

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

I Didn't Mean That

October 16, 2016

Issue 284

Words matter. The properly worded first aid notices on poisonous household cleaners can save a life. "I like you" is very different than "I Love you." If you buy a car, read every word on the contract—a complete understanding of all the terms could save you thousands of dollars.

Often we say things we do not mean. The correct thought is in our heads, but expressing it is difficult. We stumble for the right word while the other person tries to decipher our meaning. Consider these well-intentioned church bulletin announcements:

*The flower on the pulpit this morning is to recognize

the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Belzer.

*The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement on Friday.

*Don't let worry kill you—let the church help.

*Next Sunday a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of a new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet will come forward and do so.

When you say, "I believe in Jesus," what do you mean? Do you mean that you believe He existed on earth as any other man? Do you believe that He is the only

begotten Son of God? Do you believe He was only a prophet, but not the Messiah? Do you believe He will come again? When you say, "I have faith," What do you mean? Do you mean that you have a "personal faith" that doesn't include church participation? Is your faith a one-time acknowledgement of God?

Words matter. Explain yourself. God is listening.

"You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shutter" (James 2:19).

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Sympathy is extended to Mitch Newell on the loss of his sister, Kim Hindman. Funeral service was conducted Wednesday.
- Linda Demonbreum had double knee replacement Monday. She is still doing rehab at Skyline.
- Lydia Newell had corrective surgery on her teeth Tuesday.
- Amie Newell had surgery on her ear Thursday at Vandy.

Building Fund Contribution In Two Weeks Happy Haven Children's Home Contribution Today

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Garrett

Pray: Trent Walker

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Gupton

Serve: J. Demonbreum, L. Newell, J. Walker

Pray: Cartwright

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 73:26
“My flesh and my heart may
fail, but God is the strength
of my heart and my portion
forever.”

*“No man ever steps in the same river twice, for
it’s not the same river and he’s not the same
man.”*

Hericlitus

*“Every action of our lives touches on some
chord that will vibrate in eternity.”*

Edwin Hubbell Chapin

I’m Not That Bad, Am I?

If you and I were playing word association, what would come to your mind as I read this list of names? Adolf Hitler, Ted Bundy, Charles Manson, Osama Bin Laden, Saddam Hussein.

How about these names? George Washington, Mother Teresa, Neil Armstrong, Martin Luther King, Jr., Thomas Edison.

The first list of names makes your skin crawl. We know those people as evil, treacherous, despicable, worthless individuals that made this world a more frightening place. No one would name a child Adolf, Osama, or Saddam for those reasons. The second list of names evokes a much different reaction. These people are

pioneers, heroes, and legends for a variety of reasons. Many of us would consider the first group “bad” and the second group “good.” The Lord, however, would consider both groups sinners who are in desperate need of the Lord’s grace and forgiveness. We judge others on a curve; the Lord judges people on the basis of Christ’s blood. We see the skin; the Lord sees the heart. We elevate ourselves for our glory; God elevated Jesus for His glory. At judgment we will not be able to defend ourselves based on our perceived righteousness of someone else’s rebellion. The only question will be, “Are you washed in the blood of Jesus?”

Famous author Aleksandr Solzhenit-

syn once wrote:

“If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being.”

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him” (Rom. 5:8-9).

James Hayes
