

CHURCH OF CHRIST

295 Sunrise SVC Road North,
Patchogue, NY 11772

Phone: 631-475-6556

E-mail: lanwat@live.com

www.patchoguechurchofchrist.org

Lancelot Watson- Evangelist

Worship Opportunities

Sundays

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.

Mid-Week

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Patchogue Church of Christ Patchogue, NY 11772

A multi-racial community of believers with a purpose and vision to live holy lives, fulfill the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ by serving each other and our community with compassion, love and the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ.

Records you Made:	9/13/15	9/6/15
Bible Classes	32	35
Worship Service	97	90
General Contribution 2nd Sunday - Bldg	\$2313.00 \$313.00	\$1915.00
Wed Bible Class	25	22
Baptisms / YTD	-	10

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. Ro 16:16

Youth Corner

By
Jamal Colson



Does the Past Matter?

Young people have you ever noticed how older people often refer to past? It might sound like this: "I remember when I was your age" or "things were so much better back in the day". It's difficult to relate to because today is so very different from yesterday. For example, we have cell phones, we have WiFi. Times before then are tough to relate to. Young people, take note of your elders. We should look, listen, and learn from the past. The past does matter look at the following scriptures:

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. (Rom. 15:4 NIV)

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. (Psalm 33:20 NIV)

Let's remember, young people we need to live in the present and wait patiently for our future.

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:31 NIV)

And finally, don't let the past define who you are in the present and future.

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 NIV).

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Patchogue Church of Christ
295 Sunrise Service Road N.
Patchogue, NY 11772.

Volume 2 No. 38

September 20, 2015

Living One Day at a Time

After leaving home my grandmother would write me often and at the end of each letter she would write the encouraging words- "You can make it!", "One day at a time."

Just a few encouraging words at the end of a letter, but great words to live by. I guess my grandma is in good company because Abraham Lincoln once said - "People are as happy as they make up their minds to be." There's no doubt that our happiness is tied directly to our mindset. As Christians we're striving to allow God's word to transfer our hearts mind and help us become the people God wants us to be.

Recently, we studied the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus said- Mat 6:34- "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." There is no difficulty, no circumstance, no problems which cannot be handled one day at a time. Failure to learn this lesson causes many people to remain troubled, miserable and unhappy. They live either in the past or in the future and try to mix them up with the present which is a recipe for unhappiness.

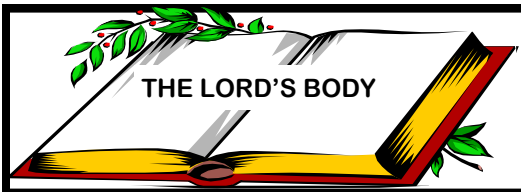
Many of us live in the past, whether we realize it or not. We regret things in the past. All of us have made mistakes. All of us have sinned. (Rom.3:23). Everyone has done things for which he or she is and should feel ashamed for. We're challenged to ask God to forgive us, and then we must forgive ourselves and forget these things. Alan Bryan, in his book, Climb Happiness Hill tells of a friend man who couldn't seem to fully enjoy what he had because, at one time, he had accumulated \$ 20,000 to 25,000 and made an investment that failed. Through the years he

frequently referred to that loss he had suffered. He would talk about how he had lost that money and would say he wished he had it to spend again. Finally, one day he told him, "You didn't just lose \$20,000; you lost more than \$20 million. "What do you mean?" the man replied. Alan told him, "You have lost that \$20,000 so many times because you are living in the past. You have lost it again and again. It keeps you from enjoying things in the present because you are constantly letting your mind dwell on that one mistake." He failed to learn that we cannot, we absolutely cannot, live in the past.

Remember the good things from the past, not only about ourselves but about others, also. Don't remember and dwell on the foolish things. All of us have done foolish things. Don't remember the mistakes you have made; we have all made mistakes. Sins of the past should be repented of and washed clean by the blood of the Lamb. Remember, the good things you have done; the good things you have said, and ask God, of course, to forgive you for your mistakes. We can correct our mistakes the best we can, and quickly as we can, and then bury them forever.

Thank God with His help, we can learn to live one day at a time, counting our blessings along the way. We can truly find joy in each and every day as the Psalmist says-(Ps. 118:24) - This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Michael Sherman
Penngrove Church of Christ



The family by John Stallworth



*LIVING IT OUT—
PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY
BY
BENJAMIN FIELD*



ladies' Corner
by
Paulette Watson

Privileged to Serve 9/20/2015

Morning Service
Song leader Jason Harper
Call to worship
Welcome/Prayer Derek Peterson
Song #1 242
Scripture – Psalm 22:1-22 Joe Cirnigliaro
Songs #2 Yield not to Temptation
Song #3 Hard Fighting Soldier
Second Prayer Brian Maddox
Song #4 475
Lord's table and Collection:
Lead Ben Field
Assistant Garrett Watkins
Assistant Mike Costello
Assistant C. Hendrickson
Song - Kids to class
Song #5 959
Scripture - I Chron 4:9-10 Tom Meeham
Sermon - Lancelot Watson
Invitation #6 924
Responses & prayer:
Jamal Colson
Mike Salimbene
Announcements &
Closing Prayer Derek Peterson
Closing Song #7 703

The Gospel Truth

A publication of the Patchogue Church of Christ, 295 Sunrise SVC Road N, (Corner of Hewlett Ave.), P.O. Box 548 Patchogue, NY 11772.
 Editors:
 Lancelot Watson - 781-420-4412
 John Stallworth - 631-312-1597
 Benjamin Field - 516-885-2365
 E-mail comments, articles and questions to: lanwat@live.com

Breaking the ice.

1 Pet. 1:22 Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.

As the family of God, we sometime find it difficult to move our relationships past 'shallow'. Below are some ideas. Interview one of your brother or sisters today. Try to learn something new about them that you didn't know.

- Who is your hero?
- If you could live anywhere, where would it be?
- What is your biggest fear?
- What is your favorite family vacation?
- What would you change about yourself if you could?
- What really makes you angry?
- What motivates you to work hard?
- What is your proudest accomplishment?
- What did you want to be when you were small?
- If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?
- What is your favorite game or sport to watch or play?
- If you could hire someone to help you, would it be with cleaning, cooking, or yard work?
- *Have you ever had a nickname? What is it?*
- *In the evening, would you rather play a game, visit a relative, watch a movie, or read?*
- *If money was no object, what would you do all day?*
- *If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to?*
- *How would your friends describe you?*
- *What are your hobbies?*
- *What is the best gift you have been given?*
- *What is the worst gift you have received?*
- *Name two pet peeves.*
- *Where do you see yourself in five years?*
- *What would you do if you won the lottery?*
- *What's your favorite zoo animal?*
- *What's the longest you've gone without sleep (and why)*

Let's make our spiritual relationships stronger than those relationships in the world! (Jam. 4:4)

"Oh my G_d"

It is a phrase uttered to fill space, express surprise, fill gaps in-between curse words, or just have something to say.

Exodus 20:7/Deuteronomy 5:11 "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for **the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name.** The Hebrew word "vain," שוּאָ "shav" translates to "emptiness of speech." Fully meaning "to misuse."

For thousands of years this was understood to be taken so seriously that some scholars refrained from evoking the name of God in writing, instead substituting "my lords" for YAHWEY. Since this habit has become akin to profanities or word filler, there are those who have tried to reframe scripture to say that this really means something different... like living in a way that misrepresents your Christianity. They claim God would not possibly send someone to hell for habitual meaningless use of His name. Taking for granted the value of Christian living, may I suggest this to be a false doctrine? I would go so far as to suggest you would be better using **any** swear word than you would be saying "Oh my G_d" or any other empty invocation. God said none of us lives worthy of Him (1 John 1:8, Romans 3:23), *but despite this He clearly says you are not excused in the matter of His respect. What we esteem the world does not.* Do you feel more offended hearing that phrase than raw cursing? *You should,* and if not, there is something very wrong with your reverence for God. I would highly recommend stopping this habit, and that we strongly admonish those in our household who dare utter it in casual irreverence. It is non-negotiable.

It was Jesus that said if you call someone "good for nothing" (whom He gave His life for) that He might cast you into hell Himself. **It was Jesus** that said He would not forgive you if you dare blaspheme the Holy Spirit (above His and the Father's name), and **it was Jesus**, whom when He taught us how to pray, said **"Hallowed be Thy name"** ("I treat Your name holy." NOT "I live a good Christianity that honors Your name." See the difference?)

So – do you intend to invoke the attention of a being so powerful as to make the universe by His word? Do you want to invoke your Creator's gaze during conversation or use His name as a space filler? Back to the basics – if you do this, tell Him you are sorry – and STOP. There is no excuse for you as a believer, and He will hold you accountable

The Joy of the Lord (II)

It is an interesting fact that **God commands us to be joyful.** He said, "Be joyful always" (1 Thessalonians 5:16). Last week we noted that the joy God commands is spiritual, it is a fruit of the spirit (Galatians 5:22), and therefore it comes from God – it is "the joy of the Lord" (Nehemiah 8:10). How can we obey this command? How can we get joy that is "of the Lord"?

David declared in Psalm 19: 8 **"The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart,"** and in Psalm 119: 111, **"Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart."** David lets us know that we can find joy in God's commandments. Reading God's word and understanding his principles of righteousness can make us joyful, because when we know what is right and practice it, we will *be* right. When we study these right principles and have them in our hearts as a foundation for our character and behavior, we are building a foundation for joyful hearts and joyful lives. It will also give us joy to know that we are pleasing God by learning and doing his commandments.

Jeremiah had more to say on the process of how God's Word brings us joy. He said, **"When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight..."** (Jeremiah 15:16). The prophet uses a metaphor to show how he treated and appreciated the words of God. We all know what it is like to really enjoy a meal. We have experienced the pleasure and the satisfaction of eating something we like. So also Jeremiah treated God's words – he ate (processed and digested) them, and he received a similar result, he experienced joy, and the words became his heart's delight.

From David and Jeremiah we learn that one way to obey God's command to be joyful is to read His words, treasure them, keep them in our hearts, and obey them. Knowing and doing what is right – "the precepts of the Lord are right" – can be a source of perpetual joy for us.