

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

**Pleasant View church of Christ**

## Values

**January 1, 2017**

**Issue 294**

If you had one dollar, what would you buy: a candy bar or a newspaper? If you had one hundred dollars, what would you buy: tennis shoes or a Bible? If you had one hundred fifty thousand dollars, what would you buy: a house or three BMWs?

The answer you give to each question is based upon your value system—what you deem important, necessary, and useful. We devote time, energy, and money to things we value. Show me your day planner and bank statement and I'll show you what you value the most. Henry David Thoreau said, "The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation." Why? Because

they haven't devoted the proper amount of time, energy, and money to the things they value most—God, church, family, and friends. A desperate man prefers the couch to worship on Sunday morning. He spends unnecessary hours at work instead of helping his children with their homework. He spends hundreds of dollars buying the latest gadgets for himself while neglecting the immediate need of the sick and shut-in. He refuses to go to the family get-together because he "just needs the rest." He is truly desperate. He longs for the contentment that comes from knowing he has given his best to the best things in

life.

To avoid leading a life of quiet desperation, I suggest the following—make a list of the things you value the most in order of importance. At the end of each day, write down how much time you dedicated to those valuable areas of your life. At the end of the week, add up the hours and compare it to the total number of hours in the week (112 awake hours). You will plainly see if you are giving yourself to what you value the most.

"I know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice and to do good in one's lifetime" (Eccl. 3:12).

James Hayes

### Items of Note:

- Austin Gee went home last week and is improving every day.
- Kendall Hamilton, Maime Hamilton's son, had a heart attack Wednesday. He had two stints implanted.
- Debbie Simpkins went home from the hospital Monday after being treated for an infection.
- Haley Rector had her 11th chemotherapy treatment Thursday.

**Happy New Year!**

**This Morning's Sermon: "The Powerful Word Of God"**

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Billingsley

Pray: Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: E. Walker

Serve: D. Demonbreum, Simpkins, Gupton

Pray: Baker

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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

Isaiah 41:10  
“Do not fear, for I am with you; do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous hand.”

*“There are precious lessons deep in the stench of failure and the filth of selfish choices.”*

*Craig Lounsbrough*

*“The goal of New Years is not that we have a new year, but that we have new eyes, new ears, new backbones, and new faith.”*

*Anonymous*

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## What I Learned From Umpiring

James said, “Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials...(James 1:2). So, in an effort to add more joy to my already joyous life, I decided to be a TSSAA umpire about ten years ago, and therefore begin a series of various trials. I paid a registration fee, studied the rules book, took a test, received some training, and hit the field. For a couple of afternoon hours a few days a week for two months I called balls and strikes, outs and safes to the approval and disapproval of coaches, players, and fans. Here are a few things I learned:

1. **A rule is a rule is a rule.** The easiest calls I made were the ones the rulebook made for me. Players can-

not wear exposed jewelry. I did not have to decide whether or not that was a violation. If a player was wearing jewelry, he was asked to remove it. The Bible gives us a list of guidelines, principles, instructions, and commandments. There are to be followed to the best of our ability.

2. **When it comes to judgment, you do the best you can do.** As an umpire I made the best calls when I was in the best position. Sometimes, however, even when I was in the best position and had the best line of sight, the call was still difficult to make. We face a series of faith-challenging dilemmas every day, many of which are not spelled out in Scripture. Even though we know our

Bibles well, arriving at the right decision remains hard.

3. **The nicer you are, the more friends you have.** It is assumed that there will always be hostility between coaches and umpires. As long as there are dogs and cats, Democrats and Republicans, and five-year-olds and vegetables, coaches and umpires will despise each other. But I learned very quickly that the nicer coaches were typically the better coaches. The nicer umpires were the better umpires. There was never a good reason to be obstinate. As Proverbs teaches, “A man that has friends must first prove himself friendly” (18:24).

James Hayes

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