



www.housetohouse.com

House to House Heart to Heart

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 12

Centerville Road CHURCH of CHRIST

1102 East Centerville Road
Garland, TX 75041

Phone: (972) 278-3179

Email: centervilleroad@gmail.com

Web: www.centervilleroad.org

SUNDAY

Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship..... 10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Visit Us Any Time!

The Centerville Road Church of Christ is a visitor-friendly congregation. You will be made to feel welcome and will not be singled out or embarrassed in any way. Although a collection will be taken on Sundays, visitors are not expected to contribute. Simply sit and listen—or better yet, participate! Right now is a great time to visit. Our goal is to worship and serve God according to the pattern provided in the New Testament.

SERVICES OFFERED:

- Adult, Elementary, and Teen Education
- Youth Series
- Vacation Bible School
- Ladies Bible Class (Sept - May)
- Family Enrichment Seminar
- Home Bible Studies
- Men's and Women's Retreats
- Monthly Men's Breakfast (Sept-May)

HOUSE TO HOUSE/HEART TO HEART is published monthly. It is sent to select Garland routes and individuals free upon request. Send all correspondence to address above. To God be the glory.

Victory Where There Was Once Defeat



As one year closes and another opens, it is good to pause and take spiritual inventory. Paul wrote, "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves" (2 Corinthians 13:5).

Think back to the Bible story of Joshua. Under that great commander, God's army suffered only one defeat in conquering all of Canaan.

That defeat was in a small place called Ai. It was not a stronghold, but Israel self-destructed because they had sin in the camp. Achan's covetousness caused about thirty-six good men to die (Joshua 7:1-26).

God would not fight for Israel until they corrected the problem. The offender was stoned, and they went back to the battlefield. As the soldiers waited in the hills for the signal to attack, they must have wondered, "Can there be victory where there was once defeat?"

The answer was yes—the second battle was won in decisive fashion. Remembering four things can bring us a victory at our "Ai."

YESTERDAY'S LOSS DOESN'T DOOM TODAY

Christianity has suffered its apparent losses. Jesus was killed; the apostles were beaten; the church was scattered. But God always won in the end. Jesus was resurrected (Mark 16:6); the apostles took the gospel to the world (Colossians 1:23); the church multiplied in number (Acts 9:31).

Christians have setbacks, too. You may have made mistakes, gone back to a bad habit, disappointed your family, failed at your job, or even backslidden.

We all make mistakes. A church bulletin reported that "everyone enjoyed the singing." (I hope the letter left out was a g and not an n!) Around the first of the year, a sign advertising a local barber shop seemed to have lost a Y; it read, "Happy New Ear." (Hopefully the barber had not made a serious error!) Most of us can relate to these words:

I wish that there were some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning-Again

Where all our mistakes and all our heart-
aches
And all our poor selfish grief
Might be dropped, like a shabby old coat,
at the door,
And never put on again.¹

There is such a place. That place is here. There is such a time. That time is now (2 Corinthians 6:2). Victory can follow defeat.

We all need to start over at times. Remember the throne set in heaven and the voice which cries, “Behold, I make all things new” (Revelation 21:5)? The Bible speaks of the new covenant. The old covenant was a sentence of death (Galatians 3:10), so Christ gave a new one (Matthew 26:28). Under it, He forgives sins (Hebrews 8:12).

Life can be made over again (Galatians 6:15; Philippians 1:6). Jesus is the “Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End” (Revelation 1:8). The Bible speaks of a new way (Hebrews 10:19–20) that leads to a new Jerusalem (Revelation 3:12). The Bible speaks of the new man. Share in Paul’s optimism: “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

DON'T STUMBLE OVER THE SAME STONE TWICE

Joshua and Israel made sure that they had corrected the “Achan problem” before they returned to Ai. All make mistakes, but it is foolish to keep making the same mistakes. The Greeks used to say that stumbling is a human flaw, but it is disgraceful to stumble against the same stone twice.

David Lusk tells the story of two hunters who flew deep into remote Canada in search of elk. When they started home, their pilot saw their four elk and told them the plane could carry only two. They protested, “The plane last year was exactly like this one and we had six elk then.” The pilot reluctantly agreed to try. They took off. Unfortunately, the plane did not have sufficient power to climb out of the valley, so they crashed.

As they stumbled from the wreckage, one hunter asked the other if he knew where they were. “I’m not sure,” he said,

“but I think we are about two miles from where we crashed last year.”

We should learn from last year’s mistakes and not make them this year’s mistakes. We should put away childish things (1 Corinthians 13:11) and remove the ensnaring sin (Hebrews 12:1–2).

Crashing in the same forest is inexcusable. We may need to get a new set of friends (1 Corinthians 15:33), or put good influences in the place of old habits (1 Peter 2:11). Are we willing to change our lives for the good of our souls? Or will we go on sinning and crashing and burning every year? For most, it is not a new road we need but a new determination to travel the right way before us.

CHAMPIONS GET UP ONE MORE TIME THAN THEY FALL (JOSHUA 8:19–21)

Championship seasons are rarely undefeated seasons. The NFL has had one team with an undefeated season. The NBA and MLB have had none. Tiger Woods is considered by many as the greatest golfer of all time; he does not always win.

Every Christian makes mistakes. Peter made some serious blunders (cf. Luke 22:45–61), but he bounced back (cf. Acts 2). So can we. If you have forsaken the Lord, do not give up. You can return and live the Christian life. If you have lost your fervor for Christ, you can find it again. If the devil has led you down sin’s road, you can return—as the prodigal did (Luke 15). If you are defeated and despondent, remember Ai shows there can be victory where there was once defeat.

There can be victory in breaking bad habits. Many Christians have finally conquered smoking, bad language, procrastination, gossip, and alcohol addiction by saying, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13; cf. 2 Corinthians 3:4–5). Jesus promised, “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5).

There also can be victory where there was defeat in soul winning. Keep inviting family members or friends to church services. The next invitation may be the one he accepts. The next sermon may be the one that reaches her. The next Bible study

may convert him. Their souls are too valuable to give up (Matthew 16:26). Love keeps on keeping on. Persistence breaks down resistance.

BE SURE TO PICK THE RIGHT TEAM (JOSHUA 8:7, 18)

Abraham Lincoln was asked during the Civil War, “Are you sure God is on your side?” His thoughtful reply was, “I am not so concerned if God is on our side, but whether we are on God’s side.” Christians need not worry over who will win. God will win. We need to concern ourselves with being on His side.

As we contemplate important changes in our spiritual lives, let us think on these powerful verses:

- “Now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16).
- “If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31).
- “Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 15:57).
- “In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us” (Romans 8:37).
- “Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much” (James 5:16).
- “Thanks be to God who always leads us to triumph in Christ” (2 Corinthians 2:14).

Enjoy a victory in Jesus on an old battleground this year.





What Do They Have in Common?

The following people have something in common. Do you know what it is?

Princess Margaret, Jim Wakefield, Stephen J. Gould, Wilbur Bailey, Ann Landers, Rosemary Clooney, Johnny Unitas, and Lorayne Harper.

They all died the same year.

We must not trivialize death, nor joke about dying. Death is one thing all have in common.

This week a young lady who had been in my class in college died. She was vivacious and so alive. None of us was ready for her passing, despite the fact that she had been battling cancer, and two weeks ago had been given just two weeks to live. Suddenly death seems nearer and more personal. This Christian sister left behind two daughters, both recent college graduates, a husband, and a sister. She also left behind lots of Christian friends who deeply admired her spirit.

Death is one thing all face, good or bad, famous or not, rich or poor, educated or uneducated. A familiar passage says: "It is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).

To some, death is not as fearful as it is to others. To a Christian, death is something expected but not feared.

Paul's words should be ours: "According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by

life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you" (Philippians 1:20–24).

Later in his life, expecting certain death, Paul said:

"I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing" (2 Timothy 4:6–8).

May his hope be ours. —Michael Moss



FACTS about the New Testament Church

Founder: Christ (Matthew 16:18)

Place: Jerusalem (Isaiah 2:1–3; Acts 2:5)

Time: AD 33 (Daniel 2:44; Acts 2)

Head: Christ (Ephesians 1:22)

Organization:

Christ as head (Ephesians 5:23)

Elders oversee local church (Hebrews 13:17; Titus 1:5)

Deacons as servants (Acts 6:1–6; 1 Timothy 3:8–13)

Members compose body (Romans 12:5)

Name (group) (Ephesians 3:15):

Church of God (1 Corinthians 1:2)

Body of Christ (Ephesians 1:22–23)

Churches of Christ (Romans 16:16)

Bride of Christ (Romans 7:4)

Name (individuals):

Disciples (John 15:8)

Saints (Romans 1:7)

Brethren (Acts 11:1)

Children of God (Galatians 3:26)

Christians (Acts 11:25–26)

Creed:

Jesus/Bible (Acts 8:37)

Rule of Faith and Practice: Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16–17)

Worship (John 4:24):

Sing (Ephesians 5:19)

Pray (Acts 2:42; 1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Teach (Acts 5:42)

Communion (1 Corinthians 11:23–26)

Contribute (1 Corinthians 16:1–2)

Mission: Save souls (1 Timothy 4:16)

Warning: Be faithful (2 John 1:9)

God's Plan for Saving Man

Divine Love: John 3:16

God's Grace: Ephesians 2:8

Christ's Blood: Romans 5:9

Holy Spirit's Word: Romans 1:16

Sinner's Faith: Acts 16:31

Sinner's Repentance: Luke 13:3

Sinner's Confession: Romans 10:10

Sinner's Baptism: Acts 22:16

Christian's Love: Matthew 22:37

Christian's Work: James 2:24

Christian's Hope: Romans 8:24

Christian's Endurance: Revelation 2:10



A Child's Changing Eyes

A child's eyes see his mom and dad differently as he ages:

Age 4: "My parents can do anything."

Age 8: "There might be a few things they don't know."

Age 12: "Naturally, they don't get it."

Age 14: "I never realized how hopelessly old-fashioned they are!"

Age 21: "You would expect them to feel that way. They're out-of-date."

Age 25: "They get an idea now and then."

Age 30: "I wonder what Mom and Dad think?"

Age 40: "Let's wait until we discuss it with our parents."

Age 50: "What would Mom and Dad have thought about it?"

Age 60: "I wish I could talk it over with them one more time."

"Honor your father and mother."

EPHESIANS 6:2

For more material on the home and family, fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, grandparents, and family finances, go to www.housetohouse.com.

Three "R's" of Parenting

The book of Proverbs is filled with passages about parenting.

Proverbs 29:15 shows the effects of good and bad parenting: "The rod and rebuke give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother."

God did not create man to train himself. Paul wrote, "Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God" (1 Corinthians 3:18–19). Parents need God's inspired wisdom. Look at three aspects of parenting found in the Scriptures.

Role Models. Many children are brought into this world and then abandoned to someone else. Others live in a house with biological parents yet spend little time with them due to busy schedules or interests that exclude the kids.

Children "left to themselves" find other people or things to fill the void. "Surrogate parents" may not hold the spiritual values needed for a child's proper development. Youth, especially adolescents, see people who look successful in the media and emulate them.

Children should look to their parents for identity. Solomon said: "My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the law of your mother; for they will be a graceful ornament on your head, and chains about your neck" (Proverbs 1:8–9). Again: "My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways" (Proverbs 23:26). If parents abandon, abuse, or neglect their children, they will look elsewhere.

Reproof. Rearing an immature human from birth to adulthood is a challenge. Solomon said, "Foolishness is bound up in the

heart of a child; the rod of correction will drive it far from him" (Proverbs 22:15).

One must not take this verse as God's sole instruction for correction. Words are needed with correction. If a child does not understand the reason for punishment, he will be unable to learn and improve.

Scripture teaches that words without penalties are incomplete: "Do not withhold correction from a child, for if you beat him with a rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with a rod, and deliver his soul from hell" (Proverbs 23:13–14). Solomon is not saying a child should be abused or physically injured; the word "beat" could be translated "clap," or to "strike lightly."

Again, "Chasten your son while there is hope, and do not set your heart on his destruction" (Proverbs 19:18). Children need to know that freedom to choose right or wrong does not free one from consequences. Parents' loving discipline is far better than the cruel treatment of the far country.

Refuge. A home is not just a place where one is fed, clothed, and sheltered. Physical necessities are only a small part of a child's needs. Children need emotional, mental, and especially spiritual development. The family dwelling should be a place where peace is found.

Adolescents naturally spend more and more time away from parents to develop relationships with others. However, some leave because they find better refuge in the homes of their peers. Turmoil at home makes it more like a place of war than of peace. Solomon wrote, "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a fatted calf with hatred" (Proverbs 15:17). Home is a place where children should want to be, not just have to be. —Jimmy Clark



Do We Understand?

While President Harry S. Truman was in office, there was an attempt to assassinate him, and one of the guards was slain while protecting the president. With deep sadness, the president commented, "You can't understand how a man feels when somebody else dies for him."

I would think, after such an experience, that the remainder of life would become very special. Without the self-sacrifice of that guard, the president would not have had those remaining years. Each day would seem precious, having

been purchased for him by the shedding of another man's blood.

Thinking of the cross, we may too casually utter, "He died for me." Do we see the suffering Savior dying as a sacrifice for the world, the whole human race, more than we see it as being for us in particular?

The old spiritual, "Were You There?" raises meaningful questions. It asks if we saw Him crucified and nailed to the tree. Did we see the earth plunged into darkness when the sun refused to shine?

Did we see Him laid in the tomb? Such contemplation of the soul "causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble," the song says.

Once we are gripped by the sight of Him who "there on the cross was wounded for me," the remainder of life takes on a new and different meaning.

"He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again."

2 CORINTHIANS 5:15

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.



Bible Quiz

VOLUME 24:12

Send us your answers to receive a free Bible bookmark! We'll grade and return your questions and enclose the bookmark "Psalm 23" as a way of saying thanks for spending time in the Word (quantities may be limited).

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State: _____
Phone: _____

Questions are taken from the King James Version.

Answers to Previous Quizzes

V. 24:10 Who Said It? 1. Abram (Genesis 13:8) 2. Cain (Genesis 4:9) 3. Jesus (Matthew 22:1–21) 4. The Samaritan woman who met Jesus at the well (John 4:7–29) 5. Paul (Philippians 1:1–21) 6. Thomas (John 20:24–25) 7. Mordecai (Esther 4:13) 8. Ruth (Ruth 1:16) 9. Peter (Acts 2:38) 10. Jesus (John 3:10–16).

V. 24:11 Snakes and Fiery Serpents: 1. The serpent deceived her (Genesis 3:13) 2. fish, serpent (Luke 11:11) 3. Horses (Revelation 9:17–19) 4. Wine (Proverbs 23:31–32) 5. Devil and Satan (Revelation 12:9) 6. Paul (Acts 28:1–6) 7. Moses (Exodus 4:1–5) 8. The people spoke against Moses and God (Numbers 21:5–9) 9. Asked Moses to pray to God that he would take the serpents away (Numbers 21:7) 10. He prayed (Numbers 21:7) 11. Bronze (Numbers 21:9) 12. Nehushtan (2 Kings 18:1–4) 13. By looking upon the bronze serpent (Numbers 21:9) 14. Christ (1 Corinthians 10:1–9) 15. Broke it in pieces (2 Kings 18:1–4)

Suffering Saints

Directions: Find your answers in John 15:20; 2 Corinthians 1:3–5; 4:17; 2 Timothy 3:12; James 1:2–4; 5:11; 1 Peter 1:6; 1:7; 4:16; 5:8. Questions are taken from the New King James Version.

1. "Yes, and all who desire to _____ in _____ will suffer persecution."
2. Who said, "If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you"?
3. "If anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be _____."
4. "Your adversary the devil _____."
5. Name an Old Testament character known for his suffering. _____
6. Some have been grieved because of _____ trials.
7. What type of trials does James say we should rejoice about? _____
8. When I suffer as a Christian, instead of being ashamed, what should I do? _____
9. The trying of my faith is much more precious than _____.
10. Life's trials are for how long? _____
11. The trial of genuine faith produces what? _____
12. Suffering affliction works what for us? _____
13. When I suffer as a Christian, I must remember that _____ cares.

Making Sense of the Old Testament (Part 5 of 5)

Minor Books of Prophecy (Hosea–Malachi)

The concluding twelve books of the Old Testament are called the “Minor Prophets.” Some of them address conditions in the northern kingdom of Israel; others are written principally to Judah. Some are more generic in direction.

The book of Hosea is a document of great pathos. Jehovah, with deep love for His people, pleads with northern Israel to return to Him from the nation’s gross wickedness. Hosea’s unfaithful wife is used as the allegory for the narrative.

Joel speaks in a general vein of the coming “day of the Lord”—under the figure of a locust plague. A happier time will come when the Spirit of God is poured out in the Messianic age.

Amos addresses the kingdom of Israel with stern rebuke. The nation is morally flawed and religiously corrupt. Punishment is coming—upon Israel and other

nations—but so is redemption in the days of the Messiah.

The book of Obadiah warns the complacent descendants of Esau (Edom), so unbrotherly to Judah, that Jehovah will bring these arrogant rebels down from their lofty hideouts.

Jonah is the Lord’s missionary to Nineveh. The book reveals Heaven’s interest in the Gentiles as well as the Hebrews. Jonah’s stubborn resistance is typical of the Israelite people.

Micah, a contemporary of Isaiah, prophesies against corruption and injustice in Judah.

Nahum is a sequel to Jonah. The latter prophet had warned of Nineveh’s impending doom. But the Assyrians had repented and had been spared—temporarily. Nahum, a century and a half later, announces the nation’s overthrow.

The book of Habakkuk explores a problem: How can a just God use an evil nation (like Babylon) to punish His

people? The answer is to be found in the mysterious ways of providence. Babylon will be used as a divine rod of punishment, but the day of Chaldean destruction is coming as well.

Zephaniah’s ministry is just before king Josiah’s great reformation in Judah. The prophet warns of punishment to come upon the people of the Lord and their heathen neighbors. Only in the coming Messiah would true deliverance be effected.

Haggai preaches in the post-captivity period, encouraging the Jews to rebuild the temple.

Zechariah accompanies Haggai, only his message urges Judah to rebuild their shattered lives by adhering to God’s law.

Malachi, in the final era of Old Testament history, attempts to stir the Jews from a state of spiritual laziness. —Wayne Jackson

“For whatever things were written before were written for our learning.”

ROMANS 15:4

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.

Recommended Resource



The Gospel Broadcasting Network is unique in the world of religious TV—commercial free, and they never ask for money! Sponsored by the churches of Christ, GBN is available on many cable systems, as well as through their smartphone apps, the Roku device, and at gbntv.org.

I want to learn more about the Bible!

If you knew for sure that the religious path you are on would not get you to heaven, would you change? If there was the possibility of a doubt, would you investigate? Why not request a personal Bible study today?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Prayer requests or comments: _____

I would like:



☐ A Bible Correspondence Course



☐ A DVD Bible Study



☐ An In-Home Bible Study

Featured Tracts!

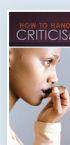
- ☐ Can We Trust the Bible?
- ☐ Death By Numbers
- ☐ Are All Men Accountable to the Bible?
- ☐ The Tragedy of Almost



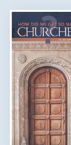
More subjects:



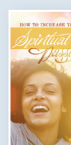
☐ Moral Decline of America



☐ How to Handle Criticism



☐ How Did We Get So Many Churches?



☐ How To Increase Your Spiritual Passion



☐ Never Make These Excuses to God



☐ What Is Happening to America?



☐ The King of Kings



☐ Jesus Loves Me, This I Know



☐ What Makes a Nation Great

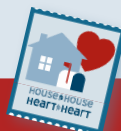


☐ If Jesus Ran for President, Would He Win?

Don't see the topic you need? Visit www.housetohouse.com for more subjects.

VOLUME 24:12

All materials are completely FREE of charge (including shipping in the U.S. or Canada).



Truth at 55 MPH

These statements were seen on church signs:

**THE BEST VITAMIN FOR A CHRISTIAN IS B1.
UNDER SAME MANAGEMENT FOR OVER 2000 YEARS.
SOUL FOOD SERVED HERE.
DON'T WAIT FOR THE HEARSE TO TAKE YOU TO CHURCH.
LIFE HAS MANY CHOICES. ETERNITY
HAS TWO. WHAT'S YOURS?
WORRY IS INTEREST PAID ON TROUBLE BEFORE IT IS DUE.
PREACH THE GOSPEL AT ALL TIMES.
USE WORDS IF NECESSARY.
PREVENT TRUTH DECAY. BRUSH UP ON YOUR BIBLE.
IT'S HARD TO STUMBLE WHEN YOU'RE
DOWN ON YOUR KNEES.
WHAT PART OF "THOU SHALT NOT"
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
A CLEAR CONSCIENCE MAKES A SOFT PILLOW.
THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH. REPENT BEFORE PAYDAY.
NEVER GIVE THE DEVIL A RIDE.
HE WILL ALWAYS WANT TO DRIVE.
CAN'T SLEEP? TRY COUNTING YOUR BLESSINGS.
FORBIDDEN FRUIT CREATES MANY JAMS.
CHRISTIANS, KEEP THE FAITH—BUT NOT FROM OTHERS!
SATAN SUBTRACTS AND DIVIDES.
GOD ADDS AND MULTIPLIES.
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO REAP THE FRUITS OF
SIN, STAY OUT OF THE DEVIL'S ORCHARD.
TO BELITTLE IS TO BE LITTLE.**

*"When wisdom enters your heart,
and knowledge is pleasant to your soul."*

PROVERBS 2:10



What Did They See?

"And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him . . . and the people stood looking on" (Luke 23:33–35).

Look at those last few words one more time: "the people stood looking on" (Greek *theoreo*, "theorizing"). They stood by the cross of Jesus, trying to put things together. And what did they see?

They saw the obvious. They saw how cruel men could be to others. Death by crucifixion was horrible. Victims frequently died stark raving mad from days of exposure and thirst—a thought that underscores the agony behind Jesus' words, "I thirst!" (John 19:28).

They saw something mysterious. They experienced an eerie darkness "over all the earth." The sun refused to shine, as if it were paying tribute to the death of our Savior (Luke 23:44–45).

They saw something vicarious. They witnessed the death of God in the flesh, an agonizing death that made possible our abundant life (John 10:10; cf. 1 Corinthians 15:3).

They saw something marvelous. They saw the same thing you and I are blessed to see when we partake of the Lord's supper—the love of God (1 Corinthians 11:23–26; cf. 1 John 4:9–10).



The Power of a *Compliment*

Helen Mroska writes: Mark would often get in trouble for talking too much in class. Now he was one of my students in junior high math.

His class had worked hard all week. By Friday the students were getting cranky. So, for a break, I asked them to write the nicest thing they could about every student and hand it in. I compiled the results for each student and gave out the lists.

Several years later, Mark was killed in Vietnam. After the funeral, most of his former classmates gathered with Mark's parents and me for lunch. Mark's father took a wallet out of his pocket. "They found this on Mark when he was killed," he said. He carefully removed a folded, refolded, and taped paper—the one on which I'd listed the good things Mark's classmates had said about him.

Charlie smiled sheepishly and said, "I keep my list in my desk drawer." Chuck's wife said, "Chuck put his in our wedding album." "I have mine, too," Marilyn said, "in my diary." Vicky reached into her pocketbook and brought out her frazzled list.

Take time to compliment someone today.

"The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him who is weary."

ISAIAH 50:4



Please recycle House to House by giving this copy to your family or friends.

Most Scripture taken from the New King James Version. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

12/19

30 DAYS

30 MINUTES

through the New Testament

1	Matthew 1-9	16	Acts 15-20
2	Matthew 10-16	17	Acts 21-28
3	Matthew 17-24	18	Romans 1-8
4	Matthew 25 - Mark 2	19	Romans 9 - 1 Corinthians 4
5	Mark 3-9	20	1 Corinthians 5-14
6	Mark 10-16	21	1 Corinthians 15- 2 Corinthians 9
7	Luke 1-6	22	2 Corinthians 10 - Galatians 6
8	Luke 7-11	23	Ephesians - Philippians
9	Luke 12-18	24	Colossians - 2 Thessalonians
10	Luke 19-24	25	1 Timothy - Philemon
11	John 1-6	26	Hebrews
12	John 7-13	27	James - 2 Peter
13	John 14-21	28	1 John 1 - Revelation 3
14	Acts 1-7	29	Revelation 4-13
15	Acts 8-14	30	Revelation 14-22

FREE Bible Reading Bookmark!

Every great journey begins with a single step. Join us on a thirty-day journey through the New Testament!

**Request your
bookmark today!**

See contact information on front.
Supplies are limited.