

Inside this
issue:

Tales from the Ole West	1
Tales (cont)	2
Spiritual Notes	2
Spiritual Notes cont.	3
Joy from Joy	3
Joy from Joy cont.	4
Music at Gatherings	4

TALES FROM THE OLE WEST

INSURANCE

QUICK MESSAGES

THE SEPT. MEN'S WALK IS COMING!

Don't you just cringe when an insurance bill comes due or the cost of insurance goes up? Is insurance really necessary? Insurance honors God and is a big part of our lives. We can't afford to be without it. It allows us to protect our families and the church. In 1 Timothy 5:8 "If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." Webster's tells us by definition: "the business of insuring persons or property; the coverage by contract whereby one party undertakes to indemnify or guarantee another against loss by a specified contingency or peril; a means of guaranteeing protection or safety." Insurance is a loving action toward a spouse or family. Insurance provides a means to leave something for your family, your children, as we read in Proverbs 13:22 "A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children, but a sin-

ner's wealth is stored up for the righteous." Insurance provides us with a way to insure that our debts are paid.

It can cover every aspect of our life, for a price. In most cases the price is based on our health record, our driving record, and how we live our lives. The cost will vary depending on our age, and the amount of the policy. We have life insurance in different amounts to insure that our beneficiary will be able to sustain in life after we are gone. Insurance is not a lack of faith but is a will of God. In 1 Timothy 5:8 "If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

We have homeowner's insurance to insure that our homes and property are protected against loss or damage. This too will vary in price based on the amount of coverage. It will also protect against persons being injured while on your property.

Car insurance becomes a must if you take a car on the road to protect

against the car being damaged, the persons in your car being injured and for the protection of other drivers that may or may not have insurance.

Medical insurance that protects us against the high cost of medical procedures and medical bills is a must that we can't afford to be without.

These are just a few of the many insurance possibilities that can and are presented for us to consider. Should I have more life insurance, car insurance, is my home covered enough? Daily we have to make decisions as to whether we have enough insurance and can we afford more insurance. Insurance is very costly and is basically a gamble on whether or not you will ever need to use it. It might come down to which one I can do without. Which one is to take priority over the rest?

Some people look at insurance as a lack of faith. Insurance would be a lack of faith if Jesus said nothing bad or unfortunate would ever happen to *(continued on page 2)*

Stay up on prayer requests,
share quick joys and concerns.
Join us on FACEBOOK!

Tales (continued)

Christians. However, Jesus seems to indicate that we will not fully taste the goodness of God until we are reunited in heaven. Trusting in God does not exempt us from hardship, struggle and sickness. 1 Peter 4:12-13 reads "Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the suffering of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed." When we have faith, we do not have the ability to control the outcome of our lives, rather the attitude to submit to whatever God brings our way.

So trusting in God and not having insurance would not excuse us from living our lives with wisdom to be prepared for the unknown. Be prepared as it says in Proverbs 6: 6-8 "Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest." The ant was preparing as well we should. The Lord wants us to be wise and be prepared as best we can. There is no Bible verse that specifically addresses insurance, but I believe, after reading Proverbs, getting insurance would be described as a way to honor our Lord, protecting the

things that he has provided. Protecting our family, our church, from what could be future burdens and hardships. It provides a way to pay medical bills which most could not afford. Life insurance provides for our families for the time of the event when our Lord calls us home.

The one insurance policy that takes priority over all others is the one our Savior took out for us. It is the one that we cannot do without and yet is free to us for the asking. It insures all aspects for eternal life without burdens and hardships. He paid in full all of our debts on Mt. Calvary and insured for all our needs. He is THE ROCK! The best insurance you don't have to buy.

Happy Trails,

Jim

SPIRITUAL NOTES

There is a story about a man who was once impressed by the courtesy of the conductor toward the passengers on a streetcar. After the crowd had thinned out, he spoke to the conductor about it. "Well," the conductor explained, "about five years ago I read in the paper about a man who was included in a will just be-

cause he was polite. 'What in the world?' I thought. 'It might happen to me.' So I started treating passengers like people. And it makes me feel so good that now I don't care if I never get a million dollars." This is both an example and a picture of the life that assures rewards. Ours is a faith that goes beyond rewards as a part of a bargain or rewards as a virtue, to rewards as the satisfying experiences that follow Christian living.

We are called by God to follow the example of Christ-like living! God has sent us the perfect example in His Son, Jesus Christ. Do we have the desire and the determination to follow that example? And just what are our reasons for following this perfect example?

There is a responsive reading that several teams use during their team meetings in preparation for an Emmaus walk weekend. Perhaps this reading helps the team members answer the question as to why they are a part of the team, and why they have come to serve. It is titled, "The Importance of a Team Member." The question asked is, "Why am I here, Lord?" and precedes each response of "I'm here to" *Why am I here, Lord? I'm here to praise God and (continued on page 3)*

SPIRITUAL NOTES *(continued)*

to do His Holy work here on earth.

I'm here to imitate Jesus Christ and to be a window to the Pilgrims at this Walk to Emmaus.

I'm here to pray and make sacrifices for the entire team and pilgrims.

I'm here to help establish a Christian community by bringing Jesus Christ to these three days and by accepting the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

I'm here to know the intent of the talks and to help the speaker accomplish it by guiding and directing discussion at the table.

I'm here to display Christian discipleship, love of my fellow human beings, and acceptance of another person as an individual by leadership, not domination, and by showing my concern for others.

I'm here to demonstrate true leadership, not for glory seeking, but in loving concern; to be a guide, a counselor, a good listener, and to be tolerant.

I'm here so that when these three days are over, the pilgrims will be able to say of the team members, "I came looking for Christ and found Christ at my table."

I'm here to ask humbly that God's will be done, not mine.

I'm here to submit my heart and soul to you, Christ, so that our love will bloom and grow.

Someone may not reward us with a million dollars for being kind to them, but we know that Christ has a reward for those who follow His example and are "Of Christ to others."

Why are you here?

Love in Christ,

Kathy (Reiff)

(Reprinted from Sept, 1993)



I am here to remind you that the Christmas Gathering will be here before you know it! I hope you'll take part in this ALL MUSIC Gathering by sharing a song, playing an instrumental special, telling a special story, or ????? Contact Jennie Harper to get on the schedule! I can't wait to hear you!

- Santa Mouse

JOY FROM JOY

What brought you to the point of accepting Christ? Who influenced you? Who mentored you? Whose life did you watch that made you want something you didn't have? Now we all know that we are to keep our eyes on Christ, not people, but let's be honest - we have all watched someone's life.

Many of you know that my father died when I was just a little baby. As hard as it was for my siblings and me to grow up without our father, it gave wonderful opportunities to our church family to love us, mentor us, disciple us. We were blessed!

About twenty years ago I took the opportunity to ask for a few moments to speak to the senior adult Sunday school class. I think I scared the teacher to death, not sure what I was going to say! (Ha! That was fun!) Seriously, I took just a few moments to thank those folks for helping my mother raise me. They prayed for me! Did you hear me? They prayed for me! They prayed for ME! They talked to me, not just about spiritual things but they were my friends who talked to me about things I was interested in so that when I needed to talk about the big things, I felt comfortable talking to them.

Growing up without a man in the house, I was unsure of loud, boisterous men. God knew that! Wow! He sent me a very gentle man for a Sunday School teacher. Oh, how he helped me learn to not be afraid of men.

Then the Lord did the most wonderful thing! He sent Bob Kline to be my pastor. Bob is my friend, my mentor, my disciple, my encourager. He is the most gentle giant I have ever met. Not a giant in stature, but in character. He is a wonderful husband, father, brother, uncle, pastor. The list goes on and on. He challenged me, corrected me, taught me, and befriended me without ever raising his voice (except once, and he has told the whole world that story!). He was the General Supt. of our denomination when I first started in the ministry. Oh what encouragement he has been. He has wept with me, laughed with me, and always supported me. He is still the greatest spiritual giant in my life. You see, I am sure that Bob has made many mistakes in his life, but he has been faithful to God, to the ministry, and to those that he has discipled and mentored over the years. Not perfect - but perfect in his love for God. Bob is very ill today and unless God performs a miracle of healing him, he will physically be leaving me before long to meet the One he has spent his life longing to meet. Oh, there will be a miracle somewhere! I will never be ready for that day, but that is the selfishness in me! He has been living his whole life for that moment! *(continued on page 4)*



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM

Wilmington Area Walk to Emmaus—WUMC
PO Box 191
Wilmington, OH 45177

SEE YOU AT THE GATHERING!
14 Aug
Singing starts at 6:45PM!
Stay in the GATHERING habit!!!
Wear your nametag!
Bring a snack to share!

JOY FROM JOY (continued from page 3)

I have told him many times how much he has meant to my life, but never often enough!

This letter to you is not about my friend Bob Kline, but it is about you! Two things. First, how do others view you? Are you a spiritual giant to those who are watching your life, or are you letting Christ down in that arena?

Second, this message is about Paul's letter to the Thessalonians in I Thessalonians 5:12-15. Have you shown respect and thanksgiving to those who have mentored and discipled you? Those who have prayed for you. Those who have loved you in the midst of all your messes and prayed with you and for you? Don't wait until it is too late and then wish you had thanked them. Tell them today.

Every senior citizen that I have ever talked with about spiritual things have shared with me how the enemy of our souls fights them in their minds in the later years of their lives. They have been there for us and encouraged us. We need to encourage them. Let them hear you pray for them.

"Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work".

We talk a lot at Emmaus about Agape Love. So often, the senior citizens are forgotten and not receiving the Agape Love from us they need and deserve! Let's show them that love today!

God Bless! *Pastor Joy*

MUSIC FOR GATHERINGS

MUSIC FOR GATHERINGS

MONTH	SPECIAL MUSIC	INSTRUMENTALIST	SONG LEADER
Aug	Cindy Bloom	John Glaze	Christy Mitchell
Sep	Bronwyn Jones	John Glaze	Peggy Larkin
Oct	Peggy Larkin	John Glaze	Cindy Bloom
Nov	TBA	TBA	TBA
Dec	Community	John Glaze/Lynn Lowell	Bronwyn Jones

To volunteer for a monthly Gathering contact JENNIE HARNER at 937-987-2518 or harnersewing@yahoo.com.