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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 10:17-18

“But he who boasts is to boast in the Lord. For it is not he who commends himself that is approved, but he whom the Lord commends.”

“I would rather be what God chose to make me than the most glorious creature I can think of; for to have been thought about, born in God’s thought, and then made by God, is the dearest, grandest and most precious thing in all thinking.”

George MacDonald

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## You Are Not God

In Isaiah, God makes two statements that we need to remember every day. He said, “I am the Lord, and there is no other...” (45:5). And later: “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways.” (55:8). Even though we are made in His image, we are not Him. We do not have all-power, all-knowledge, nor the ability to be everywhere at once. Those powers belong to God alone. But we still act at times as if we *are* God. Let’s examine God’s unique characteristics.

*Omnipotence.* You do not have the power to control others. I’ll repeat: You do not have the power to control others. You can (and should) teach them what’s right. You can

(and should) care about what they do. You can (and should) serve them. But you cannot control them.

*Omniscience.* You don’t know everything. You might think you do because you’ve lived a long time. Or you might think you do because you have academic credentials. But your brain is limited. You do not possess the answers to all life’s mysteries. So stop being a know-it-all.

*Omnipresence.* You can only be in one place at a time. Others might want you to be in ten different places, but you can’t. Instead of doing trying to please everyone by spreading yourself too thin, focus on the important things, not just the urgent things.

Life becomes much easier when you accept your limitations. But you must also remember that God has given you specific talents. You have enough power to serve him and convert the lost. You have enough knowledge to know that you must remain faithful until death. And you can influence the world wherever you are.

“I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well

James Hayes

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# Pleasant View Proclaimer

**Pleasant View church of Christ**

## Creating Problems

**September 14, 2014**

**Issue 179**

In the late 1800's, British surgeon Dr. Joseph Lister theorized that the 50 percent mortality rate among surgical patients was due to the unsanitary conditions of the operating room. He implemented several reforms, like changing sheets after every procedure and sterilizing all surgical instruments. After Lister's methods became common practice across Britain, the surgical survival rate jumped to 85 percent.

In honor of Dr. Lister, Americans Dr. Joseph Lawrence and Jordan Wheat Lambert created the first over-the-counter mouthwash and began distributing it in 1915. They called it Listerine. This harsh anti-

septic was a remedy for chronic halitosis—an obscure term for bad breath. In 2014, everyone is aware of mouthwash and its purposes, but mouthwash was unknown in 1915. In the days prior to mouthwash, breath was not something you treated: you either had good breath or bad breath, usually depending on what you had eaten. So, the makers of Listerine had to devise a marketing scheme to that would convince people that bad breath was a bad problem, and that the only solution was Listerine. Their ads pictured young women contemplating marriage and asking, "Can I be happy with him in spite of *that!*" The plan worked. In

just seven years, revenue for Listerine grew from \$115,000 to over \$8 million. Advertising scholar James Twitchell said, "Listerine did not make mouthwash as it much as it made halitosis." Lawrence and Lambert created both the problem and the solution.

Do you create problems from thin air, and then spend countless hours formulating a solution? Are you good at borrowing trouble from others? Life has enough real problems without us creating imaginary ones.

James Hayes

### Items of Note:

- Bill Johnson had surgery on his leg Friday.
- Morgan Craig is still recovering from extensive surgery. Address is on the back wall.
- Dwight Lewis, son-in-law of Janet Tabor, is in critical condition in Panama City, FL after a near-drowning accident.
- John Hayes and Paula Chance both received good health reports last week.

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**Men's Meeting Tonight at 5:00; Singing Tonight At 6:00**  
**Happy Haven Contribution Next Week**

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Garrett

Pray: Terry Walker

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: E. Walker

Serve: Trent, J. Walker, J. Baker

Pray: M. Newell