

Please welcome...

Preaching for us today is **John Buttrey**, from West Anaheim. Be sure to welcome him and thank him.

Encouragement

“If one dream should fall and break into a thousand pieces, never be afraid to pick one of those pieces up and begin again.”

- Flavia Weedn -

“And this too, shall pass away.” - Unknown –

“Adversity is like a strong wind. It tears away from us all but the things that cannot be torn, so that we see ourselves as we really are.” - Arthur Golden -

October Birthdays

25 Christina Bruni 28 Allan Brown

November Birthdays

6 Ashley Tanner 10 Daniel Brown

(Note: if anyone is “missed” here, let Jim know)

Regular Meeting Times

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

Preacher:
(Vacant)

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

(Address Service Requested)

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Who I Am Makes a Difference

(From Housetoohouse.com)

A teacher in New York decided to honor all of her high school seniors by telling them the difference they had made. She called each student to the front of the class, one at a time, and told each how he or she had made a difference to her and the class. Then she presented each with a blue ribbon, imprinted with gold letters, which read, 'Who I Am Makes a Difference.'

She later decided to do a class project to see what kind of impact recognition would have on a community. She gave students three blue ribbons each and instructed them to go out and spread this acknowledgment ceremony. They were to report back in three weeks on who was honored and what the results were.

One boy went to a junior executive in a nearby company and honored him for helping him with career planning. He pinned the blue ribbon on his shirt and gave him the other two ribbons. He explained, 'We're doing a class project on recognition, and we'd like you to find somebody to honor. Present him a blue ribbon and then give the extra one so he can acknowledge a third person to keep this acknowledgment ceremony going. Report back to me what happened.'

Later that day, the junior executive went in to see his boss, who had been kind of a grouch lately. He told his boss that he deeply admired him for being a creative genius. The boss seemed very surprised. He then asked him if he would accept the gift of the blue ribbon, and would he give him permission to put it on him. He said, 'Well, sure.' The junior executive placed it right on his boss's jacket, above his heart. He gave him the last ribbon, saying, 'Take this and pass it on by honoring someone else. The boy who first

gave me the ribbons is doing a project in school, and he wants to keep this recognition ceremony going and find out how it affects people.'

That night the boss sat his fourteen-year-old son down and said, 'The most incredible thing happened to me today. I was in my office, and a junior executive came in and told me he admired me and gave me a blue ribbon for being a creative genius. Imagine! He thinks I'm a creative genius! Then he put this ribbon that says, 'Who I Am Makes a Difference,' on my jacket. He gave me an extra ribbon and asked me to find somebody else to honor. As I was driving home tonight, I started thinking about who I would honor, and I thought of you. I want to honor you. My days are hectic and when I come home, I don't pay a lot of attention to you. Sometimes I scream at you for not getting good grades in school and for your bedroom being a mess. But tonight I just want, well, to let you know that you do make a difference to me. Besides your mother, you are the most important person in my life. You're a great kid, and I love you!'

The startled boy started to sob. He couldn't stop crying. His whole body shook. He looked at his father and said through his tears, 'Dad, I've been sitting in my room writing a letter to you and Mom, explaining why I had killed myself, and I asked you to forgive me. I was going to commit suicide tonight after you were asleep. I just didn't think that you cared at all.' His father walked upstairs and found a heartfelt letter full of anguish and pain.

The boss went back to work a changed man. He was no longer a grouch but constantly let his employees know that they made a difference. The junior executive helped other young people with career planning, and never forgot to let them know that they made a difference in his life ... one being the boss' son. And the young boy and his classmates learned a valuable lesson, 'Who you are DOES make a difference.'

“Each one helps his neighbor and says to his brother, “Be strong!” So the craftsman encourages the smelter, and he who smooths metal with the hammer encourages him who beats the anvil...” - Isaiah 41:6-7 -

Cancer is So Limited!

(From HousetoHome.com; slightly modified)

When Dan Richardson lost his battle with cancer, the following piece was distributed at his memorial service.

Cancer is limited
It cannot cripple love,
It cannot corrode faith,
It cannot eat away peace,
It cannot destroy confidence,
It cannot kill friendship,
It cannot shut out memories,
It cannot silence courage,
It cannot invade the soul,
It cannot reduce eternal life,
It cannot quench the Spirit,
It cannot lessen the power of the resurrection.

We cannot deny that if we have the disease, but we can deny despair from taking control. Wherever we are, whatever our circumstances, we can call for God's daily delivery of wisdom, strength, and grace.

Each morning, slam the door on despair. If we don't, it will slip in and rob us. And we'll soon find a peace missing.

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” - John 14:27 -

That's the Spirit!

A little leaguer was playing outfield in the first game of the season. After chasing a long hit and hustling the ball back into the infield, someone asked him how his team was doing and what the score was. The boy said his team was doing OK, but they were trailing seventeen to zero. The person asked if he was discouraged about being so far behind, and if he was ready to admit defeat. He came back immediately with this retort, “We aren't beaten...we haven't even been up to bat yet!”

“...this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith”
- John 5:4