

~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

Made alive in the Spirit

As we've been studying the subject of God's Holy Spirit over the course of the last several weeks, I've receive many comments on the matter. To me, this is one of the greatest benefits of ministry: folks becoming interested about things of God! I love all your comments, ideals, suggestions, etc. I also encourage you to engage in a study of God's Holy Spirit in your private time of study. There's no greater benefit for the Christian than for our Heavenly Father to watch His children soaking up the truths of scripture. God, in a real sense, dwells in those who are His children. This is the promise of scripture. The fact that we cannot see, hear, feel or emotionally experience this indwelling of the Holy Spirit in a physical way does not negate the promise of God. We know that God dwells in us because the Bible tells us so! Remind yourself that a spirit does not have physical characteristics to be discerned by our five senses. A man cannot prove or disprove the presence of a spirit by scientific examination. A spirit does not take up space, nor is he limited in time. The doctrine that the Holy Spirit works through the Word of God is a biblical doctrine. The doctrine that the Holy Spirit works through the Word of God only lacks biblical truth. The only way we can know about the Holy Spirit or any spiritual being is through the revelation of God. Jesus says in Luke 24: 39, "...a spirit has not flesh and bones". I believe that truth because Jesus said it! In John 4: 24, Jesus also said, "God is Spirit". I accept that truth. Because the Scriptures say angels are "ministering spirits" (Heb. 1: 14), I know it to be true. Because Peter promised those who repented and were baptized would "receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2: 38), I acknowledge that to be true. A proof that we can know God's indwelling through His Spirit fall under three criteria. The first is to "love one another". The second is the "indwelling of His Spirit". And, the third is the confession that "Jesus is the Son of God." 1 John 4: 12-15 "No one has beheld God at any time, if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit...Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in Him, and he in God." The indwelling of God, Christ and the Holy Spirit is not something that can be known through emotional experiences; it can only be determined by the criteria set forth by God's Holy Word.

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

News and Notes

Area Wide Sing – We will be hosting the Area Wide Sing on Friday, August 26th from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM. Please bring finger foods for the refreshments following the sing.

Ladies Class – There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the front foyer if you would like to attend the Ladies Class. The class will begin on Sunday morning, September 6th and will meet in the Junior High classroom. Please see Karen Tucker for more info.

Prayer Requests

♥Continue to lift up Edwina Summers, Harold Phillips, Darrell Freeman, Kaylyn Lipscomb, Margret Brand, Joan Hall, Dallas Shaffer, Noah Miller, Jr., Sharon Little, Mary Smallwood, Marsha Kisner, Becky McCoy, David & Sandy Gooden and Buck Osborne in your prayers.

♥Please keep Kevin & Steven Lough's parents in your prayers. Junior is dealing with limited eyesight and Joan is recovering from a recent fall.

♥Jason Barrett asks that we pray for Shirley Martin (a member of the Marlinton Church of Christ).

♥A good friend of Kevin (John Lambert) has requested prayers for his father-in-law. Ferguson Calder has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Doctors have given him three months to live.

♥Pray for the staff of our Nursery School as they make preparations to begin a new year.

♥Mary Smallwood asks that we pray for Andy Burke. Andy is a cousin to Mary and was recently involved in a motorcycle accident.

♥Mary Smallwood also asks we pray for another cousin's husband who recently passed away. Tim Blakeman died from complications related to heart issues he was having.

*Continue to pray for Jenny Securro (Pregnancy).

♥Judy Securro is scheduled for knee replacement surgery this coming Tuesday morning at UHC.

♥Buck Osborne is scheduled for a cat scan of his head and kidneys in the near future.

♥Charlotte Wilson would like to thank us for prayers on behalf of her brother (Greg Toothman). Greg is doing better, but is still in need of our prayers.

Thank You!!

We would like to thank each and every one of you that helped either with monetary donations or brought in items needed for the Nursery School. It takes a lot to get things started each year and with your generosity it made things much easier once again! Also, Thank You to those who came down last Sunday evening to help move furniture! Thanks to Tim Jackson for helping wax floors!! May God bless each and every one of you! Please pray for a successful school year.