

Thoughts on our Spiritual Appetite

Arthur Barry

Our tendency to eat too much physical food is not usually matched by our spiritual appetite. Having a good spiritual appetite means that we desire to do God's will and when we do God's will we are nourished by God Himself. Eve, for example, saw that the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil was "good for food" in Genesis 3:6. That fruit did not harm her physically, but she disobeyed God, which meant that she was spiritually malnourished. She spoiled her appetite for God's will and excited her appetite for her own will. This, of course, is the state of all human beings since she persuaded Adam to follow her lead. Another example of this principle is seen when we consider the concept of the Promised Land as a "land flowing with milk and honey". In Exodus 3:8 God promises Moses that He will lead the Israelites into a land flowing with milk and honey. That is a very positive image of sustenance. But listen how, not long after the Exodus, the people felt about Moses' involvement in their lives.

Isn't it enough that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey to kill us in the desert? And now you also want to lord it over us?

Numbers 16:13

The Israelites then looked at Egypt as the land flowing with milk and honey and they wanted to go back. In their minds Egypt had taken better care of them than God. Like Adam and Eve, they would not trust God and do His will. To do His will is to live in a land flowing with milk and honey. Just ask Jesus.

"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work." John 4:34.

So, any time we do God's will we are being fed from Heaven (Heaven's Kitchen), and every time we deny Him we are being fed from Hell (Hell's Kitchen). We must stimulate each other to do God's will. We must excite the appetite for the things of God's Kingdom and not for the things of this world.

As a child I was constantly being warned that I would "spoil my appetite" by eating things that I enjoyed but that were not good for me. Very often when my mother had spent a lot of time preparing a hearty, healthy meal for me I would arrive home after stopping at the candy store and I would not have room for the good stuff. Adam and Eve spoiled their appetite, the Israelites spoiled their appetites and Satan would love for us to spoil our appetite for God's will by filling ourselves up on our own will. There was one who never spoiled His appetite, and His name is Jesus Christ.



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

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WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon:

Paul will lead us in a time of prayer and singing.

Scripture Reading: TBA

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

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Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ❖ **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** Paul will be continuing his lessons on the Psalms and stopping to sing a song from our songbook when appropriate.
- ❖ **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** November 3rd, at the building (or join us on Zoom), 6:30pm- Arthur will be continuing his lessons on the book of Matthew.
- ❖ **Next Potluck and Bring-a-Friend Sunday (3rd Sunday):** November 21st.
- ❖ **Ladies' Class on Tuesday, November 2nd here at the building.** We will meet at 10am. We will study the words of the Apostle Peter, using the study book Living Stones by Casandra Martin. Chapter 2, Day 4.



- **Jerry Lowe** will be leaving for Nevada to be with his sons for the winter on November 2nd. His address while away will be c/o Gregg Lowe, 5538 W Duncan Dr, Las Vegas, NY 89130. His birthday is coming up on 11/6...just sayin'!
- Flowers were sent from the Valley Cities Church of Christ for the calling hours and **funeral of Eileen McDowell** last weekend in Ligonier, PA.
- **156 bags of candy with a special message about the gospel were passed out to local Trick or Treaters in about an hour on Thursday evening.**
- Paul, Steve, Arthur and Ted met for breakfast with Jerry and had a men's meeting yesterday morning in Ulster.
- **THIS AFTERNOON! 5th Sunday Regional Singing at Horseheads church at 4pm. Don't miss this tremendous opportunity for fellowship!**

- **Our brethren from Kittanning will be serving us a Thanksgiving meal Saturday, November 20th.**

PRAYERS

- We are thankful that **Jackie** is no longer dealing with edema and that she has started on a medication that should make her more comfortable with RA. Pray that Darlene and she may be able to meet with us in person soon.
- Pray for **Linnett Short** (lung cancer), **Zachary Cowles** (deployment with the Army), **Steve Noble** (needs lung transplant), **Arthur's brother Chris** (Alzheimer's), **Steve and Amy's neighbor's sister, JoAnne** (cancer).
- **Pray for our MAGI box project.**
- **Arthur** had a biopsy at Upstate Medical in Syracuse on Thursday and should be getting results in a couple of weeks. Please pray that it is negative for cancer.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at barnecat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.