

~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

Wretched, wrecked & redeemed

One of the greatest misunderstandings of salvation stems from believing we have to understand everything there is to know about sins against God. Through misguided teaching of times past, false perceptions, or erratic misconceptions of God's grace, we may have fallen prey to mechanically trying to line every single domino up so as to systematically knock down every conceivable doubt of theological connection with Christ. We could place ourselves in a locked, padded room for weeks upon end with no television, no books, and no literature of any kind, no visual stimulation whatsoever and still be guilty of sinning and falling short of God's glory on a daily basis. It's our nature! Because God's ways are so much higher than our own, it would be preposterous to think we could completely know all there is to know about the mind of God. I cannot fully appreciate God's righteousness simply because he and I aren't on the same page, intellectually speaking. And, yet, because of His infinite wisdom He can absolutely acknowledge my sinfulness because He made me!

I may find this truth un-nerving, but I can never question its veracity. It is what it is. If I believed that I needed to acknowledge every single sin I committed on a daily basis, I'd never get anything done! I'd be sitting in a chair around the clock making a list of all the things that were keeping me from enjoying all of God's blessings, including the sin of unprofitable, blatant idleness! That doesn't sound like grace-filled living to me. It sounds like solitary confinement. Are you going through life keeping a list of all the things that separate you from God? If so, make sure you add "needless mind-numbing pursuits" to your memo book. That ranks right up there with work-oriented grace.

Have a blessed day and remember the One who gave it to you!

Kevin

Tomorrow's forecast: "God reigns and the Son shines!"

Good Morning!

Prayer Requests

- ♥We extend our deepest sympathy to Linda Hawkinberry on the passing of her mother, Elizabeth Pierce, this past Wednesday. We love you, Linda, and you are in our thoughts and prayers.
- ♥Continually pray for Keith Kisner, Edwina Summers, Phil Phillips, Buck Osborne, Jim Reszler and their families.
- ♥Bill Knight is in need of our prayers. Bill recently obeyed the gospel as Harry Summers had the privilege of baptizing him into Christ. Unfortunately, Bill's health is in great decline.
- ♥James David Jacobs III, infant son of Jamie and Konni Jacobs (Kevin & Mary's nephew and wife) is still in the NICU in Pennsylvania. James is still fighting for his life, so remember the Jacobs family in your prayers.
- ♥Theo Hill was having complications with his knee this past Tuesday as blood began to form around his new knee replacement. Keep him and Lisa in your prayers.
- ♥Holly White continues to have severe headaches and has asked for our prayers.
- ♥Wayne Dodd (friend of Dave White) is dealing with multiple blood clots in his legs and lungs.

News & Notes

Baby Shower – Due to the fact that we had to cancel the baby shower for Mandy Rennix, we are asking that if you would like to give a gift to the baby, please bring them to church by next Sunday, February 15th and give them to Mandy. If you have questions, please see Pam Jackson. Thank You!!

MOPS Meeting - There will be a MOPS (Mother's of Pre-schoolers) Meeting this Wednesday, February 11th from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM in the Upper Fellowship Hall. All mothers with preschool age children are welcome to attend! If you have questions, please see JoAnna Kirk.

Baby Shower – There will be a baby shower in honor of Leslie Shaffer Hall on Saturday, February 14th from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. in the Lower Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Betty Jo Shaffer at 304-612-5295 or Lisa at 304-365-5662 by February 6th. Leslie is registered at Toys R Us and Target. She is having a girl. All ladies are invited to attend.