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WHAT THE FALLEN GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA CAN TEACH US?

NO AMOUNT OF PRIVILEGE OR POWER CAN SHIELD US FROM TEMPTATION



By Michael Brown
askdrbrown.org

I am not writing this column to throw stones or condemn. Rather, I am writing this column to help us learn some important lessons, because sin's pain is always greater than sin's pleasure. Whatever rewards sin promises you, whatever pleasure it gives you, whatever thrill or excitement you experience because of sinful behavior, one thing is certain: In the end, it is never worth it. Dr. Robert Bentley, who was forced to step down as the governor of Alabama after an embarrassing sex scandal, has learned this the hard way.

What Bentley's Actions Cost

Just think. Robert Bentley is a medical

doctor, representing years of hard work and dedication. And he rose to one of the most powerful positions in America, one of just 50 state governors.

Robert Bentley professed Christianity and rose to one of the most powerful positions in America. Now he is disgraced and mocked.

Now he is disgraced and mocked, accepting a deal to avoid jail time.

As a result, he can never run for public office again. He lost his retirement benefits. And he must do 100 hours of community service as a doctor. All for what? For a sexual fling? For a romantic tryst?

Yet he was not the only one affected by his actions. There was his sexual partner (and political adviser), Rebekah Caldwell

Mason. There was his wife and family. There was his political party. And there was the whole state of Alabama.

As Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey said when she was sworn in as the new governor, "Today is a dark day in Alabama, but also it's one of opportunity. I ask for your help and your patience as together we steady the ship and improve Alabama's image."

A Christian Leader Falls

The governor's actions also brought reproach on the Church and the name of the Lord. As The New York Times announced, "For Alabama Christians, Governor Bentley's Downfall Is a Bitter Blow."

Alan Blinder gives the relevant background:

As governor, Robert Bentley would quote the Bible before the Alabama Legislature and say that God had elevated him to the State Capitol. In his dermatology practice, in the city where he was a Baptist deacon, he sometimes witnessed to patients. And when he was a first-time candidate for statewide office, his campaign headquarters were often filled with volunteers from local churches.

Yet this upstanding, trusted, Christian leader committed adultery against his wife, and he did so repeatedly. How can this be?

Again, my purpose here is not to condemn. My purpose is to warn — and to warn loudly and clearly.

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THE AMBASSADOR

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 www.Adventure-ChurchYC.org
 Pastor Greg Mansur

Agape Lighthouse Community Church
 2106 Pepper Street, Sutter
 Pastor BJ Wilson
 530-237-6351

The Bride Church
 1321 Peach Tree Lane, YC
 530-751-0505
 thebridechurch.org
 Sun. 9am & 11am
 Craftsmen for Christ- Tues 6:30

Church of Glad Tidings
 1179 Eager Road, Yuba_City
 www.churchofgladtidings.com
 530.671.3160
 Saturday 7pm-Sunday 10am
 Wednesday 7pm

Gateway Calvary Chapel
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 Sundays 10 a.m.
 Wednesdays 7 p.m.
 Pastor Doug Hileman
 www.gatewaycalvary.com

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 Sunday 9 a.m. Bible Study
 10:30 a.m. Worship
 950 Tharp Rd., Ste.1200-B, YC
 530-300-0528
 yubasutterlutheran.org

Praise Chapel
 398 Aylor Avenue Yuba City
 www.praisechapelyc.com
 530-923-7204
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 Pastor Chris Madsen

Word of Life Church
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 wolmarysville.org
 530-742-3724
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"So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:10



THE AMBASSADOR

- ✦ *The Ambassador* is a free, monthly publication promoting unity and revival among the local Yuba-Sutter area Bible-believing churches.
 - ✦ *The Ambassador* has a circulation of 6,000 - 7,500 and is distributed in local churches and businesses in the community.
 - ✦ The purpose of *The Ambassador* is to pursue the great commission of Christ by making disciples and to encourage, inform, challenge and connect the local body of Christ.
 - ✦ We believe in the inspiration and authority of the Bible as the written word of God. We believe that God exists as One, in three distinct persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
 - ✦ We believe that the atoning work of Christ (His death) on the cross and His resurrection is the ONLY means of salvation and the only way to Eternal Life in Heaven.
 - ✦ We welcome editorial content from anyone wishing to promote the mission of *The Ambassador*. All articles and advertisement content is subject to the approval of the editor.
- Views expressed in *The Ambassador* do not necessarily reflect those of our sponsors or advertisers

Editor/Publisher - Seth Halpern - Advisory - Dave Kugelman - Design - Teresa Davis

INSPIRATION

WWW.AMBASSADORNEWSPAPER.COM

•••• Partnership ••••

By April James

I tried multiple times to write an article honoring mothers since May contains Mother's Day. Time was running out when I received an email from the editor asking if there would be a submission for May; all I could do was reply "It is my hope".

Two days left for submission and alas all attempts at doing a mother's piece stalled out; normally I get an inspiration and the writing flows with little effort, but not this time. My prayer for inspiration was met with silence; or so I thought. While praying I'm still picturing this inspiring article for moms, I was not really listening and waiting for what He had to say, I wanted Him to go



along with my plans.

Thirty-six hours to go and nothing. I finally conceded throwing up my hands saying Lord, what do you want said; this

time I had open ears.

The Lord was gracious and took the time to teach me a lesson reminding me of my own prayers; for no writing to be released if His anointing was not on it, as it would not touch lives. That I had not sought His direction but wanted my own based on the month of publication - because I thought it was a good idea. He continued with how I had said, though I make my plans I want him to direct my path. I had made my plans alright, but was not listening to him say go a different direction. I kept insisting on my own way! He reminded me of other prayers and commitments as well...

Everything we do should be in partnership with the Lord, as a team, and there is no I in team work. My attempts were, I, I, I, - not considering my partners plans. A scripture I've read numerous times jumps out to me in a new way as I read it today. Proverbs 18:1 tells us "whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire", (yup that was me),"he breaks out against all sound judgment." (Ouch).

More than an article to be written this month it was a lesson to be learned, one I evidently needed. I hope this writing inspires others to remember their partner, whether in business, marriage, or other endeavors. We are not always called to do every part ourselves. He calls us to be a part that fits together with the part He calls others to do, so together we fluidly dance the dance of life. The most important partnership we have is with the Lord, the one we must include in the decisions of life if we want the best outcome.

Twenty-four hours to go and I smile. I think of the way the Lord acted like a mother, wisely using situations of life to lovingly teach a child a lesson. Thank you moms, biological and spiritual, for all your tender loving care and lessons in life. May the Lord richly bless you with earthly and heavenly blessings.

The Ambassador Ministry

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INSPIRATION

Three Questions

By Paula McBride

Firelight flickered as forty-one teens and twelve adults harmonized the final strains of a glorious worship song. A hush settled over the fire pit area when Pastor Phil stood to speak. Ministry at the orphanage had been intense. A quickly inhaled breakfast, personal devotions in the prayer garden, mission-wide chapel service, then two stations of activities with the kids before break, songs and skits after break, then the final station of the morning. After lunch, some went into the community for child evangelism while others did work assignments as needed around the campus. Wednesday a jump house entertained kids all afternoon, followed by a pizza dinner. Thursday was a pinata and ice cream. Could anything more be packed into a spring break missions trip? Yes, Pastor Phil packed in time for fireside reflection based around three questions: What did you see? What did you do? How are you changed?

What did we see? The teens spoke of seeing joy in the faces of kids who have been rescued from tragic backgrounds. They saw older youth helping little ones. They saw big kids being silly and everyone laughing. They saw the bluest



sky and the puffiest clouds. They saw the patience of kids waiting to get in the jump house or take their turn at being goalie in the soccer game. I saw my houseparent friends have a chance to relax during the kids' spring break, to just watch and have fun. I saw teens as leaders, offering help without being asked, reading their Bibles, praying at campfire.

What did we do? Crafts, soccer, volleyball, sand toys and parachute for the little ones, shop in the gift shop, eat tacos, go to the beach and jump waves. Teens went into the community to little churches, calling the neighborhood kids with a bull horn that child evangelism was about to start. After the lesson, teens offered milk and a spoonful of peanut butter to kids who don't get much protein or calcium.

Teens pulled weeds, pick up the mission trash barrels and took them to the dump and broke up some concrete and took it to the dump, too. Other teens volunteered at a school for children with special needs. I cleaned the visitors' center bathrooms!

How are we changed? Many teens

grew to love one or more of the orphanage kids deeply. They learned to love each other more deeply. They experienced the closeness of God that happens when we get out of our comfort zone. They know God can meet financial, safety, and health needs. For me, it's all that and more. The capacity of my heart is greater for love and service.

This story can be told over and over by all who went on mission trips during spring break, and my prayer is that whether we are at home or in a foreign country, we will continue to reflect at the end of each day. What did we see? How did God show up? What did we do? How are we changed? Each day can bring us closer to being who God means us to be in our walk with Him.

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CALENDAR

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ONGOING EVENTS

SUNDAY

AWANA CLUB

Sundays 5:30-7:00 pm. Check in is at 5:15 pm.
Grace Baptist Church - 1980 S. Walton Ave. (Bogue & Walton)
Awana is an amazing children's program for ages 3-grade 6. Join this new Club as it begins!
Kids memorize Scripture, play games and learn lots!
Call 530-673-6847 for information. Info: Ed Han 209-298-6102
You are invited to come and receive special prayer for divine healing or prophetic guidance.
Our prayer teams will pray with you for your needs.

MONDAY

KNIT & CROCHET WOMENS FELLOWSHIP

Mondays 10:00 a.m. - Noon
First Baptist Church - 1777 8th Ave. - Olivehurst
Practice your yarn craft or learn a new one with us. Knifty Knitters are welcome. Bring your own project or work on a charity item that we donate to those in need in the community.
Email yarncraftersforchrist@hotmail.com for info.

FREE KARATE CLASSES

Mondays 5:30 pm - FREE karate classes taught from a Christian perspective.
First Baptist Church - 1777 8th Ave. - Olivehurst, 743-1831 for info, Pastor Miguel.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Mondays 6:30p.m.-8:30p.m.
We are a Christ-Centered recovery group that provides a safe place to share your struggles, experiences, victories, and hopes with others who are also going through to Christ Centered recovery. For more info call 530.755.4149. Follow us on Facebook @ Celebrate Recovery Crossroads Community Church

TUESDAY

ENCOUNTERING GOD

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Every Tuesday Morning
Embassy of Heaven Campus -
1179 Eager Rd., YC - (Hwy 99 @ Eager Rd.)
530-671-3160 -
www.churchofgladtidings.com
Our Tuesday morning meetings begin with a time of worship. Afterwards we rely on the Holy Spirit to lead us to minister to each other, encourage each other, and build our hunger and desire for the things of God. Childcare is provided.

CRAFTSMEN FOR CHRIST

Meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
The Bride Church - 655 Colusa Hwy, YC
Men's fellowship around the word and worship. All in the Body of Christ welcome!

CHRISTIAN BUSINESS ALLIANCE

First Tuesday of Every Month, Noon - 1:00 p.m.
The Bride Church - 655 Colusa Hwy, YC
Join us for a time of fellowship, prayer & encouragement. All are welcome!

SAMARITAN VILLAGE MONTHLY MEETING

The 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30p.m.
This meeting is open to all who are interested in helping with an orphanage in Tanzania.
For info call Victor Savage at 671-2219.

PRAYER FOR THE NATION - Every Tuesday 7PM

Embassy of Heaven Campus - Church of Glad Tidings- Bldg 2001179 Eager Road, YC
Info: 530-671-3160 www.churchofgladtidings.com
Our mission is to share this Good News of Jesus Christ, so that all people may hear of God's saving power and come to know His truth.

WEDNESDAY

FREE BIBLE COLLEGE CLASSES - Wednesday Mornings 10:00 a.m.

First Baptist Church - 1777 8th Ave., Olivehurst
Starting in January 2015 you can earn an accredited bible college degree ... all books are in public domain and you only need a tablet, computer or some type of electronic reader. We can print them out for a small charge. You will need a King James Bible to get started. fbco@comcast.net for more information. ENROLL TODAY!

AWANA

Wednesday 5:45-7:45 p.m. during school year
Evangelical Free Church - 3785 Olive Hwy. Oroville
Awana is a boys & girls club consisting of small group time, games, large group time.
For information please call 533-6866.

LIFE @ HOPE POINT

Wednesday @ 6:30 pm for kids, 7:00 p.m. for adults
Hope Point Nazarene - 600 N. George Washington Blvd, YC
Join us for Life@Hope Point - groups for Nursery through High School ages and classes for adults
Parenting, How to Study your Bible, more so contact the church office at 671-1130 for more details.

FRIDAY

LIFE RECOVERY meets every Friday night at 7:00 PM (except the last Friday of the month) in the social hall of Loma Rica Community Church. Contact Church Office at 743.5435 for more information.

SATURDAY

BETHESDA HEALING WELL - Saturday, May 20th at 10AM

Embassy of Heaven Campus - Bldg 200 - 1179 Eager Road, YC
You are invited to come and receive special prayer for divine healing or prophetic guidance. Our prayer teams will pray with you for your needs.
For more info., Ed Han 209-298-6102

MULTIPLE DAYS OF THE WEEK

WOMENS CLOTHES CLOSET

Every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 8:00 a.m. - Noon
Twin Cities Rescue Mission- 940 14th Street, Marysville
We now have a womens clothes closet at the mission! It is free and available to everyone. We accept donations Monday - Sunday of women's men's, and children's clothing!

CROSSROADS CLOTHES CLOSET

Open Mon - Fri 10am - 4pm -Shop at our - FREE Clothes given away!
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EHOP PRAYER - Every Tuesday & Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Embassy of Heaven Campus - Church of Glad Tidings - Bldg. 200 - 1179 Eager Road, YC
530-671-3160 - www.churchofgladtidings.com
"My house shall be called a house of prayer."
(Matt. 21:13). The church today in is an all out war against the evils of darkness. The body of Christ is called to step up and be aggressive in their prayer life.

PRAYER VIGIL FOR LIFE!

Yuba-Sutter Right to Life is hosting peaceful, prayerful vigils in front of the Yuba City Planned Parenthood. All you need to participate is one hour and the desire to pray for LIFE.
Please contact Heather Pugh at 751-9349 for date and time if you are interested.

FCS PLAYERS YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUMMER THEATRE PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Faith Christian School, 3105 Colusa Hwy, Yuba City - March 28 through mid-June
FCS Players Young People's Summer Theatre Program announces registration for their 20th Anniversary Season production of Madagascar - the Musical Adventure! Join kids from 7-18 Monday through Thursday, June 12 - July 15 from 9 am - 12:30 pm, followed 6 great performances of the show! Call 530-674-5474 or visit www.fcs-k12.org for more information!

CALENDAR

SPECIAL EVENTS

FREE BARBECUE LUNCH

FUMC – YC, 3101 Colusa Hwy, Yuba City
Monday, May 1st, 8th, 15th, & 22nd from
12pm to 1pm

Looking forward to a change of scenery
during lunch? Check out our FREE
barbecue lunch (Hamburgers and hot dogs
with all the fixings) out on our patio.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER BREAKFAST

Thur May 4th, 7-9am
Church of Glad Tidings
1179 Eager Rd, YC

Join the Christian community as we gather to
pray for our community, state and nation. Dr.
Gil Stieglitz from Rosevill's Bayside Church
will be speaking. Full buffet breakfast.
Tickets available at Crosspointe Books or
by calling Dave Kugelmann at 530-632-9292.

SPRING RUMMAGE

EVANGELISM EXPLOSION SPRING BAZAAR

Loma Rica Community Church – 11234
Loma Rica Rd. – Loma Rica
Friday, May 5th 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday, May 6th 8:00 am – 12:00pm
Yard Sale, vendor booths, silent auction. All
proceeds will fund this year's trip to spread
the Gospel locally and worldwide.

TROUT FISHING DERBY AT COLLINS LAKE

Saturday, May 6th

Fun Family Event. Lots of prizes for adults
and kids to win. Cash prizes to top 5 adults.
Free BBQ lunch to all derby participants.
Thousands of big trout will be planted the
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adults if preregistered. Children ages 15 &
under are only \$5. Register online at www.collinslake.com. 100% of the derby proceeds
to benefit YS YoungLife.

A WOMAN'S FRIEND WALK FOR LIFE

May 6th registration begins at 9am

Ellis Lake, Marysville

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us whether you are walking or not! For more
info: kristen@awomansfriend.org (530)
741-9136

COUNTRY FAIR

FUMC – YC, 3101 Colusa Hwy, Yuba City
Saturday, May 6th from 10am to 3pm
Join us for Carnival Games, Prizes, Pie
Eating Contests, Face Painting, Paintball,
Water Balloons, Hayrides, Entertainment &
Barbecue Lunch. All at no cost to you.

BOBBY CONNOR

May 13-14

Saturday 7pm, Sunday 10am & 6pm
Embassy of Heaven Campus
Church of Glad Tidings - Bldg 100
1179 Eager Road, YC

Info: 530-671-3160

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Bobby Connor lives in close, abiding
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DRAMA - "JESUS FOR PRESIDENT

MAY 19-23 7PM NIGHTLY

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FUMC – YC, 3101 Colusa Hwy, Yuba City
Friday, May 19th from 8am to 3pm & Sat.
8am – 1pm

Looking for a treasure? You will be able
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rummage sale including Furniture, Clothes,
Jewelry, Books, Toys, Household Items, and
Holiday Decorations

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The Beauty of Paint,

984 Gray Avenue, Yuba City

Thursday May 25, 6:30pm-9:30pm

Christina May will teach us how to paint
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includes all supplies, light appetizers, and
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will fill up quickly, so don't wait to register!
Bring a friend! Contact Jessica Distad at
rainsong211@gmail.com or 530-635-5877.

Prayer Calendar for May 2017

- 2-May Missionaries -Fruit, Provision
- 3-May Local Schools- Students, teachers, and parents
- 4-May National Day of Prayer- Pray for our nation!**
- 5-May Children and Children's Ministries
- 6-May AWF Walk for Life- Pray for a successful fundraiser for A Woman's Friend**
- 7-May Global Persecution-Safety/Courage of Believers
- 8-May Missing Teens & children- pray for protection and found safe
- 9-May Middle East - For the peace of Jerusalem
- 10-May ISIS/Terrorism- pray for wisdom & strong leadership to eradicate it
- 11-May Homeless/Poor - Twin Cities Rescue Mission, A Hand Up, Salvation Army
- 12-May A Woman's Friend - Unborn children/Pregnant Women
- 13-May President Trump- God's Wisdom in decisions & communication
- 14-May Mother's Day- Honor and lift up the Mom's in your life!**
- 15-May Christian Businesses-Ambassador Sponsors & others.
- 16-May Singles, Single Parents, Divorce healing
- 17-May Orphan children- Samaritan Village (see p. 3) and other orphanages
- 18-May First Responders-Police, Firefighters, EMT, TIP
- 19-May Local Pastors and their families
- 20-May Hollywood- May God to touch influential people
- 21-May Sex Trafficking - pray for victims
- 22-May Adoptive families & birth moms
- 23-May Addicted, Rehab ministries- Feather River Mens Center, Joshua House, Celebrate Recovery
- 24-May Military, All armed forces & their families.
- 25-May The Ambassador Newspaper-Increased readership and Impact
- 26-May Teen Depression, Suicide
- 27-May Local officials and community leaders
- 28-May State lawmakers- Pray for Assemblyman James Gallagher and others who represent us
- 29-May Memorial Day- Honor the memory of our fallen heroes**
- 30-May Upcoming graduations- pray for the students and faculty
- 31-May War-torn nations- pray for peace and protection especially for civilians



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Bible Quiz -- Test Your Knowledge

1. Which two Old Testament characters appeared with Jesus at the transfiguration?
2. How did Jesus reveal the one who would betray him?
3. Where was Jesus crucified?
4. For how many days did Jesus appear to his disciples after his resurrection?
5. Who went with Paul on his first missionary journey?
6. Paul and Silas were imprisoned during the second missionary journey, but in what city did this happen?
7. During Paul's third missionary journey, roughly for how long did he minister in the school of Tyrannus at Ephesus?
8. On what island was Paul shipwrecked as he made his way to Rome?
9. How many churches of Asia Minor were there?
10. On what island was John when he was given the vision of Revelation?
11. In the New Jerusalem described in Revelation, what are the twelve gates made from?
12. Where was Jesus born?
13. Why did Joseph take Mary and Baby Jesus to Egypt?
14. Where did Jesus grow up after returning from Egypt?
15. What was Jesus' first miracle?
16. As Jesus and His disciples were crossing the Sea of Galilee in a boat, a big storm arose. Jesus rebuked the wind and waves and the storm disappeared. What was Jesus doing when the storm arose?
17. Jesus miraculously broke just a few loaves of bread and fishes and fed 5000 men, along with women and children. How many loaves and fishes did he start with?
18. How did Judas identify Jesus as the one to be arrested?
19. On Good Friday, Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate for trial. Why did Pontius Pilate condemn Jesus to death?
20. What language was most of the New Testament originally written in?
21. What is the last book of the New Testament?
22. In which Gospel did Jesus say and quote: "Everything is possible for one who believes."?
23. What is John the baptizer's father's name?
24. Who wrote Acts of Apostles?
25. What is the first book of the New Testament?
26. What was the name of first Christian who was stoned to death?
27. For how many days and night was Jesus fasted?
28. Which wood has been used by Noah to build the ark?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 16

YUBA - SUTTER COMMUNITY BASEBALL

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June 2, 2017

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CBA MARKETPLACE MONTHLY

Be Intentional!

Take a moment and grade yourself on sharing your faith in Christ with other people. If we are honest with ourselves we (me included) wouldn't score very well. I know of a handful of Jesus followers who are intentional on a daily basis when it comes to delivering the Good News of Jesus Christ. I realize that one-on-one witnessing can be intimidating. We need to pray for courage and boldness and intentionality to share our faith with a lost and dying world.

However, there are many opportunities that extend beyond our own personal one-on-one efforts to reach the lost. One great opportunity is right around the corner.

The Christian Business Alliance will be sponsoring the 7th Annual Faith Night at the Gold Sox Stadium on Friday, June 23rd. Historically the Christian response to this event has been tremendous often filling the stadium to capacity. The key however is for us to invite our unsaved family members and friends because a clear presentation of the Gospel will be delivered that night. Our speaker this year will be Pastor Larry Koen. Larry, a Vietnam veteran began preaching in 1972. He is a graduate of Pacific Coast Baptist Bible College and currently pastor of Liberty Bible Church in Yuba City. So, mark your calendar or record a reminder

on your smartphone to start planning who you will invite on June 23rd. Tickets are free and will be distributed to churches and businesses sometime mid-May.

Romans 10:14-15 (NLT)

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?

And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"

David Kugelman is the president of the Christian Business Alliance which meets each Tuesday at noon at various locations. Dave welcomes your questions or comments on this article at drkug@comcast.net

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Psalms 96:12



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For help, questions, or more information, contact us at The Ambassador or any of the churches listed on page 3.



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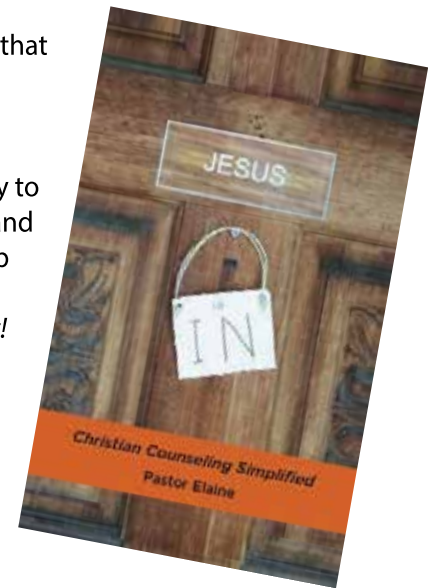
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INDIAN VALLEY OUTPOST RESORT

By Seth Halpern

Indian Valley Outpost Resort (IVOR) is a wonderful, semi-hidden oasis of solitude, nature, and convenience all at once. It is located between Camptonville and Downieville on Hwy 49. IVOR is under the care and ownership of Dave and Karla Gardner.

I had the pleasure of sitting down with the Gardners over a meal and hearing their heart, vision and passion about this property and the Lord. They come through Yuba City weekly for supplies during the peak season and shuttle between the resort and the Bay Area often during the colder and wetter months when business is slower.

I was blessed to hear their stories of faith and dedication while serving the Lord in their new “work”. Yes, I put work in quotes because when you hear the passion with which Dave and Karla speak, you know that even the 18 hour days in the midst of high season seems more like ministry to them than work. They often say, “If you love what you do and you do what you love t, then its not work.”

Dave and Karla met in church as single parents twenty-three years ago. Dave was teaching a Biblical Financial Strategies course at church and Karla was a student. I can easily see how their faithfulness and responsibility in finances is directly related to their faith and the purchase of the resort.

Both raised in homes that didn’t promote faith in Jesus, they each found their way to Him as adults after personal trials and challenges. Karla graduated Chico State and became a social worker until she retired to take on her new career in “hospitality”. Dave went to work in the oil refinery industry and continues to juggle his schedule to be at both. For



Dave & Karla Gardner - Owners of IVOR

years, they lived “the good life” as their Godly financial responsibility provided a large home and material possessions. Yet, they knew God had more for them then to accumulate possessions. God had given them the gift of hospitality and they felt they needed to use it in order to stay in the center of His will. After much thought and prayer, they decided to sell their home and re-launch their lives in order to purchase and run IVOR in February of 2015. They live by a motto of keeping their hands open because “God owns it All”.

The Outpost has been there since the 1930’s but was significantly run down and there was a lot of work to do to get it in shape to open. With God steering this work and thanks to many friends and volunteers, they were able to open the resort by May of 2015 (just 3 months)! The Gardners will tell you without hesitation that God made that happen! In fact, they will tell you about miracle after miracle as they trusted in Him for provision. It’s fun to listen to their stories and hear how God was and is in every detail. Since May of 2015 people are starting to hear about the resort which includes 5 different aspects: Lodging, a

restaurant with catering, a pub (for beer & wine), and a “general” store. They are excited about the picnic area that is set up with a stage for performances or church services. On weekends, they show FREE classic family films. The families and campers that have been coming to Indian Valley for generations have expressed a genuine appreciation to the Gardners for preserving and restoring the Outpost they love so much.

Indian Valley is a 6-mile area with many campgrounds where people come from all over for camping, hiking, fishing, whitewater rafting, tubing, off roading, cycling, waterfall hunting and

just enjoying God’s beautiful creation. Native Americans and Gold Miners shared this area nearly two centuries ago. Interestingly, that hasn’t changed much! Historically, the outpost was to provide a resource (store) for all of those in the area. The Gardners have raised the bar on that resource. An absolutely stunning part of the North fork of the Yuba River is literally steps away from the outpost. The waterfalls in the area and even on the property are on full display with the recent rains. Campers can choose to stay in the USFS campgrounds, but if you want nice accommodations (like me) you would need to stay at IVOR! There they offer a 4-bedroom cabin with incredible amenities (it doesn’t feel like a cabin) that sleeps up to 11 people (perfect for the small group, men’s or ladies’ retreat). In addition, for a smaller group or a couple, there is a fully furnished RV and two authentic Sioux tee-pees! You can experience “glamping” inside of a historic and roomy tee-pee! There are also 4 RV hook-ups and plenty of space for simple tent camping. It’s your choice. No matter which accommodations you choose, you will see and hear the rush of water flowing in the two creeks that pass by the cabin and RVs! Although

CONTINUE ON PAGE 16

- Cabins
- Tepees
- RV Sites
- Store
- Events
- Restaurant
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Real Success Takes Some TLC

By Dr. Ronald Harden, President
EPIC Bible College and Graduate School

“Share your plans with the Lord and you will succeed” (Prov 16:3, CEV). Success, as God intended it to be, is the achievement of something attempted and follows three simple steps in getting to the desired end result—T-L-C. Now, that does not mean “tender loving care.” It means: our Thoughts, our Language, and our Character.

Our thoughts really start with Philippians 2, encouraging us to think of the things that are virtuous and praiseworthy. The Bible assures us that when we focus upon the things of God, His peace will come over us. Is our focus/thoughts about the circumstances or distractions around us? Or, is our focus on the Lord Jesus Christ? To really understand our thoughts, we must be aware of what’s in our mind. One of the ways we develop thoughts that are pure is by focusing our attention on God. We may indicate, “I’m not going to think about how much I want that new Mercedes,” when all we are thinking about is, in fact, that Mercedes!

We think about things, positively and negatively, based on our focus. We need to take every thought captive to the

obedience of Jesus Christ. You may have heard the old computer jargon “garbage in, garbage out.” Whatever we put into our minds, through our eyes and ears, begins to form us and whom we are to become. The Bible says that renewal starts in our mind.

Next, we need to realize that our use of language is a real key to our success. The way we think about things will then become the things that we talk about. We need to develop the greatest muscle in our body—our tongue! Jesus says from the abundance of the heart, our mouth speaks. There is great power in our tongue to speak spiritual life or death. We need to choose our thoughts and words well when we communicate with our loved ones—whether it be spouse, children, grandchildren, students or staff. We should take special notice to speak words of encouragement and to keep negative words out of our language. The way in which we talk about things can often become self-fulfilling prophecies. “I’ll never make that,” or “I can’t do that.” We have to have faith in God and not faith for faith’s sake.

As He helps us, we will see that those things that we think about frame our perspective about ourselves and others.

This leads to our character. When our thoughts are in control, we will use our language properly. The things that we learn from the Word of God must be allowed to penetrate our actions and behavior. Our outward action is a manifestation of an inward change. If we think the right type of thoughts, our language will follow. And as a result, our final step to success will be our character development—how we behave and what we do not just when others are around, but when we are by ourselves. If you’re like me, you’ll be praying, “Lord, help me with what I’m thinking about. Help me find the language to speak and help me develop my character so that it will be in line with Your Word.” I pray that God bless you and set you on a path to success with the three ingredients of T-L-C.



Dr. Ronald Harden
President & CEO, EPIC Bible College

Dr. Ronald Harden is President and CEO of Epic Bible College and Graduate School, located at 4330 Auburn Blvd. in Sacramento, www.EPIC.edu., one of the region’s Top 25 colleges and universities and among the Top 10 U.S. faith-based colleges in the U.S., now offering both undergraduate and graduate degree programs with online and standard classroom options.

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Senate Confirms Supreme Court Nominee Neil Gorsuch Over Democrat and Pro-Abortion Opposition

By Steven Ertelt of LifeNews.com

The Senate voted to confirm Judge Neil Gorsuch's Supreme Court nomination despite strenuous opposition from pro-abortion groups like Planned Parenthood and a filibuster from pro-abortion Democrats.

Republicans successfully used the so-called nuclear option to set up the vote. The vote to employ the nuclear option and change the number of votes needed to cut off debate and move to approve a Supreme Court nominee from 60 to a simple majority came after Democrats successfully filibustered the nomination.

Most Senate Democrats voted to block the nomination while all Republicans voted for cloture. Then the Senate voted 52-48 to eliminate the 60-vote threshold to end debate and proceed to a vote.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell called the opposition against Gorsuch a "radical move," and an unprecedented bipartisan filibuster of a high-court nominee who has been praised as well qualified for the job.

"But then again, this isn't really about the nominee," McConnell said. "The opposition to this particular nominee



President Donald Trump nominating Judge Neil Gorsuch on January 31, 2017.

is more about the man that nominated him and the party he represents than the nominee himself."

With only 55 votes for cloture, Republicans then employed the nuclear option after defeating delaying votes to adjourn.

Pro-life groups applauded Gorsuch's confirmation.

"McConnell's successful "nuclear" motion produced a historic victory for Senate Republicans, the President, and

the country — and a huge defeat for a coalition of left-wing groups, led by the abortion lobby, that had relentlessly pressured Democratic senators to filibuster the confirmation of Judge Gorsuch," said National Right to Life Senior Policy Advisor Douglas D. Johnson. "For decades, liberal senators and interest groups had attacked Republican judicial nominees with procedural and political weapons that Republicans were slow to match. This week, the Republicans took

decisive action to restore parity to the judicial confirmation process, and we commend them for it."

During three days of questioning, Gorsuch made it clear that he does not consider Roe v. Wade a "super precedent" that cannot be overturned. He also defended his role in cases supporting the religious Liberties of Little Sisters of the Poor and Hobby Lobby and their attempts to stop the Obama Administration from forcing them to pay for abortion drugs for their employees.

During their questioning over the course of the Senate Judiciary Committee hearings, pro-abortion Democrats repeatedly questioned Gorsuch about abortion and those religious liberty cases.

The Senate Judiciary Committee is expected to approve the Gorsuch nomination, but Democrats have signaled their intent to filibuster the nomination on the senate floor.

President Donald Trump nominated the federal appeals Court Judge with strong support from pro-life organizations that point to his track record as

CONTINUE ON PAGE 16

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CON'T FROM PG 1 - "...FALLEN GOVERNOR..."

No One is Exempt From Temptation

If a Christian leader like Robert Bentley can fall, you and I can fall. If biblical heroes like David and Solomon can fall, you and I can fall. If Rebekah Caldwell Mason and Monica Lewinsky can fall, you and I can fall.

And that is where we all must start: If we play with fire, we will get burned, no matter who we are and no matter who we know.

Sin's pain is always greater than sin's pleasure. In the end, it's never worth it.

No one is exempt, and no amount of privilege or power can shield us from temptation. To the contrary, increased privilege and power often open the door to temptation, especially when we believe we have the right to special perks.

And let's not think that the older we get, the less prone we are to sin.

Perhaps at a certain point that is true — in terms of some sins that we can no longer commit — but Gov. Bentley was in his 70's while having an affair. Youthful passions can be alive and well in older people too.

Learn From Bentley

Ironically, some of the people who mocked Vice President Mike Pence in recent weeks because of his safety guidelines to preserve marital purity are

now mocking Robert Bentley because of his infidelity. Perhaps Mr. Pence is on to something after all?

Sin makes us stupid, emboldening us to engage in risky behavior and impairing our moral judgment. And sin tells us we'll never be caught, to the point that the most powerful man in the world chooses to have sex with an intern while sitting in the Oval Office. What was he thinking (or, not thinking)?

And one moment of flagrant sin can outweigh years of integrity and honor and sacrifice and discipline. As the Scriptures teach, "Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a stench; so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor" (Ecc. 10:1).

I pray for the Bentley family and for the Mason family and for all those affected by this scandal, believing that God can forgive and redeem.

I also pray for myself and for every reader. Let us learn from the fall of Robert Bentley.

This is a teachable moment.

"Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall."

1 Cor 10:12

10 Ways You Can Help The Ambassador Ministry

- 1. Pray with us** and for us to not only sustain but to grow in impact. Pray for our health and for spiritual protection
- 2. Read it** yourself – You will be enriched by reading it.
- 3. Share a copy** or an article with someone- you will have someone in your life benefit from an article in every issue, cut it out and send it to them, or send them the whole issue
- 4. Leave a copy** of The Ambassador when you're having coffee or a meal or waiting for your car. Use it like a tract. It may be less intimidation.
- 5. Monitor** The Ambassador at your church: assure their presence and visibility
- 6. Subscribe** for a friend or family

- 7. Find** new locations- ask businesses that you frequent to take some papers, deliver and monitor them
- 8. Deliver** a small route- 1 to 2 hours each month
- 9. Give financially** as an Individual partner, business partner, churches/ministries partner (every dollar helps to impact the community)
- 10. Talk** to your like-minded Christian friends, family, business associates and church leadership, about helping as well.

If you would like to help, please contact Seth Halpern at 530-933-1385 or email editor@ambassadornewspaper.com



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CON'T FROM PG 12 - "INDIAN VALLEY RESORT"



many campers like to grill their food, it's great to know that the onsite restaurant is ready to serve mouth-watering meals without the fuss and cleanup so that you can spend more time relaxing. That's why you're there, right? Dave and Karla love to see the families come up to "disconnect from technology and reconnect with family". They promote the simple, good old days recreation and tell young people who ask for the wifi password that it's "n.o.s.e.r.v.i.c.e.!" After a full day of fun around the river or hiking in the Tahoe National Forest (without ever leaving IVOR!), you can look forward to one of Dave & Karla's signature milkshakes and then as the sun sets, get ready for a classic



Glamping in an authentic Sioux teepee!

family film projected on their big screen outside in the picnic area followed by a cozy campfire and "s'mores".

There is so much more to tell but what Dave and Karla want you to know is that they are ready to serve families, church groups or anyone else so that they can share the love of Christ with you. That's what makes them enjoy working so hard. They want to see people come to Christ or re-connect with Him, while also re-connecting with His creation and even your own family. I hope you'll consider this wonderful property whether for a family vacation, a church or ministry retreat, or just a few days to "unplug". Dave and Karla are ready to serve you all year long!



Family fun in the Yuba River just steps from IVOR!

CON'T FROM PG 14 - "JUDGE NEIL GORSUCH"

supporting religious freedom for pro-life organizations refusing to be forced to pay for abortions. They also noted his opposition to assisted suicide and his support for a state fighting to defund Planned Parenthood abortion business.

The Planned Parenthood abortion business was also quick to blast Judge Gorsuch as well.

The abortion giant slammed Gorsuch for supporting Hobby Lobby and the Little Sisters of the Poor in their bids to not be forced to pay for abortion-causing drugs in their employee health care plans. Democrats have already promised to

filibuster any Supreme Court nominee.

Sen. Jeff Merkle, a pro-abortion Oregon Democrat, said in an interview on Monday morning that he will filibuster any pick other than pro-abortion Judge Merrick Garland — who pro-abortion president Barack Obama named to replace pro-life Justice Antonin Scalia.

"This is a stolen seat. This is the first time a Senate majority has stolen a seat," Merkle said in an interview. "We will use every lever in our power to stop this."

Gorsuch is 49 years old. He and his wife, Louise, have two daughters and live in Boulder, Colorado.

CONTINUED FROM PG 8 - "ANSWERS...TEST"

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Elijah and Moses | 15. Turning water into wine |
| 2. Dipped a piece of bread and passed it to him | 16. Sleeping |
| 3. Golgotha | 17. 5 loaves and 2 fishes |
| 4. 40 | 18. He kissed Jesus. |
| 5. Barnabas | 19. The chief priests had persuaded the crowd to demand his execution. |
| 6. Philippi | 20. Greek |
| 7. 2 years | 21. Revelation |
| 8. Malta | 22. Mark |
| 9. Seven | 23. Zacharias |
| 10. Patmos | 24. Luke |
| 11. Pearl | 25. Mathew |
| 12. Bethlehem | 26. Stephen |
| 13. To escape from King Herod, who wanted to kill Jesus | 27. 40 |
| 14. Nazareth | 28. Gopher |



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Murderer's Ex-Girlfriend Meets Victim's Family

Jim Denison

Denison Forum on Truth and Culture
denisonforum.org

On Easter Sunday, Robert Godwin was walking down a street in Cleveland, Ohio. Steve Stephens gunned him down, then posted a video of the killing on Facebook. Before the shooting, he demanded that Godwin say "Joy Lane," the name of Stephens's ex-girlfriend. "She's the reason this is about to happen to you," he told Godwin.

Two days later, Lane and two of Godwin's daughters met for the first time. There were no accusations, just hugs and mutual grief. The sisters told her that the killing was not her fault and they hold no ill will toward her. In an interview with CNN, several of Godwin's children said they held no animosity toward Stephens, either. They explained that their father taught them the value of hard work, how to love God, and how to forgive.

The same day Lane and Godwin's daughters met, Stephens shot himself.

Another suicide making headlines is the death of former NFL player Aaron Hernandez. Hernandez was an All-American player at the University of Florida, where his team won a national title in 2009. By 2011, he had developed into one of the top five tight ends in



the NFL. He became a father and purchased a 7,100-square-foot home in Massachusetts.

In 2013, Hernandez was arrested and charged with murder in the shooting death of a friend, Odin Lloyd. He was convicted and sentenced to life in prison without parole. (A few weeks ago), he was found dead in his prison cell. According to authorities, he used bed sheets to hang himself from his window.

So much of life is so unpredictable. Fox News's announcement that it is

ending its association with Bill O'Reilly shocked the cable-news world. Many political analysts thought Democrat Jon Ossoff would win (the recent) election in



Georgia. House Speaker Paul Ryan, uniformly liked by those who know him and elected to Congress eight times, is facing historically low approval ratings as a result of his party's failure to enact health care reform. Now we're learning that the White

House may renew its effort to repeal and replace Obamacare before the president's 100-day deadline.

Change is the unchanging principle

of our fallen world. However, what matters most is not subject to such vagaries. Human nature does not change. Nothing in today's news is new to human experience. It's not surprising that the meeting between Joy Lane and Robert Godwin's children made headlines—the forgiveness he taught his family is the grace our hearts seek today.

Do you need to forgive someone who hurt you? Do you need to forgive yourself?

God's word calls us to "be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32). Biblical forgiveness is not a feeling but a decision. It is the choice to pardon, to refuse to punish. When a governor pardons a criminal, she does not excuse the crime or pretend it did not happen. She chooses not to inflict the punishment the criminal deserves. It is the same with us.

Corrie ten Boom, the Holocaust survivor who lost her entire family to the Nazis, likened forgiveness to letting go of a bell rope. When you're pulling on a rope that rings a bell and you let it go, the bell keeps ringing for a while. But if you keep your hands off the rope, the bell will begin to slow and eventually it will stop. Forgiveness is letting go of the rope.

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EDITORIAL

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HE SAID WHAT HE MEANT

By Jon Skillman

I am amazed at the number of clairvoyant voices residing in the hollowed halls (no I didn't misspell it...I mean hollow) of social media. It really doesn't matter what a person says, there's a multitude of psychic trolls who will interpret it to mean exactly what they say, you meant.

This came to mind during the aftermath of Vice President, Mike Pence's revelation that he wouldn't dine alone with any woman other than his wife. OMG, (oh my goodness) the tweets, the Facebook Posts and blogger blather...you'd a thought he had dissed every female this side of NOW. The internet reacted to the VP's remarks with headlines screaming: "Controversy!"... "Internet shocked!"... "Internet yells sexism!"

A quick Google produced a gaggle of responses as to what Mike "actually meant": "He's uncomfortable with women"... "He doesn't trust himself around women"... "It's to keep women out of public"... "Keeps women from power"... "Women shouldn't be in the workplace"... "It means he won't hire women to key positions"... "He's reducing women to sex objects"... "He views women as a threat and liars"... and this one from somewhere over the digital rainbow: "It means he won't allow women basic healthcare." Say what! And finally this from someone tagged "Prop Joe," who refers to our Vice President as a dinosaur: "I'm looking forward to the day when men

like this are all dead!" Saa-weet! What a classic example of the hypocrisy of liberal tolerance and inclusiveness. I did, however, stumble across one voice of reason saying: "Wait, so now it's a scandal to try to avoid a scandal?"

What VP Pence expressed is known as the Billy Graham rule, and the key word in this rule is "ALONE." A female author lamented about what her career would look like if she refused to dine with male editors etc. She knows the rule's not mandatory, yet she feels obligated to ridicule those who adhere to it. This is the dishonesty of the liberal world view.

The intent of this rule is to eliminate any perception or appearance of impropriety. The irony in all this is; if Vice President Pence were to be seen dining alone with a woman other than his wife, many of these same cyber psychics would read it as a scandal.

There is a biblical principle at play here too. In this age of false accusations it is prudent to eliminate the "ALONE" factor. This can be accomplished through Deuteronomy 19:15, "...A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses." In other words...take others with you.

But let's get real here. The issue isn't really the Billy Graham rule it's who evoked it...a Republican...a social conservative...and most importantly, a non-apologetic Christian!

The Ambassador accepts opinions and editorials (op-ed's) as long as they are well-written and less than 450 words. Op-ed's will be published purely at the discretion of the editor. If you would like to submit your op-ed, please email it (written in MS Word) to editor@ambassadornewspaper.com. The deadline for submission is the 15th of the month for the next issue.

YOUR PIECE OF THE PUZZLE

Last month I wrote about our Greatest Purpose and how God has given each of us the opportunity to display God's Glory to the enemy as we trust the Lord in the midst of our troubles. I realized also that many of us think that we can't do much to "change the world". God doesn't need or want any one of us to change the world but he does want us to do the very thing that He has called you and I to do. That is our part, no more, no less. Think of it as a giant jigsaw puzzle. When that puzzle is put together it is "world changing"! In order to complete it, every piece needs to be in its place. God doesn't lose any pieces or make any pieces defective. Just as puzzle pieces are different sizes and shapes, so are we and our ministries. Whether you are the pastor of a megachurch or cleaning the bathroom at a homeless shelter, God has a specific ministry for you. Whether you are speaking to thousands or home alone speaking to one person on the phone, it doesn't matter. There may be no title, no awards and no human recognition, but you have a part to play. In fact, your



Seth Halpern - Editor

piece may have many sides of different shapes and may seem to be the most difficult to place, but it connects with several other differently shaped pieces that are looking for their connecting piece. Those are your ministries! God has given gifts and opportunities to each one of us and as I Cor 12:20,21 states "Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." the foot can't say to the eye, "I have no need for you."

If you're not sure how God would use you, then it is time to pray! Oh and by the way, speaking of prayer, it is one of the most significant of all callings and it's something any one of us can do! Don't worry about the title or the formal ministry. The Lord wants to use you right now. Again, it may not look like much to you now, but we might all be a little surprised when we learn what the Lord thinks of each person's work. A well-respected friend recently shared how we probably won't know how many people we have impacted in our life, whether by giving to a ministry, listening and/or helping a person in need, or any of a number of ways that we act of what the Lord has directed us to do. It's really that simple. Remember, your piece of the puzzle counts just as much as any other!



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