



Wilmington Emmaus

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Wilmington Area Walk to Emmaus

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Read this!

- Get in the GATHERING habit!
- Time to give back!
- Sponsorship—an awesome experience!

BARB'S LITTLE BITS

In the last few weeks, I have seen the body of Christ in a wonderful way. Sometimes we overlook how God is working around us. Always doing the same things in the same ways and not seeing the bigger picture.

A few weeks ago, the body of Christ where I worship and fellowship shared a new way with a couple other bodies to have Vacation Bible School. No names over the doors, just the body of Christ serving others. Plans were made to go to a local park (not our city park by the lake) and help fix up, clean up and use it for an outreach for our Lord. Much prayer, planning and meeting began for this to happen, asking God's people to use their hands and feet in service to Him. After praying and planning, a multitude of servants met and went door-

to-door in the neighborhood of the park and handed out postcards inviting all local boys and girls to VBS.

On July 15, the body of Christ went to the park and opened their hearts to the children as they came. Praise God!! I pray they saw Jesus as over sixty volunteers served to show the love of Jesus. Eighty-plus children came every evening for five nights. Those gifted in so many different ways began to serve: greeting the children, teaching them about Jesus, games, crafts, singing and snacks. On the last night, the families of the children were invited to come and share a pizza party. A wonderful fellowship was enjoyed as the Lord blessed this new and exciting way to do VBS.

Live Love Laugh – In Christian Love.

Barb

MAURICE'S MUSINGS

For most of the 19th century and much of the 20th, the moral consensus in America was based on biblical values. The standards of the Judeo-Christian community were dominant: belief in God, marriage for life (between a man and a woman only), no sex outside of marriage, no coveting, no

lying, no cheating, no stealing, and no killing (the basic Ten Commandments).

While many still seek to live by these standards, the consensus has been lost. Even more critical, the basis for consensus has also been lost: The belief that truth exists and that it applies to all people, in all times, and in (continued on page 2)

NEVER GIVE IN!

* PERSEVERANCE *



“Never give in. Never, never, never—in nothing, great or small, large or petty—never give in, except to convictions of honor and good sense.

Never yield to force. Never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy.”

Those words, spoken by Winston Churchill in late October of 1941, indeed illustrate the subject of **Perseverance**. It is defined as continuing with an undertaking in spite of difficulty, opposition or discouragement OR remaining steadfast in purpose. The Holman Bible Dictionary defines perseverance as, “Maintaining Christian faith through the trying times of life.”

The background setting for the idea of perseverance (continued on page 2)

MAURICE'S MUSINGS *(continued from page 1)*

all places, is no longer widely held. With this loss of belief in truth itself, it's not difficult to understand how secular culture can accept godless, self-centered, and whatever feels good at the moment. But what about the lifestyles of Christians? How do we measure up?

What I often find myself doing is looking at the world and then aiming to keep my standards higher: go to better movies, keep my vocabulary a little better, etc.

But there's a problem with that. I'm looking in the wrong place. I'm using the wrong standard. By keeping my eye on the world and striving to live at a

higher level, the world still sets my standards. If the world's standards decline, my standards tend to decline with it – always a bit higher, of course. If, instead, I keep my eye on Biblical standards and the example of Christ, my goal remains the same.

That was Paul's advice to young Timothy. Read 1 Timothy 4:9-16. Always look to God's Word to set your standards. We are to be in the world, but not of the world. Let God set the standards in your life.

Maurice Mitchell

PERSEVERANCE *(continued from page 1)*

blossomed out of the context of persecution and temptation. The believer was expected faithfully to endure and to remain steadfast in the face of opposition, attack, and discouragement.

Read this scripture from Romans: ***"We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us."***

For first century Christians, suffering was the rule rather than the exception. This scripture is pointing out, even to 21st Century Christians that we will experience difficulties which help us grow. The rejoicing is because we know that God is using life's difficulties and Satan's attacks to build our character.

The problems we encounter will develop our perseverance—which in turn will strengthen our character, deepen our trust in God, and give us greater confidence about the future.

James 1:2-4:

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you

may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

Few of us enjoy conflict, especially when it relates to our faith, but here James says to "Consider it pure joy" because perseverance makes a soul "mature and complete." And he doesn't say "if" you face trials, but "when." As mentioned earlier, we need that food of persevering through trial to help us grow spiritually and change us from a spiritual baby to a spiritual soldier. To accomplish this you must face trials and when you do, have faith in God without doubt and believe that God will always be there to bring you through as you work to defend your faith, prepared with the Armor of God as listed in Ephesians 6:10-18.

So, to bring this to a conclusion, one more quote:

"In the confrontation between the stream and the rock, the stream always wins—not through strength but by perseverance."

(H. Jackson Brown)

DEVOTION TO PONDER

Jesus offered up prayers...with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard.

Hebrews 5

When someone says, "God heard my prayer," it usually means that the answer exactly mirrored a request, yet Jesus prayed with tears for rescue, was heard by the Almighty who could've prevented death, and Jesus died. No reflection on God's hearing! A much larger picture, a merciful picture, was in focus: human redemption.

And I need to reflect on such truth when I question God's response to my prayers. Do I dare to think that I fully understand the larger picture behind the scenes? Am I forgetting that God's wisdom is far higher than mine? Am I thinking God doesn't pay attention? Not wanting to do an injustice to the one listener who waits nonstop to hear us, we need to clarify our thinking when results aren't made-to-order. If God's response to prayer is mystifying, don't we need to recall that the goal of prayer isn't to manipulate the divine? Isn't the goal communication?

We can pray: "God, help me remember that prayer is the privilege of conversation with you, an enduring and honest expression of relationship. Amen." We can count on it: God's response will mirror this prayer.

From "Forward, Day by Day" Vol. 79, No. 2, used by permission.

Contact Forward Movement at
800-543-1813 or visit
www.forwardmovement.org

TIME FOR A REMINDER!

Thank-you for signing up to serve on EMMAUS WALK # _____!
 This is your reminder card—please place it where you’ll see it!

You signed up to serve on _____ and help with:

LOGISTICS

- SET-UP
- CARRY LUGGAGE
- CLEAN BATHROOMS
- TEAR-DOWN & CLEAN-UP

KITCHEN

- BREAKFAST
- LUNCH
- DINNER
- CLOSING

IMPORTANT! We are counting on you! If you find you are unable to keep your commitment, you can either find a replacement or call: (Logistics) 513-546-XXXX or (Kitchen) 513-266-XXXX

The next time you sign up to help during a walk weekend, someone will be there to help you remember when you will be working. The above is a representation of a card (still in development) that will be filled out and given to you to take home, put on your fridge or on your calendar, tape to your bathroom mirror or the rear-view mirror in your car! Why? On recent walks, we have had some folks sign up, but then forget to show up to work. We want you to experience that joy of paying it forward to pilgrims on an upcoming walk! Remember those smiles that greeted you on your first morning on your walk? It’s time for you to share your smile! :-)

“In the confrontation between the stream and the rock, the stream always wins—not through strength but by perseverance.”

-H. Jackson Brown



PRAYER LIST

The following names were raised in prayer at the July Gathering. Please continue to pray for the needs of these folks. (Please excuse any misspellings.)

- Becky Bean
- Tammy Bogan
- Dave & Dinah Bond
- Judy Bracht
- D’Ann Bragg
- Kathy Bright
- Family of Roy Collins
- Fight for the Light Foundation
- Rohna Fox
- David Greene
- Sue Greene
- Dean Hall
- Tyler Harner
- Tony Harper
- Brent Jones
- Beverly Justice
- Roger Maines
- T.J. McClellan
- Nicole
- Cole Purtee
- Purtee Family
- Glynn Putnam Family
- David & June Reynolds
- Mark Sears
- Jim Spires
- Tracie Tidwell
- Alex Tissandier
- Jon & Mary Turner
- Unspoken Request
- Vickie
- Pat Walt
- Suzen Whitaker

*Pray
 Without
 Ceasing*

Wilmington Area Walk to
Emmaus

Wilmington United Methodist Church
PO Box 191
Wilmington, OH 45177

We're on the web:
www.wilmingtonemmaus.org

See you at the Gathering!
August 13
Singing starts at 6:45 pm

Wear your nametag!
Bring a snack to share!

Servants for Gatherings

Month	Instrumentalist	Song Leader	Special Music	Fourth Day Speaker
August 13	Judy Laycock	Susan Thompson	Susan's Trio	Bronwyn Jones
September 10	Carl Guenther	Chuck Tabor	Kathy Holbrook	Ron Rutherford
October 8	John Glaze	Cliff Klutts	Carl Guenther	Tonya West
November 12	John Glaze	Kathy Holbrook	Cindy Bloom & Emily Jackson	Jim Wingo
December 10	John Glaze	Bronwyn Jones	Community-ALL MUSIC!	none



Back to
School Time!

Pray for the Teachers
and the Children!

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page and keep up
on the latest!

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