



Today's Sermons
 Morning: The Love of God
 Evening: Song Service

Visit Us At:
www.wjchurchofchrist.org
 For Audio Lessons,
 Past Bulletins,
 Bible Studies
 & More

FOR THE RECORD	
Sunday Bible Study	33
Sunday AM Worship	55
Sunday PM Worship	30
Wed. Bible Study	23
Offering	\$1634

6. WHEN IS IT OKAY TO KISS SOMEONE?

- When they're rich. -- Pam , age 7
- The law says you have to be eighteen, so I wouldn't want to mess with that.
 - - Curt, age 7
- The rule goes like this: If you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do. - - Howard, age 8

7. IS IT BETTER TO BE SINGLE OR MARRIED?

It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them. -- Anita, age 9 (bless you child)

8. HOW WOULD THE WORLD BE DIFFERENT IF PEOPLE DIDN'T GET MARRIED?

There sure would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there?
 -- Kelvin, age 8

And the #1 Favorite is

9. HOW WOULD YOU MAKE A MARRIAGE WORK?

Tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if she looks like a dump truck.
 -- Ricky, age 10



A Weekly Publication of the
West Jefferson Church of Christ
 130 Robert Street
 West Jefferson NC 28694
 Phone: (336) 846-5615 | Email: info@wjchurchofchrist.org
 Volume VIII May 31, 2015 Number 22

Minister:

Tim Canup
tim@wjchurchofchrist.org

Times of Services:

Sunday
 Bible Study:... 10:00am
 AM Worship:...11:00am
 PM Worship:...6:00pm

Wednesday
 Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program
 Sunday:.....7:30am
 "Back to the Bible"
 AM 580 WSKS
 93.5 FM

**We Extend A
 Warm &
 Cordial
 Welcome
 To All Our
 Visitors!**

"Encourage One Another"

Dave Chapman

The Boston Marathon is among the world's best-known races. One of the most infamous portions of the 26-mile, 385-yard course is "Heartbreak Hill." It's there, along that hill, where thousands of spectators gather. They stand and cheer as they see weary runners about to collapse. During one race a young man was near total exhaustion as he approached the foot of Heartbreak Hill. It was doubtful he could go a step farther. About halfway up the hill an older runner, who was obviously in better shape, came alongside the younger man, put his arm around him, and spoke quietly to him. Together, step-by-step, they painstakingly made their way up Heartbreak Hill.

What does it mean to encourage? Encouragement means to "inspire with hope, courage, or confidence" or to "contribute to the progress or growth of someone". Encouragement also comes in many forms: a few uplifting words at the right time, a hug or gentle touch, a card or phone call, perhaps even your display of a Christian attitude in certain situations, or even your mere presence in a time of need. The important thing, though, is that the other person feels encouraged by your actions instead of feeling even more discouraged. On the other hand, encouragement doesn't mean we should remove someone from a challenge. Instead, we should work to help them overcome the challenge.

Continued Inside

Competition in the world is becoming so fierce that it's rare to see someone selflessly help a neighbor in need. If there is no anticipation of a reward, most people will idly stand by – or even hinder – a struggler. At times, human nature takes the attitude: “if I can't succeed, neither will you!” Whereas the Christian attitude in helping others should be as the older runner in the opening story, many people take the approach of the simple crab as illustrated in the following story: There was a man who was walking along the seashore collecting crabs. On his side he would carry a large basket and as he would find a crab, he would throw it into the basket. A small boy came by and noticing that there was no lid on the basket, asked the man if any crabs ever escaped. The man replied that no crab ever escaped and proceeded to show him why.

As they both looked into the basket they noticed a crab crawling up the side of the basket, just about to escape. At this time one of the other crabs reached his claw up, grabbed the escaping crab, and pulled him back down with the others. And so the crab nature is likened to the human nature at times. (author unknown)

The apostle Paul wrote to the Romans about their tendency to hinder the progress of the younger Christians. Some members of the church at Rome expected their young Christians to skip the spiritual growth process and be mature Christians upon exiting the waters of baptism. As Paul stated, these younger Christians were being accepted into the church for “the purpose of passing judgment on their opinions” (Romans 14:1). Imagine that! Some of the church members wanted new converts for the sole purpose of making themselves look better instead of working with the new Christians to solidify their new faith. Paul chastised this attitude and reminded the older Christians that “we will all stand before the judgment seat of God...so then each one of us will give an account of himself to God” (Romans 14:10,12).

What have you done lately to help a struggling person? Not just someone who is spiritually struggling, but perhaps someone who is ill, shut-in or down with a case of the blues. As a matter of fact, all of God's children need encouraging at one time or another, so maybe you've overlooked someone who is quietly crying for help. It may take you out of your fast-paced stride to slow down to sincerely help someone with his or her problems, but it's an attitude that God wants us to have toward those who need help.

Doing nothing to help a brother or sister in need involves the same attitude as the one who hinders a struggler's progress. Your encouragement – or lack of it – may be the difference between someone reaching the finish line or collapsing along the path. As Paul mentions in his benediction to the Thessalonians: “Encourage one another and build each other up...and encourage the fainthearted.” (1 Thessalonians 5:11,14). Encouragement is a form of love, and love is the blood that flows through the Christian heart.

1. HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHO TO MARRY? (written by kids)

-You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming.
-- Alan, age 10

-No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with.
-- Kristen, age 10

2. WHAT IS THE RIGHT AGE TO GET MARRIED?

Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person FOREVER by then.
-- Camille, age 10

3. HOW CAN A STRANGER TELL IF TWO PEOPLE ARE MARRIED?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids.
-- Derrick, age 8

4. WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR MOM AND DAD HAVE IN COMMON?

Both don't want any more kids.
-- Lori, age 8

5. WHAT DO MOST PEOPLE DO ON A DATE?

- Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough.
-- Lynnette, age 8 (isn't she a treasure)

-On the first date, they just tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date.
-- Martin, age 10

~ Continued on Back ~

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- June 7 – Men's Business Meeting & Ladies' Bible Class
- June 14 – Preach & Eat
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell