

THE INSPIRATIONAL MESSENGER

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Avoca Christian Church

209 Main Street
Avoca Arkansas 72711

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 11

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November 2008

Thoughts To Consider

As I watched one of the political debates recently on TV I was once again reminded of a true principle: that what people perceive as being said is sometimes much, much different than what is actually said. No, don't worry; As much as I'd like, I'm not going to talk about politicians.

I was reminded of a question asked me by a parent close to 30 years ago while I was children's pastor of an interdenominational church. I always tried to teach the children in a manner that would prepare them for adult church, teaching them not only the meaning of, and the ordinances of the church, but also above all I tried to lay down the foundational necessity of having a saving relationship with Jesus Christ regardless of what their church background was or where they attended church. I will never forget the question and the discussion that followed; as I've stated in many a sermon, I learn so much from kids.

The question the parent asked me was "Did you tell (child's name) that all Baptists were going to hell? I almost fell over in shock and said, "What?" The lady then said the child had just spoken up at the lunch table surrounded by family, "Brother Charlie says all Baptists are going to hell." The lady told me her sister (a Baptist) came unglued and insisted she deal with the situation immediately!!!

I explained to her the discussion that day was that it didn't matter what was over the door where you went to church; Christian, Baptist, Pentecostal, Lutheran, inter or non denominational, or any of their many derivatives - if you had not repented and asked Jesus to forgive you for your sins and been born again, you were going to hell regardless of the name of your church. What did she hear and take home? "Brother Charlie says all Baptists are going to hell!"

Ever so often, just when I need it, I get a reminder of this principle. When my next to youngest grandson was three, we were on our way one Wednesday for our weekly visit with our buddy. One of the "perks" of going anywhere with papa is having donuts and he was already strongly suggesting we stop and get some. Since I had already picked up donuts on the way to pick him up, I was teasing

him a bit, telling him we wouldn't be stopping for any because grandpa was broke.

After my saying that a couple times he quit pestering me and I should have figured something was up since that is highly unusual for him but I didn't think anything more about it until I said, "Maybe we'll drop by the lake and throw rocks after our visit"- also a tradition AND the only place they're allowed to throw rocks. After a bit my grandson said "Papa?" I said, "Yes?" After a ten second or so pause he continued, "Papa, how can you if you're broken?" I was speechless.

Because my grandchildren have never known a time when they didn't have to be careful not to be too rough with papa - results of my sometimes turbulent younger days - I never dreamed a three year old would take my teasing about not having money to buy donuts as my being broken and unable to take him to an activity he still, years later, thoroughly enjoys. I spent some time assuring him I wasn't "broken", and that being broke was a way of saying no money, but not to worry because I had money & had already picked up donuts.

Sometimes when the Lord speaks to us by His Spirit, whether by a sermon, what we read or study, or experience in life, we, like these children, sometimes hear something much different than what is being said and it can, as it did with the young girl and my grandson, cause us much worry and concern.

We should have the same confidence in our loving Savior my grandchildren have in me. If something He has shown us causes us unrest, concern or worry, we can ask Him for clarification & expect to get it. He shed His precious blood for us because He loves us - why would He not calm our fears when we misunderstand what He has said? ...*Pastor Charlie*



Please note teaching materials used in our adult Classes are available to everyone and are on the tables or wall racks where all materials are. If you can't find the materials you are looking for? See Pastor Charlie or Kenny Newman for help.

Church prayer day for November is from midnight November 22nd to midnight November 23rd for those interested.

Church Service Times

Sunday School 10:00 AM Sunday Worship 11:00 AM

Thursday 7:00 PM

THE ANCHOR

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Prayer List

James 5:14-16



Birthdays And Anniversaries

Birthdays: Butch Russell Shirley Becker Clorine Mills

Anniversaries: Kenny & Diana Newman

Remember to pray for the lost.

Grace Smith Carolyn Rounds Jo Boen
Earl Boen Pat Holopoff The Russell Family
For Revival of our Nation For Our Churches



**Bring
Canned
Goods**

Please bless others by bringing non-perishable items like canned food, toilet paper, etc. for our charity outreaches. If anyone knows of a family that could use

help, contact Pastor, Deacon Nick Landowski or Deacon Wesley Wilkerson for information. **Proverbs 22:9, 28:27**

We are currently sending all items over what is needed to help those brought to our attention to local ministries like the Salvation Army to help feed those in need.

Please remember to pray for the Pastors and Christians in the Congo. Pick up a Euro Up-date from one of the tables for the latest on the ministries we support in Africa and their prayer needs. Also remember to pick up a weekly Voice of the Martyrs prayer list and pray for them.

Hebrews 13:3 & 2nd Thessalonians 3:1



We are rejoicing and mourning the calling home to heaven of one of the pillars of our church, Sister Dorothy Russell on October. 21, 2008 . Rejoicing, because she no longer has to endure the maladies of this life she was afflicted with. Mourning because she was an integral part of our lives as mother, grandmother, friend and confident, full of wisdom and wit. A faithful member of our Church, she faithfully played the piano long after it was easy for her to do so, denying the pain so that others might be blessed. We will miss her, but know we will be together again at the last trumpet.

Accounting For November 2008

Starting Balance: 3,935.91

10/5 Lawn Care	50.00	3,885.91
10/5 Church Care	50.00	3,835.91
10/15 Electric	33.45	3,802.46
10/15 Gas	29.13	3,773.33
10/18 Interest	.31	3,773.64
10/26 Water	26.71	3,746.93
10/27 Cookson Hills	150.00	3,596.93
10/27 Adult Dev Center	100.00	3,496.93
10/27 Congo Ministries	100.00	3,396.93
10/27 Help with electric	51.26	3,345.67
10/28 Gideon Bibles for Dorothy	150.00	3,195.67
10/28 Salv Army Thanksgiving	350.00	2,845.67
10/28 Income	1,150.00	3995.67
10/28 Gift Memory of Dorothy	260.00	4255.67

Ending Totals: 1,090.55 4255.67

WANTED

Your News
Your Input
Your Articles
Your Prayer Requests

Send to: Pastor
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Avoca Arkansas, 72711

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