

Jeremiah 5:7-8

(7) *How shall I pardon thee for this? Thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods: when I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses. (8) They were as fed horses in the morning: every one neighed after his neighbour's wife.*

Prophet after prophet makes similar statements. Israel has trouble being faithful to anything: God, mate, country, employer, and contracts! Our national mind runs like quicksilver from here to there—always running to get the best for the self, willing to bend in any direction to gain advantage and have our pleasure. We work very hard at this. At times, it almost seems to be in our genes! Nationally syndicated columnist Sydney J. Harris writes on the subject of reliability:

Most virtues exist on a sliding scale, all the way from excellence to ineptitude, and most of us are tolerably somewhere in the middle, without too much damage to ourselves or others. But there is one virtue that is all or nothing: and that is reliability. You are either reliable or you are not; and, if not, it doesn't much matter how nearly or how often you are reliable.

If I were an employer of any sort, I would be willing to put up with many kinds of personal or professional deficiencies, but never with this. A person who is not dependable is bound to fail you (and himself as well) at precisely the wrong time. It reminds me of the debonair Viennese gentleman who, when asked, "Have you been faithful to your wife?" replied, "Frequently." It is plain that a man who is frequently faithful is not faithful at all; he might as well never be. Reliability is one of the hardest character traits to identify by testing or "screening" or anything except personal acquaintance.

Some people are "rocks" by nature or training, while others are *papier-mâché* painted to resemble rocks, who crumble when sudden pressure is applied by circumstances.

If you are married to someone who cannot be depended upon to pull his or her own weight, it hardly matters what other admirable traits your mate may possess, because you can never know when or where you will be let down. It is the same as being married to an alcoholic, who is only "there" part of the time—and usually not when most needed.

Consistency is what is required in the people we associate with: the confident knowledge of what we can rightfully expect of them, barring sudden illness or catastrophe beyond anyone's control. Otherwise there is no real relationship, but only a shifting accommodation to the winds of caprice and self-indulgence. It is easy to feel affection for another; what is harder is to translate this feeling into acts, daily acts that demonstrate steadfastness of purpose in a domestic routine that may not be as dramatic as some heroic rescue, but that keeps the craft afloat no matter which way the wind happens to blow.

The deepest and most important virtues are often the dullest ones; they win no medals, and get no glory; but they are the glue that binds society together and makes it work, now and always.



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

Arthur Barry, evangelist- (607) 280-1732

September 13, 2015

WELCOME!

Sunday Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Class- 6:30 p.m.



- **Today's Sermon: *How To Torture The Future***
- Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.
- Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

aicoc.org

Scripture: Romans 8:19-23

Hymns: 47 Holy, Holy, Holy; **103** He Has Made Me Glad; **147** I Stand Amazed; **238** You Are The Song That I Sing; **712** Jesus Is Coming Soon

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Men's Breakfast**, Saturday, October 3rd.
- **Ladies Class**, Tuesday, September 15th. Darlene and Patty will facilitate the lesson from pages 111-116 of our study book. Please invite friends!
- Our usual **3rd Sunday Potluck** will take place **next Sunday**, September 20th.



- **We have classes for children!** Cindy and Megan Patrick have decorated classrooms, planned lessons and taught lessons already! Thank you, ladies! **We can use help!** Teachers, crafters, organizers and other kinds of helpers would be greatly appreciated. Let's make the best of having children amongst us as the result of the huge effort that went into the VBS!
- **Felicity Hicks** from Sayre **was baptized into Christ** last Monday! Please welcome our new sister in Christ when you see her.
- **Parker Moulton**, son of Ron, who was baptized a few weeks ago, **was baptized** on Wednesday in the Susquehanna River just like his dad. Please give Parker a big welcome into the family of Christ.

PRAYERS...

- Please pray that Emily Barry, Arthur and Sandy's daughter of Palmer, AK, is able to get a job and an apartment soon. She has some good prospects.
- Pray that our three newest brothers and sister in Christ continue to seek God's wisdom in their lives and that we can help.
- Pray for our children's classes that are getting started and for the teachers.
- Pray for Katie Grissies, the friend of Tiffany Cantrell from Prattville, AL, who was pregnant and has cancer. She had her baby a few weeks ago and is now going through an aggressive form of chemo, which is making her really ill. Her little girl, however, is in perfect health.
- Amy Palmer, from Kittanning, is a young woman who gave birth and then had a severe epileptic seizure and lapsed into a coma. After three weeks, her ventilator was removed, and although very weak, appears to be making a recovery.
- Rhonda Washburn's friend, Brenda Clair's son, Phillip, of East Midfield, PA, is continuing to have tests on his liver to determine the cause of the golf ball sized non-cancerous tumor he has.
- Suzie Temple, who came from Milton, FL to knock doors, has a sister-in-law, Martha Todd, with secondary breast cancer that has spread to her lungs and brain. She is not expected to recover.
- Darlene Elsbree has a choice of two surgical procedures to correct some problems she has been dealing with. She will make a choice by mid October and have surgery in mid November.
- Marilyn Patrick, Tom's mother in SC, who recently had surgery for colon cancer, had a minor stroke and was again in hospital. She is home now and recovering. Pray that she continues to improve.
- Ron Moulton is in a lot of pain daily from his MD.
- Jimmy Davis, of Antioch Initiative, is recovering from knee surgery and his wife Judy is also having knee surgery to correct an injury.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.