

# Indio Informer

Vol. 27 No. 49

December 11, 2016

## Today

By Phil Sanders

Today, I will live as if it is the most important day I possess, because it is actually the only day I have.

Today, I will whine and complain less. I will be thankful more, because I know that gratitude makes a better person out of me.

Today, I will criticize less and praise more, because the people I love need to know that I love and approve of them.

Today, I will take more time with God my Father and less with earthly pleasures. I know that I need His strength and guidance.

Today, I will pray more and play less. I want my heavenly Father to know my heart, to hear my concerns, and to realize how thankful I am to be His child.

Today, I will remember my brother more and myself less. I will consider his feelings, his needs and wants more and my own a little less.

Today, I will speak of Jesus more and my other interests less

Today, He must increase, and I must decrease (John 3:30).

Today, I will remember the souls of all men. I will remember the person who is rude to me still has an eternal soul. I will remember the youth and the weak might see me do something wrong and imitate it. I will remember that my good may encourage another to do right.

Today, I will remember that I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me. Today I will live by faith in the one who loved me and gave Himself for me.

## Upcoming Events...

**1 Corinthians Class:** Every Tuesday at 12:00 p.m.

**Business Meeting:** Today, December 11 at 4:30

**Congregational Meeting:** Tonight, December 11.

**Betty Heitmeyer's** address and phone number during her rehabilitation: Lomita Post Acute Care Center, 1955 Lomita Blvd., Lomita, CA 90717 (Room 31B); phone: (424) 203-1433.

## Read through the Bible in 2016!

Suggested chapters to read so that we might read through the entire Bible during 2016! **This week's "schedule":**

- **Day 333** - 1 Corinthians 1-4 Monday
- **Day 334** - 1 Corinthians 5-8 Tuesday
- **Day 335** - 1 Corinthians 9-11 Wednesday
- **Day 336** - 1 Corinthians 12-14 Thursday
- **Day 337** - 1 Corinthians 15-16 Friday
- **Day 338** - 2 Corinthians 1-4 Saturday
- **Day 339** - 2 Corinthians 5-9 Sunday

## December Birthdays

6 Olivia White    17 Bill Brown    27 Sue Tanner  
29 Noah McKnight    30 Richard Karns    31 Bob Pescador

## December Anniversaries

12 Ron & Peggy Woodruff    18 Jim & Marie Burruss

### Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

### Preacher:

Mike McKnight

### Church of Christ

81-377 Ave 46  
Indio, CA 92201  
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

## Longing for Home

By Patrick Hogan

The last six weeks of the year bring a real concentration of holidays. At last two of those holidays generally involve family time when folks look forward to either being back home or having family members from somewhat distant locations come back home. The reunions are usually anticipated and enjoyed.

With such thoughts in mind, perhaps we should focus on the ultimate homecoming. In John 14:1-3 Jesus told His disciples, *"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."* What a glorious thought! Jesus will come again to take His people home to the Father's house!

While there may be things we do not fully understand about Heaven, this much is certain - a place described as the "Father's House" must be a truly wonderful place to be! To live eternally in the presence of God and Jesus, who gave Himself for us, will be far more joyful than we can comprehend.

As we enjoy family reunions let us be reminded of that great Homecoming. Let's make sure that we are preparing for that day when Jesus will return to take us to the Father's House where we can be with Him forever!

## Save the Starfish

By Mark Ray

And Jesus came and said to them, *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."* Matthew 28:18-20

This verse brings to my mind a favorite story called "The Star Thrower," written by Loren Eiseley.

There was once a little boy who was walking along the beach and all of a sudden he came upon thousands of starfish that had washed up on the shore. The tide was going out, and for some strange reason, the starfish ended up stuck on the beach. They were all doomed because they couldn't survive being out of the water in the hot sun until the next high tide. The little boy realized this and frantically started picking up starfish and throwing them, one at a time, back into the water.

A man who was walking along the beach saw the boy doing this and called to him saying, "Son, what in the world are you doing? Don't you know that there are thousands of starfish on this beach? And don't you know this beach goes on for miles and miles? There is no way in the world you can save all those starfish!"

The little boy thought about that for a moment, then turned to the man, picked up a starfish and said, "Yes sir, I know. But I can save this one." And he heaved it as far as he could into the ocean.

I'm not a starfish, but like that starfish I am glad someone saw enough value in me to attempt to make a difference in my life by sharing the gospel with me. Perhaps the best way to say thanks is to simply share the gospel with others. While the prospect of reaching everyone by myself would seem to be a daunting task, I'm quite certain that I can start with one.

## Everybody Needs a Friend

We all need sharing and caring friends. Years ago, when speaker of the house Sam Rayburn heard that he had terminal cancer, he shocked everyone when he announced that he was going back to a small town in Bonham, Texas. Everyone said to him: They have got the finest facilities in Washington, D.C., why go back to that little town. Rayburn's words have been quoted so often that some of you have probably heard them. He said: "Because in Bohman, Texas they know if you're sick and they care when you die. We need our friends."

*"Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, who can resist him? A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart"* (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)