

Chicken Pox, Lice, and Kindness



**by Dawn Reed
E. Ky. Columnist**

When our kids were little, we never knew which of their friends was carrying the chicken pox virus until they broke out. Typically, it was the day after they had been at our house. With our children and those of my sister and BFF Laura, we went through at least six,

maybe seven, bouts of the itchy, scabby disease.

Outgrowing chicken pox, we found that lice was also easily transmitted. In one grade, we did treatment after treatment of the stinky hair meds. One of our daughter's classmates had glorious blonde locks that her mom kept in princess shape. That poor girl caught lice from every kid in the county! I was sure her hair would disintegrate from all the tar goo her mother had to apply!

We were reminded again last week that the Corona virus is as contagious as chicken pox and lice. It went through the White House like a dose of salts! Each day brought news of another who had tested positive. Many used the opportunity to blame, point fingers and say mean things.

If only kindness was as contagious as chicken pox, lice and COVID! First Corinthians 13:4 reminds us, "Love is patient, love is kind . . ." Colossians 3:12 goes on to say we need to CLOTHE ourselves with kindness. (I picture my-

self wrapped like a burrito!) Kindness is also listed as one of the Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23.

Kind words and deeds can make a big impact in the lives of others. Proverbs 12:25 is a great verse for 2020. "Anxiety weighs down the heart; but a kind word cheers it up." Do you know anyone with an anxious heart? The cure: a kind word-and it costs nothing!

Words leave invisible marks-both good and bad. Proverbs 16:24 (CEV) talks about the good: "Kind words are like honey—they cheer you up and make you feel strong." Hooray! Proverbs 12:18 speaks to the bad ones: "Reckless words pierce like a sword . . ." Ouch!

I can still remember the kind words a lady spoke to me 50 years ago.

It was a tough time for my family. No one knew because there would have been consequences if it had gotten out. This sweet older lady had no idea about my home life. She had only seen me ride around on my banana seat bike. One Halloween night around 1970, my sister and I climbed the steps to her door. She gushed when she saw

us, saying she had a special homemade treat for us. I can't remember our costumes, but even now I can remember her tenderness. It still brings tears to my eyes to this day. I can hear her say, "Why, it's Teri and Dawn!" like we were somebody wonderful. What a blessing that lady was! Her words were like balm on a wound.

In Luke 10:25-37, Jesus told a story of one man's kindness. A traveler had fallen victim to robbers. They attacked him, stripped him, beat him, and left him half dead. Three men passed by him on the road. The priest crossed over to the other side. The religious man did not offer assistance. It was the outcast, the least likely, who helped the stranger in need.

Through Corona, I'm covering my mouth and staying six feet away, yet I still can have an impact with my words and deeds—a good impact. If I throw around kindness and kind words like confetti (or glitter!), it might infect EVERYBODY I come in contact with! And then maybe THEY will infect the people THEY come in contact with! It could be an epidemic!

Seeds of Hope



A professor of philosophy stood before his class and said, "The whole world is desperately searching for joy and happiness. But no one has been able to find its source. Psychologists cannot find it, physicians cannot find it, comedians cannot find it. It has eluded everyone. Some feel that they have been close to its source only to discover that they were on the wrong path. It is so very illusive and all were left disillusioned and disappointed."

Even the word happiness is deceptive. It gives its self away. The root of the word is "hap" which means "chance." Human happiness is dependent on the chances and changes in life. It is something which life

may give and then suddenly take away.

A diagnosis of cancer, a crash in the stock market, a new management team at work - even a change in the weather can take away the passing sensation of joy and happiness.

But there is a sure, certain source of joy and happiness - or gladness as the Bible calls it - that is available to everyone who seeks it. It cannot be destroyed or disturbed; it provides a serenity that is immovable. It "covers" loss and grief, pain and sickness, darkness and death. No one or nothing can destroy it.

The writer of Psalm 97 said, "Lord, may Your people rejoice in You; and praise Your holy name." God will give His everlasting joy and gladness to those who place their faith, hope and trust in Jesus Christ, His Son. His peace and presence are promised to His beloved.

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

1 THESSALONIANS 1:3

We **remember before** our **God** and **Father** your **work produced** by **faith**, your **labor prompted** by **love**, and your **endurance inspired** by **hope** in **our Lord Jesus Christ**.

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

D	T	S	I	R	H	C	N	E	D
R	D	E	R	O	F	E	B	C	E
O	E	P	R	U	O	D	H	N	T
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F	I	M	M	O	B	G	P	R	M
A	P	F	V	E	D	A	E	U	O
T	S	E	A	W	M	U	L	D	R
H	N	E	P	I	O	E	C	N	P
E	I	M	M	D	T	R	E	K	
R	S	U	S	E	J	H	K	R	D

Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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Bible Word Search Answer on Page 12

Stickeler's Puzzle



Match the word on the left with its meaning on the right.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. aegis | a. senior clergy, dignitary |
| 2. perspicuity | b. clarity, plainness |
| 3. cinnamene | c. defeat someone through trickery or deceit |
| 4. prelate | d. shelter, protection |
| 5. chouse | e. a colorless oily liquid |

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 12

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Rehoboam in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. How many times is the word "Bible" mentioned in the scripture of the Bible (KJV)? Zero, 3, 49, Over 1,000
3. From Genesis 4, what righteous man started the practice of herding

sheep? Adam, Cain, Abel, Job

4. According to Jesus, what was Satan from the beginning? Deceiver, Evil, Thief, Murderer

5. In biblical times, which was a large unit of money or weight? Levy, Talent, Shekel, Sepulcher

6. Of these, which wasn't a son of Noah? Shem, Ham, Levi, Japheth

Answers on bottom of Page 12
"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.



"He's just like his father — he loves _____!"

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

- Defy: OLEAVIT
- Oppose: STEUPID
- Twirl: CEPPTER
- Furtive: CRETES

TODAY'S WORD

To What Purpose Should Men Preach?

**by BOB CASEY, preacher
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In Philippians 1:15-19, here in these verses the Apostle says that some preachers may all declare the truths, but for what purposes are they trying to accomplish? He says "some indeed preach Christ even of *envy and strife*." Philippians 1:15 In Paul's day and even today, our world is filled with such people, attempting to preach a doctrine that is laced with their own ideas that do not coincide with the truth. The Judaizing preachers of the First Century denounced the Gospel as Paul preached it, calling him a false prophet because he would not agree that circumcision was to be preached or practiced as a part of the Law of Christ. Today, this is still being instituted by other means, such as, men who preach that baptism is a part of the Gospel because Christ instituted it, but then saying it is to be obeyed, but it is not for the remission of sins, then by saying that one is saved before he is baptized. So, we can put those in Paul's day and such as preach this false concept in the same basket. Does this not cause strife and conflict in this present age? How much more secure is one's eternal salvation when the complete Gospel is heard and obeyed. So, just what does an imperfect Gospel do for the sinner if the purpose is not preached? Thereby, does the sinner remain partially informed but not fully. So, he remains in an unsaved condition. There is nowhere in this passage that reveals that the Jews even thought they claimed to believe that Jesus was the Messiah, yet failed to preach his plan that the Law was fulfilled by him completely. So, this is the message of the purpose that one is to be baptized for the remission of his sins, and at the same time his/her name is added to the church. Thereby Acts 2:37-47 confirms this action. Then, in Colossians 2:11-15, Paul says that the circumcision of the old Law was replaced by the circumcision of the heart, "ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." Colossians 2:11-12 Friends, one better not attempt to mess with the operation of God. Then in **1 Corinthians 12:13**, Paul wrote, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles." Then he also adds in Colossians 1:12-15, here in this passage he indicates that the Kingdom, the Body, and the Church are all the one and the same thing. He concludes by saying that Christ "is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence." Colossians 1:18

Now, back to Philippians 1:15-16: Good will, this should be the main interest of every Gospel preacher; that is to give them the complete message of salvation, not just to prove a false way. Here he mentions contention. Yes, we are told to "contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" in Jude. Jude 1:3 Then, he sadly says some not of sincerity, men who garble the truth, not speaking to that gospel that saves but that which serves their own purpose. They at the same time denounce those that contend for body, chapter, verse upon any Bible teaching. Then, Paul says that those who do this only add affliction to the Gospel to be preached. And so it continues today as well. Then he says the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defense of the Gospel. Friends, the day that I am not interested in the salvation of men's souls, then will I stop attempting to preach the Gospel. Only by observance to the truth will one be a member of Christ's Church. **Adam Clarke wrote**, in the Book of Philippians, he says, "in this last verse he puts heaven in the place of the Church 3:20, and this is all right; for he, who is not a member of the Church of Christ on earth, can have no right to the kingdom of heaven, and he who does not walk worthy of the Gospel of Christ cannot be counted worthy to enter through the gates into the city of the eternal King." Adam Clarke Commentary

In closing, are you a member of the Church that we read about in Bible? If so, can you prove it with your acts of obedience? I hope so. Call for discussion, anytime, 1-Waco-859-369-4165.

Sincerely, Bob Casey