

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

By Maurita Lymer, Lenora Church of God

A young man was jogging down a beach one day, enjoying the weather, the waves, his health and well-being. When he noticed someone up ahead who kept bending down and then throwing something in to the water. When the young man came closer, he saw that it was an old man. And what he was doing was picking up stranded starfish from the beach and tossing them back in to the water. The young man stopped and he watched the old man for a time, and wondered why. He finally spoke to the man and said, "The beach goes on forever; you can't save them all. What difference will you make?" The old man looked at the young man and then at the starfish in his hand. He said,

"It makes a difference to this one." And he threw it back into the water. Jesus tells us that we are to go and make a difference in the lives of others. In Matthew 28:19 He says: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (NKJV) Jesus also tells us that we are to "go out to the byways and the hedges and compel them to come in, that His house will be filled" (Luke 14:23, NKJV). It is the job of every believer to make a difference in the lives of those they come in contact with. Just like the old man and the starfish. Just as he put the fish back into the sea, we need to help people find their way back to the Savior.

Give and Take



In Psalm 55:22 we read "...cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you." We are assured that we can give our problems to God, but do we really let them go completely? Or do we just "lend" Him our problems and take them back if we don't like how He deals with them?

The Bible also tells us... "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer" (Matthew 21:22). It's so hard to have faith, but what if we believe God's answer is the right one, even if we aren't sure it is? In some situations, things aren't always clear until long after the fact... "hindsight is 20-20" or so the saying goes.

When we spend time with God, we become more aware of His spirit at work within us. We can trust Him with every care and know peace in our lives. What a relief!

Visit God's House this week. Give Him your problems and take Him at His Word!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
John 17.1-26	Matthew 17.22-18.5	Matthew 18.6-20	Matthew 18.21-35	Matthew 19.13-30	Acts 9.1-25	Acts 9.26-43

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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NORCATUR NEWS

By NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Recent guests at the Stan and Carol Miller home were Bev and Rocky DeLano, Wichita. They came for the Ron Montgomery benefit and were also celebrating their first wedding anniversary.

Wednesday, Jan. 9, Bee Nelson drove Marguerite Clark to Norton for her hair appointment.

Jan. 11, Bee Nelson drove Marguerite Clark and Beth Johnson to their eye doctor appointments in Hastings, Neb. They were accompanied by LaVerne Milner.

Betty Reid visited Minh and Wanda Nguyen in Lone Tree, Colo., for Thanksgiving and returned again on Dec. 16 to spend a White Christmas and the New Year with the Nguyens in their home.

Recent guests of Stan and Carol Miller for supper at the Cardinal Bar and Grill were Olive Arnold, Colorado Springs, Colo., Mary Arnold, Clayton, Jan Johnson, Anchorage, Alaska, and Dianna Ayles and daughter, Julia, Colorado Springs. They were in Norcatur to attend the funeral of their son and brother, Jim Arnold.

David and Retta Hare hosted a Christmas Day dinner for Kaye and Bob Strevey and Darrel and Alice Barnett. Also present were their daughter, Janice and Keith

Baker and grandchildren, D.J. and Lori Ebner. Also present were Retta's niece and step-son, Diane and Kevin.

Darrel and Alice Barnett went to Salina on New Year's Day to visit with her sister, Mary and Tom Wright. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Britton, Colby, Alice's brother, were also there. Jan. 2 was Darrel's birthday and the group went out to Grandma Max's for breakfast.

Sunday, Jan. 13, the Norcatur/Lenora "Chatty Hatters" Red Hat Society members attended "The Twisted Sistars" belly dance performance in Norton. The program was presented by the Norton County Arts Council. The group went to the Pizza Hut for supper and election of officers for 2008 to 2009. Judy Jackson was elected Queen and Carolyn Strevey and Devonna New will share Vice-Queen. Norma McCallister is the Historian/Secretary/Treasurer. The group is planning a trip to Deadwood, S.D. on April 13, 14 and 15. They plan to visit some casinos, see the Crazy Horse Monument and Mount Rushmore. If you are interested call Norma McCallister, 785-693-4544. Commitments need to be made by March 1.

Ag conference deadline coming up

HUTCHINSON — A health fair and wine tasting are being added as pre-conference offerings for "Celebrating Ag Women," the 2008 Women Managing the Farm Conference scheduled Feb. 8-9 at the Grand Prairie Hotel and Convention Center in Hutchinson.

The women's conference typically highlights topics of interest to women who have chosen agri-business as their career, said Kristy Archuleta, conference coordinator, who is based at Kansas State University.

Conference sessions will focus on topics such as managing a family farm or a farm partnership; planning and conducting a successful business meeting; evaluating insurance needs; managing time to balance work and family, reducing stress and improving health.

The conference will include

more than 20 sessions, a resource fair and time for networking with others who share similar challenges and opportunities, Archuleta said.

The health fair will begin Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. and include a blood pressure check and tips on managing weight and health (sponsored by Curves), a skin analysis/skin cancer screening (sponsored by Kansas Farm Bureau), and a tasting of Kansas wines (sponsored by the Kansas Department of Commerce).

The pre-conference events are included with registration for the two-day conference, which is \$75 prior to Feb. 1, and \$90 thereafter. Registration for one day is \$50. For registration or more information, go to www.womenmanagingthefarm.info or call 1-866-FARM-KSU or 1-866-327-6578.

Cross Roads

VICTORIOUSLY LIVING OVER THE FLESH

CHRISTIANS HAVE OBLIGATIONS

Romans 8:12-14, "Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God." The Apostle Paul wrote about struggling with the flesh, "So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members." (Rom. 7:21-23)

In Romans chapter 8, verse 12, the apostle moves from instruction to exhortation, from what God has done through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit to what is expected of the child of God in way of response. There is a strong emphasis on human responsibility in regard to what is truly the reflection of a repentant heart renewed by the Holy Spirit.

The key word in our text today is "obligation" (*opheiletes*) meaning to be bound by a duty. It is important to note that this is not an ambition, it is a duty. The application is this. With the position that the child of God has in Jesus Christ comes an obligation to live a life worthy of the gospel.

To whom do Christians have an obligation? The obligation is to God, who created man's body, mind and spirit. He gave His one and only Son for the redemption of sinful mankind. (John 3:16) The obligation is to Jesus Christ who purchased God's chosen with His own blood. (1 Peter 1:1-2) Because of the price that Christ paid for the Christian's soul the child of God is obligated to surrender his mind, heart, tongue and literally every part of His body to the will of God.

All great armies that are victorious in battle are made up of soldiers who know that they have an obligation to fight with all their mind, heart and strength. The first step to living victoriously over the flesh is to accept Christ a personal Savior and Lord and to do your duty, surrender to the leading and empowering of the Holy Spirit of Christ!

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