

Lo The Ou Righteousness

Be kind to one another

Elder Charles Moore



at the world
because it hasn't
given them enough;
angry at God
because they think
He hasn't treated

**FALL BUSINESS
MEETING & RETREAT**

OCTOBER 5,6,7

Special presentation

**Rob & Lynn Vaughn's
trip to Israel.**

A few years ago a cosmetic company sponsored a promotion in which people were asked to submit pictures and letters about the most beautiful women they knew. Thousands of letters and pictures poured in. But one particular letter from a young boy captured a lot of attention, and it was shown to the president of the company. From what he wrote it was obvious that the boy was from a broken home, staying with his father, and living in an old and run-down neighborhood.

Writing about the woman, he said, "A beautiful woman lives down the street from me. I visit her every day. She makes me feel like the most important kid in the world. We play checkers and she listens to my problems. She understands me, and when I leave she yells out the door that she's proud of me."

He enclosed her picture and wrote, "This picture shows you that she is the most beautiful woman." Intrigued, the president asked to see her picture. His secretary handed him a photograph of a smiling, toothless woman, well-advanced in years, sitting in a wheelchair. Her sparse gray

hair was pulled back in a bun, and the wrinkles on her face seemed to fade away beneath the twinkle in her eyes. Smiling, the president said, "We can't use this entry. It would show the world that our products aren't necessary to be beautiful."

I think he's right. There's a beauty, an attractiveness that's completely unrelated to physical appearance. There's a kindness, gentleness, concern and love that can be seen and experienced in the lives of those around us that beautifies our soul.

The apostle Paul wrote these words in his letter to the Ephesians: **"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice."** (Ephesians 4: 29: 31)

We see people all around us bitter and angry; angry

them fairly; angry at their spouses because marriage is not everything they expected it to be; angry at their children; angry at their neighbors; angry at their job. Angry! Angry! Angry!

So Paul gives a survival message that says, "You know you can't live like that because it'll eat you alive." Then in the very next verse he gives the antidote. To get rid of your hostility, your anger, your unwholesome words, do this - **"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."** (Ephesians 4:32)

Did you catch that? The three essential ingredients in getting rid of hostility and anger are: be kind to one another; be compassionate towards one another; forgive one another.

We can only look at the first one this month "Be kind to one another." but we will examine the others in upcoming months. Kindness is almost a lost art today, isn't it? So many people are rude and self-centered, worried about themselves and not

(Continued on page 2)

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worried very much about others.

Listen to the words of the Apostle Paul in another passage of Scripture **"At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another."** (Titus 3:3)

Sounds familiar, doesn't it? And Paul even includes himself. He said, "We were hated and we hated one another." That's the way we behave far too often.

Then Paul goes on **"But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,"** (Titus 3:4-5)

Did you hear that? It is only because of the kindness and mercy of God that we are saved. If God reacted to us the way we react to one another, He would have washed his hands of us long ago. But instead, He washes us, renews us and reaches out to us to save us. We find it easy to wash our hands of people when they hurt us, disappoint us, use us but God chooses to save us. We should respond to the world with the same kind of kindness that God has shown us.

A missionary returning after serving many years in the jungles of New Guinea was asked, "What was it like? Tell us what you found there." "Found? I found a mission field that looked more hopeless than if I had been sent into a jungle of tigers." "What do you mean?"

"The people there were so fierce and degraded that they seemed utterly devoid of moral sense. If a mother was carrying her little baby and the child was crying and wouldn't stop, she would throw it into the ditch and let it die.

"If a man saw his own father break his leg, he would just leave him to suffer by himself. They had no compassion whatever. They didn't even know what the word meant." "Well, what were you able to do? Did you preach to them?"

"No, not at first. I thought it better to show them my faith by my works! When I saw a baby crying, I picked it up and consoled it. When I saw a man with a broken leg, I sought to mend it. When I found people distressed and hungry, I took them in, comforted and fed them."

"Finally they began to ask, 'What does this mean? Why are you doing this for us?' Then I had my chance. I told them about Jesus, and many of them came to know and love Jesus, too."

Our witness often begins with kindness. Not a kindness that is an expression of good parenting but rather an expression of the kindness that God has shown to us in His Son. As Paul said, "Be kind to one another because God has been kind to you."

I wonder if you need the kindness of God, if you need to feel His tender touch. He understands you. He knows what you think. He knows your worries, your concerns, your disappointments, your joys, and turn to Him and He will turn to you. **Adapted from a sermon by Melvin Newland**

Cyberspace News



Our summer has passed and we are looking forward to a great fall season. Our fall retreat is coming very soon and we hope to see you on October 5, 6 and 7.

We had good news from our young Dr. Carrie Smeltzer DeHaan. She passed her number 3 boards **and** she is expecting her second baby. She had also delivered a baby on the day she got the good news about her boards. We are very proud of you, Carrie. (I mean Dr. Carrie!)

We were very sorry to hear from Ellen Momberger that her daughter Karen Momberger Wisner died Wednesday, August 22nd from cancer. She leaves to mourn her in addition to Ellen, two children, Melissa Spittel and J. B. Wisner (John Basil) and one grandson, Kasey (Melissa's son), her brother, Carl H. Momberger and wife and 2 nieces. A memorial was held Monday, August 27th. If you wish to send Ellen a card, her address is: Ellen Momberger, 12000 N. 90th St. #3043, Scottsdale AZ 85260. Ellen, we all send you our love.

Please continue to pray for Rip and Norma Ripley. Norma is not well yet and Rip is struggling with strength to cope with visiting her and keeping the home going. Mary and Gabe Padillo visited them recently and they had a good time together.

Laurie Eckles calls in once in awhile and has reported that she and her family enjoyed their up north home in Traverse City. Her sister Rachel and family were also able to vacation in northern Michigan at their home in Wolverine. We have many beautiful lakes and lovely vacation spots to enjoy.

The Robert Vaughn family went as a unit to a cabin near Traverse City. Lynn wrote that they had a wonderful week together. Aurine Moore recently talked about vacations in church variety time and reminded us that we are building memories. Our family is blessed with lots of those building blocks.

May God bless you all abundantly this month!

You may be disappointed if you fail, but you are doomed if you don't try.



Michigan Report

Tim Begeman

August is the month of vacations for many and this year we seem to not have a vacation from non-stop, continual political prognostications and insipid analysis. It seems we have no lack of opinion on the latest gallop poll and what it means ad nauseam and I approve this message.

August also has been a little warm in fact it's so hot that I have found out (the hard way) that my seat belt buckle could be used as a branding iron. It's so hot that New York Mayor Mike Bloomberg was seen drinking a Big Gulp.

Elder Moore is continuing this month with some expository preaching about the book of John. The first week he talked about the incarnation and this month he started out talking about how John the Baptist was sent by God to testify about "the Light" which is Christ and as followers of Christ we are to do the same. The next sermon he gave was about "The True Light" which is in the world but the world did not know Him. This means that those who reject the light are not the children of God. God is not everybody's Father. He created everybody, and they are his. But Jesus says in John 8:42, "If God were your Father you would love me." God is not everyone's Father. And the test of whom your Father is: is whether you love his Son.

Joe Smeltzer is continuing and expanding his all-encompassing intelligence. He has been currently getting his Master's degree, so we should all expect nothing less than a flow of sagacious, astute and profound statements when he speaks. Joe is also the primary maintenance man on his daughter Bekah's house in Lansing, so he has been very busy. Always remember, idle hands are the devil's workshop.

Since David Charles has moved to our area he either has been on trips or is planning future trips. David, Kay (his daughter) and Jim went to Branson, Missouri where you can experience star-studded performances at live music shows. Explore the sights, sounds and smells of Silver Dollar City. Discover the endless fun and majestic beauty of three pristine lakes, at least that's what their ad says.

The last week of August Lloyd Smith broke his leg just above his ankle. The break was so severe that surgery had to be performed to repair the damage. I hear that he broke it when he slipped while navigating some stairs. I also heard that he was trying to execute a perfect cartwheel at the top of the stairs. One thing we all can all learn from this incident is: a staircase is not the place to practice gymnastics. Those blasted Olympics!

At this writing Charlie and Aurine have gotten a court date for the finalization of the adoption of David who they have been foster parenting for the last year or so. Now, Charlie and Aurine have years of nonstop fun like the following: homework, school work, bee stings, poison ivy, stomach aches, headaches, stress management, timeouts, life skills, bedtime, early mornings, open house at school, report cards, bike helmets, timeouts, family meetings, PTA meetings, babysitters, school lunches, consistent discipline, school clothes, church clothes, winter clothes, food choices, allowances, chores, dentist visits, moral training, religious training, video games, what movies to watch, what movies not to watch, current event reviews, school board elections, levy campaigns, curriculum expectations, what books to read, what books not to read, boundaries, haircuts, room cleaning training, parent teacher conferences, what girls to date, what girls not to date, curfews, sporting events, sporting practices, drivers education, can I borrow the car questions, and graduation parties, just to mention a few. Now, finally, Rox-Ann will soon have a little brother.

Di and I have been visiting potential future youth camp facilities since we have been forced out financially of the "Waters Edge" facility where we have had camp for the last 18 years. We do have some very good prospects to choose from, so we are adjudicating and we will make a determination very soon. Keep us in your prayers during this time of decisions for the future place of our youth camp.

Publishers note— The date of death for Judy Begeman was incorrect in last months newsletter. Judy passed away on July 13.

**CHURCH OF THE
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Listen

Barb's granddaughter was in kindergarten. There was a boy in her class that wasn't listening to the teacher.

The teacher said to him, "Since you don't want to listen, you sit at that table by yourself."

After a few minutes, Barb's granddaughter raised her hand and said, "I don't want to listen either. Can I sit with him?"



Ellen Momberger



Sally & Lloyd Smith



Rip & Norma Ripley



Albert & Pearl Charles



Dr. Carrie Smeltzer DeHaan & Caleb



Ryann & Raegan Gill