

MEADOWBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship this Sunday
April 27 9:00 AM

This Sunday's Message

"THE NIGHT I LOOKED LIKE A CLOWN"

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FRIENDS A small poodle loved to sit on a chair on the front porch and wait for a big Doberman dog to trot by, as he did every day. When he did, the little warrior would begin "yelping" loud. He would jump out of the chair and off the porch and run to the gate yelping all the way. He would jump on it and snarl as he stuck his little paws through the gate trying to catch the Doberman.

One day when he jumped on the gate it swung open. Someone had forgotten to latch it. The Doberman did a "work" on him and he hobbled back to the porch, with a gash on his head; holding a front paw up and hobbling on his back legs. When he finally made it to his chair he said, "Who in the h*^# left the gate open?"

A lot of friends stand with us, as long as the "gate is locked" and there is little danger.

But when the gate is open, they are nowhere to be found.

BETHEL does more than serve sack lunches. It has clothes from socks at the bottom to hats at the top, for those who need them. Thank you for helping us help them. *Preacher Bob*

SYMPATHY

The church extends its sympathy, love and prayers to Jill Gibson and her family in the death of her brother, Tommy McDowell. The family will receive friends today (Saturday) from 1:00 – 1:45 at McDougald Funeral Home with the Memorial Service to follow at 2:00.

Why Christians Cannot Stop Doing Wrong

"I write this to you who believe. / If we say we have no sin, the truth is not in us. / If we say we have not sinned, we make him (God) out to be a liar." [1 John 5:13 / 1:8 / 10]

There is a cartoon where a lady, kneeling by her bed praying, "Dear God, please give "Mr. Perfect" just one little flaw. (Probably talking about her husband). We see people like him all around us. Throughout history church leaders have taught "perfectionism" – the false belief (heresy) that a Christian can and should get to the point where he does not sin. John Wesley who should be one of every Christians heroes taught but said he never attained it.

In seminary (1960's) bookstores shelves were filled with books on living the "Spirit filled life". One famous Southern Baptist preacher, at one of our Conventions, said since he had been "filled" he had been victory over wrongdoing. It wasn't perfection, but it was close. His Minister of music, sitting in front of me, whispered to the man next to him, "He was a lot nicer *before* he got Spirit filled."

The world, and sadly the church, is filled with people who act like they are a cut above the rest of us. They float through life without worries; without getting mad; and they love Jesus all the time. Most of us however are like the man and woman visiting a new church who came in late. As they slipped into the back pew, the Pastor was praying,

"Oh Lord, those things we should not have done; that is what we have done. And, Oh Lord, those things we should have done; that is what we have not done."

The man whispered to his wife, "Honey, I think we have found our kind of church." It was everybody's kind of church and it was in line with the Bible. In the Lord's prayer