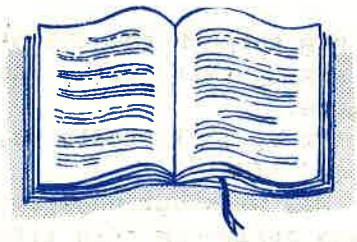
The Christian Courier



Send all correspondence to: 9914 Arkansas, Bellflower, California 90706

NOVEMBER 1981

With all the problems we find in the world today, it's easy for us to slip into a condition of having negative thoughts. The more negative our thoughts become the more problems we create for ourselves and pretty soon we have created so many problems, we don't possibly see how we can overcome. Well, believe me, we can overcome.

In Gal. 6:2 it says, *"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."* Also in James 5:16 we are told, *"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effect fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."*

When we feel that the cares and problems of this world are more than we alone can bear we're told to share them with our brothers and sisters in Christ so that the load that would crush us as individuals can be divided and spread thin.

We also read of this idea in Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 *"Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. (10) For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. (11) Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: But how can one be warm alone? (12) And if one prvail against him, two shall withstand him; and a three fold cord is not quickly broken."*

We also know through the scriptures that the greatest weapons we have to use in this attempt to overcome are love and prayer.

We can always pray to God for whatever we need and can be assured that he will provide for our needs.

We read in Matt. 6:8, *"Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him."*

Although he knows what we need before we ask, we show our love

for him through the act of prayer. It helps us to remember why he sent his son to this earth, and why Christ willingly came. It was because of Love.

Prov. 10:12 tells us, *"Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins."*

We, with our nagative thoughts and actions, stir up hatred which brings strife in this life, but if we can think positively then we think of love for God, Christ, ourselves and our fellow man and it says that love covereth all sins. Whatever we find wrong in the lives of others and ourselves can be done away with if we do all things because of love.

Rom. 12:9 tells us, *"let love be without dissimulation....."*

The definition of dissimulation is "To disguise under a feigned appearance." Which takes us to the idea of, don't just SAY you love God or me, SHOW us by your actions toward us.

If we find it's easy to say but hard to do, then we had better stop and take a good look at ourselves and the direction we are heading and leading others.

Rom 13:10 enforces this idea, *"Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law."*

In closing, I'd like to look at two more passages.

First, in Rom 8:38-39 we read, *"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

And from this I gather that the only thing that can separate us from God's love is ourselves. We are the only ones who can cause a separation between the love that is available through God and ourselves.

Also, please read the 4th chapter of I Jno. which deals specifically with exhortations to brotherly love and perseverance in Christian love.

As a last reminder let us look at James 1:2-3, *"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this that the trying of your faith worketh patience."*

Let us all SHOW our love and be patient, one with another.

Written in the Love for Christ,
Mike McCay

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Heb. 13:8 - "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever."

"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country."
Prov. 25:25

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HUMBLE, TEXAS

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We here in Humble are all doing fine. We had a week-end meeting the 24th and 25th of October, with Brother Bob Eldridge of Seymour, Texas doing the speaking. Brother Bob is a good speaker, he gave us some very good sermons from the word of God. Thank you Brother Bob. Along with his wife, Shirley and three children, Brother Bob brought with him his Mother-in-law, Sister Ross from Stillwell, Oklahoma. Brother and Sister Scott from Duncanville also came to help out. We appreciate their presence and fellowship very much.

Brother and Sister Tate and Brother Stanley Goodwin dropped in for services last Lords Day. It was nice to see them again and we all enjoyed their company very much.

Brother Harry Dye from Parker, Arizona, will be holding us a eight day meeting some time after the first of the year. The date has not yet been set but we will let you know as soon as possible.

Remember us in your prayers, our prayers are with you all. We have enjoyed the paper very much, keep up the good work.

Yours in Christ,
Donald Dabbs

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YUMA, ARIZONA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Everyone at Yuma is doing fairly well, except for colds and sore throats. Vacations are over now, so we usually have everyone here for services. Sister Virgie Childess is still in a rest home, she recently fell and injured her knee. Sister Vesta Lytle is some better and able to be out part of the time. Bro. Bill Nelson is having back trouble, but is improving. Bro. and Sis. Atchley were in Yuma the weekend of the 18th. Everyone enjoyed their visit, sorry we missed them, but we were away at that time.

Bro. James N. Tucker passed away October 19th, 1981. Bro. Tucker was born August 30, 1917 at Atalla, Oklahoma.

Keep up the good work and we love you all.

Robert Morris

GRANTS PASS, OREGON

Greetings to all from the Church in Grants Pass, Oregon.

Bro. Harry Lee Thompson has been staying in the Portland area for several weeks in order to recieve adequate treatment for a blood disorder which has bothered him for several years.

The rest of us seem to be doing very well for which we are thankful.

We enjoyed the Arnetts of the Waterford congregation worshipping with us in October. Bro. Arnett gave a good lesson on Sunday morning.

We also enjoyed very much Bro. Claud Perigen's visit with us and appreciated very much the good lesson he brought us the Sunday he worshipped with us.

Within a couple of weeks, the lovely fall colors will be just a beautiful memory, but we are thankful for the scenic splendor that has surrounded us for the past several weeks.

Tom Broadway for the Church
in Grants Pass

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BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren:

At this writing we hope everyone around the country is doing reasonably well with life's ups and downs. We at Bellflower are very thankful for the bountiful Spiritual blessings that we enjoy. Even though we are miles apart from other congregations, we think of all the brethren and are concerned about their spiritual and physical well-being.

Not too much news can be told about last month's activities. Mary Brown from Modesto is down here living with Sister Clouse now. We are very happy to have her with us. Also, Brother Marty Brockman from the Chico congregation visited us for a few days.

We have our share of sickness also, Sister Clouse has been in the hospital, but is out now and doing better. Sister Lewis has been very sick the last month and is not any better.

Let us never forget that our very existence comes from God. He has the right to do with us as he wills. All of us must be very careful not to fall short of his ultimate promise of heaven.

In Christian Love,
Jerry Perigen

YOU ARE PREACHING

There isn't a word that a preacher can say,
No matter how lovely or true,
Nor is there a prayer that his eager lips pray
That can preach such a sermon as you.
You vowed to serve Christ and men know that
you did,
They're watching the things that you do,
There isn't one action of yours that is hid,
Men are watching and studying you.
You say you're no preacher? Yes, but you preach
A wonderful sermon each day,
The acts of life are the things you teach - It isn't
the things that you say.
So Christians, remember you bear His name;
Your lives are for others to view,
You are living examples, men praise you, or blame,
And measure all Christians by YOU.

-Author Unknown

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ONE NIGHT I HAD A DREAM

I dreamed I walked along the beach with the Lord and across the sky flashed scenes from my life. For each scene I notice two sets of footprints in the sand. One belonged to me, the other to the Lord. When the last scene of my life flashed before me, I looked back at the footprints in the sand. I noticed that many times along the path of my life, there was only one set of footprints. I asked the Lord about this. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way, but I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints.

(cont.)

don't understand why, when I needed you most, you were not with me." The Lord replied, "My precious child, I would never leave you during your times of trial and suffering. When you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

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GOD'S GREATEST GIFT

He came to the earth
As a small babe in arms.

Protected by his parents
From all earthly harms.

Right from the start
His life had been planned

To teach man salvation
All over the land.

If we follow His footsteps
And all that He taught

We could live in contentment
And have all which we sought.

We now know the Master
Did have it all

And His Father stood by
To wait for His call.

He was constantly ridiculed
With His efforts to give

As He tried to show people
The right way to live.

(cont.)

The Caesars and Monarchs
Who ruled with a lash

Misunderstood love
So his teachings did clash.

So they took this man's life
And it matters not who,

The fact that He died
Yes, the Christ died for you!!!

-Hank Vernava

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How Should We Live (Young Men)
THUS SAITH THE LORD

Titus 2:6-8 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. In all things shewing thyself a pttern of good works. In doctrine shewing uncorruptness gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned: that he that is of the contrary part may be anamed, having no evil thing to say to you.

II Tim. 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

-Gerald Brockman

How Should We Live (Yung Women)
THUS SAITH THE LORD

Titus 2:4-5 Aged women teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

I Tim. 2:9-10 In life manner also, that women adorn themselves in molest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;
But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

-Gerald Brockman

1982 MEETINGS

Yakima, Washington	June 6-13	Sammy Boen
Waterford, California	June 20-27	camp
Delta, Colorado	June 27-July 4	camp
Bellflower, California	July 4-11	Howard McCay
Grass Valley, California	July 11-25	J. D. Logan
San Pablo, California	September 4,5, & 6	camp
Humble, Texas	to be announced	Harry Dye

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OBITUARIES

James N. Tucker	Yuma, Arizona	October 19th
Dale Roberts	Springfeild, Oregon	November 15th

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An appeal to our brethren:

In the past issues we have had some month's with an abundance of material, and some issues of the Courier we've had to scratch for material. This we believe is to be expected.

On thing we have noticed, and we're sure you have too, most of the church news, and articles are sent in by the same people each month. We praise them for their efforts, and without them we would have no Courier, but we ask, whereare the rest of the Brethren?; Have they quit the Church?; Are they sick, or in the hospital?; Have they passed on? Most of the congregations do not bother to send us news.

We all say we care of each other, but do we really? Our actions, or lack of action speaks louder than our words! We look at the Church and wonder why it's so small. The answer should be obvious to us, it is to the rest of the world.

Brethren in the love of Christ, let's pick ourselves up and go to work He's waiting.

In Christian Love,

8 The Editors