



Do not be anxious
about anything, but in every
situation, by prayer
and petition, with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6, NIV



The Herald

Expanding the Golden Rule

We have heard of Jesus' teaching which we refer to as "The Golden Rule".

It is found in

Matthew 7:12 "So in everything do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

On another occasion Jesus declares that the greatest commandments are to Love God and to Love your Neighbor as yourself. In the Luke 10 account Jesus follows this with the story of the Good Samaritan. All great words for us to understand and more particularly apply. Do you think about this often? About how you are about to treat or speak to the person you are relating to just now.?

Recently I was reading a blog from Ken Sande where he expanded on the thought of the Golden Rule and shared a direct corollary which he called the Golden Result.

This is: "Other people will usually treat you the way you are treat them."

Let that thought roll around your brain and heart for a bit. Actually, why don't you read it again. Some of us immediately respond with "that's not always true!". That is true, and in fact you may have a situation or person in mind. Hopefully you don't have one of your own actions to recall. But, sure, this isn't true in every situation. Sometime we are just determined to treat someone rudely, and un-Christlike.

Do you also have a remembrance of an occasion where the conversation was becoming a bit tense, perhaps even heated, and then you or someone else made a calmer, kinder response and you were able to observe the change, or transformation of the conversation?

What if, when you want someone to understand your position, you take the initiative and graciously ask for clarification so you can better understand theirs?

Often we find ourselves in situations where the other individual is clearly responsible for 80+% of the problem, and they need to apologize. But the Spirit invites you to specifically acknowledge your 20%, to apologize and ask for forgiveness. Never an easy task but clearly a Golden Rule and Golden Result opportunity.

Expanding the Golden Rule

I once observed two individuals in a small group meeting where one, who clearly claimed to be a Jesus follower, was beginning to speak with a harsher, even accusing tone. The other individual, who made no claims to follow Jesus, didn't buy in but responded with calm softness. They acknowledged potentially missing some information. Owning their part of the situation. In a short time the responses of both individuals were calm and cordial as they worked through the issue. Have you observed similar discussion? Have you helped calm tense moments by your Spirit inspired grace and kindness?

We all relate to dozens, even hundreds of people in any week. Sometime, at the end of a day, think through your day and recall every contact you had with people. Ask the Spirit to help you remember especially the ones he wants you to be aware of. Let the Spirit point out how your words, actions and reactions affected each interaction. The Spirit will encourage you with the many places you improved the interactions and also challenge you with the moments where you could have relied more on Him, the Holy Spirit, to present a more gracious, Christ-like response. Our lives are filled with the joys of relationships. Make the most of them.

Pastor Dennis



Missions Moment— Operation Christmas Child

IT CAN'T BE??? Yes it is, Christmas is next month! Once again during

November the Little White Church and our Kidzlife program are sponsoring a Christmas shoebox drive on behalf of Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse with the mission to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching children with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

They ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S.



For many years the Little White Church has sponsored a shoe box drive and the last six or so years have been close to or even gone over the 100 mark. The first three Sundays of November we will watch short videos of God's work through the shoebox ministry and learn of ways each of us can be involved. We will have boxes, donation envelopes and other items at our display table in the Fellowship Hall.

The Kidzlife program will pack boxes on a Wednesday afternoon November 19. For the Little White Church, we ask for complete boxes and a donation of \$10/box for shipping; however, Kidzlife is receiving individual items to pack in their boxes. If you wish to donate single items for KidzLife, there is a container in the Fellowship Hall for these

Collection will take place the week of November 17-24. Bring your filled box(s) and your \$10 donation for shipping and handling to the church during that week. I will take all the boxes down to the Rapid City drop-off site on Sunday, November 23 after our service. If you miss the 23rd, you can always run yours down to Real Life Church on Sheridan RD on Monday, November 24.

Thanks for your participation and in helping bring the love of Jesus to lots of kids.

John Stam

Ministry Moment— Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ centered recovery program that was started at Saddleback church in California. John Baker and Pastor Rick Warren founded the program and it has since become a successful worldwide recovery program. Rick Warren likes to say that there are two types of people in the world. Ones that need recovery and know it and ones that need recovery and don't know it. He gives 7 reasons why this program works and why it is for everyone.

Celebrate Recovery is based on the word of God. It is a spiritual growth program. Jesus laid out the 12 steps of recovery in the Beatitudes.

Celebrate Recovery is forward looking. We don't wallow in the past. We deal with the past, but we don't stay stuck there. "Your past is past. The people who have hurt you in the past cannot hurt you in the future without your permission. We talk out our hurts with God because if we don't, we will take it out on our bodies and/or someone else".

Celebrate recovery emphasizes personal responsibility. We learn to own our choices and behaviors and stop blaming others.

At Celebrate Recovery, we make a spiritual commitment to Jesus Christ. He is our one and only Higher Power. We admit that "God is God and I am not."

Celebrate Recovery emphasizes growth and healing in the context of a small group. We do not get well on our own. We confess our sins to God and to others and pray for each other so that we will be healed. (James 5:16) For forgiveness, we confess to God. For healing, we confess to each other.

Celebrate Recovery is a leadership factory. To walk through the 12 Steps and 8 Principles is a healing journey, preparing us to disciple others.

Celebrate Recovery is theologically sound. It takes the fall of man seriously: We are all broken. Everything in this world is broken because of the fall.

Brothers and sisters, if you want to heal from your hurts, habits and hang ups, won't you consider checking out CR? We meet every Tuesday, here at the LWC. We serve dinner at 5:45 and large group starts at 6:30. We start with praise and worship and then we have a lesson or a testimony. These rotate every week. At 7:30 we break into small groups. Men meet with men and women meet with women so we can openly share with one another. Confidentiality is a must! We would love to welcome you into our forever family! CR is NOT just for chemical addiction! Everyone struggles with something and what you're struggling with is nothing new! Do not believe the lie that your hurt, habit or hangup is unique to only you. You are not alone. Come and see!

THANKFUL FOR BLESSINGS

Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of God. EPHESIANS 5:18-21

The month of November has many celebrations, one being Thanksgiving. A day to step back, slowdown and praise God for His many blessings. We have opportunities to share in fellowship with family, friends and feasts. Following is a hymn full of many small and big blessings from God to give thanks for!

Thanks to God for My Redeemer

By August Ludvig Storm (1891)

*Thanks to God for my Redeemer,
Thanks for all Thou dost provide!
Thanks for times now but a mem'ry,
Thanks for Jesus by my side!
Thanks for pleasant, balmy springtime,
Thanks for dark and stormy fall!
Thanks for tears by now forgotten,
Thanks for peace within my soul!*

*Thanks for prayers that Thou hast answered,
Thanks for what Thou dost deny!
Thanks for storms that I have weathered,
Thanks for all Thou dost supply!
Thanks for pain, and thanks for pleasure,
Thanks for comfort in despair!
Thanks for grace that none can measure,
Thanks for love beyond compare!*

*Thanks for roses by the wayside,
Thanks for thorns their stems contain!
Thanks for home and thanks for fireside,
Thanks for hope, that sweet refrain!
Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow,
Thanks for heav'nly peace with Thee!
Thanks for hope in the tomorrow,
Thanks through all eternity!*



Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! – II Corinthians 9:15

Thank You, Lord, for saving my soul,
Thank You, Lord, for making me whole;
Thank You, Lord, for giving to me
Thy great salvation so rich and free.

Keeping the Family Strong

By: BJ Reese

AM I WALKING PROPERLY?

On September 14, Pastor Ben's sermon focused on what it means to **walk together**, as our church's Mission Statement calls us to do. He made several great points during that sermon. Some of them beg for us to take a closer look at them . . .

"We, as a church, have a corporate responsibility to walk properly before God." ~ Pastor Ben Larsen

'Walk properly before God' . . . hmmm . . . what do you suppose that **looks like**? Are you like me --- and a lot of other Christians --- thinking you're already doing a pretty good job of that? The more I reviewed my notes on Ben's message from that day, the more I became convinced that I **might** be wrong. That I have, in fact, fallen horribly short of this goal. Is it possible I'm not the only one?

When Ben was talking about fulfilling the law, he told us that the **last six (6)** commandments are all about 'my conduct toward others'. I always thought I was pretty familiar with the 10 commandments, but Ben's comment prompted me to look again. To look at the details.

Mostly, I discovered that I was fairly confident in my understanding of most of those rules of conduct:

5. **honor your father and mother:** *live my life in a way that brings honor to them; that shows respect for them;*

6. **you shall not murder:** *no guesswork here!*

7. **you shall not commit adultery:** *be true and faithful to my marriage vows. If I'm single, do not lure a married man into a relationship that violates his vows.*

8. **you shall not steal:** *don't take things that don't belong to me.*

10. **you shall not covet:** *I should not long for anything that belongs to someone else, or envy their possession of it.*

Those five, I understood pretty well. (Yes, I skipped number nine: "**you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**" As I read that one, I became aware of a lack of clarity about it. I had always figured it meant **don't lie**, but I began to wonder. What is God **actually** telling me here? So, I went looking for more information. I'm glad I did! It turns out, '**don't lie**' just scratches the surface. The message in this complex commandment goes on from there:

Keeping the Family Strong

By: BJ Reese

To **bear false witness** means “. . . to lie or provide untrue information about someone or something, especially in a way that is harmful or damaging. This can include . . . spreading false rumors, or telling partial truths that mislead others. The phrase . . . applies to any situation where someone knowingly misrepresents the truth to harm another person.”

In daily life, this sin can take on some sadly familiar forms:

- Spreading a rumor that may damage someone's reputation
- Posting – on social media or in a text message – any information which is untrue, or which you have not verified.
- Accusing someone of a crime which you do not KNOW they committed.
- Repeating something you've heard, without verifying it.
- Sharing anything – even a catchy meme or cute cartoon – that isn't necessarily true.

NOTE: **how** do you verify something? By discussing **WHAT** you heard with the person about whom you heard it!

Any of these actions can cause people to condemn an innocent person, or even to let a guilty person off the hook. They can do irreversible damage to someone's reputation, their career, or their relationships. No matter what the situation is, it is **NOT our place** to judge or convict anyone!

In his message that day, Ben also urged us to live in harmony with each other. To live peaceably with all people. And, NOT to retaliate, even if something harsh has been said about us. Paul emphasizes this last point in **Romans 12:19**: “Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves . . . for it is written, ‘vengeance is mine; I will repay,’ saith the Lord.”

As if my heart had not already been convicted enough, I became curious about another passage Ben referenced that day, cautioning us to cast off works of darkness. When I looked up the verses he had mentioned, I discovered that **Romans 1:28-32** lists 23 characteristics and behaviors which we're told, in verse 32, are ‘worthy of death.’ Ouch!

Some of them were familiar to me, and I felt somewhat confident I am not guilty of them. Others, I had **heard**, but wasn't sure about their meaning. So, I asked Mr. Webster:

Malignity – persistent, intense ill will, or desire to harm others; great malice (NOTE: malice is “active ill will; intent to harm others; or spite.”)

Whisperers – those who participate in gossiping, maligning, or plotting against another.

Backbiters – to backbite is to speak maliciously about an absent person; to slander them.

Implacable – cannot be appeased or pacified; relentless (see *inflexible*).

Keeping the Family Strong

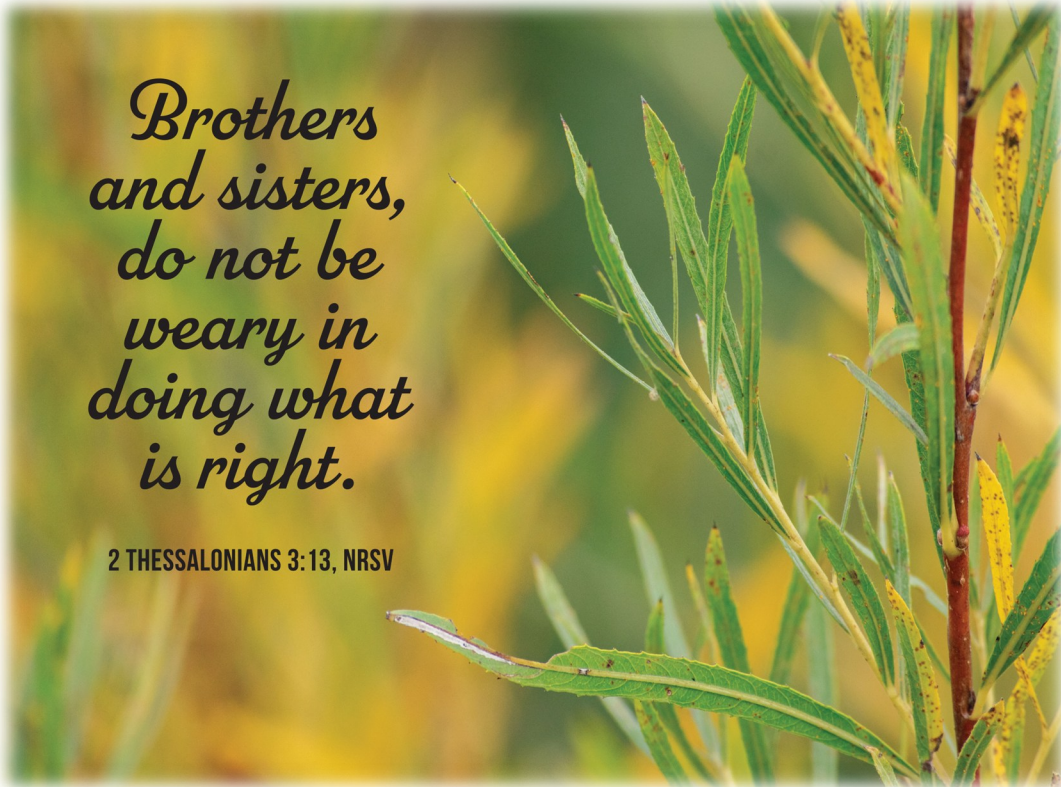
By: BJ Reese

After telling us that doing these things is worthy of death, verse 32 went a little further. It went on to say that the same punishment is warranted for those who “*have pleasure in them that do them*” (or *consent to do them*) (KJV). (or “*they that approve of those who practice them*. NIV”). So, **joining** that conversation, **sharing** the information you **heard**, or quietly **condoning** what was said, is **just as wrong** as saying it yourself!

I don’t know about you, but I have found studying this message more deeply to be VERY enlightening. I have learned that I have a LONG way to go before I can honestly say I am living up to my responsibility to walk **properly** before God. My thoughts and actions are not as above-reproach as I had thought them to be.

At one time or another, I have probably been guilty of at least **half** the things on that list in Romans. I’m glad I looked. In the future, I am determined to pay **much** more attention to my conduct . . . and my thoughts.

I challenge **all** of us to take a closer, more honest look, at our **own** thoughts and actions. As our church family strives to **walk together**, I pray that each and every one of us will do so in a way that glorifies our God, and breathes the breath of life and mercy into this body. May we all become committed to **recognizing**, and **avoiding**, those behaviors which lead us **away** from God’s will.



*Brothers
and sisters,
do not be
weary in
doing what
is right.*

2 THESSALONIANS 3:13, NRSV

Echoes of God's Glory in Creation

Roseanne Hilton

Reflections from Psalm 50

This psalm of Asaph, who was a worship leader and prophet in King David's time, speaks of God's disappointment with His faithful people who have not understood what He truly wants from them in their worship.

Yes, you are right to bring Me your symbolic sacrifices, “but I want no more bulls from your barns, I want no more goats from your pens. For all the animals of the forest are Mine, and I own the cattle on a thousand hills. Every bird of the mountains and all the animals of the field belong to Me.” vs. 9-11



“What I want instead is your true thanks to God.
I want you to fulfill your vows to the Most High.
Trust Me in your times of trouble.
And I will rescue you.
And you will give Me glory.” vs. 14-15

There is also a message for those who recite God's laws and pretend to obey Him. “Your mouths are filled with wickedness, and your tongues are full of lies.” vs. 19 This appears to be a parallel statement, where *wickedness* is synonymous with *lies*. The first dictionary definitions of wickedness are *evil* and *immoral*. I'm sure the psalm does not intend the meanings *mischievousness* or *effective* or others of to-day's usages. God calls all those who ignore Him to turn around and turn back to Him.

“Giving thanks is a sacrifice that truly honors Me.” vs. 23a

Quotations from New Living Translation 1997

See a Need—Fill a Need—Ministry for LWC Body

See a Need—Fill a Need is a ministry to help the members of the LWC!

Do you need help with mowing your lawn, shoveling snow, minor electrical repairs..... or??? ***The list could go on and on.***

If you do, please check out the **See a Need—Fill a Need Information Center** on the Bulletin Board.

Fill out an informational form (hanging on board)
and stick it in a giving box in the sanctuary.

Forms will be processed by the DD Board. When approved they will be placed on the board for LWC members to review (names will be kept confidential).

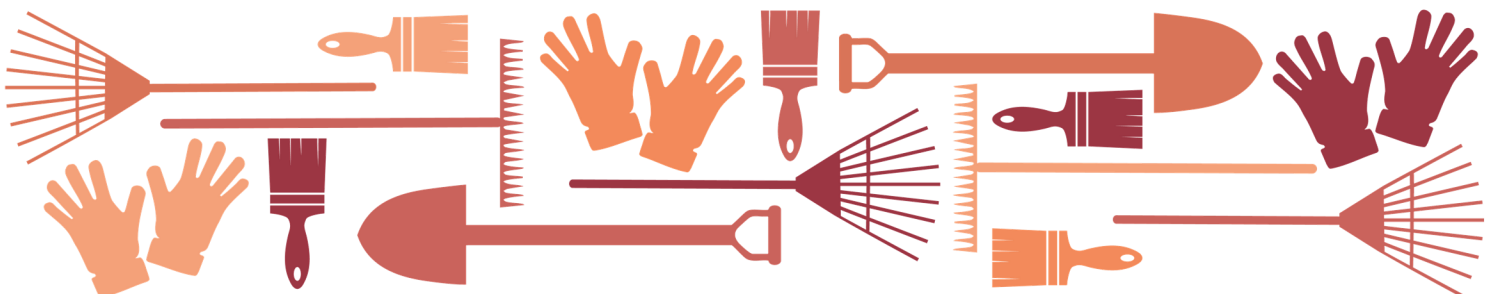
Members can contact the office for details and once need is met, it will be removed from board!

Questions?? Talk to a member of the DD Board or Stephanie in the office.

***“Contribute to the needs of the saints
and seek to show hospitality.”***

Romans 12:13

**We are looking for a Coordinator for See-A-Need
Contact the Office if Interested!**



***Want to help fulfill See A Need requests?
Please contact Stephanie in the Office.***

Black Hills Pregnancy Center—Urgent Request

Dear Friend of Life,

RE: URGENT REQUEST FOR ULTRASOUND TRAINING FUNDS

At the Black Hills Pregnancy Center, we see miracles every day. **When a mother sees her baby's heartbeat on an ultrasound screen, everything changes.** In that sacred moment, fear gives way to hope, and uncertainty is replaced by love.

To continue offering that life-changing experience, **we need your help.**

We've recently welcomed **three new nurses** to our medical team — and to provide the very best care, **they need specialized ultrasound training.** In addition, our **five current nurses need refresher certification to stay up-to-date** with the latest best practices and medical standards.

The total cost for this essential training is \$15,000 December 8th thru 12th.

Would you **prayerfully consider** giving toward this need?

Your gift today will:

- Equip our nurses with the skill to offer compassionate, expert medical care.
- Ensure every woman who walks through our doors can **see the beautiful reality of life growing within her.**
- Strengthen our ministry's ability to serve more families with excellence and grace.
- Every dollar makes a difference. **Together, we can make sure every heartbeat is seen** — and every life is valued.
- **Thank you** for standing with us as we proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and **serve families with truth, love, and life.**

With gratitude and hope,



Travis Lasseter

Executive Director

Black Hills Pregnancy Center

Announcements

Women's Birthday Party for women with birthdays in November & December. November 8th at 2 pm at the home of Tanya Siebert. Please RSVP to Tanya!

M2W Movie Night – November 8th - Ladies, plan to leave the kids with family or friends and join us for a light supper and movie in Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 6pm with showtime beginning at 7pm.

Ladies - Invitation to pray together! Please come to the church Saturday, November 15th at 9:00am to pray together and give your input on when!! Usually we meet once a month, October through April to pray for each other. You can come every week, or as you have time. We are open to other ideas.

We appreciate you and would like to hear your ideas.

Luke 18:1, "... at all times they ought to pray and not lose heart."

Luke 22:32, "... I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers [sisters]."

We need to pray for one another (James 5:16). [If you are unable to attend, please contact Lynda Pringle: lpblue67@gmail.com, or 605-431-4179]

Men's Breakfast/Fellowship will be held on Saturday, November 22nd at 9 am.
Men—Bring your friends and sons!!

All Church Thanksgiving Potluck will be held Sunday, November 23rd after the Second Service. Please sign up for a side or dessert at the welcome table.

Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held Wednesday, November 26th at 6:30 pm.
Office/Food Pantry will be closed Friday, November 28th.

A Place at the Table (church) cookbooks are available for purchase, \$10 each. Books can be purchased online through the church's website giving tab or by emailing office@thelittlewhitechurch.net.

Christmas is coming — this would make a great gift!!

In November, the pantry may experience an uptick in people needing food. So, we are currently asking for donations! Here are some things that we could use:

- Toilet Paper
- Eggs
- Meat (must be from a licensed processor)
- Canned Goods
- Butter
- Cheese
- Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Pasta Sauce
- Muffin/Cake/Brownie Mix
- Oil
- Snack Items (popcorn, granola bars, crackers, etc.)

Donation tubs are located at Krull's Market and Dollar General. Donations can also be brought into the LWC office.

Thank you to everyone who gave cards, gifts, prayers and support during Pastor Appreciation Month! We felt very loved! Pastor Ben & Steph

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Sunday Service Times at 8:30 am & 10:15 am—Fellowship In-Between

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