ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

The work at Getwell church of Christ continues to center around the commands of the Lord and His great power. Never has there been any help that is equal to the assistance given by the Lord on a daily basis! Prayer is the means of expressing our gratitude and needs to our Heavenly Father. Prayer is the answer to our worries and difficulties in life (Phil. 4:6-7). It is commanded that we pray without ceasing or to have a regular plan for approaching our Father each day. Jesus is our mediator between us and God. We do not pray to Jesus or the Holy Spirit, but Jesus said we should pray to “Our Father who art in heaven” (Mt. 6:9), through Him (Col. 3:16-17; Eph. 5:20). What a privilege and blessing Christians enjoy!

We join with the Psalmist in saying, “O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! Who hast set thy glory above the heavens. . . . When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him?” (Psa. 8:1-9). The Psalmist also states that the Lord “made the heavens, and all the host of them by the breath of his” mouth (Psa. 33:6, 9). Paul in the New Testament instructs: “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves” (Rom. 1:20-24). Let us not become fools in word or in action! (Psa. 14:1).
That We Can Neglect Our Soul’s Salvation?

There is no doubt to the Bible student that the majority of people in the world will be lost (Mt. 7:13-14). This means that these will not so act as to “save themselves” by obedience to the primary principles of the Gospel, faith, repentance, confession, and baptism (Acts 2:38-40), or else that they will so neglect the interest of their souls, by failing to remain faithful in living the Christian life (Rom. 12:1-2; II Pet. 1:5-11). We are sometimes our own worst enemies, simply because of our neglect. The Hebrew writer said, “Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip” (Heb. 2:1). He then asked, “How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?” His rhetorical question actually states that we will have no way to escape, if we neglect and ignore the salvation offered in the Gospel! The salvation of our soul should be the greatest importance to every individual in the world (Mt. 16:26). WHAT ABOUT YOUR SOUL? Do you think, in your neglect, that the Father in Heaven will make an exception in your case and save you in spite of your wicked life? (I Jn. 2:15-17). Do you think, in your neglect, if you do not fear God and keep His commandments He will save you anyway? (Acts 10:34-15). Do you think, in your neglect, that you can take care of the affairs of this world, without living for God, and all will be well with your soul? (Lk. 8:14). Do you think, in your neglect, that you can place God down your list of priorities but that He will bless you fully? (Mt. 6:33). Have you been fooled into thinking, in your neglect, that you will obey the Gospel some day but that you have an abundance of time to do so? (Jas. 4:13-15). Have you, in your neglect, been thinking like Felix about “righteousness, self-control, and the judgement to come” in that you tremble but do not obey your God? (Acts 24:24-25). Do you realize, in your neglect, the deceitful nature of sin? (Gen. 3:1-6; Heb. 3:12). Do you think, in your neglect, that your ways are just as good as God’s ways and that your thoughts are equal with His? Please get your Bible now and read Isaiah 55:8-9. We urge you to neglect your soul no longer!
Again this year, we here at Getwell have a wonderful opportunity to be sponsors for ten children from the Potter Children’s Home. As a sponsoring congregation we will be responsible for purchasing Christmas gifts for these young people. Potter Children’s Home is one of four children’s homes we currently support.

These children come in all shapes and sizes. They range in age from 6 months to 13 years. I will list them below and tell a little bit about each one.

**Sophie:** Birthday 5-15-13; Favorite Color—pink; Favorite Flavor—chocolate; Favorite Music—Jonas Brothers. Sophie loves to play dress up and play pretend games.

**Emerald:** Birthday 5-17-14; Favorite Color—yellow and green; Favorite Candy—suckers; Favorite Snacks—goldfish, gummies; Favorite Pre-School Activity—Mother Goose Club; Favorite Music—Minnie Mouse. One of her favorite hobbies is catching fireflies. Emerald says about herself: “I’m lovable and enjoy making others laugh at my silly faces.”

**Jude:** Birthday 9-4-11; Favorite Foods—spaghetti, chicken, and pizza. She likes to collect lip gloss. In the future she would like to be a princess.

**Kayson:** Birthday 10-3-08; Favorite Color—red; Favorite Sports Team—Boston Red Sox. In the future, he would like to be a policeman. He writes, “Thank you for asking for my Christmas wish list. It is nice of you to ask, Kayson.”

**Abigail:** Birthday 1-10-03; Favorite Color—orange; Favorite Candy—payday; Favorite Foods—tacos, steak, ribs; Favorite Sports Team—U.T. Vols; Future Goals—play basketball, be a firefighter or detective.

**Amelia:** Birthday 7-20-16; Not much to say yet. She enjoys playing in her swing and rolling over. [Editor’s note: I’m sure with proper influence she will be a St. Louis Cardinal fan.]

**Daniel:** Birthday 6-6-10; Favorite Colors—orange & blue; Favorite Candy—Dr. Pepper; Favorite Music—Kids Bop on Country; Favorite Sports Team—Auburn Tigers & Indianapolis Colts; Interests—football, baseball, Star Wars, Harry Potter. He says in the future he would like to be a baseball referee. He concludes by saying, “Merry Christmas, thank you, Daniel B.”

**Brooklyn:** Birthday 4-13-07; Favorite Color—blue; Favorite Candy—chocolate; Favorite Food—Chinese. In the future she would like to be a veterinarian. She loves to sing and dance. She concludes by saying, “I appreciate you. Love, Brooklyn.”

**Rylie:** Birthday 3-8-13; Favorite Colors—pink & purple; Favorite Sports Team—Boston Red Sox. In the future she would like to be a mommy and teacher. She says, “I love Jesus” [and I’m sure Jesus loves her, rw].

**Spencer:** Birthday 6-14-15; Favorite Food—anything. His favorite music is Bible sing a long. My favorite song is “Roll the Gospel Chariot Along.” In the comments it states that this young boy is learning sign language to better communicate with his mommy.

After seeing these adorable children, I wanted to adopt all of them. But Karen said no; she said three was enough. Go figure?

— Ron Wallace