

**Crossville Church
of Christ**

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COMPASS

**Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation**

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Elders:

Frank Bohannon

Bill Foland

Al Griffin

Jonathan Loveday

Larry McDuffee

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Deacons:

Jim Bell

Kyle Fairman

Jimmy Harris

David Kerley

Doug Loveday

Greg Maxwell

Brian McLaughlin

Mark Roberts

Roger Smith

Jon Tatum

Jason Wyatt

Jerry Wood

Minister:

Barry Kennedy

Missionaries:

Don Iverson

Jim Waldron

(India)

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study 9 AM

Sunday Worship 10 AM

6 PM

Wednesday 6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class

Tuesdays 11AM

Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays 10 AM

Joyful Generation

(Youth Devotional & fellowship)

1st Sunday 7:00 PM

November 6, 2011



“One thing have I desired of the
LORD, that will I seek after; that I may
dwell in the house of the **LORD** all the
days of my life, to behold the beauty of
the **LORD**, and to enquire in his
temple” (Psalm 27:4).

WHAT WE NEED

Barry Kennedy

When was the last time we considered what we need? Do we really take the time to think about the true meaning of the word need? Does it matter? There are many things in life that we truly need such as: air, water, food, shelter, clothing, and companionship. The problem is that we often substitute our wants for our needs. When we find ourselves trading wants for needs, it tends to lead us into the area of discontentment. Contentment is a mandatory part of the Christian's life. *"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content"* (1 Timothy 6:6-8). Paul practiced contentment *"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content"* (Philippians 4:11). When we take into consideration the true definitions of terms we often use, it may cause us to reconsider our choice of terminology. That being said, what could we say that we actually need?

The word need carries the idea of necessity. Need describes something without which one could not live or survive. Therefore, at the top of the list would be our need for GOD. Sometimes we ask the question, "Where would we be without God?" The fact is we would not "be" without God (Genesis 1, 2). God is the source (John 1:1-5) as well as, the sustainer of life (Acts 17:28; Hebrews 1:3). God the Father desires fellowship with His creation. The problem is that sin severs our fellowship with God (Isaiah 59:1, 2). Reconciliation is needed for a restoration of that fellowship. Restoration, through the sacrifice of God's Son, is His plan (John 3:16). This message was delivered by inspiration of the Holy Spirit (2 Timothy 3:16, 17). Therefore, the need for God is clearly seen when one considers the fact that *"all have sinned and come short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23).

When one contemplates his true needs in life, it should take little effort to see that we have a real need for companionship. Think about how many mistakes that have been made by people seeking companionship. One mistake may be throwing away our self-esteem (Genesis 1:26). Self-esteem is an invaluable disposition. Of course one should never confuse self-esteem with arrogance. Humility is a characteristic of true Christianity (James 4:10); however, we are not to belittle ourselves into a state of feeling worthless, useless, or discarded. This disposition leads one into compromising convictions for the sake of companionship. It is true that we need companionship, but in what way? God said, *"It is not good that man should be alone"* (Genesis 2:18). True, but is that saying that everyone should be married? Paul encouraged some members of the Corinth congregation to remain single due to the present distress (1 Corinthians 7). Is this a contradiction? Is Paul going against God in letter to the church in Corinth? Not in the least! Paul is simply stating that having God as your companion is far more needed than that of any earthly relationship (Matthew 10:32-39).

The Hebrew writer emphasized how that *"marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled"* (Hebrews 13:4). One must never compromise self-esteem to win a spouse. It should be the case that our spouse, or prospective spouse, encourages and elevates our self-esteem. That is the true companionship that we need and that is the true companionship that God offers to all who follow Him (John 10:10).

Finally, we all need forgiveness. We all find ourselves having weak moments. Temptations are everywhere and we need not forget that the temptations which torture us the most stem from our own lusts that *"war in our members"* (James 4:1). James said that we are tempted when we are *"drawn away of our own lusts and enticed"* (James 1:14). The fact that we have our own lusts and that we often give in to those lusts, lets each one of us know the real need we have to be forgiven. Jesus came to make that forgiveness available to all who will obey Him (Hebrews 5:8, 9). We need salvation (the forgiveness of sin) because our sins separate us from the companionship that we had with the Almighty. We need forgiveness of sin because without it we cannot have the true self-esteem found only in the body of Christ. John wrote it this way, *"But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin"* (1 John 1:7). This verse clearly states how all of our needs can be met. What do you need?

SEE IF THIS DOESN'T SOUND VAGUELY FAMILIAR?

Author Unknown

Recently, I was diagnosed with A. A. A. D. D. - Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder. ~This is how it manifests:

I decide to water my garden. As I turn on the hose in the driveway, I look over at my car and decide my car needs washing. As I start toward the garage, I notice that there is mail on the porch table that I brought up from the mail box earlier. I decide to go through the mail before I wash the car. I lay my car keys down on the table, put the junk mail in the garbage can under the table, and notice that the can is full. So, I decide to put the bills back on the table and take out the garbage first. But then I think, since I'm going to be near the mailbox when I take out the garbage anyway, I may as well pay the bills first. I take my check book off the table, and see that there is only 1 check left. My extra checks are in my desk in the study, so I go inside the house to my desk where I find the can of Coke that I had been drinking. I'm going to look for my checks, but first I need to push the Coke aside so that I don't accidentally knock it over. I see that the Coke is getting warm, and I decide I should put it in the refrigerator to keep it cold. As I head toward the kitchen with the Coke, a vase of flowers on the counter catches my eye--they need to be watered. I set the Coke down on the counter, and I discover my reading glasses that I've been searching for all morning. I decide I better put them back on my desk, but first I'm going to water the flowers. I set the glasses back down on the counter, fill a container with water and suddenly I spot the TV remote. Someone left it on the kitchen table. I realize that tonight when we go to watch TV, I will be looking for the remote, but I won't remember that it's on the kitchen table, so I decide to put it back in the den where it belongs, but first I'll water the flowers. I pour some water in the flowers, but quite a bit of it spills on the floor. So, I set the remote back down on the table, get some towels and wipe up the spill. Then, I head down the hall trying to remember what I was planning to do. At the end of the day: the car isn't washed; the bills aren't paid; there is a warm can of Coke sitting on the counter; the flowers don't have enough water; there is still only 1 check in my check book; I can't find the remote; I can't find my glasses; and I don't remember what I did with the car keys.

Then, when I try to figure out why nothing got done today, I'm really baffled because I know I was busy all day long, and I'm really tired. I realize this is a serious problem, and I'll try to get some help for it, but first I'll check my e-mail.

Growing older is MANDATORY.
~Growing up is OPTIONAL. ~Laughing at yourself is THERAPEUTIC.

“A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones”
(Proverbs 17:22).

