

Upcoming Events...

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

Barnabas Group Meeting: February 28

Thank You!

What a “Last-Saturday-in-February” we’ve had! What an opportunity! What a motivational experience! Our thanks to Brent Forsythe, Eric Borlaug and Scott Young.

And thanks to Jack Wright and David Hall for helping out with our wonderful song service. We thank everyone who helped make this such a wonderful and successful meeting!

He said it...

Albert Einstein once said, *“Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.”*

March Birthdays

2 Gonzalo Medina 4 Joseph McKnight 8 Drina Zamarripa
9 Jessica Aguiar 18 Buddy Cashion 30 Barrett Hoffman

March Anniversaries

6 Harold & Dortha Gentry

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

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The Fortune of Misfortune

By A. J. Cox

Thomas Edison experimented with thousands of different filaments to find just the right materials that would glow well enough and last long enough for his light bulb. Concerning his thousands of “failed” attempts at achieving his goal, Edison was quoted as saying, “I have not failed, I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.” The famed inventor had a “glass is half full” mentality! Where others saw failure, he saw progress and opportunity.

The temptation is great to focus exclusively on the negative aspects of the obstacles in our lives. Christians, however, should learn to recognize the opportunities inherent in every trial. To illustrate, consider what Paul wrote in Philippians 1:12-14. *“Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel, so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else, and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.”*

Some, no doubt, would have viewed Paul's prolonged imprisonment as a hindrance to the gospel and to his ministry. The apostle, however, points out that the things that had happened to him had actually furthered the spread of the gospel!

Paul’s bonds in Christ became known throughout the ranks of the Praetorian Guard and to many others in Rome. Because of his “misfortune” people heard the gospel who otherwise may not have heard it. While Paul himself was bound, truly the word of God was not bound (2 Tim. 2:9). Not only this, but his example emboldened many other Christians to speak the word without fear.

As Christians we must condition ourselves to look for opportunity where others see only negativity. Our illness, grief, family predicament, and such like may put us in a position to share Christ's message of hope with those who have not heard it. And the manner in which we endure our trials can set a powerful example for others to follow. May God help us to see the fortune in our misfortune.

A Job or a Ministry?

From a weekly bulletin for the Harrisburg church of
Christ, Harrisburg , IL

Some people have a job in the church; others involve themselves in a ministry. What is the difference?

- If we are doing it because no one else will do it, it's a job. If we are doing it to serve the Lord, it's a ministry.
- If we quit because somebody criticized us, it was a job. If we keep on serving, it's a ministry.
- If we will do it as long as it does not interfere with our other activities, it's a job. If we are committed to staying with it even when it means letting go of other things, it's a ministry.
- If we quit because no one praised us or thanked us, it was a job. If you stay with it even when no one recognized our efforts, it's a ministry.
- If our concern is success, it's a job. If our concern is faithfulness, it's a ministry.

It's hard to get excited about a job. It's almost impossible not to get excited about a ministry. An average church is filled with people doing jobs. A great and growing church is filled with people involved in ministry! Where do I fit in?

Stories with a Message: "How We Treat People..."

-Author Unknown -

During my second month of college, our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions until I read the last one: "What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?"

Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50s, but how would I know her name?

I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade.

"Absolutely," said the professor. "In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say "hello." I've never forgotten that lesson.

Her name was Dorothy.

"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." (Philippians 2:4)

Encouragement

"One of the highest of human duties is the duty of encouragement. It is easy to laugh at men's ideals; it is easy to pour cold water on their enthusiasm; it is easy to discourage others. The world is full of discouragers. We have a Christian duty to encourage one another. Many a time a word of praise or thanks or appreciation or cheer has kept a man on his feet. Blessed is the man who speaks such a word." – William Barclay –