

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

You Don't Know Me

September 22, 2013

Issue 129

Melody Ross' husband was involved in a boating accident in 2004 that injured the frontal lobe of his brain. Even though he suffered no physical paralysis, everything else in his life became numb. His personality changed. He was constantly angry and often suicidal. He would revert to his old self for a few weeks or months but then slowly become belligerent again. Melody didn't know what to do. She had no idea how to handle the man she fell in love with. What's worse, Melody was then solely responsible for maintaining their large farm. The perfectly manicured property transformed into an eyesore. Money was tight. Eve-

rything was wrong, and Melody saw no way out.

Finally, her husband, in a moment of clarity, decided to sell everything. He bought a neon sign—one that you see by the road with a large arrow on it—and placed it in front of his house. The sign read "EVERYTHING IS FOR SALE." In his yard he lined up nearly everything he had and put a price tag on each one.

Not long after putting nearly all of his earthly possessions on sale, the phone rang. Melody's husband answered it. It was a neighbor who was not too happy about the yard sale. The neighbor threatened to

call the police unless he cleaned up his place quickly. Melody's husband waited till the diatribe was over and calmly said, "There was a time in this country when if you drove by a neighbor's house and you saw everything for sale, you'd offer your help. You'd ask what was wrong. You'd offer to mow the grass if it needed it. But you want to call the police." The man quickly apologized.

Some people mask their pain very well; others show it. We need to be slow to criticize and quick to assist.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Bill Johnson, Kristine Garrett's father, has spent several days in Vanderbilt with an infection.
- John Hayes will have his fifth chemo this Wednesday. Last one will be end of October.
- Continue to pray for Jessica Humston, Sheila Crouch, Dan Stockmeyer, Mildred Walker, Addie Farmer.
- Good to see Larry Crabtree and Jay and Carolyn Newell.

Fifth Sunday Building Fund Contribution Next Week! Let's Eclipse The \$90,000 Mark This Month!

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School
Read: JL Shelton
Pray: Baker

Morning Worship
Wait on the Table: Rose
Serve: Demonbreum, Reed, Trent
Pray: E. Walker

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

Psalm 16:5-6

“The Lord is the portion of
my inheritance and my cup;
You support my lot. The lines
have fallen to me in
pleasant places; indeed, my
heritage is beautiful to me.”

*“Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win
glorious triumphs, even though checkered by
failure...than to rank with those poor spirits
who neither enjoy nor suffer much, because
they live in the gray twilight that knows not vic-
tory nor defeat.”*

Teddy Roosevelt

*“It’s fine to celebrate success but it is more im-
portant to heed the lessons of failure.”*

Bill Gates

Is This Your Eulogy?

Hopefully this will not be said at
your funeral:

“Ladies and gentlemen, we are here
today to pay our respects to an aver-
age person. Throughout his life,
John Q. American did just enough
to get by. In school, he studied just
long enough to make passing grades.
At home, he cleaned his room only
after his mother’s third command.
As an athlete, Mr. American never
practiced on his own; he just showed
up for the team practices and
worked just hard enough so that his
coach wouldn’t yell at him.

His passion for mediocrity extended
to his marriage. On his wedding day,
he told his wife he loved her, but
only repeated those words a few

times a year after that. Instead of
being available and nurturing to his
children, Mr. American was much
more interested in hanging out with
his friends and spending unneces-
sary extra hours at work.

His average life was most clearly seen
within his church community. Once
the initial excitement of his baptism
subsided, he began to miss more and
more worship services and Bible
studies. He made more and more
excuses as to why he couldn’t help
with the church’s service project or
teach any classes. His children slowly
adopted his apathy for church activi-
ties: they wanted to stay home with
dad instead of attend services. Mr.
American was quick to defend the

church, and he could quote all the
verses that showed a distinction be-
tween his church and others, but his
personal life lacked evangelical zeal.

Mr. American eased through life
being average because everyone
around him was the same way.
When he was challenged to do bet-
ter—to be extraordinary—he ignored
the message and defended his me-
diocre life. So, today we mourn the
loss of this average man. But the
mourning will end soon. When the
next average person dies, we will
assemble again to say the same
things as if today never happened.
You are dismissed.”

James Hayes
