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"PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER" - James 5:16

- REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Margaret Herring, Jean Godley, Amy Wintermute, Lamar Reeves, Elma Berrier and Phyllis Johnson.
- Jamie Sheppard continues to have back problems, and Debbie as out Wed night also.
- Anthony Harris, son of Jerry Harris, preacher for the church in Clinton, SC, will be going to Afghanistan very soon.
- "For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard." - Psalms 22:24

Prayer is a good way to keep your... EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

"AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY" - Acts 2:42

- Bible Study! 10 am Saturdays at Trevia Parks' home, informal, informative, useful!
- **Next Sunday** will be the **first** Sunday in March with our luncheon. At the end of the luncheon we'll have a congregational meeting to discuss the work of the church here at West Columbia. Men's business meeting at 1:30 pm.
- Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday March 13, two weeks from now.
- Carolina Men's Fellowship in Rock Hill Sat 3/12/11 9am-3pm. Details in foyer.
- **Chris Crabb**, Ed & Jan's son-in-law and preacher at the Walterboro church will be having a book signing at the Barnes and Nobel in Forest Acres next Saturday 3/5. The book is a history, *Facing Sherman in South Carolina*.

"If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, ..." - James 3:2

Doing good, and not evil, is one way to keep your ... EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

"THE LURE OF THE GOOD ENOUGH"

Someone has written, "There is no more insidious danger than the lure of the good enough." This is particularly true in the realm of the spiritual. Self-satisfaction is the mother of complacency. Complacency is the mother of sloth. And sloth brings condemnation. Well did Paul warn Christians, "For if anyone thinks himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceives himself" (Galatians 6:3). One who thinks he knows enough will cease to study. One who thinks he gives enough will not increase his giving. One who thinks he does enough will cease from doing. The feeling that we are "good enough" is the grave of growth. Growth is the law of life. Like Paul of old, we should rather say, "I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14). Like an old Scots preacher, we should pray: "Lord, keep me alive as long as I live." Let us not be seduced by "the lure of the good enough." **OVERCOMING HUMAN TRADITION**

Many times a person will have difficulty accepting the truth taught in God's Word because it goes against what was formerly believed by the individual, and perhaps contradicts what he was always taught. This very thing happened to Alexander Campbell, who set out to restore New Testament Christianity in the 19th century. Campbell's family had always practiced infant baptism, and Campbell himself had been sprinkled. But when a child was born to Campbell and his wife in March of 1812, he determined to study the subject in light of the Bible alone.

Throwing aside the Presbyterian tradition in which he had been raised, Campbell was convinced through a study of the Bible that only penitent believers were appropriate subjects for baptism. He studied further and looked at the original language, and discovered that baptism was actually immersion.

Alexander related these conclusions to his father, Thomas Campbell, who agreed with his study. They realized that they had never been baptized into Christ. On June 12, 1812, Alexander Campbell and six others — his wife, sister, father, mother, and James Halen and his wife — were all baptized into Christ for the remission of sins.

The gospel is the power of God to save (Romans 1:16), but when men pervert the gospel it loses its power. This is the reason there are such stern warnings against changing what is revealed. "As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:9). Adding to and taking away from the message is strictly forbidden (Revelation 22:18-19).

The Campbells recognized and respected the Lord's authority on the question of baptism by immersion by penitent believers, as well as other points. While Alexander Campbell is not the founder of the church of Christ, nor is he our authority in religious matters, he serves as a good example on this point that we would all do well to imitate. Search the Scriptures for the answers to religious questions, and submit to the ordinances of God.

- Jason T. Carter, evangelist, Mt. Vernon Church of Christ, Park City, Kentucky

"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a <u>good conscience</u> toward God,) ..." - 1 Peter 3:21

Throwing aside man's traditions, is one way to keep your ...

EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

- James W. Adams, Gospel Preacher