

THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

June 19, 2016

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

PLEASANT PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST

JACKSON, TENNESSEE

We Need To Quit Judging Others Based Upon Appearance

Everyone matters. "Everyone Matters" is a global campaign to promote "compassion, self-acceptance, acceptance of others, and empowerment" for people everywhere. Their goal is noble. And the concept is definitely Biblical.

On their facebook page I came across the story of Emelie Crecco. This incident happened to her three years ago. The perky, pretty young 20 year old wheeled into a handicap space in a shopping centered parking lot. Jumped out of her car. And headed to the store. When she returned she found this note. "*Shame on you, you are NOT handicapped. You have taken a space that could have been used by an actually handicapped person. You are a selfish young lady.*" "I was LIVID," said Emelie. Why? Because she has cystic fibrosis. She posted the story with this explanation and observations.

"CF affects the lungs (as one of many organs in the body). Because of this I have a handicapped sticker. I'm not one to "abuse" the sticker, meaning I use it when I'm having a "bad day" (some days it's a little harder to breathe). Today was HOT so I needed to use my sticker. I was running errands all day around my town; I pulled into a handicapped spot and continued into the store." When she returned she found the note. Then Emelie says, "They clearly saw me walk out of my car, why not approach me? Not all handicaps are visible." Then she adds, "I would love for you to share this story. It would help spread awareness for CF, (and) it would help open people's minds to what handicapped really is."

I don't know Emelie. But I hope she doesn't mind if I make another point in addition to increasing awareness of unseen handicaps like CF. It's the problem we humans have of incorrectly judging someone's appearance. Motives. Or problems.

Jesus warns us, "Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment." (Jn 7:24) While it is perfectly proper to make judgments based on truth, righteousness and scripture, judgments based on conjuncture are both improper and wrong!

Snap judgments based on appearance and circumstantial evidence can lead to false conclusions. The Bible tells about a time when the apostle Paul was on the voyage to Rome and a Typhon shipwrecked their vessel on the island of Malta. While building a fire, Paul picked up some wood and a snake fastened itself on his hand. The natives saw it and said, "No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow to live." However, Paul shook the serpent loose and he never suffered any ill effects. Not even any swelling. The people saw it and were amazed. Then they changed their minds and decided Paul was a god! (Acts 28:1-6). However, both opinions were wrong!

Be careful of drawing conclusions about others based on your limited knowledge. A person's appearance. Their facial expression. Their clothes. A tattoo. Their skin color. Their ancestry. Or their mood on a given occasion. "We take it for granted we know the whole story," once said the singer Axl Rose. "We judge a book by its cover and read what we want between selected lines." Or as the ancient philosopher Euripides put it, "Judge a tree from its fruit, not from its leaves."

The next time you're ready to judge based on appearance remember Emelie Crecco. And if you're in Putnam Valley and see Emelie parking in a handicapped spot, smile and say "Hi." She's probably having a rough day. And she could use your encouragement.

-Ken Weliever, thepreachersword.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 6-19-2016

**How Will I Be
REMEMBERED?**

Hebrews 11

I want to be remembered by...

...my _____.

...my _____.

...my _____ **in** _____.

...my being a _____ **to** _____.

...my _____ **this** _____.



Speaker:

NICK ANGEL

Sunday PM Notes 6-19-2016

COMMANDED
FOR
OUR GOOD

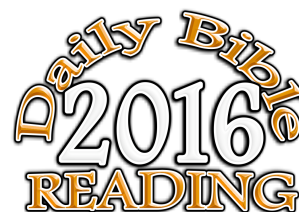
Deuteronomy 6:24,25

God _____ what is _____ for His _____.

God's _____ gives Him the _____
to know what is _____ for us.

We are _____ when we _____ what _____
has _____.

We _____ when we _____ to _____ what
_____ has _____.



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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.....119

Last Sunday PM Worship.....90

Last Wednesday Bible Study.....91

In Our Prayers

RECENT ADDITIONS/UPDATES:

-**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.**

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

-**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

- **Middle Tennessee Song Leader Workshop**....June 21-23. See back board for more details.

Daily Bible Reading For This Week: **Deuteronomy 29-Joshua 2**

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)**