

THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

February 14, 2016

"BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT"

PLEASANT PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST

JACKSON, TENNESSEE

How To Win When You Lose

"I'm on record as being a sore loser. I hate losing," said quarterback Cam Newton. "You show me a good loser and I'll show you a loser." Newton shared his philosophy on losing to reporters Tuesday in response to his aborted press conference following a devastating loss in Sunday's Super Bowl. Newton pouted during the post game news conference, channeling his inner Bill Belichick, by giving petulant answers to reporters' questions. After mumbling single, short answers to seven questions he abruptly walked away saying, "I don't know what you want from me."

Newton is a talented athlete. He was a star at Auburn. A Heisman trophy winner. And led his Carolina team to 17 victories out of 18 games before being humbled by the Broncos and their vaunted defense. Newton's post game actions reminded me of the quote by the great sportswriter Heywood Hale Broun, "Sports do not build character; they reveal it."

However, in Newton's defense, I understand what it means to be a sore loser. I've been there. We all know sportswriters can ask some pretty lame questions. And after losing the biggest game of your life, emotions are raw and you're in no mood to talk about why you lost. His coach and team mates defended him. Even Broncos quarterback, Peyton Manning, said that Newton was humble and gracious to him following the game. But his behavior, critiqued and criticized by the media and the public, does raise a good question, "How do you win when you lose?"

I was reminded of the words by the apostle Paul in **Philippians 4:11-13**. "...have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Granted Paul never played in the Super Bowl, but he faced incredible challenges in his ministry. Paul was the rising star of his day in Jewish circles. He was well educated, had connections with the people in high places, and was by his own admission "a Hebrew of Hebrews."

After becoming a Christian, Paul became a great apostle and spokesman for Christ. He traveled the world. His missionary tours resulted in many conversions and churches established. He wrote more letters than any other apostle. And is more often quoted. Yet, he didn't always win.

Paul suffered persecution. Rejection by his own countrymen. A physical "thorn in the flesh." And unfounded accusations regarding his motives for preaching. Paul didn't always win in life. But he did learn something. He learned how to deal with it. How to develop inner contentment. How to rise above his circumstances. How to "be brought low," yet maintain his honor, dignity and character.

The wise man wrote in **Ecclesiastes 3:6** that there is a time "to gain and a time to lose." Life, like sports, is filled with gains and losses. Ups and downs. Prosperity and adversity. Winning and losing. We need to learn, and to teach our children, that losing doesn't make you a loser.

Author and educator, the late Warren Bennis once noted that all successful people are tested by adversity. Even when they are initially defeated, they did not allow the defeat to define them. Even in losing, winners use the experience to stimulate them to persevere and achieve.

We are so grateful that you have made the decision to join our family, today, as we worship our Almighty God! If you have any questions or inquiries, please feel free to ask any of our members and we would be more happy to answer as best we can! Please accept our invitation to join us, again, when you have the opportunity.

I'm reminded of a great book by leadership guru, John Maxwell, entitled "Failing Forward." The premise of the book is how to turn mistakes into stepping stones for success. Maxwell correctly observes, "The more you do, the more you fail. The more you fail, the more you learn. The more you learn, the better you get."

Failing doesn't make you a failure. Losing doesn't make you a loser. This is true in sports, business, ministry, and in our Christian walk of life.

Use losing to make you better not bitter. Stronger not weaker. Gracious not grumpy. Kind not cantankerous Show me a good loser and I'll show you an eventual winner.

-Ken Weliever, thepreachersword.com



Speaker:

NICK ANGEL

Sunday AM Notes 2-14-2016

LOVE According To God

I Corinthians 13:4-7

The _____ seeks to _____.

Love _____ from the _____ of _____.

God has _____ for us the _____
of love.

Love Is _____

Love Is _____

Love Is Not _____

Love Does Not _____

Love Is Not _____

Love Does Not _____

Loves Does Not _____

Loves Is Not _____

Loves Does Not _____

Love Does Not _____

Love _____

Love _____

Love _____

Love _____

Love _____



Speaker:

NICK ANGEL

Sunday PM Notes 2-14-2016

15 Reasons Jesus Came Reasons 5-8

5) Jesus Christ came into the world to be _____ and
_____ to the _____ (John 18:37)

6) Jesus Christ came into the world to _____ the _____ of
_____. (John 6:38)

7) Jesus Christ came into the world to be a _____ in the
_____. (John 12:46)

8) Jesus Christ came into the world that men might _____
_____. (John 10:10)

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Our Preacher

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Times of Worship & Bible Study

Sunday:

9:30 AM Bible Study

10:30 AM Worship Service: You can expect heart felt singing, reverent prayer, preaching from the Word of God, a focused and reverent observance of the Lord's Supper, and an opportunity for the saints of Pleasant Plains to give back to the Lord.

5:00 PM Worship Service

Wednesday:

7:00 PM Bible Study and Worship

Weekly Attendance

Last Sunday AM Worship.....122
Last Sunday PM Worship.....84
Last Wednesday Bible Study.....94

In Our Prayers

RECENT ADDITIONS/UPDATES:

-Melessa Sain & Baby Sain...Baby Sain is due within the month. Please be praying for a safe delivery and healthy momma and baby!

-Family of Charles Patrick...Our neighbor who sold the church this land past away this past week. Please pray for his family in their time of loss.

-Adam Womble...work associate of Tim Phillips who was involved in a serious car accident and suffering severe head trauma. Please pray for his recovery and 2 young daughters.

-Bobby Giles...has been admitted to the hospital with heart failure. He will be discharged in a few days into hospice care. Please pray for the comfort of Bobby and the family.

-Roy Lovell...diagnosed with cancer and is undergoing radiation. Please keep Roy and Helen (also in poor health) in your prayers.

CONTINUED PRAYERS:

Our expecting mothers: **Melessa Sain, Spring McDonald, & Katie Angel.**

-Keller Stephens (Kathy Raines' Uncle)...recently baptized brother is still struggling with his health.

-Christy Bennett's Nephew Logan...young man struggling with his health.

-Barbara Leonard...shut in and struggling with her health.

-Christian Shadburn...20 yr. old Christian battling cancer.

-Stephanie Still (Becky Waddell's cousin)...dealing with numerous health issues.

-Robin Hill..... battling cancer.

-Jamie Neal and family (Nancy Phillips' friend)...Battling Melanoma.

-Ashley Pickens (Brent Holt's cousin)...Battling Cancer and has been readmitted to the hospital with complications.

-Louise Stitt (Amy Gailey's mother)...Battling leukemia..

-Pray for the work of this church. The fields are white & we need to be hard at work to spread the Gospel to as many lost souls as possible.

-Men & women making the sacrifice to protect the freedoms of this country.

If you have any updates or additions to the prayer list, please see Nick (in person, phone call, text, or email) so we can keep the bulletin up to date.

Pleasant Plains News

Upcoming Pleasant Plains' Bible Studies & Events

✓**Song Practice - March 6th** at the Angel's home after evening service. **Song leaders: please be thinking of 4-5 songs that you would like to learn/practice during our time together.**

✓**Men's Bible Class - March 5th** at Panera Bread at 7:30am. Chapter 4 will be covered.

✓**Ladies Class - March 1** at 10:00am here at the church house. Lesson 5 will be covered.

✓**Young People's Gathering - February 28th** directly after evening service at the Angel's house. Lesson two of "The Big Picture" will be reviewed.

Area Gospel Meetings & Events

☉**Men's Bible Study Weekend with Curtis Pope at the Jackson Heights Church in Columbia, TN...**Feb. 19 at 7pm and Feb. 20 at 9am.

☉**Annual Singing at the Market Street Church in Athens, AL...**Feb. 26 at 7pm.

☉**How to have a Godly Marriage with Shawn & Diane Bain at the East Shelby Church in Collierville, TN...** March 5 from 3-6pm and March 6 from 9am-12pm.

☉**Gospel Meeting at the Elliot Street Church of Christ with John Gibson...**March 13-18 at 7pm during the week.

Daily Bible Reading For This Week: Genesis 49-Exodus 6

Please make an effort to be in daily reading and meditation of God's Word! This year we will be reading through the first 14 books of the Old Testament in an effort to learn along side our kids classes and to be instructed by those things written in earlier times. **(Romans 15:4)**