

THE MINUTE MESSENGER

May 13, 2008 Volume 44, Number 20

RESTORING BROKEN FELLOWSHIP GODS WAY

Third Principle

Last week I shared with you the second biblical principle to restoring broken fellowship. I said that we are to **take the first step** in making things right with our brother. Today I want to share the third principle in restoring broken fellowship. When you do go and make things right with your brother, make sure you go **to empathize and not emphasize**. Remember to empathize with their feelings instead of emphasizing the facts. Empathy means to identify with the thoughts and feelings of another person. What that means is this: When you go to someone who has been hurt, do more listening than talking. **James 1:19** says Every-one should be quick to listen, slow to speak. Before you go and try to offer your solution, just look and listen to peoples feelings first. The Greek word for look is **skopos**. We get our English words telescope and microscope from this word. It means to pay close attention to. We are to hone in on their feelings and not just the facts. Begin by empathizing with them instead of offering them a quick solution. Just be quiet and let them express the emotions that they are feeling. Even if you do not agree with what they are saying just listen and signal with your head that you are paying attention. Our emotions can sometimes make us do and think foolish things. David shares with us how bitterness and resentment caused him to think and act like an animal. **Ps 73:21** says, when my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, I was senseless and ignorant, I was a brute beast before you. All of us at

one time or another have been betrayed by our hurt feelings and we end up not thinking clearly. The trouble comes when we open our mouths. **Prov 19:11** says that a man's wisdom gives him patience, it is to his **glory** to **overlook an offense**. Sometimes just keeping our mouths shut and listening to the perspective of others tells them that we really care about their opinion and are willing to do whatever it takes to work out our differences. In order to restore broken fellowship with our brother or sister, Paul reminds us in **Rom 15:1** that **we** who are strong ought to bear with the **failings** of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. **Gal 6:1** says that if a Christian is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help him back onto the right path, remembering that next time it might be one of you who is in the wrong. Share each other's troubles and problems, and so obey our Lord's command. When someone is venting their wrath and anger on you it is very difficult to quietly drink all that in. So the next time you get an opportunity to empathize with someone, just listen to their feelings and don't open your mouth with a bunch of facts. Remember this: For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me. **Rom 15:2**

We must bear the burden of being considerate of others by empathizing with their feelings and patiently listening. **So next time remember to empathize instead of emphasizing.**

Anthony Dominguez

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The **difference...**
Is **CHRIST** in me!
Colossians 1:27

COMING UP

We are looking for others
who will...
Become Part of the Family

- | | |
|--------|---|
| May 14 | Jr. & High School Youth Parents Meeting |
| May 18 | J. W. Hamby's Life Group |
| May 16 | Hilltoppers Game Night |
| May 20 | Three Bears Graduation & Program |
| May 21 | Last Wednesday Night Fellowship till Fall |
| May 25 | Senior Recognition Day |
| June 1 | Bible Class Promotion Day |
| June 4 | VBS Begins Tonight |

Hurtful Happenings

Bill Burk

Life has a way of blindsiding us. People talk. Things happen, disappointments round the bend at break neck speed and when these things take place *it hurts!* Someone says something hurtful and the pain floods the soul and invades the pit of the stomach. Bad news comes over the phone and the blood pressure rises, anger builds and despair overwhelms the psyche. When these things happen, we can rightly say *-that hurts*. The question then arise: “*What should we do when we hurt?*”

1. *Take It To God.* When things happen that hurt bring it before the throne of God (Heb. 4:16). If a friend disappoints you, if you find yourself baptized in bad news—then turn over your hurts to God (1 Pet. 5:7). He truly cares about our state. We may cry out as the psalmist did: “No one cares for my soul” (Ps. 142:4) , but, if we are wise, on further reflection, we should again remember how much God loves and cares for us.

2. *Take It To God’s People.* For healing during hurtful, times, God’s people serve as a bulwark against painful forces. James, the half-brother of the Lord, said, “The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (Jas. 5:16). Nothing helps salve the soul like godly men and women who love us.

3. *Take It Before God’s Word.* God’s Word has the ability to build us up and strengthen us (Acts 20:31). It is difficult to read the 23rd Psalm and not feel a sense of safety and solace. Only the hardest of hearts could possibly read the 8th chapter of Romans and not feel that soaring feeling that comes from Paul’s discussion of spiritual heights. When hurtful happenings transpire, take it to the Word of God.

4. *Take It To God’s Ending.* Here is something to think about regarding things that hurt. If someone hurts you, if they have truly violated the relationship, take it to them in the spirit of reconciliation found in the Scriptures (Mt. 5:23-23;18:15-20). Do not let hurt fester and finally boil over (Eph. 4:26-27). Handle the matter immediately and with the mind of Christ (Phil. 2:5).

Some things just *hurt* as they relate to life. Thankfully, when hurtful happenings take place we have the appropriate outlets for relief. Thanks be to God who loves us so much that He never ceases His constant providing for those who are His.

**PRIVILEGED TO SERVE
SUNDAY, May 18, 2008**

Announcements: Brent Wells
 First Prayer: Bobby Byrd
 Closing Prayer: Eric Clark
 Communion Scripture Reading: Steve Stokes
 Sermon Scripture Reading: Scott Clevenger
 Lord's Table: Charlie Gonzales
 Keenan Harmon
 Scott Harmon
 Kim Hays
 Rodney Hearn
 Mark James
 Lonnie Jones
 Brandon Joy
 Evening Opening Prayer: Larry Golden
 Evening Closing Prayer: Raymon Hackett
 Westridge: Mike McDonough
 Prairie House: Larry Golden
 CommunionTo Shut-Ins: Dee and Janette Blevins
 Jail: 5/20 J. W. Hamby
 Sound Board: 5/18 5/21 Bobby Ross
 Computer: 5/18 & 5/21 Clay Golden
 Song Leader: Perry Walker

May -2008

Nursery Workers:
 Kitchen: Dana Joy and Lori Carpenter
 Daily Bread: Lori Carpenter

ATTENDANCE BAROMETER

Lord's Day	5/11/08
Bible Study	133
Sunday Morning	328
Sunday Evening	N/C
Wednesday Evening	90
Contribution	\$7,159.25

WEDNESDAY LUNCHEONS- MAY

Men- ----- Rock'n R Steakhouse
 Ladies - ----- KFC

YOUTH NEWS

Wednesday night, May 14th, we would like to meet with both Jr. High and High School youth parents. We will be discussing the summer calendar of events and going into more detail about the High School mission trip and the middle school mystery trip.

"The High School mission trip will be June 1-6. Sign-ups begin May 14. Please check your calendars and make plans to join us. It is going to be awesome! We also encourage any parents who are interested in joining us also. Let's serve Christ together!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

J. W. Hamby's Life group will MEET SUNDAY, MAY 18th following morning services.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST THURSDAY MORNINGS AT 7:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEAL WILL BE spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread and dessert.

PLEASE CHECK THE TABLE IN THE PARLOR FOR YOUR DISHES! This is the last week they will be there.

Austin Heights Church of Christ Annual Ladies Day Program: Saturday, June 7. Theme "Running on Empty". Registration form 8:30 to 9:00 AM.

HILLTOPPERS: Game Night-Friday, May 16 in the fellowship hall at 7:00 PM. Please bring your favorite game and snacks.

YOUTH NEWS: Wednesday night, May 14th, we would like to meet with both Jr. High and High School youth parents. We will be discussing the summer calendar of events and going into more detail about the High School mission trip and the middle school mystery trip.

Three Bears Academy needs about 30 dozen cookies for graduation Tuesday, May 20. There is a signup sheet on the table in the foyer. Please bring cookies by noon that day and place them in the kitchen.

If you have a family member or friend on our prayer list please give the office an address. We have cards and notes from time to time that needs to be sent.

Welcome Guests



- Carol Lee, Midland, Texas
- Mark, Katie, Emily & Luke Lindsey, Cleburne, Texas
- Manuilita Lopez, Plainview, Texas
- Billy and JoAnn McCormick, Snyder, Texas
- Sid and Gayleen McLean, Hoover, AL
- Craig, Kelli, Cole and Cody Patton, Lockney, Texas
- Sarah Robinson, College Station, Texas
- Rosanna Garcia, Tyler, Texas
- Dale and Dee Gannaway, Lubbock, Texas
- Geoff Gannaway, Lubbock, Texas
- Joy Fuller, Plainview, Texas
- Paul Fikes, Plainview, Texas
- Jerry, Susan & Kevin Devin, Lubbock, Texas
- Betty Cochean, Pampa, Texas
- Jack Carpenter, Portales, New Mexico
- The Blackmon Family, Wellington, Texas

IN OUR PRAYERS

Bobbie Rawdon, Cynthia Pinnell, Charles Godfrey, Marge Gowan, Rudy Pena, Dale Mickey, Todd & Connie Blevins, Dustin Smith, Janis Horton, The Alex Dominguez family, Fred Robertson, Roberta Turner, Gary Alexander, Bobby Griffin, Dub Mercer, Baylee Banning, Bill & Tweet Moore, Cleo Crutchfield, Harlan Dizmang, Dorothy Bradley, Raul Camacho, Jackson Calhoun, Cindy Valentine, Shirley Igo, Billy Clay, Betty Foster, Maylene Mickey, Mattie Lou Ellis, Carla Calhoun, Paul Frisbie, Danna Lamb, Doris Hearn, Opal Yarborough, Jerry Settle, Wanda Wallace, Kay Powell, Opal Barnes, Linda Wilson, Cleo Crutchfield, Sonny Sherrock, Doyce Watson, Kenneth Haynes, Kenneth Sjogren, Jim Adams, Beverly Kimbrough, Wesley Everidge, Paul Godman, Dale Hyde, Cindy Kirby, JoAnn Underwood, Christen Driver, Lou Ann Lopez, Belinda Spencer, Cory Crump and Our Soldiers.

ABOUT OUR FAMILY

Please keep **Bobbie Rawdon** in your prayers. She has a mass and at this time surgery cannot be done. She will start Chemo soon.
Steve Barrett's mother, **Pauline Barrett** had surgery May 4th at BSA in Amarillo. It was not cancer. She is in room 422 and may go to rehab in a few days.
Shirley Hilburn's grandmother, **Marge Gowan**, has metastatic cancer in her brain and kidneys. She lives in St. Louis, MO.
John and Ventia McGavock's son, **Trevor McGavock** cancer has returned. He has started chemo treatments again and possibly may have to have radiation. He has spots on his stomach and the lymph nodes under his arm.
Robert Barnes was hit by a drunk driver Saturday night. He is ok just sore and has stitches in his head.

THANK YOU

The youth would like to thank all of those who came to support us during the fund raiser dinner and service auction. The fund raiser was very successful, and we truly appreciate all of your prayers and support. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the service auction, please contact Eric Clark or Clint Patterson. We want to make sure we fulfill our end of the bargain!

Mission Statement

We the family of Garland Street
Church of Christ,
with the Bible as our guide and
Jesus as our Savior will look:

Upward to glorify, praise and honor God;
Outward to seek, convert and reach the lost;
Inward to serve, equip and love one another.



*Your family is invited to a
Wedding Shower
honoring
Alecia Cox
and
Ty Jackson
Saturday, May 24, 2008
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Comfort Inn Suites
3615 Grandview Drive
Selections at Macy's,
Linens & Things, Target
and Wal-mart
Please RSVP: 806-293-3100*

ELDERS: Neil Billingsley Deryl Clevenger Rob Lindsey
Weldon Melton Steve Stokes

DEACONS: Gary Alexander Mike Allison
Jimmy Barnes Neal Becker
Bobby Byrd Scott Clevenger
Gary Miller Grady Simmons
Mark True Terry Underwood
Brent Wells

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Sunday: Bible Study 9:30 a.m. and Worship 10:30 a. m. and 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Bible Study 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

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YOUTH MINISTERS: Eric Clark and Clint Patterson

e-mail: youth@gscoc.net

ELDER OF THE MONTH: Steve Stokes

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