

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

## Can I Help You?

February 19, 2017

Issue 301

About ten years ago the man who was voted Most Likely To Succeed my senior year of high school killed himself. His family did not have any suspicion that was going to happen. There were no signs, no comments, no reasons, no suicide note. As I was standing in line waiting to talk to his mother at the visitation, two of my high school friends got in line behind me. One of them was a youth minister. The other friend said, "I'm glad you guys are here. I don't know what I am going to say." I said, "I don't plan on saying anything."

Conscientious Christians feel the need to do something or say something

when someone around them is hurting. That's a good instinct. The Good Samaritan was good because he was compelled to do something for the beaten man. But we don't always have to *do* something. We don't have to bake cakes, write perfectly worded notes, babysit their children, or clean their house. If any of those things are appropriate, do them. But don't feel guilty if you don't instantly spring into action. There are subtle ways to help.

1.) *Don't talk it out.* After Job's calamity, his three friends came to him and did nothing. "[T]hey sat down on the ground with him for seven days and

seven nights with no one speaking a word to him, for they saw that his pain was very great" (Job 2:13). They talked about the issue later, but they didn't try to solve the problem in the first few moments after the disaster.

2.) *Pray.* This goes without saying, but many Christians forget this fundamental privilege. "The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much" (James 5:16).

3.) *Stay out of the way for a while.* Hurting people need space. They don't need to feel like you're watching their every move. Let the dust settle. Let them cry it out.

James Hayes

### Items of Note:

- Jean Pennington is in NHC in Springfield, Room 21A.
- Haley Rector has begun her 32 radiation treatments. She was slightly burned during her second treatment.
- Cathey Lawson, Faye Head's sister, is having issues with Parkinson's and dementia.
- Howard Cook, Canetha Walker's son-in-law, is having complications from hernia surgery.

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## This Morning's Sermon: "Forgiveness" Happy Haven Contribution Today

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Hovis

Pray: Billingsley

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Gupton

Serve: J. Demonbreum, Baker, Brown

Pray: Garrett

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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 12:2  
“Behold, God is my  
salvation, I will trust and not  
be afraid; for the LORD  
God is my strength and  
song, and He has become  
my salvation.”

*“Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare  
tire?”*

*Corrie Ten Boom*

*“We have to pray with our eyes on God, not on  
our difficulties.”*

*Oswald Chambers*

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## Do No Harm

In the “Hippocratic Corpus,” a collection of 60 ancient medical works associated with Greek physician Hippocrates, there is this phrase: “A physician must...have two objects in view with regard to disease, namely, to do good and to do no harm.” All medical students learn that rule in medical ethics classes—“do no harm.” The first objective of the doctor is to do everything in his or her power to improve the life of the patient. The particular treatments might be painful, but the patient’s interests must always be served.

Wouldn’t the world be a better place if “do no harm” was a daily goal of all seven billion people? What if everyone were brutally honest and

sacrificially loyal? What if everyone said, “Today I will only say and do things that will improve the lives of the people around me? Here are some areas where we need to “do no harm”:

1.) *Social media.* It’s fine to have opinions and perspective. It’s fun to be able to share pictures of family members and announce important events in our lives. But when social media websites like Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter become avenues for gossip and/or slander, God is not glorified.

2.) *Brothers and sisters in Christ.* Galatians 6:10 states: “So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those

who are of the household of faith.” We should never tear down another Christian. We should only encourage, teach, and support our fellow Christians. We should seek ways to build one another up.

3.) *Children.* Children are our most precious commodity in the church because of their innocence. Jesus said we must be converted and become like them in order to enter the kingdom of heaven. Doing good to a child doesn’t mean we are spoiling them; it simply means we recognize their innocence and we cherish their existence.

James Hayes

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