

## 04-10-19 Wednesday Musing

I'm sure you have things in your life that you feel very confident in doing... and some things in your life that you just muddle through. If you were to write a resume of your accomplishments, I'm sure it would be quite impressive. I know I could write down a few things that I've somewhat mastered... cooking... gardening... house cleaning... typing... and the list could go on and on. But I won't claim to be 'perfect' at anything... But God don't ask perfection of us... Jesus was perfection so that we did not have to become the impossible. Scripture tells us in many places that admittance into eternity with Christ through works alone is not possible... James 2 14-26 speaks on the subject of 'faith without works' as being dead... **James 3:17 - "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."** and **James 3:26 - "For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead."** (Read James 3:14-26 for a complete understanding of these verses). Separated from each other 'faith' and 'works' are inadequate... leaving us coming up short of our goal... Separate they are both good... even great things... yet still ineffectual... one without the other.

One of the Saints of old was quiet an accomplished individual... writing many of our Epistles of our New Testament... he was a very good Jew, (even great in some respects), before he met Christ on that road from Damascus... Paul speaks to this in Philippians 3... after listing a quite impressive inventory of accomplishments he says in Philippians 3:7-9 - **"7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith"**

True faith produces works... for out of the love in your heart for Jesus... and your desire to develop a true and steadfast relationship with Him spring the actions He desires in our lives as 'His hands and His feet'. We are to trust what God has said in the past as our anchor as we lean forward toward the future... our future in eternity with Christ. For we are just passing through this world.... Our true citizenship lies in heaven.

As we go to the Lord in prayer this week, let us remember to lift up: Millie Fraser, Frances Morgan, Selma Simpson, Jeanne Williams, Mary Jane Pettigrew, Harvey Sharpe, Donna Freeman, Janette Hudson—mother of Connie Collins, Elizabeth Woodlief—mother of Peggy Johnson,

On the news front this week...

- We received an email from Mark... which will be shared with you in the upcoming May issue of our newsletter. He and Margot are doing well and are very busy preparing to make their move to Colorado at the end of this month.

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- Please... if you haven't already... sign up on Sunday or call the church office and make your reservation for the Maundy Thursday service to be held April 18<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm. We need a fairly accurate headcount in order to prepare properly.
- The Spaghetti Supper will be held Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$9 and can be obtained from any deacon or at the door the night of the event.
- This Sunday's sermon title is 'The Scarred Face of Jesus'. The Scripture readings will be Luke 19:29-44 and Mark 15:1-15.

### Upcoming events...

- April 14<sup>th</sup> - Palm/Passion Sunday
- April 18<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm - Maundy Thursday Service in the Bray Fellowship Hall
- April 21<sup>st</sup> - 7:30 am - Sunrise Service on the lawn in front of the office (weather permitting... in case of inclement weather it will be held in the sanctuary) with breakfast following in Bray Hall.
- April 21<sup>st</sup> - 10:30am Easter Worship with special music. (there will be no Sunday School this day)
- May 10<sup>th</sup> - 5 pm - 7 pm - Spaghetti Supper in the Bray Fellowship Hall. See a deacon for advance tickets.

Grace and Peace to you through God the Father,

Joan 😊

