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Informer

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Guiding our Children

Psalm 127:1-3 *Behold, children are a gift of the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. 5 How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; They will not be ashamed When they speak with their enemies in the gate.*

In this Psalm Solomon tells us that our children are a gift from God, and what a precious gift they are. One of our greatest tasks on earth is to be able to raise them so we can in a sense give them back to the Lord. It is a daunting task, and it is one that parents must give their full attention to because it will not happen by accident.

In this Psalm Solomon tells us that our children are like the arrows in the hands of a warrior. We can draw a few things from this analogy. One, our children will need direction. Arrows in the hand of someone who has never drawn a bow don't have much chance of hitting a bulls eye, but a mighty warrior can direct them to their intended target. Parents and grandparents, are we directing our children toward God's will for their life? Two, we will have to point our children to God. To do this will take focus, dedication, discipline and clear vision. We must make sure we always keep our eyes on the target. Third, we will need to make sure we help our children make adjustments in their life that will help them have a strong relationship with God. A mighty warrior in Solomon's day knew the importance of making sure his arrows were straight and were maintained in such a way that they would fly true when the moment came. This attention to detail long before pulling back on the bow was as important as the moment of release. We too, must do all we can to give our children the best chance of success when they finally fly away. May God bless us as we guide our young people at South Gate to His side!

John

The Third Woe

Matthew 23:16 Woe to you, blind guides! You say, 'If anyone swears by the temple, it means nothing; but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.'

Once again this paragraph is about the hypocrisy of the Pharisees. These men had devised a method by which you could take an oath. Some of the oaths counted while the others just didn't mean much. This verse contains some of that thinking. A person could take an oath and swear by the temple but if he wanted to change his mind then it was permissible. However, if you swore by the gold in the temple then you could do absolutely nothing but what you promised to do. What a silly concept! Jesus called them blind guides because of this strange instruction. They surely did not know which way they were traveling due to their blindness. No one should be listening to them.

Jesus once again is making it very simple. If you are going to make an oath, then keep it. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said not to make an oath. There is no reason to swear. People of God are to keep their word. If you say "yes" then mean "yes". If you say "no" then mean "no". When we give our word it should make no difference whether we swear by the temple, the gold in the temple, an altar, the gift on the altar, on a Bible or on a stack of Bibles. What we speak is what we should do. God knows what we have promised and we must fulfill it to the best of our ability. The hypocrite does not keep his/her word. Am I faithful to my promises? God knows!

Joe

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

OUR MEMBERS

- Alice Bolton - chemo
- Ann Brady
- Bernice Bratton
- Joy Brown & Fred Brown
- Bill Carroll - 2502 Shangrila Trail
- Mary Chumbley
- John Churchwell
- Dave Coleman
- JoAnn Coleman - cataract surgery Aug. 2 & Aug 24
- Athaleen Cox
- Vera Daniels
- Corrine Goetz
- Margaret Johnson
- Maetta King - Poplar Estates 215
- Linda Luna
- Frances Petty - NHC Columbia, Rm. 111-A, 375-4887
- Jimmy Quirk
- Virginia Staggs - Poplar Estates, The Gardens, Rm. 6
- Barney Roland
- Melissa Stutts - chemo & radiation
- Donald White - radiation
- Elaine Whitehead

Deepest sympathy is extended to James Bolton and his family in the death of his brother-in-law Andrew Workman whose funeral was conducted on Monday.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Greg Grissom, Ann Lamar, Wray Wright, uncle of Cheyenne McNeese - lung cancer, Darrell Brown - cancer, Ralph Gilmore, Vonda Hoeye - friend of Kayla Kirtley, Dianne Thomas Stevens - friend of the Nicholsons, Charles Wilkins - Tracey's dad - Life Care, Rm. 227-A, Jane Wells, Cynthia Cheek Spicer - sister of Myrna Jett, James Garner-uncle of Terry Burgess, Wanda Nix, sister of Debbie Massey, Dot Martin, sister of Linda Weaver - NHC Columbia, Rm. 138-A, David Phillips, Laurie Ann Beever - cousin of Kim Fitzgerald and Baileys Christensen - friend of Kim, Tracy Worley, Patricia Luna - aunt of Jason Kelley, Austin Long - uncle of Phillis Churchwell, Joyce Runions, Alex and Evan Rector, Shirley Sharp - lung cancer, Debbie Spears, Norma Boyette - sister of Bill Jones & Elaine Whitehead, Roiki Phillips, Juanita Boyd - stepmom of Gary, Kathy Reed - friend of Linda Mabry, Dora Bolton - mother of James, Ginger Chesnut, Elvis Frierson - friend of John Mayberry, Glenda Collins - sister of John Mayberry, Katherine Jones - mother of Alice Bolton, Mike Primm, Nick Tank - student at Baker - leukemia, Clara Harvey, aunt of Ray Rummage, Clarence Weaver - Poplar Estates, Rm. 219 - 901-0280, Stacey Brown - cystic fibrosis, Dorothy Rea - sister/Elmer Lusk, Evelyn Felker - sister/Benny Bolton, Ann Graham - Morning Pointe, Rm. 113, Beverly Dawson, Jack & Daisy White, Jane Davis - sister of Nell Hood, David Luther, Jacqueline Potts, Mary Blocker, Mary Robb - Poplar Estates, The Gardens, Rm. 8, Sanai Pettus, 5th grade student at CA - cancer - 8041 Fenwick Lane, Spring Hill, TN 37174.

WORSHIP LEADERS AUGUST 7, 2016

SUNDAY 9:00 A.M.

Welcome.....Randy Jones
 Song Leader.....Kevin Mick
 Prayer.....Trent Hill
 Lord's Supper: Presiding.....David Thomas
 Blair Keeling Larry Nicholson
 David Morgan Corey Massey
 Charlie Willis Brennan McNeese
 Cheyenne McNeese Tommy Skelley
 Read: Luke 6:27-36.....Greg Gray
 Sermon: The Golden Rule.....John Thomas
 Announcements/Closing Prayer.....Randy Jones

SUNDAY 5:30 P.M.

Welcome/Song Leader.....Sam Quirk
 Prayer.....Mike Kinzer
 Read: Matthew 7:13,14.....Jerry Barber
 Sermon: The Two Gates.....Joe Macer
 Lord's Supper Presiding.....Jacob Pollard
 Announcements/Closing Prayer.....Jody Pritchett

**Bible Bowl participants meet Sunday at 5:30 p.m.
 Study: Leviticus 25**

Ushers: Lee Winchester, Brennon White, Tracey Wilkins
 Greeters: Tommy & Rita Skelley, Blake & Jessica Daniels
 Visual: Jim Pollard

Security Team: A.M. Benny Bolton, J.W. Gilliam P.M. Benny Bolton, J.W. Gilliam

**If you are unable to keep your appointment to serve, please call Ray Rummage (446-0668) or Joe Williams (388-9183)
 Or go to our website and follow the "Unable to Serve" link and submit the information.**

NURSERY CARE

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10, 2016 - 6:30 P.M.

A.M.....Kasey Cross, Angie Massey
 P.M.....Marissa Massey

Song LeaderDennis Thomason
 Prayer.....David Thomas
 Announcements/Speaker.....Mike Lyle