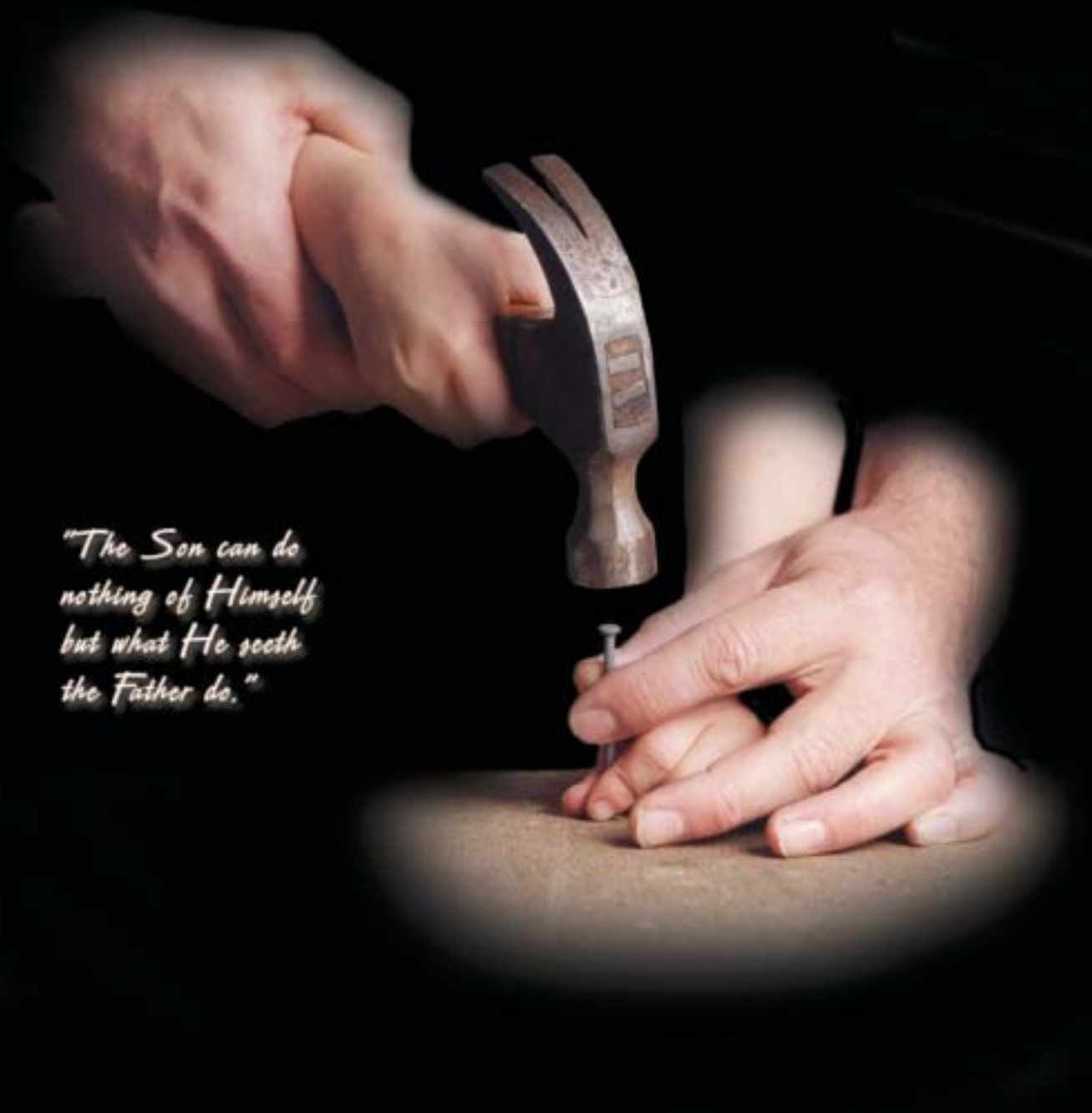


March / April 2002  
Volume 8 Number 2

*The Heartbeat of*  
**The Remnant**



*"The Son can do  
nothing of Himself  
but what He seeth  
the Father do."*

*... is Making Disciples at Home*

*The Heartbeat of*  
**The Remnant**

Publisher

**Charity Christian Fellowship**  
*Publication Office*  
 400 W Main St Ste 1  
 Ephrata, PA 17522

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## DYING TO LIVE

From a sermon by

*Mannie Troyer*  
*Cleveland, NC*



*The New Cross*

**I**n Galatians 2:20 we read, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” The Christian life begins with death and continues with a crucified, dying life.

The doctrine of death to self is urgently needed today. Much emphasis is placed on what Christ did *for* man, but very little on what Christ wants to do *in* man. Christ wants to do much more in you than just give you a one-time conversion experience. He wants to reign supreme. This means self must die. The modern church is seeking the satisfied life and avoiding the crucified life. The crucified life demands death. True Christianity never was and never will be popular because it demands death.

If Christ is not on the throne of your heart, then self is on the throne. Many religious people today know that there is something drastically wrong and missing in their hearts. People know they are not what they ought to be. They try a variety of things to improve themselves through sheer will-power and self-discipline, hoping to be acceptable to God without going through the death route. Self can live very sacrificially and will give up a lot of things as long as it doesn't have to die.

Self cannot be improved away. It has to die because life can only come out of death. Before we can possess the

abundant life, we must personally experience Calvary. The Bible tells us in John 3:6, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh." Our flesh will remain flesh until it dies and makes room for the Spirit.

Romans 10:1-3 says, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God." The righteousness

of God is made available to us through the blood of Jesus Christ. It took death to spill that blood. Our righteousness is dependent on our participation in that death. Too many people want to escape hell without dying to self, and they try to establish their own righteousness. Self will endure a lot of hardships as long as it can continue to rule.

The confusion that plagues today's religious world comes from a watered-down, perverted Christianity. Always making room for self, this Christianity has invented its own cross. As A.W. Tozer said, "The new cross lets Adam live without interfering in his life.

His motivation is unchanged. The new cross allows a person to still live his own pleasure. Only now he takes delight in singing choruses, spiritual songs and watching religious movies instead of singing worldly songs and drinking hard liquor. The new cross does not slay the sinner. It redirects him. It gears him into a cleaner way of living and

saves his self-respect. The message of the new cross is slanted in a direction to make it acceptable to the public. The philosophy behind it may seem sincere, but its sincerity is deception. God offers life at the cross,

not an old improved life but a life that comes out of death."

John 12:24, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." Nothing can bear fruit acceptable to God except a grain of wheat that has died. Out of that dead kernel will come a great crop. We are known by our fruit. Unless you have died to self, you don't have any. You can play at righteousness, play religion and play church. Unless you die, you have missed the mark.

What does the Bible demand from an awakened sinner? He must repent and

believe. He must forsake his sin and himself. The awakened sinner can count on God to enable him to do this. The reason so many religious people today are defeated is a mistrust of God. Because they fear God's Hand in their lives, they try to be a Christian on their own, leaving self on the throne.

Without God's participation in our lives, we cannot be fruit bearing Christians. Without our participation with Him in death, God will not make us fruit bearing Christians. Luke 9:23, 24, "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it." This is the simplicity of coming to the end of the road and dying to self. In Luke 14:26, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple."

In Christian experience victory does not come by trying. It comes by dying, and only out of this death will come fruit.

In this land there are many professing Christians who remain alone for years without finding and identifying with a local body of believers. While I don't judge them, I think most of these people are going to stay alone until they fall to the ground and die. There is too much self on the throne for them to submit and commit themselves to a local body,

*"Without God's participation in our lives, we cannot be fruit bearing Christians. Without our participation with Him in death, God will not make us fruit bearing Christians."*

which is God's plan and design for all Christians. These people will keep alone until they become willing to die.

Dying to live is not just something we believe. It is also something we do. If it is not, we have faith without works. If we believe something, it will motivate us to *do*. We are not saved by works. We are saved by a faith that works. If our faith does not produce the fruit which comes from dying, we don't have saving faith.

Like the prodigal son, when we come to saving faith, we are permanently changed. The prodigal son came to the end of himself in the pigpen. Right there he surrendered and crucified his will for the will of the father. When he saw himself for who he was, and he saw God for who He is, he said, "I will arise and go to my father. I am not worthy of anything." Dying to self is a matter of surrendering our will to God's will. We too must arise and go to our Father.

Dying to self is not a once-in-a-lifetime matter. It has its beginning with repentance and conversion. At that time one dies to all the self of which he is aware. After conversion, as the Christian grows and makes new discoveries in his life, he senses a lingering presence of self that is reluctant and resisting death.

This is my testimony. When I repented in 1974 and became a born-again Christian, I was totally honest with God. I was transparent and confessed and acknowledged everything that my con-

science knew. As I grew in the Lord, I made discoveries that shocked me. The Lord showed me there was still self which would not give up and die.

This is why the Bible tells us we must die daily. We must take up our cross daily. Every born-again Christian's heart should pray, "Lord show me if there be any wicked way in my heart." Death is not only an experience that stays at conversion. Dying to live must be a way of life.

We can count on God to supply us with many opportunities to keep ourselves crucified. If we are what we need to be, we will welcome these experiences as opportunities to die to self.

*Every unpleasant experience may be God's way of helping us to become more like Jesus. Look at His example in Philippians 2:5-8, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."*

*"Dying to live is not just something we believe. It is also something we do... If we believe something, it will motivate us to do... If our faith does not produce the fruit which comes from dying, we don't have saving faith."*

Examine yourself. If a command from God or other rightful authority arouses inner rebellion, it is time to make certain that you obey. By disobeying the commandment, you are giving self a longer leash at the very point where it has the most freedom—in the heart of rebellion.

If you have been wronged and the thought of vengeance is sweet, self is alive. If you swell in prosperity but shrink in adversity, self is on the throne.

Yet if you are ignored, your good spoken evil of, your wishes crossed, your tastes offended, your advice disregarded, or your opinions ridiculed and you remain unhurt and not embittered—you are dying to live. If you are content with any food, any raiment, any climate and any society, you have death to self and you have victory.

Romans 6:2, "How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?...Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin."

In closing, Colossians 3:3, "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." □

❧ GIFTED WARRIOR ❧

# A. T. Pierson's

## Home Life

by Denny Kenaston

**A** brief introduction is needed at the beginning of this Home History. Many of you may not know this godly servant of the Most High. Born in 1837, his life spanned the days of great revival in America. His contemporaries were men like Charles Finney, D.L. Moody, Ira Sanky and Charles Spurgeon. Although he is not as well known as some of these men, his contributions to the church of Jesus Christ were many. He was one of the most successful pastors of his day, building his congregations on sound biblical preaching and personal pastoral care.

I have given him the title of Gifted Warrior because God gave him many talents. These talents were not buried in the ground, but rather were seen, developed and used to the glory of God. A.T. Pierson was a multi-gifted servant of God. The Father used his son as pastor to several congregations. He had a way with words as a preacher and teacher. God used him to write many books with depth and conviction. I have mentioned his classic book on missions, *The New Acts of the Apostles*, several times in my



sermons. I have never read anything like it. Its power of words is gripping. I have a dream of reprinting at least part of it one day.

A.T. Pierson was a missionary pastor. He was a tremendous influence to hundreds who went to mission fields all over the world. These varied blessings to the body of Christ did not just happen. The seeds of blessings were recognized early and care was given to nurture them for many years. In this Home History, we want to look behind the scene at this care. Ultimately God is the careful craftsman who uses human instruments to mold His servants. My prayer is that we would be inspired to yield to the Master Builder's hands as we discover His handiwork on another vessel.

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### ■ HIS HERITAGE ■

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As I looked back into the heritage of this godly man, I was again amazed at how long the righteous lineage spans. We can hardly relate to a

heritage that reaches back two hundred years. Yes, that's right; A.T. Pierson's lineage can be traced back that far. It is very probable that it reaches back further, but we will start when the Piersons' moved to America in 1639. Eight generations before Arthur T. Pierson was born, Abraham Pierson and two of his brothers landed in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

It seems that this Abraham was the foundation of many pure and godly generations in the early days of America. He was a powerful preacher at Trinity College in Cambridge England when he and his brothers sailed for the New World. He was an independent non-conformist looking for freedom to live out his radical convictions free from the scrutiny of the Church of England. He established three towns in the colonies during his lifetime. I think his strong view of the church ruling in the state was the reason that he started three different towns; others did not agree with his autocratic views. He was a rugged pioneer and a real patriarch in each town. His burden for the American Indians also set him apart from many other colonists who were quick to kill Indians to settle disputes.

Space does not allow a full study of the generations that followed, however, there were godly Piersons' all along the way for two hundred years. *Lord, give us a vision of the far-reaching effects of preserving a godly seed on the earth.*

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## ■ HIS PARENTS ■

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The family lines of both parents can be traced back to one of the settlements founded by the family patriarch, Abraham. The settlement was a little town we know as Newark, New Jersey. In our days of transient America the town is almost unknown, except maybe in Lancaster, Pennsylvania where I live. Arthur's parents, Stephen and Sally, made their home in New York City.

They were part of the church Charles Finney pastored in the city. Because of this, they were both well rooted in the revivals that were happening in those days. These were also the days

when the reformation denominations were shaking off the scales from their eyes and looking out onto the unreached harvest fields of the world. Revival was in the air, and missions were in the air. Anti-slavery issues threatened to plunge the nation into a grievous civil war. This was the setting when Arthur was born. He was the ninth of ten children in the family.

His father, Stephen, was a steady, highly respected Christian businessman of his day. A man of staunch principles, he performed the duties of an honest accountant for forty years in New York City. He was a quiet man of few words. The words he did speak were known to be wise. Arthur could recall many of his father's admonitions into his old age. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church that Finney started, and his living faith was absorbed by all of the children.

Sally, Arthur's mother, was one of fourteen children. This had its sanctifying affect on Sally. There is not much room for selfishness in a household of this size. Not much known about her life before marriage, so I will go on to her life as a wife and mother. She looked well to the ways of her household, and it was a very busy one with ten children. Full of zeal in the midst of revival, she was always extending hospitality to many. She was a mother full of energy and always seemed to find time for works of charity. Arthur received his mother's bright and cheerful personality, as well as other gifts that shined brighter in him than in his mother.

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## ■ HIS TRAINING AT HOME ■

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Stephen and Sally believed in having a purposeful Christian home. It was not an after thought for them. It was not merely a word tacked on to sound impressive. They raised their ten children to love the Lord and serve him. The family altar fires were burning morning and evening at the Pierson home. Is God trying to tell us something? It seems that each person I study for a Home History grew up in a home where they meet morning and evening. Maybe it is like the morning and evening sacri-

fices in the old Levitical code. This privilege was never missed. Other things were missed in the busy house, but not this. Father went through the catechism also, and scripture verses were always being memorized. These kinds of activities brought untold blessings upon young Arthur's life.

His home was a busy home with lots of brothers and sisters to play with and learn from. The large family provided the usual self-denying exercises that mold a child into one who thinks of others. Arthur's early years were lived during days of national financial stress. This brought poverty into his life and all the disciplines that blessed poverty can bring.

Church life had a profound influence upon our young scholar with memories reaching back to the age of six. The Pierson family had moved to one of the suburbs of the city by this time where Arthur was enrolled in the local Sunday school. There were classes twice a day on Sunday that he was never allowed to miss. The normal Sunday morning service was also in the day's activities, and so the spiritual impressions were many. As an old man looking back, Arthur wrote about the deep lasting affects of those early years in church. "I attribute to Dr. Patton and the few years that I attended the Spring Street Church the convictions that have remained with me to this hour." He shared of the revival services where solid conversions always took place. He rejoiced over the regular diet of sound Bible preaching that was served week by week. His first interests in missions were planted in his heart by one of the teachers who were waiting for assignment on the mission field. I know that many of us fathers have assumed the teaching responsibilities for our children, and this is right; however, let us not forget the power of the local church. God in His wisdom has designed both institutions to reach the next generation.

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## ■ HIS TRAINING AT SCHOOL ■

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I know that most reading this article believe in teaching their children at home. Because of

this fact, some of you may wonder at the reasoning behind this point. Let me explain the wisdom I see in studying the schools and teachers that influenced Arthur's life. His parents were very concerned about a solid Christian education. They selected schools that were focused on Christ and the Christian character. The teachers in these schools were good teachers. They saw the potential and talents in each student. They nurtured these areas in their schooling process. We are all teachers, and we want to be good ones. We can learn a few things from these dedicated teachers that molded A.T. Pierson's life and ministry. Consider of few helpful insights into their teaching methods.

- These teachers had their students reading Greek at the age of twelve. We all know that this does not happen without much diligence from student and teacher. Arthur continued in his Greek studies, and he read the Greek text all his days.
- In those days, authority was an honored principle of life. The teachers brought the boys into a happy prosperous experience under authority. This required the use of the rod at times, but those were days when teachers were encouraged to use the rod to keep order. Arthur was quick to find this blessing. He went out of his way to please, to bless and to submit to his teachers and principal. This brought great blessings upon him and his congregations for many years to come. He was a kind and gentle authority leading by example more than by domination.
- The teachers applied the use of memorization and recitation to train the students in speaking skills. The student was given a portion of scripture or a meaningful poem to commit to memory. Then it had to be recited with clear expression. Corrections were made as the passage was being quoted until it could be given with clear, firm words. This exercise sounds like something many of us do for family ministry times. The young students were made to enter public speaking opportunities. We all



know what the results were. They developed in these areas. Arthur was an apt preacher by the early age of thirteen. Let us engage our young men in speaking exercises, and they will not be so timid in future days of ministry.

- The students were taught to express themselves in writing. As I was reading about the different schools where Arthur went, this was a major emphasis in each school. Arthur was writing poems, articles for a school newspaper and short sermons by the time he was nine or ten years old. I am sure they lacked in many areas, but the point is that gifts were developed. Many home schools are weak in this area. We feel insecure and because of that we do very little.

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## ■ HIS CHARACTER ■

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Simply defined, character is moral or ethical strength. I find this definition well suited for our subject's life. Arthur had a good strong foundation of moral principles under him. I know that much of this came from the guided care he received during the years at home. There was not much written about this care, but I know he received it by the fruit in his young life. He was showing many signs of moral determination at eight or nine years of age. Proverbs rightly says, "Even a child is known by his doings, whether they be good, or whether they be right." What can we learn from his character?

- As a little boy one of his favorite pastimes was preaching to a room full of empty chairs or to his sisters.
- At age seven, he joined the junior Mission Band. He became very active in raising funds and speaking in the meetings.
- He developed good study habits, which stayed with him all his days as a minister. This is very evident by the fact that he could read Greek at twelve.
- He left home at the age of thirteen to further his education. He never returned home

again. This is quite a challenge for us today. Could my son be trusted to be on his own at a school with a bunch of other boys? It was at this school that he was converted to Christ, and thus he had many opportunities to stand for his Lord. We all know how boys can be in this type of setting. He was tried at times, but he never compromised.

- He quickly joined a Methodist society for growth and accountability. This provided serving opportunities of prayer, sharing, and outside ministry.
- He had a regular quiet time each morning while at school. He strengthened his faith through daily Bible reading and prayer, and he was quick to learn how to keep his conscience clear.
- He chose good solid books to read that were filled with the meat of the Word. Imagine your son reading Pike's *Persuasives to Early Piety* or Baxter's *Saint's Rest* at the age of fourteen.

These are just a few examples of his early character, which grew to maturity and blessed the church at large all through his ministry. He became known for his high morals, his fine penmanship and earnestness of purpose. Where did these qualities come from? As an author, he was an example to many of us in research and honest original material. Where did this begin? As a preacher, he was eloquent and descriptive in his use of words. Where did this come from? Was it all just poured into him from the Holy Ghost? We know the answers to all of these questions. God worked through many instruments to form a vessel. He then picked up the vessel, filled it with His prevailing power and used it as a vessel unto honor.

We need to have our vision renewed continually. It is easy to get bogged down in the everyday parts of training our children and lose sight of the big picture. Let us take courage by this example as we move forward toward the goal. □

# Separating from the Fashions of the World

by Charles Finney



This little article by Charles Finney is refreshing because we live in a fashion crazy Christian world where the modern theology for evangelism is “look like the world to win the world.” He wrote it in a style common for his day, giving the question or objection first and then answering it by teaching on the principle in question.

Where is the holy testimony of the people of God in these last days? There is very little difference between the church and the world, between the born againers and the people who do not believe. The professing church seems afraid to be different. Finney testified of his own error on this crucial subject of fashions. John Wesley gave a similar report after he evaluated the results of teaching that there should be no distinction in the clothes of the Christian. There is no holiness in being different. However, if we follow the teachings on modesty in the Bible, we will be different, especially in this day when all have pursued the changing fashions with zeal.

--Brother Denny

## Objection

“Is it best for Christians to be singular (‘if thine eye be single’)?”

## Answer

Certainly; Christians are bound to be singular. They are

called to be a peculiar people, that is, a singular people, essentially different from the rest of mankind. To maintain that we are not to be singular, is the same as to maintain that we are to be conformed to the world. “Be not singular,” that

is, be like the world. In other words, “Be ye conformed to the world.” This is the direct opposite to the command in the text. But the question now regards fashion, in dress, equipage, and so on. And here I will confess that I was formerly myself in error. I believed, and I taught, that the best way for Christians to pursue, was to dress so as not to be noticed, to follow the fashions and changes so as not to appear singular, and that nobody would be led to think of their being different from others in these particulars. But I have seen my error, and now wonder greatly at my former blindness. It is your duty to dress so plain as to show to the world, that you place no sort of reliance in the things of fashion, and set no value at all on them, but despise and neglect them altogether. But unless you are singular, unless you separate yourselves from the fashions of the world, you show that you do value them. There is no way in which you can bear a proper testimony by your lives against the fashions of the world, but by dressing plain. I do not mean that you should study *singularity*, but that you should consult *convenience* and *economy*, although it may be singular.

## Objection

“But if we dress plain, the attention of people will be taken with it.”

## Answer

The reason of it is this, so few do it that it is a novelty, and everybody stares when

they see a professing Christian so strict as to disregard the fashions. Let them all do it, and the only thing you show by it is that you are a Christian, and do not wish to be confounded with the ungodly. Would it not tell on the pride of the world, if all the Christians in it were united in bearing a practical testimony against its vain show?

### **Objection**

“But in this way you carry religion too far away from the multitude. It is better not to set up an artificial distinction between the church and the world.”

### **Answer**

The direct reverse of this is true. The nearer you bring the church to the world, the more you annihilate the reasons that ought to stand out in view of the world, for their changing sides and coming over to the church. Unless you go right out from them, and show that you are not of them in any respect, and carry the church so far as to have a broad interval between saints and sinners, how can you make the ungodly feel that so great a change is necessary?

### **Objection**

“But this change which is necessary is a change of heart.”

### **Answer**

True; but will not a change of heart produce a change of life?

### **Objection**

“You will throw obstacles in the way of persons becoming Christians. Many respectable people will become disgusted with religion, and if they cannot be allowed to dress and be Christians, they will take to the world altogether.”

### **Answer**

This is just about as reasonable as it would be for a temperance man to think he must get drunk now and then, to avoid disgusting the intemperate, and to retain his influence over them. The truth is, that persons ought to know, and ought to see in the lives of professing Christians, that if they embrace religion, they must be weaned from the world, and must give up the love of the world, and its pride, and show, and folly, and live a holy life, in watchfulness, and self denial, and active benevolence.

### **Objection**

“Is it not better for us to disregard this altogether, and not pay any attention to such little things, and let them take their course?”

### **Answer**

Is this the way to show contempt for the fashions of the world? Do people ordinarily take this course of showing contempt for a thing, to practice it? Why, the way to show your abhorrence of the world is to follow along in the customs and the fashions of the world! Precious reasoning this.

### **Objection**

“No matter how we dress, if our hearts are right?”

### **Answer**

Your heart right! Then your heart may be right when your conduct is all wrong. Just as well might the profane swearer say, “No matter what words I speak, if my heart is right.” No, your heart is not right, unless your conduct is right. What is outward conduct, but the acting out of the heart? If your heart were right, you would not wish to follow the fashions of the world.

### **Objection**

“What is the standard of dress? I do not see the use of all your preaching, and laying down rules about plain dress, unless you give us a standard.”

### **Answer**

This is a mighty stumbling block with many. But to any mind the matter is extremely simple. The whole can be comprised in two simple rules. One is—Be sure, in all your equipage, and dress, and furniture, to that you have no fellowship with the designs and principles of those who are aiming to set off themselves, and to gain the applause of men. The other is—Let economy be first consulted, and then convenience. Follow Christian economy; that is, save all you can for Christ’s service; and then, let things be as convenient as Christian economy will admit.

### **Objection**

“Would you have us all to turn Quakers [the Quakers were known for their simple dress, ed.], and put on their plain dress?”

### **Answer**

Who does not know, that the plain dress of the Quakers has won for them the respect of all the thinking part of the ungodly in the community? Now, if they had coupled with this, the zeal for God, and the weanedness from the world, and the contempt for riches, and the self-denying labor for the conversion of sinners to Christ, which the gospel enjoins, and the clear views of the plan of salvation, which the gospel inoculates, they would long since have converted the world. And if all Christians would imitate them in their plain dress, (I do not mean the precise cut and fashion of their dress, but in a *plain* dress, throwing contempt upon the fashions of the world), who can doubt that the conversion of the world would hasten on apace?

### **Objection**

“Would you make us all into Methodists?”

### **Answer**

Who does not know that the Methodists, when they were noted for their plain dress, and for renouncing the fashions and show of the world, used to have power with God in prayer—and that they had the universal respect of the world as sincere Christians. And who does not

know that since they have laid aside this peculiarity, and conformed to the world in dress and other things, and seemed to be trying to lift themselves up as a denomination, and gain influence with the world, they are losing the power of prayer? Would to God they had never thrown down this wall. It was one of the leading excellences of Wesley’s system, to have his followers distinguished from others by a plain dress.

### **Objection**

“We may be proud of a plain dress as well as a fashionable dress. The Quakers are as proud as we are.”

### **Answer**

So may any good thing be abused. But that is no reason why it should not be used, if it can be shown to be good. I put it back to the objector—Is that any reason why a Christian female, who fears God and loves the souls of men, should neglect the means which may make an impression that she is separated from the world, and pour contempt on the fashions of the ungodly, in which they are dancing their way to hell?

### **Objection**

“This is a small thing, and ought not to take up so much of a minister’s time in the pulpit.”

### **Answer**

This is an objection often heard from worldly professors. But the minister that fears God will not be deterred by it. He will pursue the sub-

ject, until such professing Christians are cut off from their conformity to the world, or cut off from the church. It is not merely the dress, as dress, but it is the conformity to the world in dress and fashion that is the great stumbling block in the way of sinners. How can the world be converted, while professing Christians are conformed to the world? What good will it do to give money to send the gospel to the heathen, when Christians live so at home? Well might the heathen ask, “What profit will it be to become Christians, when those who are Christians are pursuing the world with all the hot haste of the ungodly?” The great thing necessary for the church is to break off from the conformity to the world, and then they will have power with God in prayer, and the Holy Ghost will descend and bless their efforts, and the world will be converted.

### **Objection**

“But if we dress so, we shall be called fanatics.”

### **Answer**

Whatever the ungodly may call you, fanatics, Methodists, or anything, you will be known as Christians, and in the secret consciences of men will be acknowledged as such. It is not in the power of unbelievers to pour contempt on a holy church that is separated from the world. How was it with the early Christians? They lived separate from the world, and it made such an impression, that even infidel

writers say of them, "These men win the hearts of the mass of the people, because they give themselves up to deeds of charity, and pour contempt on the world." Depend upon it, if Christians would live so now, the last effort of hell would soon be expended in vain to defeat the spread of the gospel. Wave after wave would flow abroad, till the highest mountaintops were covered with the waters of life.

### *Remarks (by Finney)*

By non-conformity to the world, you may save much money for doing good. In one year a greater fund might be saved by the church than has ever been raised for the spread of the gospel.

By non-conformity to the world, a great deal of time may be saved for doing good, that is now consumed and wasted in following the fashions, and obeying the maxims, and joining in the pursuits of the world.

At that same time, Christians in this way would preserve their peace of conscience, would enjoy communion with God, would have the spirit of prayer, and would possess far greater usefulness. Is it not time something was done? Is it not time that some church struck out a path that should not be conformed to the world, but should be according to the example and Spirit of Christ? You profess that you want to have sinners converted. But what avails it, if they sink right back again into conformity with the world? Brethren, I confess, I

am filled with pain in view of the conduct of the church. Where are the proper results of the glorious revivals we have had? I believe they were genuine revivals of religion and outpourings of the Holy Ghost, that the church has enjoyed the last ten years. I believe the converts of the last ten years are among the best Christians in the land. Yet after all, the great body of them is a disgrace to religion. Of what use would it be to have a thousand members added to the church, to be just such as are now in it? Would religion be any more honored by it, in the estimation of ungodly men? One holy church, that is really crucified to the world, and the world to them, would do more to recommend Christianity, than all the churches in the country, living as they now do. O, if I had strength of body to go through the churches again, instead of preaching to convert sinners, I would preach to bring up the churches to the gospel standard of holy living. Of what use is it to convert sinners, and make them such Christians as these? Of what use is it to try to convert sinners, and make them feel as if there is something in religion, and they go to trade with you, or meet you in the street, and have you contradict it all, and tell them, by our conformity to the world, that there is nothing in it? Where shall I look, where shall the Lord look, for a church like the first church, that will come out from the world, and be separate, and give themselves up to serve

God? O, if this church would do so! But it is of little use to make Christians if they are not better. Do not understand me as saying that the converts made in our revivals are spurious. But they live so as to be a disgrace to religion. They are so stumbled by old professors that many of them do more hurt than good. The more there are of them, the more occasion infidelity seems to find for her jeers and scoffs. Now, do you believe that God commands you not to be conformed to the world? Do you believe it? And dare you obey it; let people say what they will about you? Dare you now separate yourselves from the world, and never again be controlled by its maxims, and never again copy its practices, and never again will be whiffled here and there by its fashions? I know a man that lives so, I could mention his name, he pays no attention to the customs of the world in this respect, and what is the result? Wherever that man goes, he leaves the impression behind that he is a Christian. O, if one church would do so, and would engage in it with all the energy that men of the world engage in their business, they would turn the world upside down. Will you do so? Will you break off from the world now, and enter into a covenant with God, and declare that you will dare to be singular enough to be separate from the world, and from this time set your faces as a flint to obey God, let the world say what they will? Dare you do it? Will you do it? □

# Young Ladies and Their Thought Life

by Rachel Deatherage

It is the end of a long day, and you are beginning to feel tired. Alone in your room, there is one last thing to do before getting in bed. Holding a letter in your hands, you turn on the lamp and sit at the desk. In this quiet moment, when the day is over and night is drawing close, you slide the paper from its envelope once more.

The words on the paper are written with care, in handwriting familiar to you. Such a beautiful letter, one you have read so many times the folds are beginning to tear. Once again you unfold it carefully, your eyes following the lines of script that you have memorized by now. You treasure this paper. This letter from your loved one.

Each sentence is dear to you, especially the ones at the bottom of the page. For there at the end of the letter, when he was almost out of room with so much more to write, your dear one wrote his closing words to you. It is here, as time was running short, that he writes the most important things. Things for you to remember, to reflect upon, to carry with you in your heart.

There was a man who wrote such a letter to his loved ones. Sitting in prison, his body scarred from many beatings, he held a roll of papyrus in his hands. How he longed to go home to be with Christ, which was far better to him than life on earth. He also knew that the church needed him, and for that reason he was content to remain as he was.

How he loved the church! The roll in his hand was a letter addressed to the believers in Philippi. The church of the Philippians was his first European church, founded on his second missionary journey. The people there held a special place in his heart and in his thoughts.



And now, as he neared the end of his letter, he had one more thing to tell them before closing with words of thanks for their gift:

*“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”*

In his parting words, Paul gives a list of things that we should think about, things to fill our minds with and dwell on throughout the day. Each word used to describe what our thoughts should be has its own meaning and impact on our lives. As daughters of the King of kings, we are to be “all glorious within.” This phrase from Psalm 45 describes our inner character, which begins with our inner thoughts.

It is a convicting experience for me to look at each requirement and hold my own thoughts up to the standard set in these verses. I fall so far short. Rather than being condemned, I can remember that no one can even begin to grow and change old thought patterns until they learn about the new ones. So let’s begin to learn new ways of thinking, be encouraged and press on to higher ground!

## Whatsoever things are true...

As I run through this list in my mind, I always get caught on the very first item: Are the thoughts I am thinking right now true? Often I have to admit that they are not. What are true thoughts? True thoughts are not fiction, fantasy or imaginary. We girls find it very easy to live in fantasy land. I suppose it is because we are emotional creatures by God's design.

It is easy for me to begin daydreaming when I am doing something mindless. Washing dishes, weeding and stirring soup all could be perfect opportunities for praying to and worshipping the Lord; more often than not I find my thoughts drifting out of the true category.

All those *what-ifs* can be so interesting, especially if you have a good imagination. What if I had that house, that unlimited budget with interior designing talent, that magazine-cover garden? Or beyond material things, there are the more dangerous *what-ifs* involving the heart.

I have realized more and more that this is a sad waste of my time and my Lord's time. All the days I have let my thoughts drift in a world of unreality, I was unable to listen to the Lord's voice as He tried to guide me refine me and draw me to Him. When I finally push those thoughts aside and listen to Him, I realize how silly I have been to waste even a moment of my life here on earth thinking untrue thoughts. Helen Lemmel wrote words in a song that voices my desire so beautifully; *"Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace."* That is how I want to spend those times when my hands are busy but my mind is not: my thoughts turned to Him, turned to His glory, turned to His love and His grace that is true, and not turned to the things of the earth!

*"That is how I want to spend those times when my hands are busy but my mind is not: my thoughts turned to Him, turned to His glory, turned to His love and His grace that is true, and not turned to the things of the earth!"*

## Whatsoever things are honest...

The Greek word for honest means *grave or venerable*. My thesaurus gave some more insight on what those words mean. It listed *serious, revered, noble, dignified, sober*. This second standard for our thoughts is one that probably affects me more than I first realized. When I started thinking about it, it was hard to visualize a dignified, noble, serious thought or to imagine how I could always think that way. Then I started thinking about my actions. I realized that my actions are an overflow of my thought patterns. A good way to tell if my thoughts line up is to take a good look at my behavior. I know I have had times when I

have been anything but reverent and serious. The opposite of these words would be *silly, giddy, and foolish laughter*. There have been many times that my actions did not leave the impression on those around me that I was a sober-minded, godly young woman. How can our thoughts line up to this standard when our actions do not? I was convicted about this as I pondered the meaning. I know God gave us all a sense of humor, but I can definitely tell when I cross that invisible line from pleasant humor to foolishness that doesn't glorify the Lord. I want everyone I talk to and spend time with to see Jesus in me.

Is it not a blessing to have a patient, loving and forgiving Savior? Instead of condemning myself as I reflect on these qualities of godly thoughts and how much I still need to grow, I can thank Him for opening my eyes to the deeper truths in His Word. Every morning is another beginning and a chance to take His hand and follow Him on the upward way!

## Whatsoever things are just...

The word just, in this instance, means righteous rather than according to justice. In the Bible Jesus is referred to as "the Just One" and "the Holy One and the Just." The word used in

those verses is the same Greek word meaning righteous. The book of Proverbs gives some insight to what a just person is like. It says “The tongue of the just is as choice silver...the mouth of the just bringeth forth wisdom...the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.”

This gives me a glimpse of what our Lord wants our thoughts to focus on. I picture just thoughts as being pure, holy, upright and blameless. As the verses in Proverbs shows, when our minds are full of just and righteous thoughts, our speech will also be just. “Out of the overflow of the heart or mind the mouth speaks.” We girls can have our minds full of thoughts that envy others, find fault or judge what some one else is doing. This too often gives us away when it comes out of our mouth. The words of that famous consecration song are fitting here, “Take my lips and let them be filled with messages for Thee...Take my voice, and I will sing always, only, for my King.” This is a high standard: to have my thoughts and speech be just and righteous at all times; to think of and speak to others as my Savior would have done. He is the Just One. The more I fill my mind with just thoughts, the more like Him I will be.

## Whatsoever things are pure...

This word is used in other places in our Bible, and sometimes means *clean, sincere, or clear*. In this verse it means chaste. Our dictionary had a good definition of this word, which I have slightly modified: “Chaste implies moral excellence made evident by avoiding acts or thoughts that are not in keeping with godly maidenhood.” Each one of us young sisters has some idea of how this standard should affect our thoughts.

Chaste thoughts are difficult to keep up while reading romance novels, for example. I know that the books I read greatly affect my thoughts, usually long after I put the book down. It can be so easy to fall into a habit of daydreaming—of putting myself in place of the heroine in the story and reliving each scene in my mind. For this reason I try to be careful about what I read, knowing it has a real impact on my growth as a Christian.

The Lord Jesus wants to be our life’s joy and fulfillment. He wants our thoughts to be centered on Him, on His love and desire for closer fellowship with us. “Blessed are the pure in heart.” How undeserving I am of such love! It makes all other earthly loves pale in comparison. My Savior waits with open arms to lead me ever closer to Him, to continually open my eyes to more wonders of His love, until I can turn aside from what is not pure and delight in Him alone.

There is a song that is an inspiration, which I want to be able to sing with all honesty:

*I can never tell how much I love Him  
I can never tell His love for me  
For it passeth human measure  
Like a deep, unfathomed sea  
'Tis redeeming love in Christ my Savior  
In my soul the heav'nly joys begin  
And I live for Jesus only  
Since the fullness of His love came in.  
--Eliza H. Hewitt*

## Whatsoever things are lovely...

I spent time last spring looking at landscaping books from the library to help plan a flower garden. I wanted it to be a delight to look at and a joy to spend time in. Coordinating colors in delicate pastels, varying heights, textures and scents would make it a truly lovely garden. I wanted a bench among the flowers with a view of the hill that rises out of the west, beyond the prairie dotted with wildflowers and the rolling farmland. Doesn’t that sound like a lovely place to spend time in?

The spot where I hoped to plant this garden was covered with dead weeds. There were a few stacks of old snow tires nearby and a propane tank among patches of mud. This place was not one that anybody would choose to spend time in.

Which garden is more like my thoughts? Would the Lord enjoy spending time among them? As a young lady, I like to imagine Him joining me in my thoughts and delighting in their loveliness. This is a good way to picture lovely thoughts: they are thoughts the Lord would be pleased to see. I want so much for my



dear Savior to enjoy being with me. I know that it grieves Him when I choose to dwell on thoughts that are not lovely. He is so patient, loving and gracious with each one of us. What a blessing to have a Savior that came to such an unlovely earth to redeem His children!

## Whatever things are of good report...

This makes me think of a grade-schooler with her report card. She knows what it says, how it reflects her attitudes, and how much she has learned. Is she eager to show it to her parents, or would she rather hide it? Is it a good report? As young ladies we can relate this to our thoughts. Rather than showing how I am doing in math and spelling, my thoughts reveal my character and how I am doing spiritually. Are all of my thoughts ones that I could share with my parents? Or would I rather hide them?

Aside from our earthly parents, our Father in heaven hears every word we speak and every thought we think. How do we feel about His opinion of our thought report card? Does it matter? I know His love for each of us is unchanging, regardless of our own actions; but I would love to have Him approve of my thoughts.

God already knows, and our parents should be able to know, all of our thoughts. If they were all projected onto a giant screen for everyone to see, would I be hiding under a chair in the back row? Or would my thoughts be of good report? This is a convicting question for me. I want to be transparent, open and real before God and my family. It is hypocritical to speak and act one way, then let my mind produce thoughts that I would never want anyone to know about.

God will always be faithful to remind me if I ask Him, "Please show me when my thoughts are not right." When I begin thinking thoughts that are not of good report, He will prick my conscience. I can say, "Oh, that's right! This

isn't good. Forgive me Lord. Thank You for reminding me."

*"O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me... thou understandest my thought afar off...and art acquainted with all my ways."* I do not want to be ashamed of the Lord listening in on my thoughts.

## If there be any virtue...

The word virtue is a powerful word. Its meaning is *force, strength of mind or body*. Most of the verses that speak of virtue are in the Old Testament. Proverbs 31 and Ruth 3:11 both speak of virtuous women. The only time this word is used in the New Testament, besides our passage, is in the book of 2 Peter. Twice in the first chapter Peter uses this word saying, "...His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue...And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue..."

In these verses we can see that we are called to a life of glory and virtue. We should strive to add this quality to our faith. How does it apply to our thoughts?

Remember the literal translation from the Greek: *strength of mind or body*.

When I think of someone who has strength of body, I think of all the hours of exercise and hard work it took to achieve that strength. Strong muscles do not just appear overnight. Strong people are self-disciplined, doing only those things that would help them to reach their goal. To build muscle, they would never indulge in chocolate fudge brownies while lying on the couch all afternoon. They would go jogging, eat healthily and stay in shape. People like this can run marathons and win.

We need that same kind of self-discipline in the area of our thoughts. Just like a man preparing his body for a race denies himself those things that are not beneficial, we should

*"God already knows, and our parents should be able to know, all of our thoughts. If they were all projected onto a giant screen for everyone to see, would I be hiding under a chair in the back row? Or would my thoughts be of good report?"*

strengthen our minds by refusing to think those thoughts that are not beneficial to our spiritual health.

Those ‘strength of mind’ muscles may be weak at first. I have found it so easy to slip back into old ways of thinking, but each time that I use those muscles to push bad thoughts away they become even stronger for the next battle. This requires determination and diligence, guarding my mind from thoughts that have no right to intrude and not letting even one slip through for just a minute.

Even if I am using those muscles regularly, my own strength is not going to be enough. If I do not have the power and strength of the Lord in my life, I can never gain victory over my thoughts. The Lord is my helper, and He has said, *“Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.”* What a blessed promise.

## If there be any praise...

In this verse, the word praise means commendation. The same word is used in other verses implying a job well done. 1 Peter 2:14 says: “For the praise of them that do well...” and that is the way I relate this word to our thoughts. Are they commendable, or worthy of praise for a job well done? 1 Corinthians 4:5 is a verse that ties in with this thought. It speaks about the Lord who will “bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.”

This brings to mind the picture of God sitting on His throne on judgment day. He opens the book in His hand and suddenly all hidden things of darkness— perhaps the thoughts I dwell on as I lie in bed at night —are there in the light for all to see. The counsels of my heart, all my thoughts and dreams and hopes, are made manifest. The Lord then looks at me with a smile and says, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

This is what I want with all my heart, to have the praise of my Lord when all my thoughts are brought before Him. This is the

reason to strive for thoughts that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely and of good report.

It seems difficult sometimes to keep constant vigil over my thoughts, but what a small trial compared to so many others. If there is such reward at the end, it will be worth it.

## Think on these things...

The standard Paul gives for our thoughts and lives is a high one. After thinking about this verse, I noticed that each word has an impact on different areas of my life. Not only are my thoughts important to God, so are my actions, speech, reading material, fellowship with Christ and my relationship with my parents. So much in one verse.

What do we think about? If each thought quality listed here were a different strand of colored thread on a loom, the picture that the Master intended to make would not look right if one of the strands were missing. All of them must be used together to make the beautiful tapestry. What is the picture on that tapestry of our minds? What are we to think about?

The Lord was speaking through Paul as he gave us this list. I can almost hear His quiet whisper speaking each word, “Whatever things are true...honest...just...pure...lovely. Think of Me.”

What or who else could ever fill all of the qualities listed here? After all of my earthly thoughts are examined and found lacking, when everything untrue, foolish, evil and impure is taken away, what is left to think about? Only Christ.

Here is an incredible verse: “How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand.” My Lord is thinking about me. His thoughts toward me are so numerous they cannot be counted.

“Think of Me.” He whispers. “I am thinking of you.”

*Rachel Deatherage  
Grangeville, Idaho*

□

# Sharpened Words

## for

# Little Ones



*Dear parents,*

**T***he soul of a child is molded one day at a time, 365 days a year, for twenty years. Although this is a long commitment for a father and mother to make, it is the way God has ordained for a small baby to be brought to a place of Christian maturity.*

*There are many ways we could look at this task. We could say, "Oh no! 7,300 days of duty until I'm done." Or we could say, "Praise God! I have 7,300 precious days to mold the mind, will and emotions of my child for God." You may be at either end of this spectrum of parental desire or somewhere in the middle. I must confess that there are days when I am filled with enthusiasm for the task of the day, and there are days when I simply do what I do out of a sense of duty. We call it holy grit at our house. I have been amazed through the years at how many times I have entered into my responsibility out of duty only to see the Lord add to my task the inspiration and enthusiasm.*

*Sharpened Words is designed to aid you on those days when you lack ideas from which to teach. Take these ideas and build upon them. Add your own personal illustrations and make family applications. Oh, the beautiful, rewarding exercise of molding the soul of a child! The potential of each one can hardly be measured at the time of the molding. I want to encourage you to keep on being faithful to the task. The days will come when you will begin to see the beautiful character of Christ forming in your son or your daughter. May God bless your times of teaching. --The Editor*

**God bless you as you teach!**

### Thy Word is a Lamp and a Light

You will need to find a lantern for this lesson. Most people have one after Y2K. The verse you want to use is found in Psalm 119:105, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." This is a nighttime family devotion, as it will work best in the dark. While sitting in a dark room, take the lit lantern in hand and explain how a lantern is used for dual purposes. Not only do we use it to see where we are to place the next step, but we also use it to shine out ahead.

After you have explained the use of the lantern, teach on the verse and make the applications in everyday life. Take the family on a walk through the dark house with the lantern on. They will love it. It is like camping out to them. You can keep making illustrations as you are going through the house using the lantern to show the next step at times and to show the way out ahead at times.

## Walk in the Light

If we walk in the light that God gives us, He will give us more light. If we chose to ignore the light that God gives us, eventually we will experience clouds and darkness. This is a principle in the word of God. The text you want to use is I John 1:5-9. You want to read this whole portion because it speaks about light and darkness. Look for a very thin piece of material around the house, one you can easily see through. Some kind of netting or gauze would be best. I used some three-inch strips of mosquito netting. You will need a couple of three-foot lengths to make the illustration very clear.

You might want to explain how this whole process of light and darkness works in the soul of man first and give a couple of stories out of your own journey. Having done this, call for a volunteer. As the child is standing before the family, discuss how people reject light by saying no to some new principle in the Word. Take the netting and wrap it around the eyes of the child one time. He or she will still be able to see but it will be foggy. This is what happens to the eyes of our conscience each time we say no. Go around a few times illustrating 'no' each time you cover his eyes. It will keep getting darker as you go. Soon he will be blind, seeing nothing.

## Getting Out of Darkness

This is the second half of the previous lesson on light. You want to begin where you left off before. Take a child and wrap his or her eyes till the child cannot see. Review with them how a person gets into this darkened state of heart. In this lesson we are going to learn the steps involved in getting clear. These are very important foundation stones in a child's life. They will use them often as they learn to walk in the Spirit. Here you will emphasize the principles of confession, godly sorrow (mourning) and repentance. This should be a teaching time on these three words. After you have taught them briefly, you can start to unwrap the child's eyes one turn at a time. Act out the exercise as you are going. Things will get clearer and easier to see as you go. Keep on repenting until all the netting is off and your child can see again. Make a time of rejoicing over it and then sum up the lesson.

## The Parable of the Sower

There are many family devotions hidden in this parable. I should probably call this a combination home school project and family teaching. The idea for these lessons came from a dear brother and friend of mine who lives in Holland.

You will want to enlist your dear wife to help you prepare for these lessons, as there are a good bit of preparations. Have your wife obtain four pots for planting seeds. In these pots we are going to prepare four different kinds of soil. The first two will need to have hard packed soil in them, and the other two must have soft, loose soil. You will need some good seeds to use in the illustrations and also some weed seeds (these are easy to find). I recommend a larger pot for one of the pots with loose soil because we want this one to actually produce fruit.

- **Pot 1:** Hard packed soil. Place a seed on top of the soil and let it lie.
- **Pot 2:** Hard packed soil. Dig a short distance into the soil and place a seed in the hole. Cover it with soil. You will want to water this one so it will spring up and then die.
- **Pot 3:** Soft, loose soil. Plant a good seed and many weed seeds together so they can all grow up in one place. We know from experience that the weeds will outgrow the good seed. They will soon choke the good plant, and it will not produce good fruit.
- **Pot 4:** Soft, loose soil. Plant a good seed and be prepared to care for the plant. It must produce fruit; so you cannot neglect it.

Now that you have done this with the family, it is a good, teachable opportunity to spend a couple of days teaching from the parable in the Bible. After a few days, you will want to come back to the pots. By this time the seed that had no root in it will have sprung up and begun to wither. A few days later the seed that was sown among thorns will be ready for illustration. Finally, the seed that was sown in the good ground will be ready to use. If you care for this plant well the children will refer to it often, even as they eat its fruit around the family table.

# The Hidden Man of the Heart

by Denny Kenaston

*I Peter 3:3-4*

*Whose adorning, let it not be that outward adorning  
Plaiting the hair, wearing of gold, or putting on of apparel  
But, let it be the hidden man of the heart  
Even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit  
Which is in the sight of God, of great price. (Adapted)*



*“What do I do with my husband? He is unconverted or so unconcerned about spiritual things. I am at my wits end with my frustrations in our home. Brother Denny, do you have any advice for sisters who find themselves in these desperate straits?”*

I read these type of words in many letters that come to the tape ministry. I have received many pleas for teaching on how to relate to these difficult circumstances. This article is an attempt to give some clear direction to a widespread problem in our land. We men are the products of two generations of absentee fathers. We have some real blind spots because of this. What is a sister to do with a husband like this? If she leads out, he will hide in the shadows for another generation. If

she gets bold and aggressive, he will fear to take his place.

There is a power, an influence, a secret weapon that God has given to a Christian woman. There are not many women who avail themselves of this hidden force. Nevertheless, this force is available to any woman seeking answers. As always, God has provided the tools that are needed to build up even the most difficult homes. This wisdom, this mysterious ability, is beautifully placed in the scriptures right after some verses about our Lord Jesus Christ. It would be helpful to you if you would read the verses in I Peter, 2:20b-3:6 before you go any further in this article. We will draw the wisdom we need out of these verses.

There is a phrase in the first verse of chapter three that clearly describes what many Christian women are facing today. “If any obey not the word...” You say, “That is it precisely. My husband doesn’t want to get involved. He is very happy living on a superficial level, going to church, living his own life and putting

*There is a phrase in the first verse of chapter three that clearly describes what many Christian women are facing today. “If any obey not the word” ...these verses are to you—not him. God is telling you how you can win your husband.*

in his two cents to Christianity.” The Lord has defined the *who* that these verses pertain to. The Spirit of God is addressing *wives* who

have husbands that obey not the word. Your first thoughts might have been toward that guy who “won’t get his act together.” Think again. Let me remind you that these verses are to *you—not him*. God is telling you how you can win your husband.

There is another phrase in the first verse that is the most powerful part of the whole text we have read, “*They may, without the word, be won.*” Think about what God is saying to us here. Your husband can be won without the word. That goes against all of our natural thinking. We think he must be given the word, or he will not be changed. God has a secret weapon that is more powerful, even though the word is full of power according to Hebrews 4:12. When you have a man who will not obey the word, there is an influence that is more effective than the word. It is a life that is living the word before him. You may think, “I need to convince my husband to listen to the Godly Home tapes, then he will change.” He may, but it may make him mad. He may feel threatened by them. He may wonder why that guy is hollering so much.

God wants to use your holy life to speak to him in ways that words will not reach. The word *behold* in verse two is packed with meaning. It means to gaze upon and study. As your husband watches your godly life, he will be convicted, challenged and drawn to the Lord. Remember the little children’s poem, “I would rather see a

sermon, than hear one any day”? This is especially true with your husband. When you preach to him about what he ought to be doing, it only drives him further away. He reacts to your nagging by tuning you out completely. It goes in one ear and out the other. God has a better way. It is a spiritual way. It will require a deep and consistent walk with Him. This better way will expose your own lack of commitment. God will use the exercise to mold you and make you into the godly woman that you want to be.

Let us consider the testimony of a godly life a little deeper. In verse four we find the phrase that I used for the title of this article, *the hidden man of the heart*. There is a whole book of powerful wisdom in this one statement. With this weapon, God can deal with your husband man to man. The hidden man of the heart is God living inside of you. It is the character of Jesus Christ shining out of you. It is the life of Jesus being manifested in your mortal flesh. (II Cor. 4:11) This is an awesome revelation of how God influences your husband. The Bible refers to this hidden man as a beautifying adornment. This holy adornment far surpasses pretty hair and make-up. It will get your husband’s attention way more than a pretty girl would. Do you believe it? Oh, dear sisters, “*put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*” *Eph. 4:24*

Let us go a little deeper yet. This hidden man of the

heart is seen on the face. We carefully tried to show this on the cover of the last *Remnant*. Hours were spent drawing and redrawing the faces of the two holy women. We often hear the saying, “Your clothes say it for you.” This is a right statement; I believe in modest and moderate attire for the Christian. However, your face says far more about who you are than your clothes do. What is your husband going to do if every time the two of you have any kind of interaction, he sees the life and character of Jesus shining out at him? Let us consider a few applications so we can get a better idea of how this works in everyday life.

### ✧ **A Quiet Spirit**

Our text uses this phrase. What is a quiet spirit? It is more than a woman who does not talk. It is much deeper than that, though sometimes this is a proper definition. A woman who has a quiet spirit is quiet on the inside. She is at peace: at peace with God, at peace with herself and at peace with those around her. She has a quietness within that emanates out of her, creating a peaceful atmosphere. There is no threat in a quiet spirit. You can relax, you can be real; there are no expectations coming from the one who is at peace.

### ✧ **A Meek Spirit**

Our text uses this word also. Meekness is one of the most influential aspects of the Christian life. Someone who is meek has given up. They have an attitude of submission.

They are yielded to God and man. They have given up their rights for the sake of another's benefit. Their life is not their own; it is for someone else. When a wife obeys her husband this has a positive effect on him. When a wife has a spirit of subjection, which is much deeper, what can he do but respect her? He knows what the real world is like.

### \* **A Loving Spirit**

It is a powerful thing when a wife does acts of love toward her husband. This is part of what unconditional love is all about. Sometimes we love the unlovely. It will get their attention because they live in a world of selfish people. When you put a loving spirit alongside of those acts of love, you have a combination that cannot be resisted very long. What do I mean by this? Love that flows from God out of the heart is felt in the heart and seen on the face. There is no more powerful emotion than love. Imagine if every time you interact with your husband, he sees love shining out at him from your face. What is he going to do? He will not be able to resist this, I promise you.

### \* **A Reverent Spirit**

Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. I see a very high level of admiration and respect in this action. Imagine if the President were to come to your house for lunch. When he knocked on the door and you let him in, what would he read on your face? Some would say fear (I know how

you feel), but if he really did come you would respect him highly. This is what the word reverent means. What is your husband going to do if every time you meet him at the door or greet him in the morning, he sees this admiration glowing up out of your heart and onto your face? I tell you, he will wonder what has gotten into you. He will like it, and he will have to respond to it.

### \* **A Trusting Spirit**

When a Christian woman trusts God and her husband, you can see it on her face. There is a hidden confidence that can be seen and heard in the tone of her voice and the smile on her face. The order must be right, for a sister cannot trust her husband if she does not trust her Lord—especially when her husband is one of those unconcerned ones. When your husband is wrestling with choices he needs to make, he looks over at you to see how you are responding. It is a powerful thing when he sees a face that flows from a heart that says, "I trust you, honey. I am for you." The opposite is also true. If he sees a face that is filled with worry and fear, this also has an affect on him.

There are many more examples that we could give to illustrate the power of the hidden man of the heart, but I think you have enough of them to understand how this principle works in the real world of your own dysfunctional home. In simplicity, the hidden man of the heart is

Jesus Christ in you. It is Christ being formed in you to the degree that your husband is seeing Him in you day by day as your life unfolds together. This changes our perspective on all of life. Now we can see every situation at home as an opportunity to be Christ in my home to my husband. I want to quickly say that this is no easy task. You cannot make this one up. This is not a "ten steps to change your husband program." You will now have to become spiritual. You must get right with God yourself, and then begin to walk in the Spirit every day.

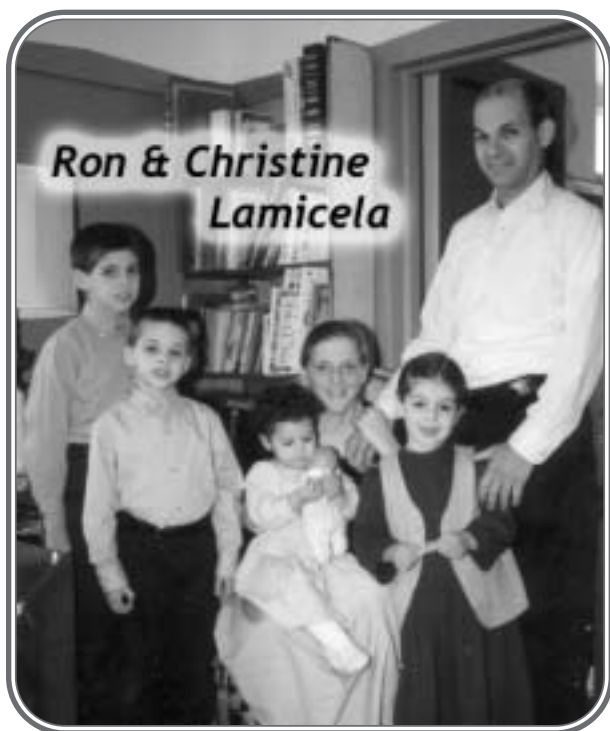
As I close this article, I want to broaden the scope of this teaching out to all sisters in Christ. God will have all of you respond to your husbands this way. What we have been considering is far reaching. It is more than a way for Christian women to save their lost husbands. It is the way to live with the godliest husband. It is your contribution to the power and influence of your godly home. Is Jesus looking out of you today? Have you put on your heavenly ornaments? Let us leave behind the beggarly elements of the women of the world and put on the Lord Jesus Christ. □

*What we have been considering is far reaching. It is more than a way for Christian women to save their lost husbands. It is the way to live with the godliest husband.*

## Treasures — of — Darkness

by Christine H. Lamicela

*“And I will give thee the treasures of darkness,  
and hidden riches of secret places.”  
Isaiah 45:3a*



**I**t has been about fourteen years since I heard a message on this passage. At the time that I heard the message, I had already been struggling with health problems and could

relate to the message in many ways. The point of the sermon was that God sometimes allows trials that we do not understand to impart deep spiritual treasures to His children.

Since I had had physical difficulties most of my adult life, these kind of trials were familiar to me. Now God's Word was telling me that there were treasures that could only be found by going through these dark times. Having heard about what great sacrifices men would go through in looking for hidden treasures, I knew that hardships, difficulties and sacrifices would be needed to find the hidden treasures in the trials I was experiencing, but I was still determined to find them.

Over the years since first hearing the message preached in our church in New York City (where we lived until March 2000), I have experienced times when I would feel well, but there were many months and years when I would go through severe times of great physical weakness.

At the time of this writing, I am in one of the times of darkness. In fact, I am determined with the Lord's help to write this article during this time in order to allow the Lord Jesus to be my strength as I attempt to minister to others who are also in dark times.

This brings me to an important point. Although some of the treasures of darkness can only be discovered as time passes or as the trial ends, I have learned that the best time to search for treasure



is *during* the darkness. By looking for treasures while we are *in* the darkness, we focus not on our circumstances (which could be overwhelming and even depressing), but rather we lift our focus onto things above, trusting in God's sovereignty. We begin to get our thoughts off of ourselves and onto the Almighty God who alone is able to work all things together for good.

I have discovered that God does not waste anything. He uses each incident in our lives to develop His character in us and in those around us. By being a treasure hunter, we allow God to make us better rather than getting bitter.

By searching for treasures *during* the darkness, we also avoid feeling sorry for ourselves, which could lead to pity parties. Not only do pity parties rob us of joy and peace, but they also make it hard for others to be around us, robbing them of the joy of trying to minister to us. It is hard enough to minister to someone who is chronically ill or who has been suffering for a long time; when we are filled with self pity, it is much harder.

Now I will give you some of the specific treasures I have found.

### The Treasure of *Oneness in Marriage*

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My husband of fifteen years and I have a oneness in our marriage that is a rare gem. I am sure this has come out of the difficult times we have been through together.

Over and over again I see him laying down his life in the form of staying home with me rather than being involved in a church activity. Often I have asked him if he feels badly that I "hold him back." Over and over again he assures me that I am his first ministry. He is happy to be able to stay home to care for my family and I. He never makes me feel like a burden. He has asked me, "How can I lay down my life for you if I am not home where I am needed?" He is a treasure that shines ever more brightly as we are in the times of darkness.

Another way my husband lays down his life for me is by getting involved in the regular activities of home living that I am not able to do myself. I try not to require much of his help for myself, but at times I even need him to put on my socks when I am too weak to do it. He joyfully serves and lovingly assures me that he is happy to be able to help me. What a treasure the Lord has blessed me with! I was married at thirty-two, so I also know what it is like to go through dark times as a single woman.

### The Treasure of *Intercessory Prayer*

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Another treasure that is very special to me is intercessory prayer. By praying for the needs of others, I know that my darkness is bringing help (light) to them. I use the most difficult times and even my tears to trigger off a reminder

to pray for others. I usually pray for the same person or family each time this particular signal goes off until that need is resolved. There is a family in Kansas, whom I have never met, that suffered a tragedy about a year ago. I was so burdened by the situation that since I heard of it, it has been the object of my intercessory prayer. When I am having an extra hard time, I tell my husband that the Kansas family (I actually use their name) must need extra prayers right now. If their burden can be a little lightened because of my prayers, then my suffering is not in vain.

### Treasures in *The Word of God*

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Thirdly, God's Word has become a treasure chest of jewels. The Psalms have consoled me, strengthened me, lifted me and helped me more than anything. Since I do not always have the strength to sit up and read, I started what I call my *Rhema Box*. The Greek word for rhema means "a word spoken." It is the same word used in the verse, "*Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the rhema of God.*" *Roman 10:17* When a word or words from the Bible seem to be personalized from God to me at a particular time for a particular situation, it becomes a rhema to me. It is as if God has spoken the words to me. Each day as I read the Psalms I write down a rhema or rhemas for that day on an index card. I then put a word in the corner

of the card indicating its topic—strength, healing (which I am still praying for), help, etc., and I date it. I keep some cards around the house for awhile so they can minister to me. The others I put into a little file box that is labeled *Mama's Rhemas*. At times when the Bible is too heavy to hold or I cannot read, I am sure to find a rhema card around to help me through the day. What a treasure the Word of God is!

### The Treasure of *Character in the Children*

A treasure that has been growing right in front of my eyes is the effect my weaknesses have on our four children—two, four, six and eleven years old. They are growing in responsibility as each year passes. Our eleven-year-old son can cook, serve and clean up simple meals for his younger siblings without any difficulty. I am thankful we have always home educated our children because a by-product of homeschooling is that the children know each other so well and can help each other. Often we have “Big and Little Time” when each boy will be with one of his little sisters for a specific time working on a particular pre-planned activity. Our eleven-year-old is often the one to plan the activity, for example greeting card making. He has even planned whole seminars for the children—including memory verses, stories, crafts and

snacks! When the activity and the clean up are finished, we go on to the next thing.

Besides responsibility, our children have also become very caring. I am often showered with notes, homemade cards and pictures. Last week our two-year-old daughter (almost three) offered to stay home with me while my husband took the others for a walk to the park. She said, “I’ll stay with Mommy. This way if she needs someone I can be here to help her.” My six and four-year-olds often keep me company, shower me with hugs and kisses and offer their help without being asked. What a blessing to see the treasure of godly character growing in these precious children.

### Life is Not Easy, *but God is Faithful*

My life is filled with challenges. I call these everyday challenges my mountains (tasks that, although they are small, seem so big to me). Some days my mountains might be getting up and dressed. Other days it might be giving a little one her bath (which only gets done about once a week to reduce the mountains—unless there is an emergency), combing out my daughter’s hair, or preparing and cleaning up our simple meals (now our children do much of that unless I need them to do something else more important). Changing a diaper, toilet training and dressing the little ones (some-

times I have put them to bed dressed so they will be dressed in the morning, and one mountain will be eliminated) are mountains some days. Even having my devotions becomes a mountain when I do not have the strength to sit up and read (then sermon tapes and Bible tapes are very helpful).

I have learned and am still learning not to look to my husband, to my children or to my friends for help—but rather to “*look unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help comes from the Lord which made heaven and earth.*” *Psalm 121:1-2*

Do not get me wrong. It is not easy. I have shed many tears and have struggled with keeping my eyes on the Lord. Right now I am looking to the Lord to help me with my biggest ongoing challenges:

- ☼ Feeling I am not a good helpmeet. Who is helping whom?
- ☼ Being consistent in training and the discipline of our children.
- ☼ Having to say no to things I would love to do—such as hospitality, helping others, opening our home to Bible School students, etc.

Trusting in the Lord gets easier as time goes on because I have seen God’s faithfulness in getting me through each mountain. I know that He is in control. He will see me through once again.

I realize that there are many people going through

much darker times than I ever will. Maybe you are experiencing severe physical pain, or maybe you are in the midst of a serious emotional situation. Perhaps you have lost loved ones, or your darkness may be infertility or loneliness. It may be the death of a vision. Whatever your darkness is, I pray that the God of all comfort will comfort you and will reveal to you the treasures of darkness.

*God's amazing grace is again very amazing. The testimony that you have just read was written sometime around the middle of December. I am sure that your hearts were moved with compassion as you read what this dear sister has been going through with her debilitating sickness. It is now two months later, and God has completely changed the circumstances in the Lamicela home. Praise the Lord for a complete healing of the body! "Bless the Lord, who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." (Psalm 103:3) This is a beautiful way to finish this testimony of God's school in our sister's life. Others may be dealing with areas of disease in their bodies; consider how the Lord worked to bring about healing in a Christian's life.*

--The Editor

*"I will extol thee, O Lord; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried unto thee and thou hast healed me."*  
*Psalm 30:1-2*

It has now been a few months since I wrote the previous article. Since then the Lord has been doing a marvelous healing in my life spiritually as well as physically. These are some of the steps that the Lord took me through in the healing process.

*"The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles."*  
*Psalm 34:17*

My husband and I cried out to the Lord for wisdom and healing. God has been teaching us about the power of crying out to God in desperate prayer. We decided it was time to cry out to our Father to come and help us.

*"God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."*  
*James 4:6b*

The Lord led me to write about my physical struggles; thus humbling myself. I never liked to share my problems or weaknesses with others. It was a real exercise in humility. I did not want to do it, but I knew God for some reason was telling me to share with others.

*"Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry."*  
*1 Corinthians 10:14*

I received my healing on December 25<sup>th</sup>. Christmas had been a very important holiday to me. Growing up in an Italian-American family, I followed all the traditions, which during the past few years my

husband and I learned had pagan roots. The traditions included having a Christmas tree, decorating our house with greens and exchanging gifts. We realized that we had to make a complete break from everything associated with this holiday. It was not easy, but we wanted to be sure we did not leave any "high places"—there was no room for compromise. As the "high places" were torn down, God did a mighty healing in my body.

*"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the time of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."*  
*Acts 3:19*

Repentance also played an important part in my healing. God began to deal with me about specific areas of sin in the inner man. A spirit of fear was affecting my body's system. I had the fear of man and also a fear of rejection.

The Lord showed me the importance of turning from these sins (and others related to them) in order to live a victorious Christian life. On December 25<sup>th</sup> I fell asleep pondering these things. When I woke up, I was healed. Praise the Lord!

I praise God for His mercy and for the powerful ways He has worked and continues to work in my life.

*To God be the Glory!*  
*Christine H. Lamicela*

□

# H u m i l i t y

## Humility

At any cost, O Lord, for any price  
And may I never call it sacrifice  
There is one grace, one thing I must possess  
Humility is what I need, I've none, I must confess.

This wretched pride I fear possesses me  
And keeps my Lord from drawing close to me  
It causes me to serve myself, and yet  
Turn away when others cry, "Help."

This evil vice corrodes the soul within  
We cannot call it less than godless sin  
Too oft ignored in many a Christian's life  
It is the source and root of every strife.

Root out destructive tares that pride has sown  
I would possess a nature like Thine own  
Wilt Thou not, Lord, to me, impart  
This my prayer: A humble servant's heart?

A heart with not a thought for me or mine  
No praise, or honor, which are Thine  
Make me a lowly vessel in Thy hand  
Ever waiting Thy command.

When others meet me, may they see  
The meek and lowly Lamb in me.  
Laying down his life again  
To save the people from their sin

As much as pride now possesses me  
So make me possess, in full, humility  
At any cost, O Lord, for any price  
And may I never call it sacrifice.

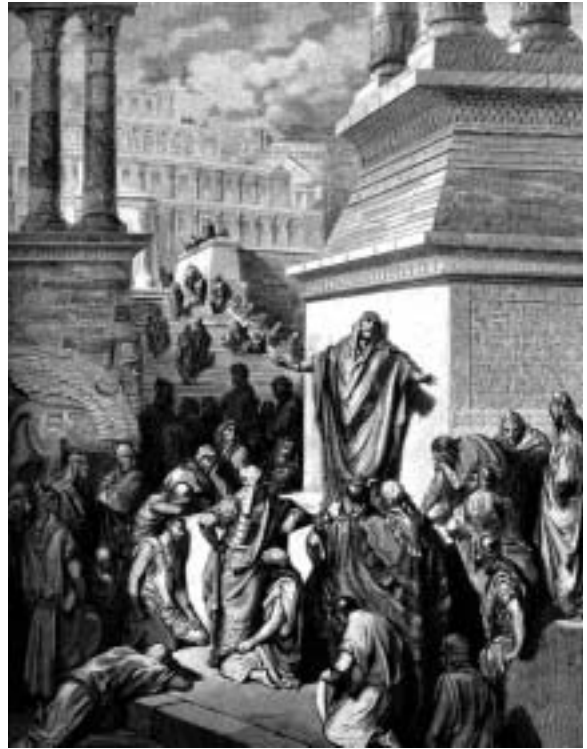
—*Tammy Wollman Stoltzfus*  
*November 21, 2000*

# Three Days of Corporate Fasting and Prayer

by Denny Kenaston

*Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests  
Howl, ye ministers of the altar  
Come, lie all night in sackcloth...  
Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly,  
Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land  
Into the house of the Lord...  
And cry unto the Lord.*

*Joel 1:13-14*



In this issue of the Remnant we are presenting an exercise that can be done privately or corporately. Because I have given encouragement for private seasons of fasting before, this time we will focus on the corporate aspects of these principles. There are many examples of what God has done in response to a people who became serious about seeking Him. They are recorded in the Bible, and they are recorded in the historical records of the past. The devil does not want God's people to get a glimpse of the power of

these exercises. He has done well at keeping most of the church blind to them. For the next few minutes, I would like to pull the curtain back and give a challenge to the many churches that read *The Remnant*. You have in your hand the possibilities of a total transformation of your fellowship and even your community. I pray that the Spirit of God will cause a holy hush to settle down over many as you read and consider this exercise.

A few weeks ago, the local elders at Charity felt the Lord leading us to have three days

of fasting and prayer. The desire of the elders was for the whole church to enter in and seek God with fasting and prayer. We were burdened about three areas of need:

1. Local needs perplexed us. We had no answers, and the needs were staring us in the face for months. God must have an answer to these.
2. We were not happy with the complacency among us. There was a cooling off. We seemed to be floating along, slowly slipping but not aware of it.

3. We were burdened about our missionaries on the fields and the hard situations they were facing: Poor health, money issues between them and the nationals, and the overwhelming task of winning thousands with so few workers.

Although you will have different needs and desires than we had, it is good to have some specific needs to fast and pray about.

We chose to fast and pray from Thursday at lunchtime until Sunday after church. We chose these days so that the men who had work obligations would still be able to work without too much weakness. Let me share our schedule with you so that you can get an idea of what we did.

We began our fast after the noon meal on Thursday. There were no other corporate plans for the day.

On Friday the brethren had a prayer meeting at the church building that lasted from 10:00am to 4:00pm. During this time some people slipped in and out; others prayed the whole time. Openness and confessions were encouraged. The time was spent in praying, burden bearing and singing.

On Saturday the brethren had another session of prayer from 10:00am to 3:00pm. The sisters had a special prayer time from 1:00pm 3:00pm.

Saturday evening the whole church met for a prayer service. We started early so that the children could be

home in time to rest for Sunday. This service lasted for three hours. A sermon was preached about fasting. Again openness, honesty and confession were encouraged. A season of prayer followed.

On Sunday, we had our normal service. However, the atmosphere from the preceding days permeated the service, and brokenness was settling down on all.

At the end of the meeting, we all broke our fast together with a fellowship meal. What a sweet meal we had together!

*What special needs does your church have? God is able to completely change that situation through fasting and prayer.*

I am not sure that I can describe the powerful corporate effect this exercise had on everyone involved. Everyone felt it. Even those who did not enter into the fast for various reasons were all affected in the Sunday morning service. We had a beautiful time as a church. The Lord has continued to work in unusual ways from those days until now, several weeks later. The Wednesday evening after the fast we had an evening of revival when many broke down confessing needs. The rest gathered around to pray for them.

The three areas of need that I mentioned earlier in this

article have received definite attention from the Lord since those days of prayer. Hallelujah! I remember other times when the church set herself to fast and pray. God has always come and honored her with special miracle working power. I wonder what God would do if a church would do such a thing every week for six weeks, or even six months? History would trumpet its voice back to us and tell us that mighty things will be done in that place.

Here is the challenge. How many churches will try it for three days? What special needs does your church have? God is able to completely change that situation through fasting and prayer. Take the test in hand and prove the Lord in your difficult circumstances. He will show Himself strong on your behalf.

Are we an end-time church? Is the night fast approaching when no man can work? Do we believe we live in the time of the end? Then let us rise up and show the world around us that we serve a living God! Oh, may our communities say, "The Christian's God has come. Let us go to the church and watch Him work." Let us make plans to attack the strongholds of the enemy with the weapons of our warfare. I know of a surety that if you will do this just one time, the fruit you will taste will convince you to do it again.

*Father, in Jesus name, bless this most important exercise to the transformation of many churches. Amen. □*

# Book Review

by Andrew Weaver

## In the Day of Thy Power

by Arthur Wallis



**I**n *In the Day of Thy Power* is an inspiring book that is best introduced by the author's own preface. Discussing the many books already written on the subject of revival he writes: *Most of these are historical accounts of the revivals of the past. They expound the laws of revival from the histories and illustrate from Scripture. The design of this book has been to expound the principles of revival from Scripture and illustrate from the histories.* It is an important distinction. True to its design, almost every page contains numerous quotations from the Bible as well as references to many other

scriptures. Although you may not agree with all of the author's applications of these scriptures, you will certainly appreciate his efforts to include so much of God's infallible Word in the book.

The first chapter offers a definition of revival that includes these words: *Revival is more than big meetings. It is more than religious excitement. It is more than the quickening of the saints, or their being filled with the Holy Spirit. It is more than a great ingathering of souls. One may have any one of these without revival, and yet revival includes them all... Revival is divine intervention in the normal course of spiritual things. It is God revealing Himself to man in awful holiness and irresistible power. It is such a manifest working of God that human personalities are overshadowed, and human programs abandoned. It is the Lord making bare His holy arm and working in extraordinary power on saint and sinner... Revival is essentially a manifestation of God.*

A later chapter explains that *it is the saints, not the sinners, that are primarily involved in revival. The quickening of the saints is the root, while the saving of the sinners is the fruit.* Describing this saving of God-conscious sinners during revival, the author states: *Gone is the voice of the sinner who inwardly debates whether or not he will patronize the Son of God... "Shall I let Him in?" Instead we hear the heart-wrung sob: "Can there be mercy still reserved for me? Can my God His wrath forbear? Me, the chief of sinners, spare?"*

*In the Day of Thy Power* examines the outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost as a case study of revival. A list of distinctive features of that and subsequent revivals includes spiritual preparation (intercessory prayer), spontaneous working, God-consciousness, divine magnetism, apostolic preaching and divine simplicity among others. Speaking of the spontaneity of God's working Mr. Wallis warns, *When God is working let man keep his hands off. Many a revival has ended through human interference.*

More than a fourth of the chapters in the book deal with the subject of prayer as it relates to revival. The conditions are laid out for those who seek God for the blessing of revival, and common hindrances to prevailing prayer are also described. It is shown that effectual,

*continued on page 35*

# Our Volunteer Family



*The Heartbeat of*  
**The Remnant**

Charity  
Gospel  
Tape Ministry



CHARITY CHRISTIAN MISSIONS

**G**reetings to all in the name of Jesus the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

We have just finished an inspiring week of leadership training. They were days of heaven on earth. Five hundred and fifty of us men gathered together to seek the Lord and to be instructed of Him. We had a beautiful week together. I wish you could have joined in with the times of singing and worship. Have you ever experienced a multitude of fervent men worshipping God together? It is awesome. There were times when we just stood in the presence of God with no one wanting to move. It was so good to meet old friends and to make many new



friends through the week. Brother David Mong informed me that the tape ministry distributed twenty thousand tapes during Leadership Seminar.

For some time now I have wanted to publish a picture of all the volunteers who work on *The Remnant*, the Missions Newsletter, and help in the tape ministry. The Leadership Seminar provided a good opportunity to gather most of them together for a picture. When I first considered the size of the volunteer family, I thought we might have about twenty-five workers. I was delighted to see a group of forty gathered after we made the announcement for the picture. Most of the people come from the Charity and Ephrata fellowships, but some are from other places as well. We thank God for these many behind the scene workers. We acknowledge that they are the ministries; without them, there would be no ministry. I am sure the picture

missed some of the faithful ones who work together to make things happen around here.

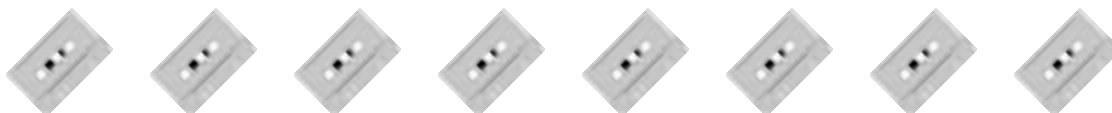
Please remember us all when you pray. We find it like Paul did in his day: "A great door and effectual is opened unto us, and there are many adversaries." Many thanks to all of you who pray and support this ministry.

## ***New Tapes Sets!***

God blessed us at the Leadership Seminar with powerful and informative teachings on several subjects. The new tape sets are listed below.

Thank you again for all your support!

--Brother Denny



SET 117  
**The Power  
of the Holy Spirit**

*by Denny Kenaston.*

There are six tapes in this set on the Holy Spirit. The challenge to us during the sessions was, "Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed?" The need to address the Holy Spirit has been among us for some time, as there is so much controversy on the subject. You will find a honest, balanced, biblical view of the subject in this tape set.

SET 118  
**Inroads of  
Psychology**

*by Mose Stoltzfus*

There are three tapes in this set on biblical counseling. Brother Mose spends much time educating us on the dangers of mixing concepts of worldly psychology with Christian counseling. There are helpful explanations about the many new ways to counsel. These ways bypass the simplicity of the power of the gospel to change lives. A must for those who do counseling.

SET 119  
**Lessons from  
the Kings**

*by Ross Ulrich*

There are five tapes in this set. Brother Ross draws many spiritual lessons from the lives of good kings and bad kings. You will be inspired to dig back into the Old Testament for hidden treasures. "The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple." (Psalm 19:7)



# Precious Letters from Our Readers

**W**e thank God for the many letters of counsel and encouragement we have been receiving. It is the only way we can evaluate our progress. Keep them coming. Our desire is to foster a free flow of edification, inspiration and burden from us to you, and you to us. This way we can pass some of the blessings on to the others who are reading. We would love to hear from you in any of the following ways:

- A meaningful lesson in family devotions that you can pass on to other fathers.
- A testimony for *The Blessing Corner* of when you found God's blessing in some area of obedience.
- A question that can be answered to the edification of all.
- An area of spiritual growth, obtained by one of the exercises suggested in the magazine.
- A word of encouragement or counsel about *The Remnant*, or any section of it.

*Waiting to hear... --The Editors*

As a father I have appreciated the new format of the Remnant. The segments on home histories have been an inspiration to me to be consistent and faithful in my leadership in the home. It has also given me a greater vision of what God would have my home and family look like. Thank you!

*Bellingham, WA*



We enjoy the Remnant very much. We find many of the articles encouraging and helpful in remaining faithful to God and living a separated lifestyle when many people we know feel separation is not necessary. God bless your ministry!

*Middletown, PA*



Dear Remnant,

We have found the "new" magazines to be excellent. The book reviews have been very helpful. We are reading (and re-reading) both *The Calvary Road* and *The Release of the Spirit*.

Although we have been believers for over twenty years, we have never been taught this concept of godly brokenness. These two books and some tapes from CGTM have been a real help. The Lord is using them to draw my family and I closer to Himself.

The study on Meekness 101 (Nov/Dec 2000, pg. 29) was also helpful. We used it for our family devotions. It is not an easy lesson to put into practice, especially for our younger ones, but it is a good start for them.

We are part of a two family house church. All ages participate in the meeting together. We celebrate the Lord's table as part of a full meal. Meeting this way has helped us grow spiritually a great deal. We are praying that the Lord will lead other families who have a real zeal for the Lord to join us.

Thank you for your ministry to us via tapes and the magazine.

*Plainfield, CT*



I very much enjoy the book reviews and home histories. I

have ordered the books that are highlighted in these sections and use them for devotions and/or homeschool studies.

*Lake Elsinore, CA*



Thank you, thank you, thank you! There are no publications out there like yours. It is godly and hard-hitting in self-denial and unworldliness. It is also a tremendous encouragement to persevere in raising large Christ centered families for the Lord's glory and service. Great job and well done!

*Hamlin, NY*



Thank you so much for your inspiring magazine *The Heartbeat of the Remnant*. The Lord has encouraged me to step back and allow my husband to lead. As a result of reading the two articles you had on this subject for the sisters, I have been motivated to continue stepping back. Any more of this type of article would be greatly appreciated. It is the

first thing I look for each time I receive your magazine. God has used the articles for our spiritual growth. Keep up the good work!

Methuen, MA



Dear Remnant,

I want to thank you so much for the small article Brother Denny wrote warning about C.S. Lewis (Sep/Oct 2001, pg. 19). We have always steered others away from his writings. I did not know all of what Brother Denny pointed out, but I did some research on him after a woman in our church asked my husband and I about his books. I knew we never let our children read them, but I did not have a real factual answer for her. I went to the library in search of information. I found a book that contained letters between C.S. Lewis and J.R. Tolkien. I have dis-

covered that they were very good friends, and they had an “authors club” that met weekly at the local tavern. During the time C.S. Lewis was writing *Mere Christianity*, he was holding local seances in his own home... Now I had some concrete proof for this lady, along with my own conscience and leading of the Holy Spirit, to stay away from this author and those kinds of books. I really enjoyed your article, for it opened up even more information. Because my husband is a pastor as well, it will be great to keep on hand for future reference.

We love your magazine. It is very uplifting and encouraging. We are also praying for the new church in Ephrata, that God would continue to bring souls into His kingdom!



Dear Remnant,

I winced a bit when I saw a picture of a monk on the back cover of the last Remnant and the poem by Francis of Assisi. He was a Roman Catholic, and some of his doctrines were off. I would encourage the editor to be more careful in what he selects to publish in the magazine.

Dear Reader,

*Sorry about the offense. I know Francis was part of the Roman church of his day; however, he was always pushing for reform. He is listed as part of the pilgrims in the book The Pilgrim Church. I saw him as part of the remnant of his day, coming out of the dark ages. We will endeavor to be more careful as we search for material. Pray for us. The task is great, and some times we do not have enough time.*

--The Editor

continued from page 31, *In the Day of Thy Power* by Arthur Wallis

fervent prayer has always preceded revival; yet we cannot presume to dictate to God the terms or timing of the revival. At the same time, the author warns against a fatalistic view that neglects to pray, believing God’s sovereignty is untouched by prayer.


A chapter titled “The Dynamics of Prayer” uses Abraham as an example of exercising faith and patience. *With his eyes fixed upon the promise of God, Abraham’s faith grew strong, until at length it could cast aside even the mountain of physical impossibility, and grasp the promised blessing.... When the improbable had become the impossible, then Abraham’s faith was made perfect, and he was certain that the promise would be fulfilled—and so it was.*

The same chapter expresses the need for God’s people to pray in unity for revival, and describes the further unity brought by that revival. *Not only is revival the product of unity, but the producer of unity. It is characteristically a time when personal, social and sectarian barriers are thrown down, when hearts are melted and fused in*

*the fires of the Spirit, and when believers see themselves as never before “all one in Christ Jesus.” “They shall see, eye to eye, when the Lord returneth to Zion” (Isa. 52:8).*

After many stirring chapters that deepen the reader’s desire for revival, he is stirred from desire to desperation. As his faith is quickened to expectancy, he finds a chapter entitled “Paying the Price.” By this point no price seems too high for the privilege of seeing God’s power displayed in the earth. Revival is desired for the glory of God’s name alone, with no selfish motive or agenda attached. The longing for revival is now recognized as a longing for God Himself, in the person of Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Is the price too high? Impossible!

If you have an opportunity to read this book, I hope it will stir in you a longing that motivates you to action. I trust it will inspire you to “clean hands and a pure heart” that dare to approach God in prevailing prayer. I pray it will move you to cry out, “Lord, I will be willing in the day of Thy power!” □



***There was a man sent from God  
whose name was John.***

*He was a burning and a shining light,  
...filled with the Holy Ghost, from the womb,  
...none greater, born of women,  
...the voice of one crying in the wilderness,  
...in the deserts, till the day of his shewing,  
...the prophet of the Highest.*

*He went before the face of the Lord  
To turn the hearts of the Fathers*

*He said, Behold the Lamb of God,  
...Make straight in the desert,  
a highway for our God,  
...Repent ye.*

*The Heartbeat of*  
  
**The Remnant**

**Charity Christian Fellowship**  
*PUBLICATION OFFICE*  
400 W Main St Ste 1 • Ephrata, PA 17522

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