

## Attention!

**Men's Business Meeting:** Next Sunday, July 19 at 4:30 p.m.

**Special Congregational Meeting:** Next Sunday evening service: Semi-annual update on the church's financial status; also website information and update.

### Hungry Worshippers

Adapted from Pulpit Resource, Vol. 28, No. 3, p. 30

The French have a proverb that provides insight for worship that states, "A good meal ought to begin with hunger." It is hard to enjoy a meal when we are not yet hungry. As we approach worship with a hunger to meet God we will be filled and satiated. When we come to worship filled up with our own self-sufficiency or full of preoccupied thoughts, we won't give meaningful worship. It's true good worship begins with a hunger for God.

***"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."*** Matthew 5:6

### July Birthdays

2 Rhea Hoffman                      7 Kim Bruni  
25 Chuck Limburg                    26 Glen Colletti

### July Anniversaries

4 Clint & Kristy Oster

#### 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)

# Indio Informer

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**"Insight...Understanding"**

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## Don't Hinder Me

(Adapted from Charles L. Morton)

***"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free... Thy word is truth"*** (John 8:32; 17:17).

The point of this inspired language is that, for an accountable person to be saved, he must intelligently understand and obey the Gospel of Christ (cf. Romans 1:16). This means that the Gospel can be understood, since God does not require the impossible. Yet, it continues to be misunderstood by many people. Sometimes we are our own worst enemies. Paul told Timothy to be gentle with those who *"opposed themselves"* (2 Timothy 2:22). At others times those we may have come to trust may do us a disservice. Paul wrote to the Galatians that teachers were "hindering" them from obeying the Truth (Galatians 5:7). Consider some ways we may hinder our understanding of God's Will (and thus our salvation).

**We can hinder our understanding of God's Word simply by not studying it.** The truth is revealed now via the written Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17), not by dreams and visions (Galatians 1:6-9). Since it is in a Book, there is simply no way to understand it without individual diligence and effort (2 Timothy 2:15; Acts 17:11). The expression, "Nobody can understand the Bible" does not convey any idea found in the Bible. Such an attitude usually suggests that one has not put forth consistent effort in trying to understand it. We must be willing to exercise effort and self-discipline to come to understand God's Word.

**We can hinder our understanding of God's Word by approaching it with preconceived ideas about what we think it teaches.** Some say that "it doesn't make any difference what a person believes, anyway" but this does not harmonize with what the Master said (cf. Matthew 7:21-23). We will have difficulty

understanding such important topics as the deity of Jesus, the resurrection of the body, baptism, the one church, worship, the organization of the church, the purpose of life, and how to become a Christian if we have decided what we believe **before** we ever pick up the Bible. We have to let God tell us what to believe.

**We can hinder our understanding of God's Word by allowing the god of this world to blind our minds** (2 Corinthians 4:3-4). This life's cares, riches and pleasures choke the Word of God to death in the hearts of many people (Luke 8:14). If we're too busy making a living for this life to think about the next, we're hindering our salvation. Some are also blinded by prejudice (Romans 10:1-3) and others by popularity. These would rather be popular with man than enjoy the fellowship with God (John 12:42-43).

What a fearful thing it is to fail to know, understand, and obey the Truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12). *"Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding"* (Proverbs 23:23)

## Shamed by a Chicken

By Jim Bill McInteer

Aunt Lula Holloway was never one to let an opportunity pass without capitalization. At ninety-six years of age she still isn't! She has that good word to say for the Lord and that encouragement to do your duty even though she sounds out from the confinement of a nursing home.

The first forty-three years of her life she was unmarried. Never having given birth to a child she "adopted" a passel of nieces and nephews as her own. Though part of her teaching was formal in her Bible class at old Schochoh church, much of it was informal yet pertinent. As the day gave an opening she walked through that door to use any possible object lesson to expose a child more completely to a Biblical principle. This writer remembers one she taught him sixty years ago in his preschool age.

There was a barrel at the end of Grandpa's porch. It caught the rain water from the porch gutter. The barrel was always handy for filling the chicken troughs scattered here and there in that country yard.

One day as chickens were drinking she said, "I want you to watch. A chicken always sticks his beak in the water, then he raises his

head to let it trickle down his throat. But just maybe he is doing something else! Let's imagine he's raising his head to thank God for giving him what he needs. God gives us good things - don't let that pullet get ahead of us. We raise our face to God and thank Him always for what He gives. And remember, *"I've never seen the righteous forsaken or his seed begging bread."* For sixty years I've remembered! And thanks to Aunt Lula, I don't want some chicken putting me to shame.

## How to be Happy

Barry Gilreath

If we ask a millionaire to define happiness, he might say that to be happy is to have two million dollars. If we ask a nine-year old boy, he might answer happiness is being ten years old. If we ask a candidate, he might say winning an upcoming election. To the athlete, it might be winning the big game.

All of these are fleeting, but God knows how to bring lasting happiness to each of us. Happiness is found in the following:

1. Being corrected by God: *"Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty"* (Job 5:17).
2. Having children: *"Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them"* (Psalm 127:5).
3. Working an honest day for an honest day's pay: *"For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee"* (Psalm 128:2).
4. Being the children of Almighty God: *"Happy is that people, whose God is the Lord"* (Psalm 144:15).
5. Happiness is found in obeying the will of the Father: *"He that keepeth the law, happy is he"* (Proverbs 29:18).
6. Giving to those in need: *"He that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he"* (Proverbs 14:21).
7. Having a tender heart that can be pricked by God's word: *"Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief"* (Proverbs 28:14).

Where are we searching for happiness? Let's try God's way.