

The Christian Courier

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Contentment

From the beginning of time, mankind has not been content with what God has provided. God made a perfect, beautiful world He described as very good. He made a garden in that world, and placed the man and woman within to keep and enjoy it.



Yet with all the blessings God gave, Adam and Eve were not content. Gen. 3:1-6 tells the sad story, "*Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*" Satan tempted them to be discontent. What God gave was no longer enough. They wanted to be "as gods" and brought sin and death into the beautiful world God gave them. They wanted more and ended up with much less.

To be thankful and content (happy) with what God has provided is thus one of the great keys to

living a Christian life. When we are not content we are, in effect, saying that what God has given us isn't good enough. Let's not blaspheme God like that. Let us be content and thankful, praising God for His great gifts.

Let's look at several areas of our Christian life that contentment applies to.

Be Content with the things God has given us.

In Luke 3:10-14 we read the teaching of John the Baptist on contentment, "*And the people asked him, saying, What shall we do then? He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise. Then came also publicans to be baptized, and said unto him, Master, what shall we do? And he said unto them, Exact no more than that which is appointed you. And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages.*"

Each group was instructed to be content. The people with two coats or plenty of food weren't to worry about getting more, but share. The tax collectors were not to cheat people out of more taxes than allowed. And the soldiers were to be content with their wages. All of this applies to us as well.

Don't be greedy, be content. Heb. 13:5, "*Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*"

Don't be dishonest, be content. I Pet. 2:12, "*Having your conversation (lifestyle) honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.*"

Be content with our wages. I Tim. 6:6-8, "*But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.*" Verses 9-10 then warn about the dangers of not being content, "*But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*"

In Phil. 4:13, the apostle Paul wrote, "*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*" Men sometimes use this verse to say we can gain any possessions we want, but Paul is actually using it in the context of being content. Verses 11-13, "*Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*"

In Matt. 6:31-33 Jesus reminds us we don't have to worry about things. We should be content because God will take care of us. "*Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*"

Well, our money and things is not the only area of our life in which we need to be content. Let's consider some others.

Be Content with our spouse.

Eccl. 9:9 says, "*Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun.*" Our portion is our own spouse, and to live joyfully with that person. Not another, or even to be distracted by others. Again, if we are not happy with our spouse, we are saying that God's gift is not good enough. Prov. 18:22, "*Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.*"

In Prov. 5:15 we read, "*Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well.*" He is speaking of a husband and wife in this verse. Note verse 18, "*Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.*" Verse 20 asks, "*And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?*" If we do turn to another, it leads to death, verse 23, "*He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.*"

In Matt. 5:27-28, Jesus applies adultery not just to our flesh, but to our eyes and heart as well. "*Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.*"

Let us be content with our spouse, and thank God for His wonderful gift.

Be Content with Christ's Church.

In Matt. 16:15-18, Jesus asked His disciples, "*He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*"

Since Jesus Christ built His Own Church, why would we even consider following some other man's church, or starting our own? And yet how many people do exactly that?

Jesus died for His church, that He might have it a beautiful church of His own. Eph. 5:25-27, "*Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*"

Christ's church is His body. Col. 1:18, speaking of Jesus, reads, "*And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.*" Eph. 1:22-23, "*And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*"

It is His body, His church, that we are baptized into, I Cor. 12:13, "*For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.*" Thus, in His church we are members of His body. Verse 12 reads, "*For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.*" Verse 27, "*Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.*"

Christ's church was begun by His apostles (and so built by Jesus Christ) on the day of Pentecost, read the first and second chapters of Acts. It was Christ's Church that His apostles belonged to and recognized, Rom. 16:16, "*Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.*" So, when we are members of His church, we find in Eph. 2:19-20, "*Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;*".

Why would we turn to any different church? Would it be because like Adam and Eve we desire to be "*as gods*"? What arrogance. Let us humble ourselves, and be content with the church Jesus built. I Pet. 5:6, "*Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:*".

Be Content with God's Word.

When the apostles were beginning Christ's church they were also delivering God's Word to mankind. Jesus first gave them God's Word both during His ministry and after He rose from the dead. Acts 1:1-3, "*The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:*".

The Holy Spirit then reminded the apostles of what Jesus taught them, and led them into all truth. In John 14:26 Jesus was speaking to His apostles, and said, "*But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*" John 16:13, "*Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.*"

Jesus never personally told me anything. The Holy Spirit would have nothing to remind me of. The Spirit led the apostles into all truth. What does that leave for me?

The apostles then taught the word of God, and wrote it down for us, so that we have it even years after they are dead. In II Pet. 1:12-15, the apostle Peter wrote, "*Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.*" And he continued in II Pet. 3:1-2, "*This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:*". And the apostle Paul wrote in I Cor. 14:37, "*If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.*" II Pet. 1:3, "*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:*".

So why would we turn to our own way? Why would we not be content, yea ecstatic, with God's Word as delivered? To be "*as gods*" ourselves? Let us not be so foolish. Prov. 28:26, "*He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.*"

How do we walk wisely? By hearing and doing God's Word. In Matt. 7:24 Jesus said, "*Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:*".

In John 8:31-32 we find, "*Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*" Let us be content with God's Word, and thankful for it.

How do we develop contentment in our lives? Here are a few quick ways.

Thankfulness.

Recognize the gifts of God as such, and express thanksgiving for them. Psa. 100:3-5, "*Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.*"

Humility.

Don't try to be "*as gods*". Try to serve the one true and living God. James 4:6-8, "*But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.*"

Serve God with our very best effort.

Don't do things our own way. Give God our best effort instead. Psa. 119:2-3, "*Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart. They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.*" See how when we seek Him with our whole heart we walk in His ways, not our own? That is contentment. Phil. 4:4, "*Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.*"

Seek to grow in Him.

We must be content with all the gifts God has given. The only thing we need to not be content with is who we are. Seek to grow. Remember how we read in Phil. 4:12 that Paul was both full and hungry, both abounding and suffering need? If we are content, what do we need or hunger for? To grow. I Pet 2:2, "*As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:*". II Pet. 3:18, "*But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.*"

There is an old song that says: "Contentment reigneth eternal in Heaven our home sweet home." It must first begin here in this life.

Offered in Christ's name,
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Cards and Letters

Bohanna Mountain, AR

Dear Christian Brethren,

I'm sending this note to request special prayer from all brethren every where for our dear Brother James Vanderpool, he has fought a long battle with Hepatitis C which has weakened him so much and damaged his liver. An MRI and other test last week showed he has a large cancer on his liver. Because of his weak and failing health, the doctor does not feel he could under go surgery or chemo, and do not offer any hope. Brother James has chosen to live each day the Lord gives him as best he can. James has been so helpful and faithful.

Your thoughts and prayers are needed very much for James his wife Beulah and their children. Also, we just learned that our Sister Judy Laney passed from this life early this morning, Dec 6th. Judy was so faithful to come, even when she was taking high doses of chemo for her colon cancer. She fought for 2 years. Lets remember her husband and family (also the Serrano family) at Goshen who lost Sister Mary over a few weeks ago.

Brother Melvin Daniels is having angio on Dec 10th. The doctor thinks he may have another blockage in his heart. We pray if he does it can be stinted.

With love and prayers for all the sick,
Bro. and Sis. in Christ,
Sis. Rachel Daniels
for Bohanna Mt. Congregation

Gleed, WA

Where is the Selah congregation? After a long stay in the Selah Convention Center we are now in our own building. We were blessed to find a Church building in our price range. In December, 1999 we moved to our new location. There was many repairs needed, but we have many talented people in our congregation who took on different jobs and much was accomplished.

Since then we have a new heating and cooling system, a well drilled, a hot water heater, new plumbing and the outside and inside painted. We have installed underground sprinklers for our lawn care. We had a handicap ramp built and we purchased two wheelchairs for those whom need assistance. Our front steps are not safe, so they are blocked off until we can rebuild them in the near future. We are using our back door at this time. When you enter in the back door you take a right up the stairs to the worship area. In the back we have a small room for the mothers to take the babies for feeding and changing. We have speakers in there so they can hear and not miss what is being said. When entering the back door and going down the stairs is a large dinning room and two small rooms. One small room is used for our small children to play when we have basket dinners and the other one is for the men's office and business area. On the same level as the back door is our kitchen and a small dinning room. This room and the dinning downstairs is where we have many wonderful fellowships.

We have plans to rebuild the front steps so we can use the front entrance. We also plan to build a baptistery as we can in the future.

The building is just west of Selah in Gleed about five miles Northwest of Yakima off Highway 12. This December we will be here four years. The Selah Congregation is now the Church of Christ in Gleed, Washington.

Since we have been meeting here we have grown in numbers. We have several new families who now worship with us. We get many visitors who come by, many who are visiting family in the community. Those who have been baptized into the body of Christ since we have been in Gleed are, Michael Geho, Melissa Bernath, Lillian Champagne, Todd Mouritsen, Andrea Wilson, Christopher Carter, Kayla Carter, Jessica Carter, and Jessica Farres.

We have had four marriages in the last two years. Darren and Threasa King, Todd and Traci Mouritsen, Jason and Kati Christianson, and Brian and Tammie Bauer. Threasa and Darren were blessed with a baby boy, Tyler Michael King, Dec. 4, 2002 and have announced that a new arrival is expected in July 2004. Todd and Traci had their new arrival, Christopher Matthew on Jan. 4, 2004; and Tammie and Brian had Dakota John on Jan. 30, 2004. Our congregation is growing all the time. Tyler is the youngest and Sister Dorothy Sage is our Senior member at ninety two years young. We have between fifty and sixty people on Sunday mornings. We are blessed with the very young, the in between, and the aged. We learn so much from them all.

We want to thank all those who have come by to visit and we want to invite you back and any one who is driving through and never been here. Visitors are always welcome.

With Christian love,
John and Betty McKinney,
Gleed Church of Christ

Goshen, AR

Dear Brethren,

I don't know if any of the church members have reported the passing away of my Beloved wife Mary. She passed away on 10-31-03. I loved Mary more than I can say. There is only one I love more and that is My Lord and my GOD. I can only hope she is resting until the day that Jesus comes to take us Home to Heaven with Him.

As most of you know she and I were married 50 years plus a few months. Those of us which remain, are noted: My three daughters, Vickie, Pam, and Chris; three granddaughters, Ericka, Kassandra, and Laney; and two great-granddaughters, Haliee, and Morgan. Please pray for me, that I have strong enough faith to get me through the remainder of my days here

May the Lord bless all of you.

Yours in Christ, Marion Serrano.

Oakdale, CA

As most of you know, our son Stephen, age 15, was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer on September 19th of last year. He had been complaining of knee pain for a while and was treated for a sports injury. The pain persisted, and after an X-ray was ordered, we were sent to specialists in San Francisco for final diagnosis and treatment. Our worst fears were confirmed when the diagnosis came back as a malignant tumor on his femur, a form of cancer known as Osteosarcoma. Steve has undergone nearly four months of chemotherapy treatment, being in the hospital more than out of it. Making matters worse was the need to perform a bone biopsy, effectively fracturing the bone and rendering his leg immobile until

well after surgery. It has been rough on him as anyone who has had chemotherapy can attest to (nausea and weakness and all the typical side effects). He has had to drop out of his freshman year in high school, but between the home tutor and myself, we are determined to start him off next year with his sophomore class. It was really important to him that he is with his friends at the beginning of next year. We had a few weeks without treatments right before the holidays and were able to enjoy our family and friends. Steve underwent major surgery on December 29th. The team of doctors replaced a portion of his leg and knee with a spring-loaded titanium rod that is state of the art and is expected to last his lifetime. They removed 7 inches of his thighbone and totally replaced his knee (We call him the Terminator). The lab results after surgery show that they removed the entire tumor that was attached to his thighbone. We expect many months of physical therapy but already he is showing signs of regaining a limited range of motion. In addition to healing from the surgery, Steve will begin the next rounds of chemo next Monday, Jan. 19th in order to keep the "free-roaming" cancer cells at bay. The way it looks now, the cancer was localized on his leg and has not appeared anywhere else. Having said all of this, we are mindful at every turn that God is in control of every aspect of Steve's healing. We give him glory for our good news and trust in him when things look bleak. We have had a crash course in biology and chemistry through these short months and find ourselves in awe of God's creation. The human body is truly an amazing, perfectly tuned creation. It amazes me that people like physicians and nurses who can plainly see the beauty and intricacies of the human body can be so blind to its creator. We are careful never to trust in doctors or procedures, but in God who blesses them for their purpose.

Needless to say, all of this is quite overwhelming for a young mind. It would be hard enough as an adult but to watch a boy in his prime go through this is almost unbearable. Yet, Steve is a remarkable person. Through it all, his faith has only increased. He prays more, worries about missing church due to treatment, never wants to pray with his head covered (hats are the norm these days). How true it is that the trying of our faith only produces more faith. His mother says Steve has become her hero for the way he has handled everything. In many ways, better than his parents. The coming months will be extremely trying for him. We ask for your continued prayers. We have heard from many of our Christian family who say Steve is in their daily prayers. Thank you and please continue to pray for him and our family. It is very important to us knowing we have so many people in our church concerned and of a prayerful mind on our behalf. We will never be able to repay the thoughtfulness and true concern that so many of you have shown for us. You have taught us valuable lessons about friendship and how to show it. Thank you.

If anyone wishes to write letters or send an email, please do. Steve has computer access at the hospital and it certainly breaks up the long days.

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Sea-Tac, WA

To our dear ones in Christ,

Well, we've had a pretty interesting winter this year. Bro. Eric & Sis. Lori Harper & family tried to drive North for the Christmas holiday from Foresthill, CA, but had to turn back at Redding because the snow was coming down so heavy, 150 miles of Interstate 5 in N. California and S. Oregon had to be closed. They had spent 17 hours on the road, and returned home exhausted. Bro. Matt & Sis. Kelly Shepherd were returning from Arizona on a more easterly route during the holidays and were also delayed by the same snowstorm. The Harper's called the next night to say they were experiencing snow heavier than they expected, but were in the State of Wash. That trip took 15 hours. After spending 2 ½ days here, they cut short their stay because another snowstorm was approaching. They avoided most of the storm by traveling down the coast highway until they got into S. Oregon where they encountered a mudslide that blocked the highway. They then jumped back over to Interstate 5 and made it home safely. The Shepherds didn't make it back to their home in Vancouver, WA, until noon on Jan. 3rd.

We have some joyous news to share with you. On Nov. 24, 2003, we received a phone call from Lubbock, TX, announcing the birth of Khiara Jade to Lawrence and Shaya Flugence. We still consider Shaya as being a little part of our group here. We look forward to a long visit with them when they plan to come here in March.

Also, we are happy to report from our congregation the birth of Andrew John to Gabe and Rennie Orendorff on Dec. 20, 2003. May God bless these children that they may be a big asset to the church in the years to come.

In Nov., 2003, Sis. Lynell Forsman spent 4 days in Lubbock to see and share Bro. Jerry & Sis. Wynetta McCay's new granddaughter, Abigail Grace, born Nov. 11, 2003, to Daniel & Jane McCay. Abby was born 4 months early and only weighed 1 lb, 4 oz. Thanksgiving Day she had to have surgery on her heart. With many prayers, modern medicine, and God's loving care, she now weighs 3 lbs, 1 oz. We pray for her to continue to grow strong, be healthy, and eventually go home.

Sisters Jeanne Boroff and Jeannean McSwane continue to struggle against their illnesses. We count it a real blessing when either of these sisters is able to be with us on the Lord's Day. Sis. Jeannean is 2 treatments away from 96 hours of chemo. since last June, and it has been very difficult, but she still perseveres with a smile.

On February 1st we will resume our monthly basket dinners with the Glenwood group. We missed December & January and look forward to seeing them again.

Lord willing, Bro. Ellis & Sis. Lynell Forsman plan to attend the Yuma meeting in March of this year. It's been several years since they have been to that congregation. They look forward to being with everyone there.

We received a call from Grace Kellems in California that her mother, Sis. Olive Kellems, 95, of La Habra, CA, had passed away on October 8, 2003. Sis. Olive had been married 74 years to Bro. Randolph Kellems. That's a milestone you don't see very often!

With love to all from the Sea-Tac, WA, congregation

Yuma, AZ

Just a quick note to let you know when our meeting has been set for: March 21 through March 28.

Denny Davis
Yuma, AZ

Yuma, AZ

Dear Brothers, Sisters and friends,

A few lines to say hello and hoping all are doing ok or prayerfully on the mend. We are mostly getting along. It is the cold and flu season and several have been affected.

It has been unseasonably cold for some time now. I've worn a coat all day for several days. Some winters we need no more than a light covering.

2003 is past history. It has been good. God's blessings have touched us all in our daily needs most abundantly.

The first Sunday of the month, the first Sunday of the year, Brother Harry Dye from Citrus City and his sister, Sister Joe Johnson from Aztec, NM were with us. Brother Harry brought our message and was very good. The church in Yuma and Citrus City exchange speakers on the first and second Sundays of each month. We had a good visit after services at lunch. We also have lunch the first Sunday of each month.

Our meeting is March 21st through the 28th. It will be guest speakers. We would like to have any number of individuals hold our meeting, but with so many good speakers present it is great to hear from all of them. Be here if you can. It gives opportunity to visit with many people from many congregations.

I failed to mention Sister Florence Fuller spent several days in the hospital with chest pains. She is home now and seems to be doing pretty good.

This is about all the news for now. Let us all work hard for the Lord, and pray for the ill and each other.

In Christian love from all in Yuma

Precious Memories

***It Is Written*, February, 1954.** Obituary notice for Bro. G. Earl McCay, who passed away on Dec. 23, 1953.

***Gospel News Courier*, January, 1964.** Bro. Ken Baldwin, Delta, CO, announced their meeting in August. Bro. J. H. Lackey, Springfield, CO, wrote that he recently was in the hospital for 7 days with a hernia operation. Sis. Howard Studer, Lorenzo, TX, indicated that her husband had been in the hospital for two weeks with illness; she also mentioned that the little group at Seymour were building a new house of worship. Sis. Lurana McCluskey submitted an obituary on Sis. Ethel Bedingfield, who passed away on Oct. 29, 1963.

***Gospel News Courier*, February, 1964.** Bro. Isaac Ferguson, La Habra, CA, announced the baptism of Joe McCarty. Bro. Harry Wegley, Grants Pass, OR, wrote that their average attendance was 32, with a high of 52 the past year. Bro. Howard Studer, Lorenzo, TX, reported that he had just recovered from blood poisoning and that Sis. Studer was recovering from a heart attack.

***The Christian Courier*, January, 1974.** Bro. Mike McCay, Yakima, WA, reported that Sis. Cheryl Roby had substantially recovered from injuries received in an automobile accident and he announced Bro. Bill & Sis. Veda McCay's 25th wedding anniversary.

***The Christian Courier*, February, 1974.**

Bro. Harry Dye, Parker, AZ, wrote that the Somerton and Yuma congregations were joining forces, purchased five acres, and had erected a building at Yuma. Bro. George Vanderpool, Huntsville, AR, announced they had four baptisms. He also mentioned the passing of Bro. J. C. Falkner. Bro. Ken Harper, Indian Springs, CA, wrote that Bro. & Sis. Curtis McCluskey weren't doing very well. Bro. Rick Walkingstick, Great Falls, MT, announced the baptism of Clifford Kirkwood.

***The Christian Courier*, January, 1984.**

Sis. Mary Serrano, La Habra, CA, wrote that Sis. Ina Nunnaly had broken her left wrist, that Sis. Bernice Cavin had fallen and hurt her hip, and that Bro. J. B. Nunnaly was making progress after his heart attack a few months earlier. Bro. Bill McCay, Jr., Yakima, WA, reported that Bro. Wilbur Reading was home after his hospitalization. Bro. John McKinney, Selah, WA, announced three baptisms: Tina Best, November 27, 1983 and her brothers Tim and Jim Best, January 7, 1984. He also mentioned that Bro. Lee Hammett was in the hospital for chronic lung disease. Bro. Audley Barnes, Loco, OK, wrote that Sis. Karla Jones fell and broke her leg. Bro. Paul Andrews, Goshen, AR, reported that Sis. Margie Andrews fell and broke her hip. The San Pablo, CA, congregation said Sis. Marcelle Maddox had liver cancer.

***The Christian Courier*, February, 1984.**

Bro. J. W. Bedingfield, Humble, TX, announced the baptism of Clifford Scott at Yuma, AZ. Bro. Earl Howe, Lorenzo, TX, announced their new grandson, David, to Bro. Wayne and Sis. Amy Orendorff. The Duncanville, TX, congregation wrote that Bro. & Sis. Toodler Goodwin had moved to Olney, TX. Bro. Robert Farley, Selah, WA, announced the baptisms of Christina Farley, Jan. 29th and Debbie Braun, Feb. 2nd. He also said they were saddened by the passing of Bro. Lee Hammett, Feb. 4th. Bro. Bobby Lamb, Yakima, WA, reported that Bro. Carlos Harper was almost recovered from gall bladder surgery and that Bro. Wilbur Reading had recovered from his hip accident. Bro. Ken Baldwin, Cedaredge, CO, encouraged all to make plans for the Delta Camp Meeting. Bro. James Brown, Baron, OK, announced the baptism of David Martin, Feb. 5th. He also announced their meeting in June with Bro. Richard Johnston. Bro. Al Way, Bellflower, CA, announced their meeting in July with Bro. Audley Barnes.

***The Christian Courier*, January, 1994.**

Bro. Don Lewis, Duncan, OK, reported on their meeting in November with Bro. Jim Brown. Bro. Chuck Garner, Aloha, OR, announced two baptisms: Steve and Nancy Silva. The Seattle, WA, congregation reported that Sis. Nell McCay had fallen and broke the femur bone in her left leg; that Bro. Robert McCay, Glenwood, WA, had undergone surgery for prostate cancer; that Sis. Ellen Jean McCay, Glenwood, WA, was to have surgery for cataracts; and that Sis. Maggie Forsman, Glenwood, WA, had difficulty with failing kidneys.

***The Christian Courier*, February, 1994.**

Bro. James Brown, Baron, OK, announced their meeting in June with Bro. John McKinney. Bro. Mark Perigen, Bellflower, CA, reported that they all had survived the earthquake, which gave them quite a scare. Bro. Robert Farley, Selah, WA, reported that Bro. Gene and Sis. Pat McKinney had moved and now worshipped at Selah. Bro. Harry Davis, Yuma, AZ, announced the baptism of Charles McKenny, Jan. 2nd and the passing of Bro. Robert Morris. Also mentioned: Bro. Chris Forsman, Lorenzo, TX, had the cast removed from his right foot; and Bro. Paul Auslam, Goshen, AR, was home after recent heart surgery;

Bulletin Board

Meetings

Mar. 21-28, 2004	Yuma, AZ	Guest speakers
July 10-19, 2004	Beaver's Bend, OK	Camp Meeting

Births

Abigail Grace to Daniel & Jane McCay	Lubbock, TX	Nov. 11, 2003
Khiara Jade to Lawrence & Shaya Flugence	Lorenzo, TX	Nov. 24, 2003
Andrew John to Gabe & Rennie Orendorff	Sea-Tac, WA	Dec. 20, 2003
Christopher Matthew to Todd & Traci Mouritsen	Gleed, WA	Jan. 4, 2004
Dakota John to Brian & Tammie Bauer	Gleed, WA	Jan. 30, 2004

Passings

Olive Kellems	La Habra, CA	Oct. 8, 2003
Mary Serrano	Goshen, AR	Oct. 31, 2003
Judy Laney	Bohanna Mt., AR	Dec. 6, 2003

Prayer of Faith for those in need

Duane Bixler	Aztec, NM	Alzheimer's disease
Lectie Denny	Baron, OK	Not doing good
Melvin Daniels	Bohanna Mt., AR	Heart blockage
James Vanderpool	Bohanna Mt., AR	Liver cancer
Floyd Camp	Broken Bow, OK	Heart attack
Ray Queen	Broken Bow, OK	Health problems
Kresta Fouch	Cedaredge, CO	Brain tumor
Maysel Buchannon	Goshen, AR	Fighting cancer
Letha Ferguson	Goshen, AR	Fighting cancer
Abigail McCay	Lubbock, TX	Born 4 months prematurely
Stephen Perigen	Oakdale, CA	Fighting cancer
Wilma Buckner	Pleasant View, OK	Heart attack, bypass surgery
Jeanne Boroff	Sea-Tac, WA	Severe hip pain & weakness
Jeannean McSwane	Sea-Tac, WA	Fighting cancer & diabetes
Vivian Baker	Waterford, CA	Fighting cancer

Note - There was an error in the previous issue of *The Christian Courier*.

Our e-mail address should be **cocsea-tac@comcast.net**, not .com