

## Hold That Beginning! *Arthur Barry*

It is not very common to tell someone to remain at the beginning of something. If there is a beginning, then there must be an end... right? It seems safe to assume that if a person makes a beginning of something it is because he wants to see the end. Can a person have both the beginning and the end at the same time? God can do that because He is eternal, the Beginning and the End; but can we?

*For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end. Hebrews 3:14.*

I can remember running the 440-yard race in school. The start line was the finish line. Technically, you could be at the beginning and at the end without moving. But what about the race? Can you imagine a stadium full of people watching twenty or so of the world's best athletes standing on the start/finish line not wanting to begin the race for fear of not being first over the finish line? The starter runs out of blanks for his starting pistol, but no one is willing to start!

It is tempting to stay on the start/finish line, isn't it? And, if we are in Christ, we are at the beginning and the end, so why bother racing? We run against the evil one and against his schemes and wiles. We run for the salvation and hope of others. The world needs to witness the race. They must see what happens when a Christian falls down, how others who are racing come alongside and help him back on his feet. The world must see how spiritual athletes help one another to the finish line.

And so, God tells us to keep the confidence we had at the start line, and that is how we will make it to the finish line. Remember how *real* Jesus is, and PUSH ON! Feel again the *excitement* and the *hope* and RUN HARDER! **Drink in His love and power again and be refreshed!**

It helps to know that the One who *began* us is the One who will *finish* us, and that He runs with us always. When you run the LORD's race you are always on the finish line when you line up on His start line. So, keep the confidence you began with until the end and...

**RUN!**



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

December 15, 2019

### **WELCOME!**

#### Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

#### Tuesday

Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

#### Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

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### **All the churches of Christ greet you.**

Romans 16:16

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**Today's Sermon: [Humble Yourself in the Sight of the Lord!](#)**

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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**Scripture: James 4: 7-10**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** December 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm. Paul will continue our new powerful study of Colossians.
- **Next Potluck:** December 22<sup>nd</sup>. This will be our holiday gathering. Besides food and fellowship, we will be playing games and exchanging white elephant gifts and singing songs.
- **Grief Ministry** meeting and showing of Tear Soup- 7pm, Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.
- **Next Regional Singing: March 29<sup>th</sup> 2020**
- **Sojourners-** July 27<sup>th</sup>- August 6<sup>th</sup>



### NEWS

December 29<sup>th</sup> Regional 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing @ Endwell has been canceled because of people traveling for the holidays.

- **Our first meetings for the **grief ministry** and showing of Tear Soup were on the last 3 Tuesdays. We have had no response from the community so far and very little support from this congregation. Tuesday will be our final meeting. Please share the information about these meetings with friends and family. Listen for the ad on CHOICE 102 radio.**
- **Paul** will be preaching in Kittanning for the first Sunday of the year, January 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **Paul will be conducting the worship service today and bringing the lesson while Arthur and Sandy take Erin Bieber to the church at Ithaca.**

## PRAYERS

- **Please pray for Arthur and Paul**, as they are deciding how to divide up the ministry work and secure support income for Paul.
- Pray for **Todd** as he is recovering from knee replacement surgery. We are thankful that he is doing so well. Also, please pray for his relationship with Michelle, his fiancée.
- We are thankful that **Ted** has managed to find a doctor to repair his Eustachian tubes and hopefully restore his hearing.
- **Chris Henson and Devon Wolcott's 3-month-old baby son, Jace**, has suffered brain damage from oxygen deprivation and will be undergoing rehabilitation in Rochester soon. Pray for the family and for Jace's healing.
- **Andrea Lentz**, who has lung cancer is now staying at home. Please pray for her to be free from pain and for healing.
- **Please pray for Mark Elsbree, Doug's brother**, who needs a kidney donor. **Pray for his son and daughter, who are possible matches for him.**
- **Pray for Ted's brother John**, who has a rare blood condition.
- **Pray for Lori Kashorek**, who has lung cancer.
- **Pray for Erin Beiber**, who has metastatic breast cancer. **Pray that she can learn and grow in the Lord as a new babe in Christ.**
- **Pray for Larry Krause**, minister at Kittanning, who has prostate cancer and will be having surgery in January.
- **Pray for Peyton Chacona**, who has seizures.
- **Darlene's cousin, Denise Higgins**, needs prayer for pain that she is suffering, causing her to go in and out of hospital on a regular basis.
- **Clint Jones and Becky Wolcott** are grateful for our prayers for Becky as she has been dealing with breast biopsies. They are thankful that the last one was negative.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at [barncat7237@gmail.com](mailto:barncat7237@gmail.com) or text or call (607) 261-0911.