

The Value of Problems

An injury sustained in a car accident can be a good thing. Doctors taking x-rays to discover the extent of the damage can discover other lurking problems that might have remained hidden until they were too far developed. God can use problems to bring about good results spiritually.

God uses problems to correct. The singer of Israel wrote, “Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word” (Psalm 119:67). He also said, “It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes. The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of coins of gold and silver” (Psalm 119:71-72). Our heavenly Father can use troubles to chasten us and bring forth good fruit (Proverbs 20:30; Hebrews 12:5-6).

God uses problems to bless. “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing” (James 1:2-4). God can use problems to produce maturity in the suffering individual, which is the meaning of “perfect.” Overcoming trials is a means of developing hope (Romans 5:3-5). That is why we need to focus on hearing God’s word and doing what it says (James 1:21-25).

God also uses problems to deliver. Joseph’s words to his brothers show how that works. “But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive” (Genesis 50:20). Paul had to learn God could show his strength in delivering the apostle from his thorn in the flesh (2 Corinthians 12:9). The Almighty used the suffering of his Son to give us the means of being delivered from our sins. “He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities (Isaiah 53:5a).

The next time we face trouble, we should look for the ways God might use it for our good.

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That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840

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November 5, 2017

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class- 10:00 a.m.

Thursday

Home Bible study-7:00pm

All the churches of Christ greet you.

ROMANS 16:16

Today's Sermon: *Music to My Ears and Food For My Soul*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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Scripture: Psalm 63

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class: Tuesday, November 7th, 10am. We will be studying Day 1 of the first chapter.**
- **Midweek Bible study Thursday nights at 7pm.**
- **Next Potluck: November 19th.**
- **Thanksgiving Dinner served to us by Robin and Pat Gutherie and Randy and Barb Salsgiver will be **NEXT SATURDAY, November 11th** at 4:30pm.**



- ✓ **NEW CHURCH BUILDING!** The papers have been signed by both parties and notice of intent to vacate has been given to our landlord of the past 3 years. The closing is scheduled to take place on November 29th.
- ✓ **5th Sunday singing last week at our new building (701 S. Wilbur) was amazing!** We received special permission to meet at the building although we haven't bought it yet. We served soups, sandwiches and desserts, which involved a herculean effort on the part of some members here and people from other churches who pitched in to mop floors, clean away cobwebs, stack bags and boxes away in closets, ferry tables over from one building to the other, set them up, organize the slow cooker table with an electric outlet strip and make coffee...all this with no kitchen conveniences like running water. And that was just for the food! Upstairs we were all treated to our usual spiritually uplifting chorus of hymns to praise our God and encourage each other.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JERRY! 11/6

PRAYERS...

- **Doug Elsbree** is not a match to donate a kidney to his brother Mark, who is having renal failure. However, since he is determined to donate a kidney, he will be matched with a person in need of a kidney and, in return, Mark will be matched with another donor. Pray all goes well with Doug and with Mark.
- Patty's friend, **Richard Miller**, who goes to the Sidney church, has had a couple of falls and is not allowed to drive currently because of vertigo.
- **Emily Barry** is planning thyroid surgery in early December.
- Please remember **Kiley and Thomas** in prayer.
- **Darlene** was able to get rid of her sore throat by discontinuing one of her medicines. She will be traveling to Philadelphia December 4-8 for digestive tests, and again on the 12th and 13th.
- Pray for **Kevan Barry's** safety during his deployment in Kuwait, and for his family as they carry on at home.
- Kelly asked for prayer for **her friend Sarah** with her marriage.
- Sarah Dunn, here in this area, has a **son, Joshua**, who is suffering from lung cancer.
- Pray for **Vicki Joice** as she continues Herceptin treatments for breast cancer.
- **Ruthie** has been trying to reconnect with two brothers, Tommy and Frankie Hamilton, and her former workmate, Art, for possible **Bible study**.
- Pray for **Kelly's mother** as she works out plans for a place to live after Hurricane Irma demolished her trailer home.
- Ruthie and Patty's **Uncle Walt**, age 98, had a stroke recently.
- Remember to pray for **sunshine!**
- The **McElhaneys have a leak in the ceiling** of their family room, necessitating rebuilding of the roof supports. Pray all goes well with that.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry :

barnecat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.