

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

Character: HONOR OR DEFAMATION?

By Terrill Worthington,
First Church of God

I couldn't believe my eyes when I entered my office after worship one Sunday many years ago. There on the corner of my desk was a box labeled "BARTLES & JAMES Premium PEACH FLAVORED California Wine Coolers". I first wondered if this was a practical joke. On further inspection, I learned that someone had used that box to return some books I had loaned to them.

I probably wouldn't have thought much about it except that I often found empty beer bottles in the lot between our home and our Church. I would put those bottles in a sack and put them in a trash can in our alley so that no one would think they were mine (I am a tea toadler).

Picking up those bottles made me think of a story I read recently in a church newsletter:

A prim little old lady was telling a friend about her awful shock upon finding two empty whiskey bottles in her garbage can.

"Can you imagine my embarrassment?" She said, "I got them out fast, because I didn't want the garbage man to think that I drink."

"What did you do with them?" asked the friend. "Well, the preacher lives next door," was the reply, "so I put them in his garbage can. Everyone around here knows he doesn't drink."



Surprise!!

"Why, I walked through the door, expecting my sister to soon be stopping by for a short birthday visit. It was after dark, so I began to walk across the room to switch on the lamp. About that time, the light came on and all of my friends and family were yelling... "SURPRISE!!" My living room was full of streamers and balloons! I nearly fainted... would have if there hadn't been a chair nearby.

Yes, who knows what wonderful surprises are in store when we have friends and family who love us...who think ahead and make wonderful plans for our happiness when we least expect it...while we are making other plans.

Our Heavenly Father has loving plans for us as well. While we go about our daily lives, God is with us, though we are usually involved in our own plans. Yet, our Creator knows this and is faithful to us. "For I know the plans I have for you...to give you a future and a hope." [Jeremiah 29:11]

We do need to allow time from our schedules, however, to commune with God and to feel His presence within us. God plans for us. Won't you plan to worship Him this week?

SUNDAY
2 Timothy 3:1-17

MONDAY
2 Timothy 4:1-22

TUESDAY
Titus 1:1-16

WEDNESDAY
Titus 2:1-15

THURSDAY
Titus 3:1-15

FRIDAY
Hebrews 13:1-25

SATURDAY
2 Peter 1:1-15

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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NORTON LIBRARY

By LIZA DEINES
This year we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, which opened the West to exploration and settlement.
Library board member Mary Beth Boyd has prepared an exhibit to entertain and educate Norton Public Library patrons. The center case features commemorative medallions, coins, and first-day cover stamps that portray the two explorers.

A children's book, "Seaman's Journal" tells their story from their black Labrador dog's point of view and shows them in more down-to-earth terms.

Several books in the exhibit provide maps and journals that recount the trials and hardships of their journey.
Many other items of interest, such as keychains, coffee mugs, and desk boxes are included to serve as mementos commemorating the historic journey.

In coordination with the Lewis and Clark display, David and Nadine Benson have returned to share more of their collection of native Indian beading and tanning.

Actual pieces of trade cloth and authentic Lewis and Clark trade beads are the highlight of this group, some of which are on loan from Colorado friends. The trade beads are particularly beautiful, brightly colored and designed and

it is noted that red beads required gold in the manufacturing process, so were the most valued for trade.

A beaded Blackfoot Indian dress, an almost pure white beaded pipe and tobacco case and a unique knife case are also offered for viewing.

An important factor in exploring the Western frontier was the horse and one of the most valuable resources found were the vast herds of wild horses on the prairies.

Surely no child has grown up without a toy horse of some kind and for many, their fondest wish has been a horse of their own.

Scott and Chance Harman did not lack for horses in their growing-up years.

They took such good care of their extensive herd of Breyer horses that they are still around to be shared with us today. The standing case at Norton Public Library has become a corral full of prime horseflesh with nary a damaged tail nor a broken leg. Very well made and well posed, they're a joy to behold. Come take a look.

Casey Meyers fills the art department with a mixed media exhibit that shows her versatile talents. Pottery, oil painting, watercolor, pencil and prints, both block and silk screen, provide a buffet to please any art enthusiast. Some of the pottery is classic, some innovative.

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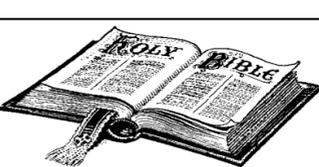
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