

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

A Lesson From Mom

May 12, 2013

Issue 111

“So, what are you going to do now?” That’s the question that college graduates are asked most often, and the reply is usually, “I don’t know.” I experienced a couple of years of indecision after graduating from Lipscomb in 1999. I majored in American History and minored in Bible and Speech, thinking that I would go into law, journalism, or possibly full-time ministry. Thankfully I was asked to take a part-time ministry position at Bethel church of Christ in June of 1999. After about a year in that role, I knew that I wanted to pursue a full-time preaching position, and I also knew that the prospects of being hired

were slim, considering that I didn’t have a Bible degree and I wasn’t married.

I applied for several positions but was turned down by every church. I tried out for a church in Sumner County one particular Sunday and knew very quickly that I wouldn’t be getting that job either. I was down. Very low. I was living at home at the time, and my parents could tell that I was frustrated with life. When I went to bed that night, there was a letter on my bed. Here is an excerpt:

“I have probably told you all this before, but I wanted to put it in writing. Your dad and I love you more than words can express.

You have always been very special to us. I always knew God had a very special purpose for your life. Right now you may feel that the wheels of your future are moving very slowly. God’s time is very seldom our time. We think we know when events should happen in our life, but God knows when it is the best time. Right now you are learning so much, later you will look back and see just how rich this time has been. God is preparing you for a great work in His church. All my love, Mom.”

From God’s word to Mom’s pen to my heart.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Jessica Humston is receiving strong chemotherapy for about 5 days. She will be retested after 3 weeks. The exact type of cancer she has is still unknown.
- J.W. Head is now home and slowly improving.
- Addie Farmer is home after spending a week in rehabilitation.
- Brad Rose, Clint’s grandfather, is receiving hospice care.
- Donna Young will have hip surgery tomorrow.

Men’s Meeting At 5:00, Singing at 6:00
Send News To Janet Tabor at taborj@realtracs.com

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Buchanan

Pray: J. Walker

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: E. Walker

Serve: Demonbreum, Stuard, Reed

Pray: Billingsley

Pleasant View church of Christ
2500 Highway 49 East
P.O. Box 189
Pleasant View, TN 37146

Sunday School: 9:30
A.M. Worship: 10:30
P.M. Worship: 6:00
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm
Phone: 924-9714

Proverbs 31:30-31
"Charm is deceitful and
beauty is vain, but a woman
who fears the Lord, she shall
be praised. Give her the
product of her hands, and
let her works praise her in
the gates."

*"Being a mother is like holding a wolf by the
ears."*

Sharon Creech

*"I looked upon childrearing not only as a work
of love and duty but as a profession that was
fully as interesting and challenging as any hon-
orable profession in the world and one that de-
manded the best I could bring it."*

Rose Kennedy

Don't Do It

I don't know who invented the bumper sticker, but he or she must be wealthy. Thousands of Americans are driving around promoting or condemning teams, philosophies, governments, religions, and foods. Some bumper stickers are clever, some are offensive, and some just don't make any sense to me.

The book of Proverbs is sometimes described as the "Bumper Sticker Book" of the Bible. It is full of short phrases that are easy to understand but often difficult to follow. In Proverbs 23, the writer lists a series of "do not's" that anyone can understand. The list is particularly helpful for those who say, "The Bible doesn't say I can't" when they are trying

to find an excuse for immoral behavior.

Notice how simple these instructions are: "Do not weary yourself to gain wealth..." (vs. 4). "Do not eat the bread of a selfish man..." (vs. 6). "Do not speak in the hearing of a fool..." (vs. 9). "Do not hold back discipline from a child..." (vs. 13). "Do not let your heart envy sinners..." (vs. 17). "Do not be with heavy drinkers of wine..." (vs. 20).

In the early 1500's, Michelangelo sculpted his famous *David*. It is considered to be a masterpiece in the art world. When asked how he was able to carve such a beautiful statue out of marble, Michelangelo replied: "I just cut away everything that wasn't

David."

God does the same thing with us in His word. He is cutting away everything that doesn't resemble Jesus in order for us to be true disciples of His. To that end, He tells us what not to do. As we are constantly striving to fit in, be noticed, and achieve worldly fame, He is teaching us to be cautious, to slow down, to take notice.

"But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil" (1 Thess. 5:21-22).

James Hayes
