

~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

Above all things, put on love

Col. 3:12-15 *“Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.”* One would think this particular subject would be the most simple to incorporate...just love each other. Show genuine concern for someone other than yourself. Make sure you look out for the wellbeing of those around you. And, yet sometimes it appears to be the most difficult. At times it becomes increasingly allusive. Our society grows more and more distant from each other. Husbands and wives become disinterested with each other. Siblings grow apart; communities remain aloof one from another. The result of all this alienation makes Paul's admonition to the folks in Colossae very difficult to emulate! Have we stopped recently to consider why human beings are so disconnected these days? In some areas of the world if you were to speak to another person, they might look at you as if you just beamed down from another planet! I've received looks from others after trying to be cordial that made me ask myself why I even bothered in the first place! But, just because the world doesn't know the concept of putting on tender mercies toward others, doesn't mean God's people shouldn't know! Notice Paul addresses this admonition to God's ELECT. Responsibility to put on tender mercies doesn't belong to the world. It belongs to God's people! So, the next time you're cordial to someone and they snub you in return, don't return their scoff. Pray for them. Pray for those who despitefully use you and persecute you. (Matt. 7:12; Matt 5:43-48).

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

Kevin

Prayer Requests

♥Harold Phillips is in need of prayers.

♥Joan Lough continues to suffer with dementia and sundowners. Please pray for Joan, and her daughters and sons as they care for her.

♥Please lift up Sharon Little in your prayers. Doctors have slowed her treatments to allow her body to recover somewhat. Please pray her cancer does not spread.

Pam Jackson has completed her cancer treatments! Let's celebrate with Pam, Tim and their family!

♥Keep Brandon Crites, Kaylee Lanning and Jeremy Lanning in your prayers.

♥Paula Huber (Linda's first cousins wife) had surgery for thyroid cancer. She has to have another surgery because the doctor didn't remove her infected lymph nodes because he had severed a vocal chord during the first surgery and had to be repaired.

♥Remember Dallas Shaffer in your prayers as well. Dallas' birthday is the 14th day of this month. If you would be interested in sending him a card, see Betty Jo.

♥Nash Sparks, 2 yr old grandson of Bud and Mary Ann Lispcomb, has been diagnosed with cancer.

♥Please keep Buck and Kim Osborne in your prayers. They are making final preparations for Buck's dialysis treatments.

♥Prayers have been requested for Heather & Michael. (A family from Richmond, VA). They have just lost their 16 year old son to suicide. There was a celebration of life in this boys behalf this past Wednesday.

News & Notes

Elders, Deacons, Preachers & Ministry Leaders Meeting – This meeting will be held TODAY, Sunday, February 12th at 4:00 PM.

Financial Peace classes will start on Sunday, March 5th from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM in the Upper Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please see Jacob Lough.

Marriage Retreat – February 24th and 25th. For more info, please see Kevin or Mary Lough.

Save the Dates...Our **Spring Friend and Family Day** will be on Sunday, April 30th. Please mark your calendars!

Vacation Bible School will be the week of June 5th If you would like to help, please see Mary Lough.

Baptism

Mike Dean was baptized into Christ on February 3rd. Mike is the nephew of Kevin & Steven Lough. Welcome to the family of Christ here at Whitehall!!