



BIBLE WAY ASSOCIATION

For God so Loved the World, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting Life. JOHN 3:16

Doniphan Missouri

The BWA Messenger

Also Representing

Voice of 'Truth World Outreach Ministries

A Division of Bible Way Association

January 2024



Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19 KJV

**What's
Happening**

In This Issue...

*Page 2 Youth Camp Season planning
From the Desk of Rev. Eugene Abrams*

*Page 4-13 "Restoring in the Spirit of Meekness"
by Rev. Leslie Buckner*

Page 14 Voice of Truth Info

Page 15 Returnable & Support Forms

Youth Camp Season

is fast approaching

*From the desk of
Rev. Eugene Abrams*



We are very excited looking to the future of Bible Way Association for this coming year!

Everything I have been speaking about concerning the vision of Youth Camp and the hopes of it becoming a week long Camp depends on the help of everyone who will dependably devote their time and efforts to see this happen.

It is not possible for the small staffing that we currently have on the Camp Grounds and the Office to handle the needs of a Youth Camp by ourselves.

We need people who have a heart to help the Youth to commit to coming and participating in this ministry in particular.

We are discussing possible dates for the Youth Camp as well as the Camp Meeting Services.

Those dates should be established very soon and we will be publicizing the final plans very soon.

We are also working to develop Youth Camp oversight committee which will begin to organize these events.

The Bible speaks of where

two or three are gathered together, He would be in the midst. If even a few would join together we can see this come to pass, with the blessings of the Lord!

- ⇒ We need committed Dorm Attendants who will stay with, and oversee the children at the Dormitory. It is one of the hardest jobs related to Youth Camp. We hope to have others help in the daytime monitory of the children, so we are needing more people to participate.
- ⇒ Kitchen and dining hall workers.
- ⇒ Altar workers during services.
- ⇒ Medical staff in case of emergencies.
- ⇒ People who will help with cleaning and grounds upkeep and trash removal.
- ⇒ As well as other workers who help to make things work!

Far too often many of our children do not have another outreach or option that they can get involved in that can point them in the right direction in their life. God truly is the right and the only answer and foundation that anyone can establish their life upon.

We must do our part to help open this door wider for those whom God will welcome into the Body of Christ. They desperately need “Home Churches” that will receive them excitedly and disciple them into faithful and mature Christians in their home towns.

They need Pastors who do have an excited attitude for those young people who will no doubt easily become the future of their churches with a little compassion and spiritual wisdom of the ministry to guide them forward. They do not need just carnal excitement and play areas, they need the Word of God and introduction to the Holy Ghost.

We desperately need your willingness and assurance of participation so we can plan for the next Youth Camp and set the dates firmly, whether another 3 day or a Sunday afternoon through Friday at noon Youth Camp in 2024.

A meeting of those who are interested is currently being planned for later in March to organize for the Youth Camp.

If you desire to participate, please contact us by early March 2024 and we will begin to coordinate from there! Thank you for your prayers as well! Notice of Youth Camp dates will published soon!

Office Phone: 573-996-7317
or Cell Phone: 573-778-881
Email: biblewayhq@windstream.net

Thanks again!

“The Support Fund”

We are looking for monthly supporters, whether they be as Churches, Ministers or as individuals who will faithfully commit to monthly donations **primarily for Youth Camp and Camp Meetings purpose.**

For every dollar that is given it will be divided and appropriated in 3 ways.

1. **40% of every dollar** will go to enable and support the Youth Camp and allow the \$0.00 fees for Campers and Staff, as well as allowing for improvements for the activities and needs of the Youth Camp in particular.
2. **40% of every dollar** will go to enable and support the Camp Meeting and the various Fellowship activities, as well as helping to further improve the facilities that will be provided for service to those meetings.
3. **The remaining 20% will be divided** to help enable some of the other ministries of Bible Way Association as the funding permits.

Make checks payable to:

**Bible Way Association
3740 US HWY 160 W
Doniphan, Mo. 63935**

Memo: “Support Fund”

Thank You for your faithful support to help us reach the children.

Rev. Eugene Abrams



Rev. Leslie Buckner

Restoring in the Spirit of Meekness

I would like you to open your Bibles to Galatians chapter six, and read the first ten verses. This particular passage of scripture deals with just about everything. It deals with the congregation. It deals with the ministry, but the main thing it is dealing with is restoring people in the spirit of meekness. There has been quite a bit said about that. Of course, that does not only mean the ministry, that means everybody else too.

So, we are talking about the person that is spiritual. I believe that sometimes, we have it all mixed up about who is the most spiritual person. Somebody we tend to think that those who jumps the highest and preaches the loudest are the most spiritual. But then sometimes, they will haul off and hurt somebody.

In a scriptural sense, a spiritual person will come back to that place of hurts and wounds and they will ask forgiveness, if they have hurt anybody.

The Bible said that if a person has ought against any person we are to go to him. If we know someone that has ought against us then we go to that person.

Being Overtaken In A Fault

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Brethren, that means all of us here, me and you, all of us. What Paul is saying here is that we are going to be dealing with people that have faults. If we are going to go to church, we are dealing with people that have faults. Maybe not

necessarily big, bad sins, but faults, and sometimes, We will make a fault a great big sin. We think that person has to be ready to fly away when they get up from the altar, however, we are still human and we still may have faults.

Paul is writing, “Brethren, if a man.” Man or woman, whoever it is, if they are overtaken with a fault, then there is something for the church to do. If we are spiritual, we do not talk about that person. We should never pick at that person.

Far too often people have gone to churches where the preacher picked at them, or at least that is how they perceived it, and too often they were right.

The ministry is not supposed to be doing that. “If a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual...” The preacher must be spiritual. Preachers are human beings too, but we have to be spiritual regardless of what people are doing and saying. We still have to stay spiritual. That is the key to the whole situation.

The members of the congregation have to do the same thing regardless of what their neighbor is doing, regardless of what somebody is doing in the church, regardless of what their family is doing. We still have to walk spiritually because they have been overtaken in a fault.

We have a need of spiritual people in the church. It does not have to be somebody that has been saved for thirty or forty years. I was teaching people that had been saved for twenty years after I had been saved only a few months. We come into a spirituality. It does not take forever to grow up in the Lord to a place that we can restore.

Therefore, Paul is saying that you are going to have people that have faults. You are going to have people in the church, and have contact with people that have faults. Even though

they go to church, they have faults, but the job here is that we restore that person in the spirit of meekness. If we do not restore that person in the spirit of meekness, it is going tempt us.

In the story about Moses, he could not take the people over into the Promise Land, because he was tempted and smote the rock, because he was tempted by the people who had a fault. They were murmuring, and complaining and he got aggravated, and hit the rock instead of speaking to it. God then said, "Now just for that, you cannot take these people into the Promise Land." So even Moses was tempted also.

We have to keep ourselves in a place where we do not allow ourselves to be tempted with what someone else is doing. Our children can also do that when they do not listen to the parents and choose to do things another way. Even so we have to stay spiritual with our children, and we have to stay spiritual with our spouse. We have to stay spiritual with each other at church.

Bear Ye One Another's Burdens

A lot of times people get taken in fault when they have a burden and when they are overwhelmed. They will have a fault. "Well, I just got upset." That is a fault. It is not a sin, but you got upset. The very next verse clarifies that.

Galatians 6:2 *Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.*

Our job is to help each other. If you are overloaded, even with a load of faults, let me help you bear that. If I am overloaded with something, help me bear that.

I was thinking of Aaron and Hur. They stood there and watched Moses as he was holding the rod up. As long as he was holding the rod up, Joshua and the armies that were down in a valley, were winning the war, but only as long as Moses could hold the rod up. But, he got

so tired that he struggled and could not hold up the rod.

So, Aaron got on one side of Moses, and Hur got on the other side, and helped him hold the rod up in his hand until the battle was won in the valley. That is what Paul is talking about, "*Bearing ye one another's burdens.*"

I have been overwhelmed before. I preached on that very subject here a while back. "*When my heart is overwhelmed, lead me to the rock that is higher than I.*" Lead me to that rock. Lead me to the Lord. He is a rock that is higher than I, when my heart is overwhelmed.

Galatians 6:2 *Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.*

That is a lot of what fulfills the law of Christ. He has a law.

Romans 8:1-2 *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.*

We are to bear one another's burdens. We are supposed to become a spiritual Christian. We have too many carnal church goers. They do not realize when they begin to look and judge that person over there who may be struggling, they begin to become a part of the problem instead of helping the problem and restoring them in the time of need.

I tell you what, I heard a person in a big church say one time, "The person that rides in on the bus, from the shelter, is just as important as the person who drives up in a Lincoln, or Mercedes." One soul is just as valuable as another. Do not worry about where they came from.

I will tell you where I came from. I came from the tavern, the nightclub, the bar, and the gambling joint, but when I got saved, God did something on the inside of me. He restored me, and there were some people in that church that helped me get restored. When I would get

down a little bit, they were right there helping me. I want to be that kind of a Pastor. I want you to be that kind of a Christian. We are to bear one another's burdens.

Galatians 6:3 *For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.*

I see these big, puffed up churches, and they think they are something. They think they are so high that they are not going to help that one that is lost, that has been overtaken by the fault. Maybe that person has had a fault from their childhood. I do not know. It does not make any difference how long or what the fault is, God is able to help them with that fault, and we are the instrument that God uses.

Galatians 6:4-5 *But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden.*

I remember when I first got saved, and I mean to tell you, I was after everybody; my brother, my sister, mom and dad. It did not make any difference, even the next-door neighbor.

It was an amazing thing when I went to preach a revival years ago. There was a young man, and now he is an elder in the church. He said, "Brother Buckner." I did not even know where I had ever seen him before. "I remember you, and Sister Buckner. You lived next door to us in St. Louis, Mo. You were a great impression in our life." I do not remember when we did, but it was good that we made some kind of an impression. Now, that boy remembers all those things.

Let us get back to the main thing here. We are not supposed to have everybody bear our burdens for us. Though I have you helping me, and you have me helping you, we should not slack up. Bear your own, and help the others bear theirs. You are going to need everything you have got to get through to

help each other. We do not have any time to slack up on prayer, no time to slack up on going to church. We have no time to slack up on reading the Word, studying the Word, and learning the Word.

Communication

Then Paul tells us about communication. We have to communicate what we have learned to somebody else.

Galatians 6:6 *Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.*

Therefore, let the person that is being taught communicate. Paul said that he gave out the spiritual things. So, there is a communication between the teacher, or the pastor, or the evangelist, or whoever is preaching the Word. Let us communicate with one another in all good things.

Acts 10:38 *How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*

I believe that is communication. I tell you that Jesus was communicating. Everywhere He went, He was doing good, let us all communicate. Not only communicate with each other, but also let us communicate with the fellow down town, the person on the street, and the next-door neighbor in all good things.

You Reap What You Sow

Galatians 6:7 *Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*

Do not be deceived. We are spiritual farmers. We are planting, and we are sowing. We are going to reap just exactly what we sow. If we sow good things, we are going to have a good harvest. Somebody said, "It does not look like it." You can plant a crop, and you may not see anything for a week because some crops take so long to come up. It seems

like the things that are planted of the Word take a long time to come up, and then grow up, and mature to where you can see the fruit on it. It takes a long time.

If we sow good things, we are going to reap some good things. If you plant a field full of soybeans, you are going to have soybeans. You are not going to have corn. If you plant a field full of corn you are going to have corn. If we sow good things we are going to have a good crop. If we sow evil things we are going to have evil things. If we sow to the flesh of the flesh we are going to have corruption.

Galatians 6:8 *For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.*

What a crop! You see if we sow to the flesh, we are going to reap corruption. But if we sow to the spirit, we are going to reap everlasting life. A lot of people get weary. One thing that I learned a long time ago is not to get weary with it. A lot of folks get weary when they just work and work, and pray and pray, and teach and teach, and they go to church, and go to church, and after a while they just get weary. "I can not see anything happening."

Galatians 6:9 *And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

Somebody said, "What are you going to do with this small congregation?" (Half of them are out this morning.) I am going to sow. "Are you not weary?" No, I am going to reap, if I faint not. I have been here forty-five years. I have preached to smaller crowds than this. I have preached to eight hundred. I have preached to small crowds, it's the same sowing. If we can win just one person out there, and there is no telling what he is going to be. He may become some big Evangelist, or a Pastor.

Do not quit doing with joy, because things are not going just like we think they should be. Do not be weary in well doing. We are doing good. We are not

here doing evil. We are here doing good. In our life we will know that we are doing good. So, if we do not be weary in well doing, after a while we are going to have a crop. Just keep on working for the good.

Do Good Unto All Men

Acts 10:38 *How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*

Galatians 6:10 *As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.*

As we have opportunity, let us do good unto all men.

Many years ago there was an old preacher that lived out close to Doniphan. He was eighty-years old at that time. He is dead and gone; he has been for some years. He would always tell me this story. He said that there was a fellow in the community out there, when they were younger, that just hated him. He said, "Do you know what I did?" The man cut and hacked railroad ties. That was back in the depression. "He came right by my house everyday, and I knew he had some children. I had a cow out there that was giving a lot of milk, and it was just my wife and I. I just decided to do something good for that fellow. Every evening, when he went by, I met him with a gallon of milk." He just kept doing good to that man who hated him.

One day that fellow came to church, and he got gloriously saved. I knew the man. As a matter of fact, I preached the funeral of the man that got saved. You do not go wrong doing good. As long as we are doing good, that is the main thing.

Do not worry about what people are doing. There is no telling what they are going to do. I have come to the place that I am concerned about what people are doing, but I am still not weary. I am going

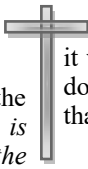
to do good, and if that is not good enough, I will try to do better.

My job, and your job, is to please the Lord. Jesus said, *“He that sent me is always with me, because I do always the thing that pleases Him. I want to please the Father. I am always doing that, and He is always with me, because I do always the thing that pleases Him.”*

The fault, the restoration, the meekness, being not tempted, bearing each other’s burdens, and not having too much self involved in it, then we are to prove our own works, and bear our own burdens, and we are to communicate with each other. We are not to be deceived. Whatever we sow is what we are going to reap. If we sow to the flesh, we are going to reap corruption. If we sow to the spirit, it is everlasting life. Always do good. Wherever you go, do good.

My wife went down here to the bank one day, and there was a teller there at that time, many, many years ago, and this teller, most of the bank employees were pretty nice, but this one was a bit snobby. My wife went in there, and cashed a check, and said that the woman gave her back twenty-five dollars too much. My wife walked back up to the window, and she said, “Ma’am you made a mistake.” She said, “No, I did not. I know I did not make a mistake.” She started an argument with my wife right off the bat. My wife said, “Well, you did. You gave me twenty-five dollars too much.” “Oh, I did?”

That just took all of that snobby stuff right out of that woman. She thought my wife was going to say that she did not give her enough money, but when she found out that she had given her too much money, she said, “Hey! That person is honest. Maybe, I have been too snobby with that person.” I still see that woman. She does not work at the bank, and has not for many years, but every now and then, I see that person, and she says, “How are you doing, Mr. Buckner?” If we are doing good, God is going to reward us



for doing good. Whatsoever we do, do it with all our might as unto the Lord, but do it good. Our job is dealing with people that have faults.

We All Have Faults

It would be wonderful if we had a million people, and no one had any faults. I counsel you that it is not that way. Everyone is probably still working on one of their own, all of us. I do not want to be tempted. One person’s fault is all together different than the other. One may be snobby, and another may be a money grabber. Another may be contrary, and another may have a temper. You notice everybody says, “I just have one little fault.” That is what they all say. Well, sure we have. We always have something to work on. We are not mature yet. Some may be further ahead than the others.

Go to Genesis 40:1-23, and read about a man who had a fault. The whole nation of Israel, the whole nation of Egypt, and the welfare of the whole country, and the whole world nearly, at that time, depended on that man not having that fault. He was the butler that was in prison with Joseph, and there was also a baker there. They were in prison with Joseph. I will make a long story short. Joseph told the baker, “You are going to be hanged, but the butler is going to be turned loose.” Well, it worked out that very way. The baker was hung, and the butler got released from prison. If that had been me, and I did not get hung, I would have remembered that fellow that told me about that.

Sometimes, people forget where they got their information until they have another problem. We will forget each other. Maybe, somebody in the congregation walked up and prophesied over somebody one time, and we forget what that person said. In turned out with the butler that two years went by. This butler got released from prison, forgiven of his

crime, or whatever he did. The king did just exactly what Joseph prophesied. Even though he was in prison, Joseph stayed with God.

The butler had been out for two years, and had forgotten about that man in the dungeon. He forgot about that prophet Joseph, who said, "You are going to get freed and this other man is going to be hung." It worked out that way, but he forgot it. The Bible said, "*Be not forgetful hearers of the word.*" Sometimes, people forget. However, God wanted Joseph to sit at the throne there with the king, so they would have plenty of corn to deal with his brethren. God wanted Joseph to feed his people and it was going to happen out of Egypt.

The butler was a man that had the answer, and he forgot all about it. It was important that Pharaoh know about this man that could tell him anything he needed to know. In another case it was also important that the king knew about Daniel that could tell him some things.

Genesis 41:1-8 *And it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed: and, behold, he stood by the river. And, behold, there came up out of the river seven well favoured kine and fatfleshed; and they fed in a meadow. And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill favoured and leanfleshed; and stood by the other kine upon the brink of the river. And the ill favoured and leanfleshed kine did eat up the seven well favoured and fat kine. So Pharaoh awoke. And he slept and dreamed the second time: and, behold, seven ears of corn came up upon one stalk, rank and good. And, behold, seven thin ears and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them. And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream. And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all the wise men thereof: and*

Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh.

This is another situation where there was a king that has had a dream, and nobody could interpret the dream. The butler has already forgotten about the man down in the dungeon that could prophesy, and tell things. He has already forgot all about that. He has a bad fault. He was a butler and a servant of the king. One day the king is all troubled and evidently the king told the butler about this problem, the seven cattle that ate up the other, and the seven ears of corn, or whatever it was that ate up the other. The king said, "I am troubled. I am worried. There is something going to happen to the empire. There is something going on, and I need some help, and these other fellows cannot tell me anything."

Genesis 41:9 *Then spake the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying, I do remember my faults this day:*

The butler said he should have told the king two years ago about that man down there in the dungeon who could help him understand.

The butler thought, I have a bad fault here, but I am going to get rid of that fault today, because I am going to tell the king about a man that is down there in the dungeon from two years ago.

He told what the man in the dungeon told had said, that he would be spared, and the baker would be hung. You have carried this out, and forgiven me. I have a fault because I forgot that man who could help.

"Who is he?" "He is Joseph." "Who is Joseph?" "He is the one that never falters, he keeps on going when everything is rough. He keeps on going when he is in prison. When it looks like there is no way, he is the one that keeps on going." When there is nobody else with him, he is still steadfast with God. Put him in prison, and he can still dream and

interpret. He can still prophesy in whatever situation.

The Apostle Paul said, "I have learned to be content in whatsoever place I am at. I will just be content in whatever state I am in." Knowing the Bible, I believe that we need to learn a few things.

So, here he said, "I do, this day, remember my faults. There is a man down there in the dungeon and this man will be able to interpret that dream. I know he will, and it is my fault that the message has not gotten to you any sooner than it has." So, they brought Joseph up there, and Joseph began to tell him. He went through the whole story again.

Genesis 41:15-18 *And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it. And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, In my dream, behold, I stood upon the bank of the river: And, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine, fatfleshed and well favoured; and they fed in a meadow:*

Genesis 41:25 *And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, The dream of Pharaoh is one: God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do.*

"God showed you this, and this whole nation is riding on this dream. If you do not get something stored up in your garners, you are all going to starve to death."

Joseph was able to sit on the throne, and cause seven years of plenty to be stored to spare Egypt. Not only did it spare Egypt, remember Joseph's brother sold him into the land of Egypt, but now, they are all starving to death back at home. They need something to eat up there in Canaan's Land. Imagine that.

Here is one man's fault, and the whole nation of Egypt, and Canaan, is

riding on that man's forgetfulness or remembrance. He just said "I forgot."

There are all kinds of things that we forget. There are all kinds of faults. Somebody said, "I just have one fault. I have a temper." I was in a service on time, and they were all telling that they had this temper, and it was the Irish that was in them.

Well, I thought we became a new creature in Christ. The old things have passed away, and all things have become new. However, it takes us awhile to mature and get there. I want to tell you that God's Word tells us that we are to not forsake this communication in the Word of God, and be forgetful like this man was. This man received a great blessing.

Genesis 41:25-30 *And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, The dream of Pharaoh is one: God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do. The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years: the dream is one. And the seven thin and ill favoured kine that came up after them are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine. This is the thing which I have spoken unto Pharaoh: What God is about to do he sheweth unto Pharaoh. Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt: And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land;*

Here is a man that is restored. He has had a fault, but he has gotten restored, and now this man is able to tell Pharaoh how to prepare for this famine.

What opportunities the church has. What opportunity you and I have. They said about Jesus., "Come, and see a man." This woman said, "Come, and see a man that told me all things." Jesus does not condemn. He forgives.

II Peter 1:3-10 *According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:*

What a promise!

Galatians 5:22-24 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.*

Meekness

Here we find a fruit called, "meekness." Sometimes, you see someone doing something, and you say, "Well, I am just going to argue with you." Arguments are a fault. Debates. The Bible speaks against debate. That is a fault. Temptation.

I recall the preacher, from New Orleans, that said he was going to debate Madeline O'Hara, the atheist. He did, for two or three hours, in Springfield, Missouri. He debated her, and he backslid

through debating an atheist and being tempted.

The Bible said to speak the Word. It did not say to debate the Word. It does not say to argue the Word. Just about the time you get the victory over something, somebody will come along with a different kind of a doctrine, and they say, "Look here." So, we get in an argument with them.

There are different ones that will knock on your door, and they have that little doctrine you see, and they need a restoration too, but if we argue with them, what have accomplished. We will get into arguments with family members if we don't watch it. There are always temptation to get upset.

I want you to ask yourself a question. We are all saved. I am a minister, and you are the congregation. Some of you are ministers, and some of you are minister's wives. Did God save us so that we could sit around with a whole bunch of people that are perfect, those that have no faults so we can have chicken dinners with them, go places with them, and have a good time? I will tell you what God wants us to do. He wants us to get out there with the person that has the faults, and begin to restore that person with a spirit of meekness.

Through all your faults, I still love you. Through all your problems, I still love you. Just think about the old preacher that took the bucket of milk out to the man every day. He said, "Every day I took it and I never missed." Every day that he worked and came by there, I took him a bucket of milk. He would say, "Here is a bucket of milk for you, and your family." That family began to get a hold of what it was working towards.

I remember before I got saved, and lived in Kansas City, Kansas, I would not take my wife to church. They had to come out there four or five miles to pick her up, and there I was, sitting there with a car, and fussing at her about church. I did not

like those people. You know, they just kept doing things good. Christmas time came, and here came one of the brethren from the church down there with a necktie for me. I thought, "That is awful peculiar, as much as I do not like him." It just kept working on me, my family.

One day the pastor told me, "Your wife, and little girl, was praying for you." Once in a while, I would pick them up after church if we were going to go some place, and they would come out wiping tears out of their eyes. I was always wondering what that was all about. When the pastor said, "Your wife, and little girl, are praying for you," something began to work in here. It was the spirit of meekness. Meekness began to eat me up. They were trying to get me restored in the spirit of meekness.

One day, just by chance, one of the kids came in, and brought their Sunday School Lesson, and left it on the table, and went to the living room. It was, "I will be sorry for my sins." I stood there and read it, looked at it, went off and thought they would pick it up after a while. Every time I went by there, that day, it was still laying on that table. "I will be sorry for my sins." That got a hold of me. That began to dig into my spirit. "I will be sorry for my sins." It just began to ring in my spirit day and night, "I will be sorry for my sin."

Restoring someone in the spirit of meekness. I had just been saved about a week. I did not think I would ever have another problem, or ever have a temptation, and it came my birthday. There was a fellow that worked with me that said, "I want to buy you a beer for your birthday." "Oh, not me, brother. I do not want a beer for my birthday." He finally talk me into going down there. I sat there, and I drank two or three beers, and I got up, went home, and told my wife, "I cannot live it." She restored me in the spirit of meekness. I figured she would get after me like always. She said, "Oh honey, you can do

it. This is just a mistake. It is just a fault." She, and the Lord, kind of propped me up, and I got through that one. Never again have I touched liqueur to my mouth.

It was after only five or six days had gone by, and I thought I had such victory, and I felt so good, that I suddenly was overtaken.

We have a good God. We should just stop for a moment and worship Him. Raising our hands and saying, "I am worshipping a good God. I am worshipping a God that will forgive me. I cannot see Him with my natural eye, but I can hear His voice in my spirit."

He is able to do exceeding and abundantly above all I ask or think according to the power that worketh in me. He is working in me. He is working in you. I want that to ring in your ears.

We, who are spiritual, have a ministry of restoration, and if we do not do it, we are going to be tempted, or if we try to do it any other way, we will be tempted, because we will get angry or something with someone. We will get upset, and then we will be tempted.

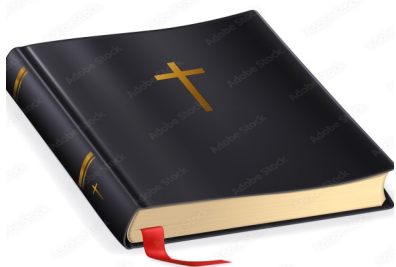
I want to encourage everyone. If you are working with someone, trying to get him or her to church, do not give up. You that are not working with anybody, start doing it. If we can go talk with them and pray with them in the spirit of meekness. We will not run out there and say, "You have got to get saved." That is not the way. The way is to love them, to pray for them, and after a while, "Be not weary in well doing for in due season you are going to reap."

I remember a little lady in St. Louis, Mo., and she just was not going to have it any other way than her husband be saved. He was an alcoholic. She was fairly ill. She kept praying for her husband, and said, "He is going to be saved. I am claiming that he is going to be saved." Finally, one day she died.

I was wondering about that. She is

not going to get to see him be saved, but I believed he was going to be saved, too. It wasn't long after that he got gloriously saved.

I am telling you that he became one of the most devout Christians that I have ever seen, but it was after her death. She will get to see it all anyway, not in this life, but she laid the groundwork. She did it with meekness.



Come unto me, all ye that labour
and are heavy laden, and I will
give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and
learn of me; for I am meek and
lowly in heart: and ye shall find
rest unto your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my
burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30

I Asked The Lord That I May Grow

John Newton

July 24, 1725—December 21, 1807

*I asked the Lord that I might grow
In faith, and love, and every grace;
Might more of His salvation know,
And seek, more earnestly, His face.*

*'Twas He who taught me thus to pray,
And He, I trust, has answered prayer!
But it has been in such a way,
As almost drove me to despair.*

*I hoped that in some favored hour,
At once He'd answer my request;
And by His love's constraining pow'r,
Subdue my sins, and give me rest.*

*Instead of this, He made me feel
The hidden evils of my heart;
And let the angry pow'rs of hell
Assault my soul in every part.*

*Yea more, with His own hand He seemed
Intent to aggravate my woe;
Crossed all the fair designs I schemed,
Blasted my gourds, and laid me low.*

*Lord, why is this, I trembling cried,
Wilt thou pursue thy worm to death?
'Tis in this way, the Lord replied,
I answer prayer for grace and faith.*

*These inward trials I employ,
From self, and pride, to set thee free;
And break thy schemes of earthly joy,
That thou may'st find thy all in Me.'*



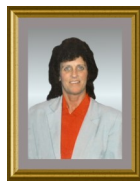
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A Division of Bible Way Association

3736 US Hwy 160 W - Doniphan, Mo. 63935

Phone: (573) 996-7317 Fax: (855) 235-1330

Email: thevoice@windstream.net



Margaret Buckner
President

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