PLEASANT PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST

JACKSON, TENNESSEE

Two Essential Qualities For Overcoming Obstacles

I recently came across these inspirational words from an unknown poet. They identify two great qualities Christians need in dealing with life's challenges and overcoming obstacles.

It takes strength to be firm.

It takes courage to be gentle.

It takes strength to stand guard.

It takes courage to let down your guard.

It takes strength to conquer

It takes courage to surrender.

It takes strength to be certain.

It takes courage to have doubt.

It takes strength to fit in.

It takes courage to stand out.

It takes strength to feel a friend's pain.

It takes courage to feel your own pain.

It takes strength to hide feelings.

It takes courage to show them.

It takes strength to endure abuse.

It takes courage to stop it.

It takes strength to stand alone.

It takes courage to lean on another.

It takes strength to love.

It takes courage to be loved.

It takes strength to survive.

It takes courage to live.

Courage, from God's perspective involves spiritual commitment, moral convictions, combined with mental and emotional strength founded on faith. Interestingly, we read of God calling on His people several times to imbue these two great virtues as they prepare to accomplish His work.

David, a teenage Shepherd boy, was courageous when he stepped up to fight Goliath. Not just because he was a kid and Goliath was giant champion. But he overcame the fear of his fellow countrymen, the ridicule of his older brothers and the doubt of King Saul. David was morally courageous and displayed spiritual strength. Later, as the sweet Psalmist of Israel, David would write, "Be strong and let your heart take courage, All you who hope in the Lord. (Ps 31:24). When God called Joshua to assume the mantel of leadership from Moses and led Israel into the promised land, he challenged him "to be strong and of good courage" (Josh 1:6). At the end of his life King David called his son, Solomon to his side and encouraged him as he ascended to the throne, "Be strong and of good courage; do not fear nor be dismayed." (I Chron 22:13).

Following the last Supper, on the way to the cross, Jesus admonished his apostle to be faithful in the face of tribulation, opposition and hardship. He said, "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33). Later they would face obstacles that would require every once of spiritual strength and courage.

Often our confused culture labels people as courageous, who really aren't and overlooks those unknown and unheralded people who really are courageous and display moral and mental strength. In a culture that is rapidly changing and often critical of Christians and those who espouse traditional, Biblical values, we are called upon to be strong in our faith and courageous in our actions. Henry VanDyke called courage, "the standing army of the soul which keeps it from conquest, pillage, and slavery."

Courage and strength originate within and are demonstrated in actions and attitudes. Courage and strength stand firm on principles instead of public opinion. Courage and strength is doing what is right for the right reasons, even when there is the temptation to do wrong. Courage and strength are founded on faith, fed by God's Word, and fostered by prayer. Courage and strength are exercised daily in the "small issues" of life.

"Be strong and courageous"!

-Ken Weliever, the preachers word.com

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.



Speaker: NICK ANGEL

Sunday AM Notes 6-12-2016



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Speaker: NICK ANGEL Sunday PM Notes 6-12-2016



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<u>Times of Worship & Bible Study</u> 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........78
Last Sunday PM Worship......78
Last Wednesday Bible Study.....##

In Our Prayers

RECENT ADDITIONS/UPDATES:

-Family of P.E. Griggs... Brother P.E. moved on from this life recently. We mourn over the loss of a friend, but we rejoice that his race has been run. Let's continue to pray for his physical family and our church family during these days of mourning.

-Family of Christian Shadburne...young Christian man from Bowling Green who passed from this earth after a fight with cancer. His faith through the trying times has inspired many. Let's pray for his family and those nearest him who are hurting.

-Louise Stitt (Amy Gailey's Mother)... has begun her treatments for her cancer. Has had two now and will continue as long as she reacts well to them. Keep up the prayers on her behalf!

-Wayne Wilkinson (father of Jim Wilkinson)...undergoing cancer treatments.

CONTINUED PRAYERS:

Our expecting mothers: Katie Angel & Melody Brown.

-Keller Stephens (Kathy Raines' Uncle)... 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.

-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.

-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

✓Men's Bible Class - July 2nd at Panera Bread at 7:30am. Chapter 8 will be covered.

✓Ladies Class - July 5th at 10:00am here at the church house. Lesson 9 will be covered.

✓Young People's Gathering - June 26th directly after evening service at the Angel's house. Highlights of lessons 5-8 of "The Big Picture" will be reviewed.

Area Gospel Meetings

- Special Series of Studies with the Expressway Church of Christ...Thomas Thornhill Jr. will be speaking on the topic of being Purer in Heart. June 12th-19th. Sunday- 9:30am, 10:30am, 2pm for singing and service to follow. Monday-Friday at 7pm nightly.
- Middle Tennessee Song Leader Workshop....June 21-23. See back board for more details.

Daily Bible Reading For This Week: Deuteronomy 22-28

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)