

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Giving Too Much

March 16, 2014

Issue 153

Last week over \$40,000 was discovered in the pockets of a coat that was donated to The Goodwill in Monroe, Michigan. After extensive investigation, The Goodwill representatives determined that the coat had belonged to an elderly man who had recently moved into a nursing home. A relative gave that coat to The Goodwill while sorting out his belongings. The relative didn't know that the man was using the coat as a piggy bank.

It is not uncommon for The Goodwill to discover money and other valuable items in donated clothing. Donors often forget to clean out pockets of coats and pants. And sometimes

the donor will accidentally grab a valuable item out of his trunk as he is retrieving a donated item. Mistakes happen, even in our generosity.

It is one thing to give away too much money; it is much worse when we give away too much of our selves. Here are a few areas in which we give too much:

(1) *We give too much time.* Our time is valuable. We should respect others' time, but we should never let someone think that they have full access to our personal time.

(2) *We give too much private information.* In a world of social media, we are tempted to tell the latest,

greatest story in order to get the most attention. Many times we tell stories that are better told in private settings...or not told at all.

(3) *We give too many emotions.* We have to protect our hearts and minds. Emotional pain can leave permanent scars.

We need to be generous. We need to help others and share our experiences. But we don't need to hurt ourselves in the process. We shouldn't allow ourselves to be manipulated because we gave away too much.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Randy Gupton is currently undergoing dialysis three days a week. He will continue that course until he has a kidney transplant, which will be supplied by Jearmie's brother.
- Our Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 8-12. We will have classes for the children and the adults each night. Mark your calendar.
- Heather Gupton had three wisdom teeth removed Friday.

Thank You To The Newell's For Hosting The Youth Devo Yesterday
Happy Haven Contribution Today

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: E. Walker

Pray: Gupton

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Rose

Serve: M. Newell, Dalton, Trent

Pray: Garrett

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

II Corinthians 4:17
“For momentary, light
affliction is producing for us
an eternal weight of glory
far beyond all comparison.”

“The past is a hotel. You can visit any time; enjoy the view. But you can’t live there. The cost is too high.”

B.J. Neblett

“Be not anxious. Yesterday is your experience. Today is your experiment. And tomorrow is your expectation.”

Enoch Onuoha

Some Things In Moderation

Aristotle taught that life should be lived in the middle of two extremes: one extreme is excess, the other is deficiency. This philosophy was later called “The Golden Mean,” and it was expressed and popularized by many other thinkers and philosophers for centuries. You might hear someone today say, “Moderation in all things.” That phrase sounds logical, fair, and appropriate. But that lifestyle philosophy is dangerous if it is practiced outside the realm of Christian teaching. The Bible teaches that we *should* practice some things in moderation, but we should completely avoid some things, and we should do other things to the extreme.

In the moderation category we find diet, exercise, leisure, work, and money. We need all of those things to some degree, but the Bible teaches us not to be gluttonous, obsessed with ourselves, prone to laziness, or lustful for money.

Scripture teaches, however, that we should avoid some activities at all costs. Those would include fornication, drunkenness, pride, dishonesty, and such things. Basically, the works of the flesh. The world teaches that we can dabble in those activities as long as they don’t hurt anyone. But the Bible says otherwise.

Finally, God’s word states that we should give our heart, mind, and

soul to the works of righteousness. They include: faith, love, worship, humility, generosity, etc. Again, the world has a different view of those things. The world would call people weird or radical if they commit their lives to those noble pursuits. But God would consider them faithful disciples.

Moderation is a useful philosophy in some areas, but not in everything. Aristotle is not the judge of our souls.

We should do Bible things in Bible ways, and ignore worldly philosophies.

James Hayes
