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### PRAYER REQUEST

Cance
Brad Hurd. Liver cancer & spreading to lungs.
Steven Kelly. Friend of Lovell's. Stage 4.

Ken Moran. Odell's son. Stage 4 cancer.



Ryan Kendrick. Special needs.

Jaydan Patrick. Special needs.

Sibbie Byrd. Health issues.

Sharon Teschendorf. Dementia.



- Brandi Beavers. Health concerns. The Beavers Children. Health concerns. Jack Beavers. Health concerns. Pete Beavers. Jack's brother. Broken foot. Dixie Clifton. Undergoing some medical tests. Drew Clifton. Dixie's grandson. Mary Grace Faulkner. Severe burns. Larry Guilliams. Recovering from a heart attack. Norman W. Hill. Health concerns. Hester Hollandsworth. Health issues. Matthew Hollandsworth. Health issues.
- Rita Lawless. Recovering from Pneumonia. Odell Moran. Health concerns. Amanda Smith. Recovering from a broken foot. **Prayers for Caregivers.** Prayers for our Country, Military. Prayers for Israel, Palestine, & Ukraine. To have someone added to the prayer list or to have information updated, please contact Matthew or Jonathan. Names will be removed after four weeks if no updates are received. www.ccocva.org/connect www.facebook.com/CCOCVA Telephone: (276) 647-8454 Fax: (276) 794-4940 Message Alert: (276) 794-4035



# The Collinsville Herald

A Weekly Publication of the Collinsville Church of Christ.



Collinsville Church of Christ

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# Curiosity About the Bible

Curiosity is an exciting aspect of life. Parents love to see their children explore and discover their world. Likewise, teachers enjoy seeing students come to class with curiosity and a hunger for learning. Curiosity about the Bible is expected and natural as well. Who can help but be moved to seek answers to questions about a book that claims to be "God -breathed" (2 Timothy 3:16,17)?

As is the case with curiosity in general, curiosity about the Bible has healthy and unhealthy aspects. Let's think about those for just a few minutes.

Healthy curiosity about the Bible...

Times We Meet:<br/>Sunday:• IBible Study:9:30 a.m.arWorship:10:30 a.m.Pl



• Can lead us to read the Bible, to seek to know the will and mind of God (Isaiah 55:8, 9; 1 Corinthians 2:13; Philippians 2:5). A person who wants to follow God will first want to know what God is like, and then discover how that desire to follow him can be fulfilled.

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#### "Curiosity" Continued from Front Page ...

• Can lead us to dig deeper, to search the scriptures (John 5:39; Acts 17:11). The misguided Jewish leaders had made a practice of studying the scriptures, but failed to comprehend that the scriptures were properly pointing them to Jesus (John 5:39; Galatians 3:24). By contrast the Jewish people of Berea were stimulated by the preaching of Paul to compare his message with the scriptures they knew and loved (Acts 17:11) and see him as the mediator of a better and new covenant (Hebrews 8:6, 13).

### Unhealthy curiosity about the Bible...

• Can lead us to be distracted from the important things God wants us to know. God's mind is so deep that we cannot know or comprehend him completely (Romans 11:33). He has not revealed everything to us, and we would not be able to handle it if he did. If we obsess over every question and curiosity about things he has not revealed, we may neglect the important things (Matthew 23:3). We may also fail to fulfill the great commission if we are so consumed with questions.

• Can lead to the destruction of our souls. We walk by faith, not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7), but that does not mean we cannot know some things and be assured of them. Some people have become so obsessed with questions, that they have twisted the scriptures and have left God (2 Peter 3:16).

"The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law" (Deuteronomy 29:29).

*—Lance Cordle* 



gregational Breakfast. More

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## Spirit, Help My Weakness

Help my weakness of virtue. A primary weakness that we notice about ourselves is our moral weakness, our weakness in the face of temptation. Jesus noted that, like when we want to stay awake but drift into sleep anyway, we are susceptible to the weakness of our fleshly cravings. "The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Mt. 26:41). May the Spirit help us when we are tempted to sin.

**Help my weakness in hope.** In the context of Romans 8, in which the teaching "the Spirit helps us in our weakness" appears, the immediate subject matter is doubt because of present difficulty. When sufferings of the moment create a fog that limits visibility of our glorious future, we are in danger of losing hope. May the Spirit help us hope in patience (Rom. 8:25).

**Help my weakness of zeal and joy.** Discouragement damages our zeal and zaps our joy. "Let us not grow weary of doing good" (Gal. 6:9). Yes, but sometimes we get tired and lackluster anyway. Joy is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22). May the Spirit help "lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees" (Heb.12:12).

**Help my weakness of faith.** When we are weak in faith, we start walking by sight (2 Cor. 5:7). When we walk by sight, what we see eventually frightens us. Remember Peter who walked with Jesus on water. "But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out" (Mt. 14:30). When circumstances cause you to fear, may the Spirit help strengthen your faith.

When our virtue fails, when our hope fogs, when our zeal and joy flags, when our faith falters, so that we do not know what to do, what to say, or even what to pray, at least we know to whom to go – or better yet, who will come. "The Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words" (Rom 12:26). —*Cecil May III* 



### The Importance of Honoring Our Parents

Jesus' mother, Mary, witnessed the crucifixion from the foot of the cross. Despite his agony, Jesus told his best friend, John, to take care of his mom, and to his mother he said, let John stand in my place as your son. John lived a very long life, and I believe he took care of Mary until she went to heaven.

I find it important that while Jesus was bearing the weight of the sins of the whole world on the cross, He took out the time to make sure His mother was taken care of after He was gone! As God, Jesus was dealing with eternal matters. But as a man, He showed all of us how important it is to respect, care and love our parents! (see John 19:26-27).

The fact is, we should honor our parents. This is a command of God (Exodus 20:12; Ephesians 6:2). Honoring parents goes beyond just "doing favors." An element of honoring is to admire your parents and consider them to be eminent people. For example, if you hear someone speak negatively about your parents, you are required to speak up and defend their honor.

Likewise, our actions – how we conduct ourselves – either honors or disrespects our parents. For instance, I know a minister who was a hard working, good man. He and his wife had two sons. One became an honorable and good Christian man and father. But the other committed a horrible crime. In the end, the father had to leave his pulpit out of disgrace. The couple has had to move twice, and finally had to change their last name because the son's behavior has disgraced them and caused them harm wherever they went.

On the other hand, children have constantly honored their parents by their good behavior.

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Page 4	The Collinsville Herald	06-09-24	Page 5	The Collinsville Herald	06-09-24
<ul> <li>Matthew 6:1-7</li> <li>I. Jesus said if you do _ deeds to be seen by men, you have no _ from God.</li> <li>2. The _ in Jesus' day sounded a _ in the synagogue and in the streets when they did a charitable deed so they would be recognized.</li> <li>3. "But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your _ hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in _; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you"</li> <li>4. The hypocrites loved to pray standing in the _ and on the _ of the streets.</li> <li>5. "And when you pray, do not use _ repetitions as the _ do."</li> </ul>		<ul> <li><i>"Leaving Behind" Continued from Page 4</i> It was all about what he left behind.</li> <li>At the first home he burglarized, the perpetrator left behind his police charge sheet.</li> <li>At the second home he burglarized, the perpetrator left behind a DVD of his prior police interrogation.</li> <li>There was no mistaking who it was that had been in these two residences.</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li><i>"Parents" Continued from Page 3</i></li> <li>For those whose parents are deceased, we still have the obligation to honor them. This is what the Jews did when they transported Joseph's bones back to Israel. Joseph, their kinsman, had been dead four centuries (Ex 12:40), yet they were still honoring their "father" (Ex 13:19; Joshua 24:32). You can honor your parents, even after their passing, by your dedication to God. —Larry Fitzgerald</li> <li><i>What Are We Leaving Behind?</i></li> <li>We are all familiar with news stories that highlight the "less than genus" decisions made by certain law breakers. Sometimes there are valuable lessons to be learned from these blunders.</li> <li>One particular criminal had been in jail for a short period of time when he was released. However, only a couple of hours after he had posted bail, he was arrested again. This time he was charged with two counts of burglary. What happened? Why was he arrested again so quickly after being set free?</li> </ul>			<ul> <li>Most likely, this was one of the easiest "open and shut" cases this particular police department ever handled. The evidence was overwhelming! It was obvious!</li> <li>Such stories should cause us to stop and think: If we were tempted to laugh or even snicker at the plight of this particular man, we would do well to remember that our own actions are even more obvious to God!</li> <li>And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the provide the plane.</li> </ul>		
			Everywhere We influence push them fu It may be ang could be joy,	o whom we must give account (Heb. 4:13). we go, every conversation we have, we leave so others positively or negatively. We may bring orther away from Jesus Christ (cf. Matt. 5:16; 2 ger, frustration, confusion, etc. that we leave in comfort, encouragement, etc. that we leave we leaving behind?	g them closer to or 2 Cor. 2:14-16). n our wake. Or it