

Good News

From Getwell

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The Truth in Love

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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

A very influential man in my life passed away this past week. Billy Irvan, who lived in Western KY, encouraged me so much as I was "getting my feet wet" in preaching. He was such a positive influence on the world around him and he will be greatly missed. We long for a time when there will be no more pain, sickness, or death, but peace and joy forever.

Please continue to pray for our members who are in hospitals, rehab centers, or are otherwise dealing with health difficulties. If you have dealt with a long-term illness, you can relate to some of the issues that these individuals are enduring. Reach out to the office for a phone number or an address to send a card or give an encouraging phone call. I am sure that it would be greatly appreciated.

For the next few weeks, you all have been enlisted as guinea pigs for me. As I mentioned last week, I have been invited to participate in "A Bible Answer," a television program sponsored by the Phillips Street congregation in Dyersburg. The taping is done in my hometown, Murray, KY. I have been assigned questions that it will be my duty to answer from the Bible. Each answer is expected to be about 3-4 minutes in length, but do not get too excited, I will have an extended version of each answer, to see what gets the best feedback as far as an explanation goes. I would appreciate it if after the lessons, you could come to me and tell me what the best explanation for each question is. Thank you in advance.

Bradley Smith

From The Desk Of Bradley Smith

Be A Pleasant Person

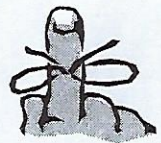
No one likes to be around someone who is complaining all of the time. Complaining is not just a nuisance, it is a sin (Phi. 2:14-15). Not only is it annoying to everyone around you, it is an offence against the will of God. Instead of complaining about every little thing that you might feel as a slight, why not be thankful for all of the blessings you enjoy? Your quality of life will greatly improve if you realize how blessed you truly are.

It perplexes me how some people are so bitter about everything. Doesn't the Bible say that we are to rejoice (Phi. 4:4)? Why would you not want to rejoice? What can you gain from being angry and resentful?

Another issue that drags everyone else down is someone who is a "know-it-all." This is an issue that stems from pride (Pro. 16:18). The Bible calls us to be humble (James 4:10). Some people genuinely need to hear the following: "You do not know everything. Your way is not the best. No one likes to be around you when you act like you are better than everyone else."

These three issues go much deeper than just being a pleasant person. Each of these attitudes, if espoused, will send you to Hell. To have a better relationship with your fellow Christians, and to be in right standing with God, we should all strive to be pleasant people.

RON'S REMINDERS



The Virtue of Humility

There is no greater example of humility than Jesus.

Vanity, as I understand the term, is an excessive desire to impress others so as to gain importance for oneself. This definition involves at least two components: (1) vain people have a low assessment of their own value and (2) can feel good about themselves only on the basis of how (they think) others perceive them. In other words, the vain person's self-worth is unjustifiably low, but his estimation of others' opinions is unreasonably high.

Humility is vanity's opposite. Etymologically, humility is associated with humiliation. This ought to mean humility implies weakness and insignificance. But both terms are from the Latin *hujnus*, meaning "ground," and both are informed by at least two features of the ground. First, the ground is what everyone walks on, yet it maintains its character. It exists to be trampled on, and it is willing to accept its role. Second, the ground is productive. Whatever you plant in the ground seems to rise higher and flourish. So it is with humble people. They intentionally place themselves lower than others, and those who associate with them grow as a result.

Humility is not humiliation, but neither is humility mere self-effacement. The man who constantly speaks of his own faults is still talking about himself. Self-effacement is just a passive-aggressive way of begging others to feed your ego. If you fear you

suffer from this form of vanity, just count the number of times you use the first-person pronoun I in the course of a day. Even when we criticize ourselves, we sometimes secretly seek to position ourselves as the star of the show. We know others are attracted to meekness, so we feign humility. When we do this, we are guilty of false humility.

Jesus was neither self-effacing nor weak. He was the ultimate example of humility and strength. Jesus was selfless enough to leave the riches of heaven (Phil 2:5-9). Jesus was confident enough to speak against man-made traditions (Matt 5:21-22, 27-28, 31-32, 33-34, 38-39, 43-44). Jesus was courageous enough to hang exposed on a cross (Heb 12:2). Jesus was strong enough to receive the broken (Matt 11:28-30). There is no greater example of humility than Jesus.

Humble people are not perceived as weak but strong; they are not regarded as incompetent but intelligent; they are not discredited but honored. In other words, the humble have everything the vain want. And the humble have a stronger sense of self-worth. The humble person is attractive and congenial because he is confident. He is so confident that he does not mind criticism, ridicule, and rejection. Sights don't bother him because his life is not about him. He lives for a higher purpose.