

Apr
2015

What A TOUCHING E MAIL

One day a teacher asked her students to list the names of the other students in the room on two sheets of paper, leaving a space between each name. Then she told them to think of the nicest thing they could say about each of their classmates and write it down. It took the remainder of the class period to finish their assignment, and as the students left the room, each one handed in the papers.

That Saturday, the teacher wrote down the name of each student on a separate sheet of paper, and listed what everyone else had said about that individual. On Monday she gave each student his or her list. Before long, the entire class was smiling. 'Really?' she heard whispered. 'I never knew that I meant anything to anyone!' and, 'I didn't know others liked me so much,' were most of the comments.

No one ever mentioned those papers in class again. She never knew if they discussed them after class or with their parents, but it didn't matter. The exercise had accomplished its purpose. The students were happy with themselves and one another. That group of students moved on.

Several years later, one of the students was killed in Iraq and his teacher attended the funeral of that special student. She had never seen a serviceman in a military coffin before. He looked so handsome, so mature. The church was packed with his friends. One by one those who loved him took a last walk by the coffin. The teacher was the last one to bless the coffin. As she stood there, one of the soldiers who acted as pallbearer came up to her. 'Were you Mark's math teacher?' he asked. She nodded: 'yes.' Then he said: 'Mark talked about you a lot.'

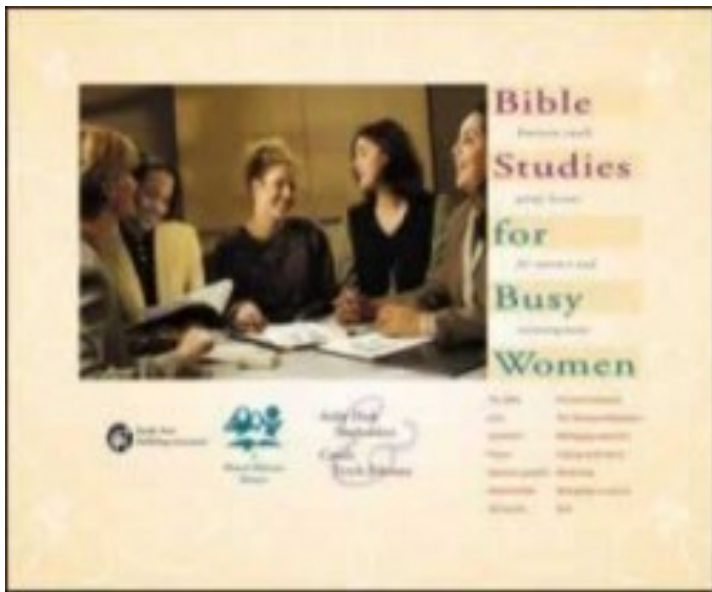
After the funeral, most of Mark's former classmates went together to a luncheon. Mark's mother and father were there, obviously waiting to speak with his teacher. 'We want to show you something,' his father said, taking a wallet out of his pocket 'They found this on Mark when he was killed. We thought you might recognize it.' Opening the billfold, he carefully removed two worn pieces of notebook paper that had obviously been taped, folded and refolded many times.

The teacher knew without looking that the papers were the ones on which she had listed all the good things each of Mark's classmates had said about him. 'Thank you so much for doing that,' Mark's mother said. 'As you can see, Mark treasured it.' All of Mark's former classmates started to gather around. Charlie smiled rather sheepishly and said, 'I still have my list. It's in the top drawer of my desk at home.' Chuck's wife said, 'Chuck asked me to put his in our wedding album.' 'I have mine too,' Marilyn said. 'It's in my diary'. Then Vicki, another classmate, reached into her pocketbook, took out her wallet and showed her worn and frazzled list to the group. 'I carry this with me at all times,' Vicki said and without batting an eyelash, she continued: 'I think we all saved our lists' That's when the teacher finally sat down and cried. She cried for Mark and for all his friends who would never see him again.

The density of people in society is so thick that we forget that life will end one day. And we don't know when that one day will be. So please, tell the people you love and care for, that they are special and important. Tell them, before it is too late.

And One Way To Accomplish This Is: Share this message on. If you do not send it, you will have, once again passed up the wonderful opportunity to do something nice and beautiful. If you've received this, it is because someone cares for you and it means there is probably at least someone for whom you care. If you're 'too busy' to take those few minutes right now to forward this message on, would this be the VERY first time you didn't do that little thing that would make a difference in your relationships? The more people that you share this with, the better you'll be at reaching out to those you care about. Remember, you reap what you sow. What you put into the lives of others comes back into your own.

I don't care if you are in school, work or church, it really is wonderful when someone tells you how much you are appreciated and loved. Everyone needs that pat on the shoulder occasionally. It give you that lift that everyone deserves to get at least once in awhile. Thanks to those that do show they do appreciate others.



Women's Ministry – Submitted by Kay Cheser

There are resources available here at the Clanton SDA Church for women. *Bible Studies for Busy Women*, the available resource is designed for either private Bible studies or for small group Bible study. These lessons are an effective tool that will encourage growth in the Christian life.

This will be a great opportunity for those women who would like to find a way to minister to other women with the truths from the Bible, and at the same time address specific spiritual needs that most women encounter during their lifetime.

This series (of 14 Bible studies) is designed to encourage

and nurture the Adventist woman and those who want to know more about the Christian way of life. They are written for individual or group Bible study. Lessons included are:

The Bible Jesus.... Salvation Prayer.....Spiritual Growth.....Relationships.....Self-Worth....

Personal Integrity Rest....Managing EmotionsCoping with Worry....Mentoring

These guides explore themes of salvation, prayer, spiritual growth, and more. Each lesson includes fellowship activities, topic – specific prayer activities, and guidelines to help you get a small group started and keep it running smoothly. The guidelines for small group section outlines the benefits of small group study, lists the characteristics of a healthy group, and gives suggestions for what to do if you have a difficult person in your group.

So, whether you need studies that will enhance your own personal growth, or whether you would like to hold a small group Bible study class for women in your home, please contact Kay Cheser, Women's Ministry Leader, for your personal set of *Bible Studies for Busy Women*.

The Jelly Bean Prayer

RED

is for the blood he gave,

GREEN

is for the grass he made.

YELLOW

is for the sun so bright,

ORANGE

is for the edge of the night.

BLACK

is for the sins we made,

WHITE

is for the grace he gave.

PURPLE

is for his hour of sorrow,

PINK

is for our new tomorrow.

Someone has written these beautiful words.

Must read and try to understand the deep meaning of it.

They are like the ten commandments to follow in life all the time....

- 1) Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a "steering wheel" that directs the right path throughout.
- 2) So a Car's WINDSHIELD is so large & the Rear view Mirror is so small? Because our PAST is not as important as our FUTURE. So, Look Ahead and Move on.
- 3) **Friendship** is like a **BOOK**. It takes few seconds to burn, but it takes **years to write**.
- 4) **All things** in life are **temporary**. If going well, enjoy it, **they** will not last forever. If everything is going wrong, don't worry, they can't last long either.
- 5) **Old Friends** are Gold! **New Friends** are Diamond! If you get a Diamond, don't forget the Gold! Because to hold a Diamond, you always need a Base of Gold!
- 6) Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, **GOD** smiles from above and says, "Relax, sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end!"
- 7) When **GOD** solves your problems, you have faith in **HIS** abilities; when **GOD** doesn't solve your problems **HE** has faith in your abilities.
- 8) A blind person asked St. Anthony: "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?" **He** replied: "**Yes**, losing your vision!"
- 9) When you **pray** for others, **God listens to you and blesses them**, and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that **someone has prayed for you**.
- 10) **WORRYING** does not **take away** tomorrow's **TROUBLES**, it **takes away** today's **PEACE**.

Ashamed

Who would for the baby care?

As on his face we gaze.

We wouldn't hang Him on a tree

Who'd take care of that deal?

I wonder if it will matter then

As they did at Calvary.

We've also got to wash the car

Just how we spent our days.

Nor drive sharp nails till blood flowed free;

Or paint the kitchen wall.

Mrs. Samuel Coons in Quiet Hour Echoes March 1986

Oh, No! Not you! Not me!

Oh, no! We wouldn't cause Him pain;

As this Easter Season is upon us, just thought the poem was appropriate but

When church time comes, we stay at home;

We just ignore His call

After this the last two weeks that we have had praying for and with each other, I hope

We don't hear His anguished cry;

If Jesus came to earth today.

and pray that this can't be said of us. Just a thought, if we don't have time for Him now,

We have so many things to do

He'd find our ardor dim.

I don't see us gazing in his face in the end,

And think too much of I.

We do our work, have time for play.

do you? Hopefully his will give each of us

For church we haven't time to spare...

But have no time for Him.

something to ponder on.....until next month.

Who'd cook the Sabbath meal?

Someday sure we'll be ashamed

PASTOR'S CORNER



MAINTAINING UNITY IN THE CHURCH - As Christians, we have a responsibility to maintain unity in the Church. A long time ago, a little child in an African tribe wandered off into the tall jungle grass and could not be found. The tribe searched all day, but could not find the little boy. The next day the tribal members all held hands and walked through the grass together. This enabled them to find the child, but due to the cold night, he had not survived. In her anguish and tears, the mother cried, If only we would have held hands sooner. Why is our fellowship in decline? I believe the number one reason is because our fellowship has not maintained unity.

In (Jn. 17:21), Jesus earnestly prayed that believers may be one. When will the divisions stop? When are we going to realize that our lack of unity is destroying the church that Jesus purchased with His own blood?

WE MUST HAVE UNITY IN THE CHURCH. GOD EXPECTS US TO MAINTAIN UNITY.

Here are some passages that instruct us to have unity: "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 15:5-6). "I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought" (1 Cor. 1:10). Just like a family must have unity to survive & prosper, the church must have unity to survive & prosper. Jesus once said, If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand (Mk. 3:25). If a church is divided against itself, it will not stand!

HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE UNITY? The word unity literally means oneness, one of the same mind, one in thought. To achieve unity, we must be like-minded regarding the essentials to our Christian faith. Paul provides us with a list of the essentials we must believe in (Eph. 4:4-5).

- a. One body (One Church).
- b. One Spirit (One Holy Spirit).
- c. One Lord (We believe that Jesus Christ is our Lord & Savior).
- d. One Faith.
- e. One Baptism (Meaning that we are baptized in water for the remission of sins).
- f. One God (There is one God, yet there are 3 persons in the Godhead).

Don't expect everyone, even in the best possible church, to agree on every subject. Through sharing ideas we can come to a fuller understanding of what the Bible teaches. Accept, listen to, and respect others. Differences of opinion need not cause division. They can be a source of learning and richness in our relationships. We cannot allow Satan to destroy the churches unity. We must be on guard all the time for situations that could divide the church. It is a serious offense to cause divisions in the body of Christ. To maintain unity in the church, we must be like-minded regarding the essentials to our Christian faith. We should believe alike on how one is saved.

Let us remember what we have been praying for in our prayer chain: *Unity Love Forgive Confess Be like Jesus All begins with me guidance repentance Humble heart Spiritual discernment Focus on our mission.*

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Reminiscing Corner

April Birthdays

- 1- Dot Houston
- 4 - Hanna Boggus
- 12 - C.J. Newell & Ava Abbott
- 22 - Charlotte Powers
- 30 - Kathy Lide

Anniversary

7— Terry & Kay Cheser

Calendar of Events

- ◆ **Weekly:** Prayer Meeting: **Tuesdays** at 7pm
Jail Ministry: Sundays 6:30pm at the Clanton Jail
- ◆ **Monthly:** Tennis Shoe Sabbath: 1st Sabbath each month, after lunch. Come help us make Kingdom Friends for God.
Book Group: 2nd Sabbath After Lunch in the Teen Room.
Sabbath School Visitation: 3rd Sabbath each month.
Nursing Home Visitation—4th Sabbaths
- ◆ **Speaker Schedule:** April 4 - Pastor Rodriguez - Communion Sabbath, April 11 - Noel Brooks (he is a Chaplain Intern at UAB and is from Loma Linda) April 18 - Pastor Rodriguez, April 25 - Bill Wiese



Last months picture: So who remembered that was Pastor Clyde and Cleo Smith, taken back when I imagine he graduated from college. This month 11 years ago was when Pastor Clyde fell off the roof and died.

So who wants to guess who this is?

You need to give me a picture. Until next month, Brenda



Welcome, Welcome to Dot Houston, glad you could join the Clanton SDA Church on March 7, 2015 by Profession of Faith. It is wonderful when someone decides to give their life to Christ. Besides Kay singing on this earth that her Mother has accepted Christ, I am sure Angels are singing in Heaven also..

Three Stories



Once, all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer all people gathered but only one boy came with umbrella.

=> that's Faith

When you throw a one year old baby in the air, he laughs because he knows his father will catch him . => that's Trust



Every night we go to bed, we have no assurance to wake up alive next morning, but still we set alarm for tomorrow.

=> that's Hope

Websites that Bill Weise has set up for everyone & would like special prayer about the responses from these sites.

www.stepsupward.org www.eqwhiteclassicquotes.org <http://www.grandmastidbits.org>



Kay 3's Vegan Recipes

Pecan Bars From Chloe's Vegan Desserts

Shortbread Crust: 1/2 cup vegan margarine
1 1/2 cups all purpose flour
1/3 cup sugar
1/4 tsp salt

Filling: 1/3 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup sugar
4 Tbl agave
2 Tbl almond milk
2 cups pecans, toasted and roughly chopped
1 tsp pure Vanilla extract

Another seasonal recipe:

Preserved Children

1 large field *A pinch of brook*

1/2 doz children *Some pebbles*

2 or 3 small dogs *Some flowers*

Mix children and dogs together; put them on the field, stirring constantly. Pour the brook over the pebbles; sprinkle the field with flowers; spread over all a deep blue sky and bake in the sun. When brown, set away to cool in the bathtub.

Preheat oven to 350. Line an 8 inch square pan with parchment paper. Let paper overhang edges
In a food processor, pulse margarine, flour, salt and sugar til crumbly. Press into prepared pan to form crust. Bake for 25 minutes. Remove from oven and cool. (I would check it at 20 minutes to make sure it isn't over-browning) In a medium saucepan, combine brown sugar, sugar, margarine, agave, and almond milk and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and let simmer about 5 minutes (don't cook at too high a heat, just simmer) Stir in pecans and vanilla. Spread filling over shortbread crust. Let cool, then chill in refrigerator for 8 hours or overnight until filling is set. Remove from refrigerator, lift parchment paper and unmold. Using a sharp knife, cut into 2 inch squares.

We have a website!! <http://clantonsda.org/>, Tony Plier has posted sermons, music & a lot of info, look under Newsletter to find this publication on line.
Several families have let me know they will go online, others don't have internet & say they like to read it in print. Some even have internet but will print it out themselves so they can read it in print. Hopefully if I have been told your choice you aren't getting one in the US mail anymore. This month if I have your email address I am sending you one in a PDF file. Hopefully we haven't missed anyone. Thanks for communicating and sharing what you want to put in the Newsletter each month. Until next month - love to you all, Brenda

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