

2018

Father's Day

JUST LIKE HIS DAD

A Father Meets His Son

Luella Nygaard Johnson
"Be ye kind one to another" Eph. 4:32

The man was old, bent and gray,
As he hobbled along the road one day;
He leaned heavily on crutches... one leg gone...
As he struggled on to his brother's home.

Long years ago he'd gone to sea,
So a rugged old sailor now was he.
Where his brother lived he did not know.
But he hoped someone the way would show.

As he struggled on despite great pain
He fell on his crutch so it broke in twain.
Tired and weary, he sat down by the road,
Hoping for someone to share his load.

Several horse-drawn carriages passed him by.
But they did not stop, despite his cry.
Lying down to rest in the summer's heat,
The grass felt cool, so he went to sleep.

Then it started to rain, and when he awoke
He found a lad had laid on him his cloak.
With a very strong cord he had also wrapped
And mended the crutch where it had snapped.

"My dear little lad, how kind you are
To have helped an old man along thus far.
I must get up now and be on my way,
For soon 'twill be dark at the close of day."

"I, too, had a son... He's now about twelve.
His mother died, so he with my brother doth dwell.
I hope when I see him that I will find
That he, like you, is also kind.

"My brother's name is Johnny Moe;
You wouldn't happen him to know?"
"Yes, that's where I live. You say you've a son?
Then you are my father.. I'm so glad you have come!"

What joy there came to this old man that day
As he leaned on his son the rest of the way;
Hobbling along, he was happy to find
That his own dear son was so very kind.

So, my friend, as we travel life's road,
Let's be kind to those with a heavy load.
Happy we'll be at the close of day
That others we've helped along the way.

HOLY HUMOUR—

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?"

The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?"

"That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"

Well, what are you going to be, my boy
When you have reached manhood's years;
A doctor, a lawyer, or actor great,
Moving throngs to laughter and tears?"

But he shook his head, as he gave reply
In the serious way he had:

I don't think I'd care to be any of them:
I want to be like my dad.

He wants to be like his dad! you men,
Did you ever think as you pause,
That the boy who watches your every move
Is building a set of laws?

He's molding a life you're the model for,
And whether it's good or bad
Depends on the kind of example set
To the boy who'd be like his dad.

Would you have him go everywhere you go?
Have him do just the things you do?
And see everything that your eyes behold,
And woo all the gods you woo?

When you see the worship that shines in
The eyes of your lovable little lad,
Could you rest content if he gets his wish
And grows up to be like his dad?

Author Unknown.

We Are Not Lost—

My eight-year old daughter and I were driving through the unfamiliar streets of the city of which we had recently moved. I was turning here and there, without any explanation to my child. After some time, she looked up at me and said, "Father, are you lost?" I saw an anxious look on her face' but instead of answering her, I asked, "Are you lost?"

A smile brightened her face, as she said quickly, "Oh no! I'm with you." And with that, her apprehension was gone.

Silently, we drove on; silently...except that I was saying to my Father, "Sometimes I have feared that I was lost from You in this world.

Help me to have the faith of my little child, so that I can say always,

Choosing to Choose (by: Karen Batchelor)

Taken from: *Women in the Word/ Presented by: Kay Cheser, Women Ministry Leader*



“Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24: 15, “The rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to man.” Gen. 2: 22

God’s love for us is so complete that we cannot fathom it! He wants to know that we choose Him as He has chosen us. For that reason, He placed the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden. While Eve choose to leave the safety of God’s kingdom, we may know that God is always there to guide us back home.

Have you ever wondered how many choices a person makes in a day? It is estimated that in 16 hours, adults make an average of 23,328 choices. We make the majority of these instinctually, with little to no consideration of the outcome. Other choices require us to think and decide based on facts, emotions, and needs.

Where does God fit into this picture of choice? Does He control each of our thoughts and actions? If so, do we really have the ability to choose? I believe that God created us in His image and has given us the actual ability to make choices that will lead to eternal life or eternal death. Choice is defined as: “1) An act of instance of choosing: selection 2) The right, power, or opportunity to choose; option 3) The person or thing chosen or eligible to be chosen.”

I see Eve in that definition. Eve was the first “Whoa man!” ever created! God created her in His own image, and she was the first woman to experience living in the Garden of Eden, where everything was “good” and “very good.” Everything was perfect-the weather, the animals, her home, the food she ate, and her husband! Eve had the privilege of talking to God and His angels. The angels shared their first-hand experiences of a perfect heaven until pride and selfishness entered the heart of Satan and war broke out in heaven (Revelation 12: 7-9). Satan used his cunning deceptions to deceive a third of the angels. “It was by disobedience to the just commands of God that Satan and his host had fallen.” The pair were encouraged to “be on their guard against the devices of Satan, for his efforts to ensnare them would be unwearyed. While they were obedient to God, the evil one would not harm them; for, if need be, every angel in heaven would be sent to their help. If they steadfastly repelled his first insinuations, they would be as secure as the heavenly messengers. But should they once yield to temptation, their nature would become so depraved that in themselves they would have no power or disposition to resist Satan.

“God’s love for us is so complete and freely given that we cannot fathom it! He wants to know that we choose Him as He has chosen us. For that reason, He placed the tree of the knowledge of good and evil at the center of the Garden as “a test of their obedience and their love to God.” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 52, 53).

Eve became so absorbed in her work that she mindlessly wandered from her husband’s side. Finding herself standing before the forbidden tree, she quieted her fears by telling herself that since God had warned her, she could spot evil and handle it. Curiously gazing at the tree and the serpent, she wondered why God would keep such beauty away from her. Through the serpent, Satan boosted her doubt in God and confidence in herself by saying, “You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day that you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” (Genesis 3: 4, 5).

Are you seeing the choices Eve had already made in her day? The first few seemed innocent enough-but were they? Relying on her own wisdom, she decided that she would just look at the temptation. As the definition of choice says, she made the selection to be on her own. And, being eligible to be chosen, she was enticed by Satan. You and I know all too well the result of her choices-sin was ushered into our world. We are all affected by Eve’s small choices. Here are some biblical steps to making wiser choices in our daily lives, taken from Amazing Facts booklet, *Determining the Will of God*:

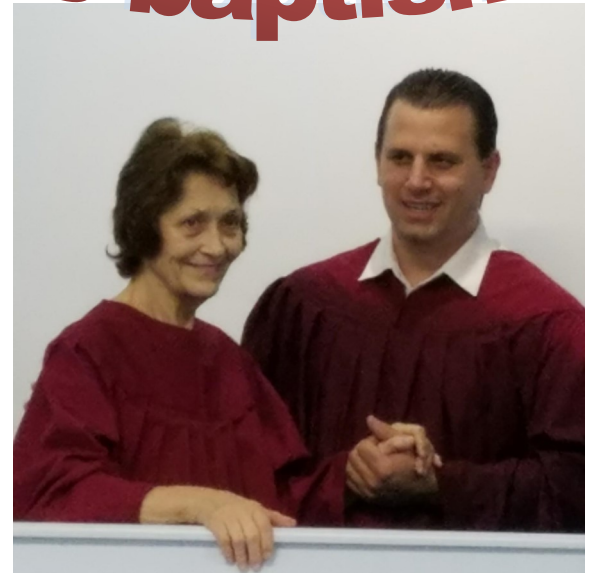
When we are willing and surrendered to God (John 7:17) ...He will guide us by the law contained in His Word (Psalm 119:105).
He will open doors for us (2 Corinthians 2:12)...As we pray (Psalm 55: 16, 17)...Fast (Matthew 17: 14 – 21)...Unselfishly seek God’s kingdom (Matthew 6: 33, 34)...And glorify God in all we do (1 Corinthians 10:31).
We are guided by the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 30:21...To be patient (2 Thessalonians 3: 5) and faithful (Revelation 17: 14)...Because God is faithful (1 Thessalonians 5: 23, 24).
God will then grant our heart’s choice for Him (Psalm 20: 4)
We must look at the evidence (2 Corinthians 13:1) God gives for making our choices.
Then God can use our choices to transform us (Romans 12:2)

I am amazed when I stop and realize that God loves me so much that He allows me to choose to follow Him or turn away from Him...He honors my choices, even when they hurt Him and make the sacrifice of Christ irrelevant in my life. What a great and loving God! I want to make choices that will grow my relationship with Him. I chose Christ! I am praying that you will choose Him too! Will you join me?

Baptism



Re-baptisms



On April 24, 2018 - we at the Clanton SDA Church had prayer meeting and had the wonderful experience of having Donald Inman be baptized following the prayer meeting. He wanted Pastor Michel Rodriguez to baptize him and this was the last prayer meeting that the Pastor would be attending before he moved on to his new district in Mississippi.

Tom & Jeanne Bates also came to the prayer meeting because as Tom said, they had felt the need for quite sometime to be rebaptized.

The picture below was taken of the whole church family on the last Sabbath the Pastor and his wonderful family would be in Clanton. There were some individuals that didn't get in the actual picture or they weren't outside when it was taken.



PASTOR'S CORNER

Looking forward to having the new pastor arrive so he can contribute to this page next month. Went to Facebook and found this picture "That's right we have a new girl in town.". Glad to see Zoey Alexandria Rodriguez as of 5/21/2018. We miss them all. Thought we would enjoy a share. Until next month.



Ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **John 15:7**

My friend's brother (when they were both children) assured his sister an umbrella had enough lift to hold her up if she would only "believe." So "by faith" she jumped off a barn roof and knocked herself out, suffering a minor concussion.

What God has promised, He will do. But we must be sure we stand on God's *actual* word when we claim a promise, for only then do we have the assurance that God will do or give what He's promised. Faith has no power in itself. It only counts when it's based on a clear and unambiguous promise from God. Anything else is just wishful thinking.

This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit. John 15:8

Here's a case in point: God has promised, "Ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit" (John 15:7-8). These verses are not a promise that God will answer every prayer we utter, but rather a promise that He will respond to every longing for personal righteousness, what Paul calls "the fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22-23). If we hunger and thirst for holiness and ask God for it, He will begin to satisfy us. It will take time; for spiritual growth, like human growth, is gradual. Don't give up. Keep asking God to make you holy. In His time and at His pace "it will be done for you." God doesn't make promises He doesn't keep.

Dear Lord, thank You for Your many promises to us in Your Word. And thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit who gives discernment.

We have a promise-keeping God.

INSIGHT

The context of abiding in the vine (John 15:1-8) is vital to understanding this passage, but it's even more helpful to take a step back and look at the entire scene. It's the night before Christ will be crucified. Judas has already gone to betray Jesus (John 13:30). Jesus and His disciples have just departed the upper room where they shared the Last Supper. As they walk, the Lord refers to two metaphorical groups: branches that bear fruit and those that don't. The good branches abide in the vine and are pruned (disciplined). Unfruitful branches don't abide and are cut off.

Bible scholar William Hendriksen points out the significance of Judas's recent departure in light of Jesus's words here. Judas did not abide in the vine. Jesus encouraged the remaining disciples to abide and "bear much fruit" (v. 8). Significantly, the eleven who remained were all persecuted for defending the faith. Ten of them *died* for it (tradition says John died peacefully in his old age after returning from Patmos). Yet God kept His promise to them. Although He did not deliver them from physical attacks, He gave them boldness to proclaim the truth.

We who "abide in the vine" will be "pruned." What might that mean for us?

Pastor info pending - Pastor Don Thompson will be our preacher and also Montgomery First Church mid June.

Head Elder, Robert (Bob) Ernest— 205-280-1297 Email: RobertE699@aol.com

Assistant Head Elder—Linkous, Gary—256-377-2244

*Clanton Seventh-day Adventist Church
401 North 18th Street
Clanton, AL 35045*

June Birthdays

1 - Renee Lucas
8 - Anika Chrishon
19 - Linda Mims
20 - Annita Wiese
21 - Kay Houston
30 - Edward Higgins

Anniversaries
Gary & Florine Linkous

Happy, Happy Birthday to everyone this month. If I don't have your special day, let me know. We want to celebrate with you. Brenda

Your Name

**It came from your father
It was all he had to give
So, It's yours to use and cherish
As long as you may live.
If you lose the watch
He gave you
It can always be replaced,
But a black mark
On your name, Son,
Can never be erased.
It was clean the day you
Took it
And a worthy name to bear.
When I got it from my father
There was no dishonor there.
So make sure you guard
It wisely—
After all is said and done
You'll be glad the name
Is Spotless
When you give it to your SON.**



Last months reminiscing: Who remembered Jennie Dalrymple? Now your memory has to go back a few more years to this couple. Don't forget you can share your memories also. Until next month, Brenda

Speaker Schedule: June: 2 Lary Petty, 9 Pastor Thompson, 16 Ricky Woodruff, 23 Ted Winslow, 30 Youth Sabbath

Church Organ Fund: We still need about \$2,700 to finish paying for the organ.

You can't teach children with your word if you do not allow God to teach you with His Word. When you educate a child in mind but not in morals you educate a menace to society.

"Did you behave in church?" asked Junior's father. "I Sure did," Junior answered. "I heard the lady, beside me say". "I never saw a child behave like that before in all my life."

Here is a wonderful quote to share in the newsletter asap. It's from Evangelism page 99. Holly Cannon

"The Lord desires His chosen servants to learn how to unite together in harmonious effort. It may seem to some that the contrast between their gifts and the gifts of a fellow laborer is too great to allow them to unite in harmonious effort; but when they remember that there are varied minds to be reached, and that some will reject the truth as it is presented by one laborer, only to open their hearts to God's truth as it is presented in a different manner by another laborer, they will hopefully endeavor to labor together in unity. Their talents, however diverse, may all be under the control of the same Spirit. In every word and act, kindness and love will be revealed; and as each worker fills his appointed place faithfully, the prayer of Christ for the unity of His followers will be answered, and the world will know that these are His disciples..."

MY HEAVENLY FATHER

This is my story on how God worked with me, to accomplish something very wonderful for Him. Do little things matter to Him? Yes. Even bad notes not working on the organ? Yes. Maxine and I discussed the issue, and she so much encouraged me to start looking for a new organ. The question had to come before the church board, were they willing to buy a different organ and quit trying to repair the one we have. YES they were ready to buy a good used one. We could start an organ fund. This was in February. I had already found a used Allen organ, \$14,500. plus a MIDI for \$2000. It was over my head, and I knew our church was already in debt.

It was at this time I found Psalms 46:10, and I put it on the church sign out front. "Be still and know that I am God. (Let me be in control) I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth." So every time I drove into the parking lot, I read it, I needed it to get me through February, March, April, and May. I had decided I would not promote this fund raising, I would not ask people what they could give, I was just going to be quiet and let God do it., for how ever long it would take, maybe a year or two. I had to leave it in God's hands. However I started checking on eBay to find a cheaper organ. Even made some bids, and talked to a man in Florida who was reselling used organs.

God was working impressing people in what they could give to the organ fund. By April 10, the fund had \$13,000. By May 10 the fund had \$14,500. At that point I knew we could buy the organ at the Allen organ company in Montgomery that Jim Sadie operates. He delivers, and repairs. So he told me to come down with a down payment and sign a contract. God was in it, Jim Sadie, reduced our bill, reduced price of organ, and the two speakers, and the tax we thought we had to pay. Also he said he would deliver it any time.

I had to find a place for the old organ to be moved to. So it was fine with the board for it to go to any of our church members who wanted it. So I started calling, Brenda, Laurie, Dot, Charlotte. I said to her, Ask Jimmy and see if he wants it? Jimmy said yes. Jeff did not have his pick-up or trailer here so he needed help to make it happen. Thanks to the men in our church who showed up Sunday, May 20. Now the old organ is in retirement, but will be a wonderful learning, practice organ for Jimmy.

May 19, Jim Higgins gives me a check, and said fill it in for what ever the remaining amount is. Isn't that just like God would do, What ever your need, My Heavenly Father said, I will supply your needs. In this case, It was allowing God to do something very special for the Clanton Church. Jim trusts that the funds will continue to come in, he just wanted to have this organ paid off when it is delivered. Our replacement organ arrived May 23, with its new MIDI and extra speakers. Sabbath, May 26 will be our first Sabbath to use it.

My heart is so Thankful for this experience, I just had to tell you. Thank you church family for doing your share to make this happen.
Sincerely, Donna Ernest - Clanton SDA Church Head Organist

- ◆ Websites Bill Weise has set up & would like special prayer about the responses from these sites.
www.stepsupward.org www.egwhiteclassicquotes.org <http://www.grandmastidbits.org>
- ◆ We have a website!! **UPDATED - Church Website:** <https://www.clantonsda.com/> Tony Plier has posted sermons, music & a lot of info, look under Newsletters to find this publication on line each month. Tony has made it so the previous couple years are there also. Remember if you don't want to get the Newsletter, Let me know. Thanks, Brenda

Return Address:

*Brenda K Davis
187 County Rd 313
Stanton, AL 36790*



To: «AddressBlock»