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Brandi Beavers. Health concerns.

The Beavers Children. Health concerns.

Ruby Brad. Cancer has returned.

Sibbie Byrd. Nursing home. Health concerns.

Drew Clifton. Dixie's grandson. Need of prayer.

Hester Hollandsworth. Health concerns.

Matthew Hollandsworth. Health concerns.

Steven Kelly. Friend of Karen Lovell. Cancer.

Ryan Kendrick. Special needs.

Jimmy Koen. Father to a friend of the Patrick's.

Rita Lawless. Health concerns.

Karen Lovell. Health concerns.

Paul Mays. Health concerns.

Ruby Mason. Health concerns.

Jaydan Patrick. Special needs.

Carolyn Roop. Recovering from a stroke.

Joe & Marcia Shulam. Health concerns.

Sharon Teschendorf. Dementia.

Sonya Underwood. Friend of Dave's. Cancer.

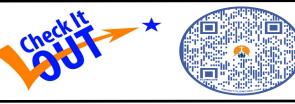
Wayne Youngblood. Parkinson's & Dementia.

Caregivers.

Our Country, Leaders & Military

To have someone added to the prayer list or to have information updated, please contact Matthew. Names will be removed after four weeks if no updates are received.









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Collinsville Church of Christ

P.O. Box 158 2115 Daniels Creek Rd Collinsville, VA 24078 www.ccocva.org (276) 647-8454

> **Times We Meet:** Sunday:

Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Worship: 10:30 a.m.



Shake It Off and Step Up

No. 02

The parable is told of an old dog that fell into a farmer's well. After assessing the sit-

uation, the farmer sympathized with the dog but decided that neither the dog nor the well were worth the trouble of saving. Instead he planned to bury the old dog in the well and put him out of his misery.

January 12, 2025

When the farmer began shoveling, initially the old dog was hysterical. But as the farmer continued shoveling, the dirt hit his back and a thought struck him. It dawned on the dog that every time a shovel of dirt landed on his back he should shake it off and step up. This he did blow after blow. "Shake it off and step up. shake it off and step up, shake it off and step up!" he repeated to encourage himself.

No matter how painful the blows or how distressing the situation seemed, the old dog fought panic and just kept shaking it off and stepping up! It was not long before the dog, battered and exhausted, stepped triumphantly over the wall of that well. What seemed as though it would bury him actually benefited him—all because of the way he handled his adversity.

"Shake It Off" Continues on Page 2...

"Shake It Off" Continued from Front Page... If we face our problems and respond to them positively, refusing to give in to panic, bitterness, or self-pity, the adversities that come along to bury us usually have within them the potential to bless us! Forgiveness, faith, prayer, praise and hope are some of the biblical ways to shake it off and step us out of the wells in which we find ourselves.

Having Requires Striving!

When I was a little boy someone in the family (which often meant me) had to do the churning. More valuable than the butter was the lesson that having requires doing and that very little comes to man except through exertion. One reason we do not find more valuables is our inadequate search. We quit too soon. Our world has its good things, but ordinarily they are not on the surface nor in shallow water; obtaining them requires thought and sweat and patience. We can't have the butter without churning the cream, nor the kernel without husking the corn. "He said unto Simon. "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch" (Luke 5:4).

He Who is Grateful

He who is not grateful for what he does have will not be happy with the things that he desires to have. He who is ungrateful in little will also be ungrateful in much! If we are not thankful to God for the blessings He bestows, what reason is there to expect Him to bestow additional blessings? If the blessings for which we are unthankful were suddenly removed, then what would our lives really be like? "Be careful for nothing: but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6). May your blessings be many, and may your burdens be few on this day.







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Ianuary Birthday!

MATTHEW HOLLANDSWORTH



Thursday Ladies' **Bible Class!**

Our Thursday Ladies Bible Class is on Winter Break. Class returns on January 16, 2025!



Solution

grainfields; hungry, eat; false; greater, temple; Man, Sabbath



Thursday Mid-week Virtual Bible Class!

Our Mid-Week Bible Class is on Winter Break. Class returns on January 16, 2025!



Men's Breakfast

Our Next Men's Breakfast is scheduled for Sat., Jan 25th! Join us at Clarence's Steakhouse in Ridgeway at 9:30 a.m. for food & fellowship.





Ccocva.org/events







Top 10 Predictions for 2025

As we see the beginning of a new year, with all the problems the world is facing, it can be unsettling, but there are some things of which we can be sure. Here are ten predications that will to come true this year!

- 1. The Bible will still have all the answers.
- 2. Prayer will still be the most powerful thing on earth.
- 3. The Holy Spirit will still move.
- 4. God will still honor the praises of His people.
- 5. There will still be God-anointed preaching.
- 6. There will still be singing of praise to God.
- 7. God will still pour out blessings upon His people.
- 8. There will still be room at the cross.
- 9. Jesus will still love you.
- 10. Jesus will still save the lost when they come to Him.

Isn't it great to remember who is really in control, and "the Word of the lord endures forever" (1 Peter 1:25).



On The Lighter Side



A mechanic was working on the motor of a car when he spotted a famous surgeon standing off to the side of his shop. The mechanic shouted across the garage, "Hello, doctor! Please come over here for a minute." The surgeon walked over. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag, and said, "So doctor, look at this. I also open hearts, take valves out, grind 'em, put in new parts. So how come you get the big money when we're both doing basically the same work?"

The doctor smiled and said, "Try to do it when the engine is running."

God Means What He Says

God killed two priests. They were Moses' nephews, Aaron's sons.

They were burning incense in their censers as priests were to do.

They were supposed to light the incense with fire from the altar. Instead, they used unauthorized fire from elsewhere.

Immediately, fire came from God and consumed them. Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the Lord spoke of when he said; 'Among those who approach me I will show myself holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honored" (Leviticus 10:3).

Nadab and Abihu, these two priests, are remembered for their unauthorized acts and their resulting death. A point was made for all time. Do not take liberties with God's Word!

Today, we live in a time when Nadab and Abihu would feel comfortable. Liberty is in vogue. "Do as you please" is popular. But the fact is, God's Word is as certain as ever. We would do well to hold to everything God says, to honor Him by obeying His Word.

Before we do anything unauthorized by God, we should recall Nadab and Abihu. God means what He says.

—Rick Cunningham

To Soar As Eagles

The eagle is the national emblem of the United States. It is a big bird with broad wings and the eagle flies very high. And even their nests are high off the ground in inaccessible places. Isaiah compared the righteous person to the flight of an eagle. "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles" (Isaiah 49:3).

"Eagles" Continues on Page 5...

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BIBLE

FACTS

Matthew 12:1-8



- 1. In these verses Jesus and His disciples are walking through _ on the Sabbath.
- 2. "And His disciples were __, and began to pluck heads of grain and to __."
- 3. True or False: The Pharisees accused the disciples of stealing.
- 4. "Yet I say to you that in this place there is *One* <u>than the</u>."
- 5. "For the Son of _ is Lord even of the _."

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS ON PAGE 7

Did You Know This About Numbers?

Numbers is the record of Israel's journey through the wilderness after God led them out Egyptian slavery. Due to their unbelief, what should have been an 11-day trip to the promised land turned into 40 years of

should have been an 11-day trip to the promised land turned into 40 years of wandering.

While in the wilderness, God told Moses to make a brass serpent and put it on a pole, and anyone who looked upon it would be healed from the bite of the fiery serpents that were sent among the Israelites due to their disobedience. This is found in Numbers 21:4-9.

Later, in New Testament times, Jesus referred to this event in Numbers and related it to His own body being lifted up in sacrifice for the people (John 3:14).

—Matt Clifton, Fast Bible Facts Podcast

"He who reflects too much will achieve little." — J.C.F. von Schiller

"The opportunity is often lost by deliberating." — Publilius Syrus

"Say you were standing with one foot in the oven and one foot in an ice bucket. According to the percentage people, you would be perfectly comfortable."

— Bobby Bragan

"Facts are stubborn things, but statistics are more pliable." — Laurence J. Peter

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"Eagles" Continued from Page 3... We learn from this beautiful word picture. Man was not meant to live a low life of sin and to set his sights on the ground. Christianity gives loftiness to life. The height of sight seems to characterize the followers of Jesus: "Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth" (Colossians 3:2). "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal" (Matt. 6:20). "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:14).

Soaring high allows us to see things in perspective, to get a feel for the larger picture and to understand the really important issues of life. Let's concentrate on the higher things. Do we look for the stars or the dirt? Let us "mount up with wings as eagles."

—Steve Boyd

A Challenge For One Month

- 1. Resolve not to miss a single service of the church. No excuses this time but, for a change, made a few sacrifices for the Lord.
- 2. Try praying every time you have a problem or decision to make. If you feel the slightest need, pray! And while you're at it, try praying for your enemies (those with whom you don't get along too well).
- 3. Make it your responsibility to bring at least one visitor to services, preferably a family. Don't just invite them, make a date with them.
- 4. Take at least one afternoon or evening to go visiting. Not with the ones you know or like best. This time, visit someone you do not know too well, perhaps someone with whom you feel a 'little "strained." Get to know them and see the difference it makes.
- 5. Read and study your Bible every day, even if you have to tum off the TV. Follow these simple rules, and you might be surprised at the results. —*Clyde Freeman*