



THE BEACON

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Elders: Greg Barneburg, Don Cabbage, Doug Gammon, Wayne Jeans and Rick Jones

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From the Pulpit.....

We live in a time that it is not easy to get along. The news is full of the “don’t get along” so there’s no need for me to illustrate that. Social Media is swamped with the “don’t get along” so, why would I need to tell you about that. Morning coffee groups tend to separate into those who think one way or the other. Work becomes driven with making sure that you don’t offend the one in charge. School is made up of cliques burdened with peer pressure this way or that. So, our temptation becomes “this is what I think and if you are hanging with me, you will think the same way I do.”

The American culture thrives on “this is what I think.” We tend to idolize the independent thinker and if you disagree with me, we “don’t get along.” If you don’t think so, just check out the historical continental congress and even some of the early campaigns (1700s and early 1800s). For instance, look at the John Adams and Thomas Jefferson bid for the presidency.

Take another step back in history, the Garden of Eden and the recently created Adam and Eve. God’s standard was clear (Genesis 2:17), “Don’t eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.” The relationship that Adam and Eve shared with God was unbelievable. God made a regular physical appearance to them in the garden. All of them cherished this time together. But man sought to be his own “man” and sin entered the creation. Pretty much the first thing to vanish was the relationship with God. Why is it that the first thing to disappear with our independent thinking are our relationships? Furthermore, why is it that in order for a relationship to thrive we must practice humility and lay aside some of our independence?

It isn’t easy to be humble. Our schools are educating children in teamwork and humility. The workplace is striving to put forth a vision which draws together members of the work force in teamwork and humility. The greatest victories of America are the ones where we come together (usually against a common foe) and humbly accept each other. Why is it then that God’s creations are looked upon as trivial and out-of-date?

God created man & woman who humbly lay aside their independence and are joined together in marriage. God created family and siblings to teach us that humility in sharing is a priority for relationships. God created church in which our priorities are humbly relating to God first and then, each other. One instance, foot washing doesn’t happen with independent thinking. God created government and the only way that it really works well is when “...he who is least among you all—he is the greatest. (Luke 9:48).”

It isn’t easy to relate with someone else, but the benefits are God made.

Bill



A BIG THANKS TO ALL THE VBS WORKERS! ROAR: *Life is Wild; God is Good* will be completed by the time you receive this. We do appreciate all of the prayers, provisions and “hands on” participation through this ministry. Please continue to keep the youth in your prayers, that they will put their trust in God in all circumstances.

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS RESUME SCHEDULES: try one of them out for your good! Expand your knowledge, sharing and fellowship circle. Three groups meet in review and application of the Sunday sermons. A **Young Adult Small Group** meets Mondays at 6:00 pm with Gage. Join other adults at **Wednesday Night Bible Class** in the

Parlor from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in a verse by verse walk through the Bible (book of Matthew), led by Bill. **Soul Sisters** and **Cord Brothers** meet at 6:30 pm on the first and third Thursdays of the month, with the ladies in the Fellowship Hall and the men in the Youth center. Please call the office if you need child care. How about starting a group in your own home? I would be glad to help you.

CHOIR MEMBERS: Please turn in your music books and recordings from the past for safe storage. Practices will restart next month for ALL who are considering joining. Let’s give praise to the Lord God.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: GRACE HARMONY will be here at FCC on September 25th (Wednesday) for a 6:30 pm concert. Mike & Sue Filisky began in 2001 as “Grace Harmony” in a ministerial capacity, offering

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hope and encouragement through their music to others. In 2003 they resigned their careers to work for the Lord in a full-time capacity with an annual "Journey for Jesus." Bring your friends and neighbors for an inspirational evening of gospel music. A love offering will be received for the ministry of Grace Harmony.

Living for the Lion,
David Rorabaugh

The Cost of Discipleship

Realizing that our natural desires are, at their core, at odds with the desires of Christ is one of the most important steps in the Christian walk. For many people, especially those who "try" Jesus and decide, "He just isn't for me," the point of contention is the moment they realize that His ideas of life, success, love, and sacrifice are almost in polar opposition to their own.

Take a moment to read Mark 10:17-27, the story of the rich young ruler. Jesus, when this young man approaches Him, is filled with love but He knows the heart of the man. So Jesus commands him to leave the thing that is holding him back, his wealth. The man, filled with sadness at this point, decides that following Jesus isn't worth the sacrifice. And I think there are many people like this today. They take a look at Jesus and decide that His calling, to live a life of self sacrifice, is too much for them. But this call isn't just for certain people. Jesus calls all who would follow Him to live this same life.

In Luke 9:23-24, Jesus says "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it."

The call to follow Christ is for everyone, it is not any different for anybody who hears it, and though it is hard, it is far beyond worth it. So as you follow Jesus, remember that we bear a cross. We are to live in constant self-sacrifice for the sake of Christ and His Kingdom. And when He returns, the beauty and glory to be revealed will far outweigh anything that we face in this life.

Until He returns,
Gage Addington



**Summer Family
Celebration
Big Surf
Lake of the Ozarks
Saturday,
August 17**

Leave the FCC parking
lot at 9:00 am.

Return 7:00-7:30 pm.

Cost is \$18 per person with a group of 15 or more
people.

Pay ahead of time if possible.

Pack a lunch or bring money to buy lunch at Big Surf.

We will stop at McDonald's on the way home.

Sign up sheets at Welcome Centers.

Bring the whole family!!!

Anyone needing a ride to Sunday School/
Church in our vans, please let us know
by calling the church office at 667-3540
BEFORE NOON on FRIDAY.



To help support our local **Community Outreach Food
Pantry** we are collecting non-perishable food and dry
goods. A box is in the parlor for collection.
Suggested August products: Chicken
Helper, canned veggies, canned fruit,
pancake mix, pancake syrup, peanut
butter, jelly.

