

Pastor: Clifford Middlebrooks
 Fifth & Broadway
 890-7368
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m.
 Morning Service: 10 a.m.
 Evening Service: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO
 (719) 346-7984
Sacrament Meeting: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.
Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 a.m.

Iglesia Del Dios Vivo

La Luz Del Mundo Spanish Speaking Church
Minister: Esteban Ortiz B.
 1601 Texas • 899-5275
Daily Prayer: Sunday thru Saturday: 5a.m. & 6 p.m.
Sunday: Sunday School: 10 a.m.

United Methodist Church

Brewster:

Pastor: Dorine Chambers
 Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. CST
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. CST
Winona:
Minister: Sheryl Johnson
 Worship Service: 9 a.m. CST
 Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)
Pastor: Rev. Ted Amos
 Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233
Sunday: Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups, Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups, Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship
Special Notice: Handicap Accessible, Hearing Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler Nurseries Available

Kanorado

United Methodist Church

Pastor: Leonard Cox
 399-2468
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m.
 Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.

Church of the Nazarene

Pastor: Bob Willis
 Third & Caldwell
 899-2080 or 899-3797
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship Service: 10:50 a.m.
 Evening Service: 6 p.m.
Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 p.m.

First United Methodist Church

1116 Sherman 899-3631
Pastor: Rev. Kasey Crosby
Saturday: Worship: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 a.m.
 Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday: Wednesday Nite Live 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Simple Supper "Free will Offering 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages

Goodland Bible Church

109 Willow Road • 899-6400
Pastor: Chad DeJong
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m.
 Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Wednesday: AWANA (Winter) and prayer: 7 p.m.

First Baptist Church

Pastor: Travis Blake
 Bateman's Funeral Home, 211 E. 11th
 890-3450
Sunday: Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 a.m. (Child care provided)
 Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m.
 Wheatridge Center

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

13th & Center
 Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969
Priest: Father Hal Lycett
Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m. Sunday
 10:00 a.m. Thursday
Morning Prayer: Daily, 8 a.m. Thursday and Sunday
 For emergencies 890-6969

Harvest Evangelical Free Church

104 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-7918
Pastor: Brian Fugleberg
Sunday: Worship: 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday: Youth group meets at 7 p.m.
 at Scherlings', 827 Caldwell.

Seventh Day Adventist Church

1160 Cattletrail
Pastor: Mike Larson
Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.
 Worship Service: 11 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

13th & Sherman • 890-6161
Sunday: Christian education/fellowship: 10:15 a.m.
 Worship Service: 9 a.m.
Wednesday: Confirmation: 6 p.m.

Church of Christ

401 Caldwell
 890-6185
Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 p.m.

The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:

Short & Son Trucking
 Hwy. 24

Koons Funeral Chapel
 North Main

Good Samaritan Center
 208 W. 2nd

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