

What Will You Leave Behind?

by David Padfield

During every funeral, I remind the audience that funeral sermons are for the living, not the dead. Words spoken in the hour of death can encourage the living to remain faithful to the Lord. After the first martyr gave his life for the Lord, Luke tells us that "devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him" (Acts 8:2).

Acts 9:36 tells us of Dorcas, a woman "full of good works and charitable deeds." While at Joppa, she grew sick and died. The disciples washed her and placed her in an upper room. When Peter entered the room "all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them" (Acts 9:39). This godly woman was remembered what she left behind. Revelation 14:13 says our works will follow us. When you die, what will *you* leave behind?

"We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out" (1 Tim. 6:7). Why do so many people get all wrapped up with "possessions"? Jesus asked, "What is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matt. 16:26). What would you gain if you had the whole world? Whatever it is, it will not endure after the Judgment is passed (2 Peter 3:10).

What would you give in exchange for your soul? Whatever it may be, this is one transaction you will eternally regret. Judas sold his soul for 30 pieces of silver (Matt. 26:14-16)—some Christians will sell out for far less. Some will sell their soul for a few more minutes sleep on Sunday morning, or another hour of TV on Sunday night. Gospel preachers have been known to exchange their hope of eternal glory for the praise of men (2 Tim. 4:3).

When you die, all that your spouse will have left of you are memories and pictures. Don't wait till your spouse dies to express your love. Flowers at the graveside might make you feel better, but your spouse could only have enjoyed them in life.

Among the many laws in the Pentateuch, Deuteronomy 24:5 is one of the most quaint. It says, "When a man has taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war or be charged with any business; he shall be free at home one year, and bring happiness to his wife, whom he has taken." God intended for the home to be pleasant for both parties.

The Psalmist tells us our "children are a heritage from the Lord" (Psa. 127:3). How are you treating your "gift" from God?

You probably purchased life insurance so your spouse can meet the financial needs of your children in the event of your death—this is to be commended. In 1986 Christa McAuliffe died aboard the space shuttle *Challenger*. Some of her friends had purchased a \$1 million life insurance policy for her children. But that money could not dry a single tear from her children's eyes.

I am saddened by parents who get all wrapped up in material things so they can give their children "the best of everything." My sons often drag me outside to play baseball (I hate baseball), but, I know they would rather spend 30 minutes with me than have a new bicycle.

What will your friends think when they read your obituary? Will they be surprised to find out you were a Christian? Will the reputation of the Lord's church be harmed? Your death will affect them, for "none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself" (Rom. 14:7).

NEWSLETTER

July 22, 2018

Mark Dailey, evangelist
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Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Study	9:45 AM
Sunday AM Worship	11:00 AM
No Sunday PM Service	
Wednesday PM Bible Study	7:00 PM

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1121 N. Military Rd.
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
(716) 283-1214

lasallechurchofchrist.org



We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a *Visitor Card* (on the back of the pew in front of you) so we may have a record of your visit. Later in the service we will pass around a collection plate. As a visitor you are obviously not expected to give but we would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in the collection plate. Thanks.

There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs for infant care.

Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent during worship.



Potter Children's Home & Family Ministries
2350 Nashville Rd.
Bowling Green, KY 42101
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Prayer List *In our prayers let's praise God, recognize His greatness, and thank Him for His blessings.*

Those that attend: Mildred Lynum, Bill Flanagan, Anna Brink, Frank Marsden, Bill Kinney, Pat Hazlett, David Alcorn, Dennis & Darlene Reed, Butts & Edie Sumner, Chris Highway, Candi Butcher, Cheryl Mellott, Willow McFarland, Tahlia Willis, Logan Bennett, Kyra Kyle, Sonny & Linda Stine, Brenda Nelson, Carol Jones, Diane Mellott Louella Hopkins

People in other places: Renee Kinney, Tim Mellott and family, T.J., Wednesday Rahelich, Jack Openshaw, Betty & Dennis Leistner, Denise Garlitz' grandchildren and her son Jeff, Mary Lou, Frank's niece, Tony & Eglia Grana, Susan Barrett & family, Karen Anstee, George Beckwith, Cindy, Doris & Mary Jane Mess, Andrea, Red & Goldie Crow, Samantha Allee, Cheryl Wheeler, Levi, Jeanne Johns, Loretta Gorito, Kay Ables, Gloria, Dorothea Johnson, Tammy, Rita D, Jenna, Irene Jurek, Billie Jo Potter, Debbie Curry, Jaye Boyle, Barry Mitchell, Martha, Andrew, Vanessa Lewis, Williams family, Mary, Jean Fitzgerald, Mary Lou & Louise (Anna Brink's sisters), Malissa Layton, Th'alise Robinson, Ashley, Noreen Andrews, Emily Sestack, Gary, Keith Marten, Debbie, Paul (Becky Torres' father), Paul Orton, Minnee, Holly Leistner, Leonard Amanatey, Denise and Darlene's brother Dale, Dennis Leistner, Michael Highway, the Rogers family, Martha, and Eric Kauffman.

Let's pray as we continue our preacher search process.

Updates:

Louella Hopkins had an MRI recently and it showed bone spurs on her spine and rib cage. This is what is causing her pain. She will be having injections to deal with it because surgery is too risky. The pain has decreased somewhat but she still has pain.

Brenda Nelson has been dealing with pneumonia.

Peggy Golias is recuperating at home from recent back surgery.

Erica, Dennis and Darlene's daughter, was taken to the hospital on Thursday. She was having chest pains and could not breathe properly.

Rebecka Swindlehurst, Maria's daughter, will have a procedure done tomorrow at Roswell.

Belinda Porter, a friend of Maria Swindlehurst, has double pneumonia and was taken to ECMC and is on a vent.

Wednesday Rahelich had surgery a few weeks ago. Let's keep her in our prayers.

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

Jul. 22-28 Camp Agape starts today.

Jul. 29 Area Wide 5th Sunday Singing hosted by Sardinia church of Christ
Also at Sardinia, "Mortgage Burning" celebration.
Info and directions are on the table in the back.

Aug. 05 **Potluck** Groups 1, 2, & 3 to setup and cleanup.

Aug. 5-11 Potter Mission Trip

Aug. 19 Men's Business Meeting

Notice 5th Sunday Areawide Singing at Sardinia. (next Sunday)

The folks at Sardinia are looking for a head count of those that plan to attend the singing. If you plan to attend please sign the list posted on the back bulletin board. Thanks

Let's wish the children a safe and fun time at camp.



Sun. AM Adult Bible Study Book of James

Sermon Topic Today: *Spiritual Discernment, Part 1*

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 23:25-32*

No Sun. PM Bible Study

Wed. PM Bible Study 2nd Samuel



Smile and pay someone a compliment today.



TODAY

Announcements	Mark Dailey
Song Leader	Marvis Garrett
Direct Communion	Bruce Brink
Serve	Mark Dailey
Serve	Richard Wheeler
Serve	Noah Bennett
Clean Trays	Jean Cameron

Phone Tree correction

Denise Garlitz' correct phone number is posted on the Message Board. Her correct number is also in the latest *Directory* (dated May 2, 2018). Please make the correction on the *Phone Tree* made available last Sunday.

Notice

Minutes of the men's business meeting from last Sunday are on the back table.



Read Me

"You Asked for It!"

by Glen Elliott Minister at Greenbrier church of Christ Greenbrier, AR

The story is told of a lady who had a very willful and spoiled child. One day when a wasp flew in the window, the youngster began crying for it because it looked so pretty with its brilliant colors. Finally, the mother called the one who was caring for the child from another room, asking, "What in the world is that child crying for? Will you please give it to him!" It wasn't long before she heard a loud scream. "What is the matter now?" shouted the mother. "He got what he wanted," was the calm reply.

Quite often the things we think will bring us happiness and joy bring only heartache and pain. This is why we must not spend our time longing for things we do not possess as though the mere possession of those things will bring us happiness. Instead, we need to be thankful and content for the things we have been given so that, when we are blessed with more, we will glorify God. Jesus often warns us about the trap of materialism. He writes, "Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions" (Lk. 12:15). Far too often, in our society, a man is measured by what he owns. But this is a false and foolish standard for it neither measures a man's true worth nor his eternal destiny. Jesus taught us to seek for treasures in heaven by fixing our hearts on those things which are spiritual and eternal. He said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19-21). Likewise, the apostle Paul wrote: "Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory" (Col. 3:1-4). This is the only way to ensure happiness when we finally receive that for which we have been longing. In the end, what will it matter if we gain the whole world but lose our soul? (Matt. 16:26).