

News and Notes

Have you visited someone this week?

Special Sisters: Dec 4th at 4:00PM in the multi-purpose room.
Bring finger foods, desserts, drinks and a final gift.



Needed: Continuing need for Your recipes for the Ladies Bulletin. (Please give to Lynn Roberts or Ginny Rothery).

Mustard Seed Village: A list of items needed for the work in India is on the bulletin board. Please place anything you can donate in the provided box in the foyer. Garry Jones will pick these items up on Dec 18th.

Thank you for your help with the pictures! (Enjoy the calendar!)

A note from Focus Press: "A Time For Focus"

God's word is the most powerful force on earth. It encourages, strengthens, corrects, and offers the way of salvation for God's crowning creation - Mankind. But, it all begins by renewing our minds.

At Focus Press, we desire all people everywhere to come to a full understanding, of true Christianity. Unfortunately, there is much confusion when it comes to the world of religion. Focus Press was formed to publish materials based on the inspired Word of God. Resources that are designed to provide understanding and clarity when it comes to issues that are, quite frankly, sometimes very difficult to comprehend.

That's why we began publishing Think magazine in January of 2006. Why such an unusual title for a Christian magazine? Our ultimate goal is to provide reasonable answers for those who are seeking the truth. Think deals with difficult topics such as, stem cell research, intelligent design, cloning, abortion, homosexuality and other social issues that affect us as we live in an increasingly perplexed society. There are regular departments that will deal with practical ways to pass our faith to the next generation, how to incorporate our faith into daily living, issues that are unique to women, how to be good stewards of our blessings, and a host of other regular columns designed to strengthen those who are already committed to living for Christ.

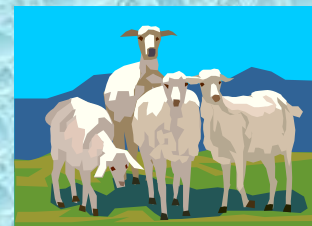
Please pray for the efforts of Focus Press. With God's blessing and your support, the body of Christ will be strengthened, and those who are sincerely seeking real answers to complex questions will find peace - and truth. Our entire purpose is as simple as the apostle Paul's admonition in the book of Romans. Renew Your Mind. It's Time.

Crossville church of Christ

December 2011

Ladies in Action for Christ

The Value of a "Lost Sheep"



While He was on Earth, Christ used a variety of methods to teach those He met. Sometimes He presented masterful sermons (like His beautiful "Sermon on the Mount," Matthew 6-8). Sometimes He did miracles (like raising His friend Lazarus from the dead, Luke 11:43-44). And sometimes He told parables to get His point across. One such parable is found in Luke 15:4-7.

Jesus told His audience about a man who had 100 sheep. One of those sheep wandered off and became lost. What did the man do? Did he simply say to himself, "Oh well, I still have 99 sheep left? That one little sheep isn't that important." NO! The man became very concerned about the one sheep that was lost. He was so concerned that he temporarily left the 99 sheep in order to go search for the one that had gone astray. When he found it, he called together his friends and neighbors and asked them to join him in his happiness. Why was he so excited? He explained to his friends: "I have found my sheep which was lost!"

What was Jesus' point in telling this parable? Was He trying to convince people of the value of a sheep? No, of course not. Jesus explained this parable when He said: "I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine upright persons who need no repentance" (Luke 15:7).

Jesus wanted the people around Him to learn two important lessons. First, in John 10:11, He called Himself "the good shepherd" and said that He would be willing to give His life for His sheep. Those "sheep" are Christians who listen to His voice and obey His will.

Second, Jesus wanted people to understand just how valuable a single soul really is, and to realize how horrible it is to be lost. In Matthew 16:16, Christ asked: "What profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" Two chapters later, in Matthew 18:11, He said that He had "come to save that which was lost." There is nothing we possess that is more valuable than our soul.

Jesus doesn't want us to be like sheep that wander off, become lost, and die. Instead, He wants us to stay close to Him as our Shepherd, remain safe, and live forever in heaven. Christ knew that our souls are far too valuable to be lost. The question is: Do we know that?

Discovery Magazine

WHOEVER YOU ARE

*Whoever you are, there is some younger person who thinks you are perfect.
Whoever you are, there is some work that won't get don't unless you do it.
Whoever you are, there is someone who would miss you if you were gone.
Whoever you are, there is a reason for becoming better than you are.
Whoever you are, there is a place to be filled that you alone can fill.*

Jesus emphasized the importance of personal example in His sermon on the mount as He stated, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16)

The storms of life are raging as the foam upon the sea's

The Master is at the helm there will be no defeat

Your ship may be tossed about as trials and temptations come your way

Hold fast unto His hand He will not let you stray

By faith Peter stepped out upon the Sea of Galilee

By doubt he began to sink beneath the waves of the deep

Remember the words of the Master as He calmed the mighty sea

"Peace be still" and all was as it should be...

Kimberly S. Brown 2011

Recipes

Microwave Corn on the Cob

1 ear of corn, unshucked

Salt and butter to taste



Snip the silk from the top of the ear. For one unshucked ear, place in the microwave for 2 minutes on high. Rotate the cob one quarter turn and microwave for 2 more minutes. Turn the cob again and microwave for 2 more minutes. Remove from the microwave and run briefly under cool water. Shuck the ear (the silk comes off easily now). The time will have to be increased for more than one ear. If making the corn ahead of time, store the cooked unshucked ears in a brown bag until ready to serve. Serve with salt and melted butter

Yum—Yum Sweet Potato Casserole

From the Kitchen of Wilma Brown

3 cups mashed sweet potatoes

1/2 cup butter

1 TBS vanilla

2 eggs

1 cup granulated sugar

Topping:

1 cup brown sugar

1/3 cup butter

1/3 cup flour

1 cup chopped nuts

Mix topping mix with fork and sprinkle crumbs on top of casserole, cover with nuts and bake 20 minutes at 350 degrees.



Cornbread Salad

1 box Jiffy cornbread mix

1 cup sweet pickles, chopped and drained
(save juice)

1 cup tomatoes, chopped

1 onion, chopped

1 bell pepper, chopped

Bacon, crumbled or bacon bits

1 cup cheddar cheese

Prepare cornbread mix by directions on box. Cool and crumble. Layer ingredients, cornbread, veggies, dressing and cheese. To make dressing mix 2 cups mayo (not miracle whip) and 1/4 cup sweet pickle juice.