

Good News

From Getwell

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The Spiritual Sword Lectureship

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The Truth in Love

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Sundays, 8:00 a.m.

The Getwell congregation sends monthly support to the following:

Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill, TN
 West Tennessee Children's Home, Pinson, TN
 Potter Children's Home, Bowling Green, KY
 Children's Homes, Paragould, AR

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
 Worship.....10:20 a.m.
 Worship.....5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

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ON THE HOME FRONT

Please consider the following passage as our "On the Home Front" article this week:

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity" (1 Cor. 13:1-13).

Bradley Smith

From The Desk Of Bradley Smith

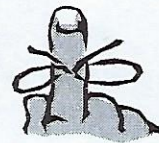
What I Have Learned from One Year of COVID-19 (Part 1)

In December of 2019, I saw a video discussing some virus in China that had affected a few hundred people. It was so strange to think that all of that craziness was caused by a man eating a bat in a Chinese town about which I had never heard. Fast forward about a month, the first case appeared in Washington state. These things come and go all the time. Remember Ebola? What about Swine Flu? Then, cases continued to increase. I, like many Americans, thought that there was nothing to it at all. It would simply die off like so many ailments have over the years.

In March of 2020, my great-grandmother passed away and I traveled to Kentucky for her funeral. I had plans to attend the SEC Men's Basketball Tournament later that week with my dad. Then, we were watching television one night, ESPN to be exact, and we hear the news that the SEC tournament would be played without fans. It was a bummer, but at least we would be able to watch from home together. A few hours later, another announcement comes that the SEC tournament would not be played at all. In a matter of hours, all sports were gone. While I was in Kentucky, the world as we knew it would change. In the course of a week, everything was different.

Over the next couple of weeks, we will see how the landscape of the Lord's church changed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

RON'S REMINDERS



In Search of Comfort

When Paul found himself in a time of great trial, he relied on God's comfort and the comfort of God's people.

We like things that are comfortable. Consequently, we buy certain types of clothing. We cultivate certain friendships. We avoid certain situations. We search for comfort, whether knowingly or unknowingly, despite our understanding that the difficulties we face in this life are "but for a moment" (2 Corinthians 4:17 NKJV). Regardless, our lives are not always comfortable. Rather than constantly enjoying health and ease, we sometimes endure pain and trials. Even if these afflictions are "light" and brief (verse 17), they are real and troubling. So how does the Christian respond when burdened by conflict, disease, political instability, social unrest, or any other trial associated with sin?

To answer his question, consider how the apostle Paul handled a time of personal difficulty. After he escaped the riot that ended his three-year ministry in Ephesus (cf. Acts 20:1). Paul came to Troas, where he reported, "A door was opened to me by the Lord" (2 Corinthians 2:12). Although this new opportunity seemed promising, Paul said he "had no rest" because Titus, whom he expected to meet there, was not found (verse 13). Paul thus left Troas and departed for Macedonia, obviously discouraged. He reported, "For indeed, when we came to Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were troubled on every side. Outside were conflicts, inside were fears" (7:5). This was likely a period when Paul was "in sleeplessness often" (11:27). So how did Paul get through this difficult time? He credited God: "Nevertheless God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, and not only by his coming, but also by the consolation with which he was

comforted in you, when he told us of your earnest desire, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced even more" (7:6-7). Paul made it through his time of difficulty by finding comfort from God and his brethren. As we face uncertain times, we must do the same.

Paul began 2 Corinthians by describing God in the following manner: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). This description of God is important. It prepares the reader to acknowledge the help God provided Paul (cf. 7:6-7), and it reminds us that His comfort remains readily available. When Paul found himself in a time of great trial, he relied on God's comfort and the comfort of God's people. The Corinthians helped him when they remembered him in prayer (1:8-11); the Corinthians helped him when they faithfully supported and encouraged his work (7:7). They passed along the comfort God provided to them.

Fittingly, Paul ended 2 Corinthians by encouraging the brethren with the following admonition: "Finally brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you" (13:11). The letter begins by describing the comfort God provided and ends by exhorting Christians to do the same. As we search for comfort, let's rely on God and His people.