

## Ambition and Walking Worthy

by Jeff Arnette

When it comes to goals and setting goals, Christians should only be setting worthy goals. We are too important to God and too much has been paid for us to waste our time on trivial, worldly goals. I am reminded of what scripture says at this point. Ephesians 4:1, Colossians 1:10, and 1 Thessalonians 2:12 tells us to walk in a manner worthy of our Lord, of our calling, and of God.

As Christians we have a responsibility to walk worthy of the great cost paid for our salvation. If I am going to be successful in walking worthy of my Lord and live up to His expectations I must have a strong ambition.

What exactly is ambition? Ambition is, "A powerful personal drive towards achieving goals which are regarded as being of importance to the individual. Ambition is viewed negatively when these goals are selfish or evil, and positively when they are directed towards building up the church or furthering the kingdom of God" (Manser, Martin H. Dictionary of Bible Themes. London: 2009).

Now let's clarify here. Selfish ambition is clearly condemned in scripture (Philippians 2:3), but striving to live for Jesus and put the kingdom first is not. In fact, Jesus tells us in Matthew 6:31-33 that we must not get caught up in seeking selfish things, but He then tells us clearly to seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness above all things.

My point is this: If we are going to be successful as Christians then we have to want it badly. We must strive, we must be ambitious, and we must put the kingdom ahead of all other things. Only then will we set goals that are worthy of being Christians. Carefully consider this last passage about the desire to win (ambition) as Christians.

*"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified." 1 Corinthians 9:24-27*



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

February 19, 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

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**ALL THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST  
GREET YOU.  
ROMANS 16:16**

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#### **Today's Sermon:** *Fruit: Out of Season*

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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**Scripture:** Revelation 22:1-5

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Next potluck: March 19<sup>th</sup> Theme: TBA**
- **Ladies Class: 10am, Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at the building. We will be discussing chapter 5 of Struggle, Seek, Grow, which is about Dorcas.**
- **Midweek Bible study @ McElhaney's Thursday nights at 7pm. Coffee and dessert is usually served. All contributions gladly accepted!**
- **Horseheads Ladies Day will be on Mar 18. Diana Owens from Wetzel Road church of Christ will be the speaker.**
- **Men's Revival, Inner Man: the Uprising, Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Arthur has lined up speakers from Newark, NY and Endwell, NY.**



- Our dear sister Cathy Carey went to be with the LORD on Wednesday after suffering a stroke on Thursday, Feb 9. We will have a memorial service for her next Sunday after worship if that is agreeable to all. Her daughter, Kimberly, and family would like to join us for that. Cathy has been cremated and her daughter would like to take Cathy's remains to Texas where she can be laid to rest with her son, who died as a child.
- Five of our men shared breakfast last Saturday (February 11<sup>th</sup>) at Beeman's Restaurant. They had a great time of fellowship together and are looking forward to the next one.
- A new search for an evangelist for the Endless Mountains church of Christ in Tunkhannock is underway. Jeff Wyeth from Ohio, is being considered and will be visiting the elders at Elmore church of Christ in Alabama the weekend of March 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Mexican Potluck fellowship meal today!**

"Por lo que estamos a punto de recibir, que el Señor nos haga verdaderamente agradecidos. Amén."

## PRAYERS...

- Pray that we can all stay healthy.
- Pray for all of our family members and loved ones who are yet lost or have strayed far away to come (back) to Christ.
- Darlene is rejoicing that she does not need to have chemo after her surgery for breast cancer. Pray that she has no discomfort or reason for worry during her radiation treatments.
- Keep praying for the Endless Mountains church in Tunkhannock and their search for a preacher.
- Pray for comfort for those from war-torn countries who have no homes, are starving (Northeastern Nigeria) and without water and are not safe and have lost friends and relatives in the violence that surrounds them (Aleppo).
- Sandy's cousin Margie "Bunny" and her mother, Betty, age 91, of Smyrna, TN were in a car accident on Friday, February 10th. Aunt Betty passed away from her injuries. Bunny was hospitalized with fractures of many facial bones and of her sternum. She is home now awaiting surgery on her eye. Please pray for the family.
- Emily Barry has an appointment with her surgeon on Friday to discuss what to do about the mass on her thyroid. Please pray for it not to be cancerous and for Emily's peace of mind.
- Remember to pray for Deborah Albro (stage 4 breast cancer) in Florida, Matthew Lowe (needs care) in Ohio, and Edna Jarrett (blood cancer), of the Bronx. Also Lori Kashorek (lung cancer) in Plattsburgh, NY and Rocky Perry (seeking the Truth) of Sayre.

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.