

~ *Kevin's Kolumn* ~

We're part of a FRAMily!

Family: I know the title sounds a little odd. But if you think about it, it encompasses what we as a body of believers need to be. The concept of family from early Hebraic days has certainly changed. In Bible times, the family comprised members of a household, including not only parents and children, along with other relatives and concubines, but also servants, travelers, aliens, and anyone else who happened to be within the house and was therefore under the protection of the head of the family.

Biblically, the term "family" is interchangeable with "house", and "founding a house" can refer to setting up a separate dwelling as well as establishing a family. In the broader sense "house" may refer to an entire nation ("house of Israel"). Once a household was established and the Israelites became more settled in a particular location, sons learned their fathers' skills and continued the family trade. By specializing in such trades, however, the villagers became less self-sufficient, depending more on farmers for food and on other specialized villages for other products.

I draw your attention to this particular way of life to show how different things are today than what they were then. Although the "community concept" has certainly changed, the need for relationship hasn't! Just as with Israel, as emphasis on the smaller family unit increased, old duties that had been willingly accepted by the "wider" groups (clans) came to be neglected. It was sometimes bad enough that they frequently had to be reminded of their obligations, particularly toward widows and orphans (Is 1:17; Jer 7: 6). There was one thing, however, that seemed to strengthen the smaller family unit: family participation in certain celebrations such as Passover. Bringing your family into an assembly of God's people has the same impact on today's families! Our small family units need to connect and be a part of God's family thus creating FRAMily.

Has assembling with other believers become monotonous? Have you lost sight on how important connection with other "FRAMily" members is? Remind yourself today as to how important it is to be a part of God's "house". Remember the words of Joshua when he reminded the Israelites of old, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!"

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

Kevin

Welcome!

Prayer Requests

- ♥Please continue to lift up Keith, Marsha and Reagan Kisner in your prayers.
- ♥Caleb Lough has broken his left hand and will be having surgery in the near future.
- ♥Harold Phillips has been released from the hospital and is now home.
- ♥Please keep Buck, Kim and Julie Osborne in your prayers. Julie is scheduled for shoulder surgery this week.
- ♥Kim Dumire has received her 2nd chemotherapy treatment. Keep her, Terry and Jacob in your prayers.
- ♥Sharon Little (Betty Jo's sister) will be speaking with a palliative care doctor in the future to determine what her options are.
- ♥Continue to pray for Edwina Summers.

News and Notes

Senior Recognition Night will be Sunday, May 17th at 6:00 PM. We will have refreshments in the lower fellowship hall immediately following the evening service to celebrate with our graduates. Please bring finger foods. If you have any questions, please see Joel or Summer.

Church Directory – We will be taking pictures today for the updated church directory. If you would like yours taken today, please go to the room next to the library. If you have questions, please see Marsha Sparks

Vacation Bible School is June 7th – 11th from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM each evening. The theme this year is "Heartbeat Hospital". There will be songs, Bible stories, games, crafts, snacks and more! Classes for all ages. Please plan to join us for a week of fun and adventure. We will have a picnic on June 11th at 6:30 PM at Castle Creek Park in Grafton. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to help with VBS, please see Mary Lough.

Congratulations!

Jessica Lubella, daughter of Jennifer & Jason Seccuro, has been inducted into the National Honor Society. She is a Junior at Liberty High School in Clarksburg. Congratulations, Jessica!!