

The Vine

I am the vine; you are the branches...John 15:5

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

October 2013

WHEN YOU MAKE AN ERROR

“If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous” (1 John 1:10-2:1)

In 1986, Bob Brenley was playing third base for the San Francisco Giants. In the fourth inning of a game against the Atlanta Braves, Brenley made an error on a routine ground ball. Four batters later he kicked away another grounder. And then while he was scrambling after the ball, he threw wildly past home plate, trying to get the runner there.

Two errors on the same play. A few minutes later he muffed yet another play to become the first player in the twentieth century to make four errors in one inning.

Now, those of us who have made very public errors in one situation or another can easily imagine how he felt during that long walk off the field at the end of that inning.

But then, in the bottom of the fifth, Brenley hit a home run. Then, in the seventh, he hit a bases-loaded single, driving in two runs and tying the game. Then in the bottom of the ninth, Brenley came up to bat again, with two outs. He ran the count to three and two and then hit a massive home run into the left field seats to win the game for the Giants. Brenley's score card for that day came to three hits in five at bats, two home runs, four errors, four runs allowed, four runs driven in, including the game winning run.

Life is much like that mentioned above regarding Bob Brenley. When we sin, we should never give up or lose heart, but should repent, pick ourselves up and strive to do better.



I Got a Rock

Who doesn't remember and love the fall special, "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown"? In this cartoon classic, the Peanuts Gang prepares to trick-or-treat. All, that is, except Linus. Linus instead decides to wait in a pumpkin patch for the arrival of the Great Pumpkin.

Charlie Brown's sister Sally is sweet on Linus, so she decides to wait in the pumpkin patch with him. Linus has convinced her that the Great Pumpkin will appear and bring gifts to those who are loyal enough to wait. What is the key to getting the Great Pumpkin to visit your pumpkin patch? It has to be a sincere pumpkin patch (I have no idea what makes a garden plot sincere or insincere.)

This ends up being a night that those kids will remember for a long time – yeah, I know they aren't real, just humor me!

Linus is sincerely disappointed when the Great Pumpkin doesn't appear. Snoopy, however, tries to imitate what the Great Pumpkin might be and gives Linus hope for the next year. This goes to show you that even though one might be sincere, he might be sincerely wrong. Sincerity doesn't measure truth.

Sally is extremely let down because Linus didn't produce the gifts that the Great Pumpkin was supposed to bring. On top of that, Sally's amorous displays got her nowhere with Linus and she missed out on all the goodies she could have gotten trick-or-treating. Perhaps we shouldn't rely too much on false expectations.

Charlie Brown will never forget the evening as the night he got rocks. Every door the gang went to, the kids would recap what they got. "I got a popcorn ball." "I got a candy bar." Every time, Charlie Brown looked in his bag, he sadly stated, "I got a rock." Poor Charlie Brown.

It kind of makes me think of the trips our family takes. Yes, we may get a souvenir or two, but we normally don't spend a lot of money on them. Instead, we always look for some interesting rocks. We have rocks from Arizona, New Mexico, Missouri, Arkansas, etc. Just about

everywhere special we go, we'll pick up an unusual rock or two.

Now I'll be honest, I'm not the one to tell you exactly where the rocks came from once they get home and mixed in with all the other ones. Maybe that just isn't my job. What the rocks do, however, is allow us to remember. We can look at a certain piece of quartz or a fossil and say, "Hey, remember when we went to...?"

We read in the Bible that rocks are used to remember. When Jacob was running away from Esau, he had a dream from God. The next morning, he took the rock he used for his head and set it up as a pillar, poured an offering over the rock and made a promise to God (Gen 28).

Joshua took the Hebrews over the Jordan River on dry land because God caused the waters to stop flowing (Joshua 3-4). The Lord told Joshua to get twelve stones from the Jordan where they crossed – one for every tribe. They were to set them up so that in the future, when the children asked, "What do those stones mean?" they could explain that it was when God cut off the flow of the Jordan so the Hebrews could cross over.

The rocks helped them remember.

Our Rock, our Cornerstone is Jesus Christ. He died to save each of us from our sins and to bring us into a right relationship with God through faith in Him. On the night he was crucified, he gave us a ceremony that we are to use to remember His sacrifice. He never wanted us to forget what was required to save us.

He broke the bread and gave it to the apostles to eat and said it represented His body (not bones) that would be broken for us. He took the wine, gave it to them to drink and said it represented the blood He was about to shed. He told them, and every generation since, to do this in remembrance of Him (Luke 22:19).

(continued on the back page)

Recipe Swap

EASY MEXICAN CASSEROLE

- 1 lb. lean ground beef
- 2 c. salsa
- 1 (16 oz.) can chili beans, drained
- 3 c. tortilla chips, crushed
- 2 c. sour cream
- 1 (2 oz.) can sliced black olives, drained
- ½ c. chopped green onions
- ½ c. chopped fresh tomato
- 2 c. shredded cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 350*. In a large skillet cook ground beef until done. Stir in salsa, reduce heat and simmer 20 minutes or until liquid is absorbed. Stir in bean, and heat through. Spray a 9x13 baking dish with cooking spray. Spread crushed tortilla chips in dish, and then spoon beef mixture over chips. Spread sour cream over beef, and sprinkle olives, green onion and tomato over the sour cream. Top with cheddar cheese. Bake for 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly. Serves 6

Christy Arnold

PRAYER REQUESTS

OUR SOLDIERS: Jacob Mitchell, Curtis Mitchell, Brandon Miller, Ryan Myers, Luke Cummings, Greg Morales, Ryan Kirby, Zach Stiffler, Josh Lackey, Dan Cook, Rick Huertz, Steve Heinen, Ammin Spencer, Gates Kobuszewski, Leslie Bolz, Steve Grove, Austin Everhart, Noe Garza, Brandon Hammons, Ruth Churchill

June Dedeke is home but wanting to sleep a lot. Continued prayer for her.

Branstetters- house burned
Bob Schneider- heart attack

Marvin Trotter

Della Hulse

Praise: Tom Harris says thank you for all the prayers for his recovery. He is doing well now and feeling good, thanking Jesus.

Rachel Arnold- blood clots

Christy Arnold- not feeling well, on antibiotics

Wayne Arnold- gets stitches out Saturday.

COPIES OF THE SERMONS ARE AVAILABLE ON CD UPON REQUEST: If you would like a copy please see Mike. You can also listen to them online at www.valleyfallsc.org.

POCKET CHANGE FOR PROGRESS: This will be a special offering every 3rd Sunday during church. The money will be split between Mission Lake Camp and the School Supply Giveaway Fund

RECYCLING: We have a recycling box beside the copier in the office.

COLLECTING FOR ALPHA: Alpha Christian Children's Home can use Campbell soup UPC labels and lids, Best Choice UPC labels and General Mills Box Top Symbols coupons (Box Tops for Education.) We will have a box in the hallway outside the nursery under the mailboxes.

SISTERS OF STRENGTH (S.O.S.)-

(Mission Statement: We are a lifeline to glorify God through service to the church and community and to build personal relationships with our Christian Sisters.)

We will be having our regular meeting on Oct. 12th at 9:00.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Scott Preston
Ben Trotter
 - 3 Marge Prebble
Kevin & Nancy Gatzemeyer (1970)
 - 12 Gary & Peggy Meyer
 - 13 Georganna Carson
Kyle & Laura Reich (2001)
 - 15 Helen Grove
 - 16 Bud Bryant
Emma Branam
 - 19 Karie Turner
 - 20 Jay Welborn
Marvin & Marge Prebble (1979)
 - 22 Jessica (Farr) Mitchell
Clay Hawk
 - 23 Serena Toll
- (Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

Serving in OCTOBER

Congregational Prayer:

David Grove

Scripture Readers:

6-Welborns-

13-Carsons-Luke 6:46-49

20-Farr- Matt. 20:1-16

27-Starkey- Matt. 22:1-14

Nursery:

6-Debbie Gerstner/Jarret Mitchell

13-Glee Hosler/Caitlyn Thomas

20-Linda Durand/Jackson Reich

27-Nancy Gatzmeyer/Nik Branam

Greeters/Ushers:

6-Welborns

13-Carsons

20-Farrs

27-Starkey

Lord's Supper Preparation:

6-Welborns

13-Carsons

20-Farrs

27-Starkey

Communion Table:

6-Stan, Jay

Steve Carson, Jarret Mitchell

13- Jay, Stan

Dennis Tichenor, Andy Arnold

20- Stan, Jay

Clint Thomas, Matt Branam

27- Jay, Stan

Ray Mitchell, Jarret Mitchell

Musicians

Worship Team: Erin Thomas

Organ: Leah Brown

Piano: Donetta Farr

Guitar: Mike Kirby, Clint Thomas

Mandolin: Erin Thomas

Church Offerings

Aug. 25-\$2192.84

Sept. 1-\$2135.00

Sept. 8-\$1104.32

Sept. 15-\$2910.00

Sept. 22-\$1191.91

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

Valley Falls Christian Church has a website!!

www.valleyfallsc.org

MEN'S BREAKFAST: The men's breakfast will be on Oct. 12th at 8:00 AM. Steve Carson will be hosting.

FALL FELLOWSHIP: the fall fellowship will be at Bob & Linda Beightels this year on Sunday, Oct. 20th. Plan to come-bring hot dogs, buns, chips and other goodies. It starts at ?. Hope to see you there.

EYEGASSES: We now have a box in the foyer to put spare glasses in for missions. The lions club collects them and is able to reuse them in other countries that desperately need them. If you have any questions please ask Stan or Donetta.

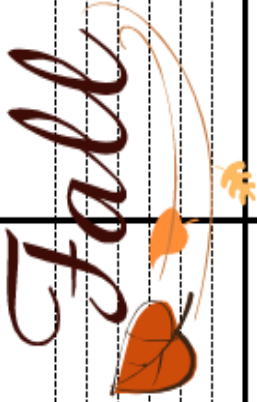


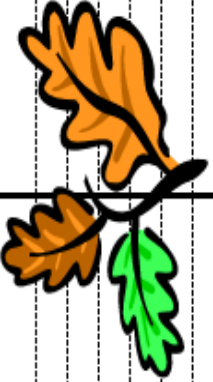
MENS RETREAT: There will be a men's retreat at Mission Lake Camp on Nov. 1st & 2nd.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP TEA: The Meriden Community Church has invited the ladies of the church to a tea on Sat. Oct. 5th from 1-3 PM.

MIDLAND SERVICE: There will be no service at Midland on Oct. 6th because they are having an open house and everyone is invited. It is from 3-5 PM.

PASTOR MIKE WILL BE GONE ON OCT. 6TH STAN WILL BE PREACHING.

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Your church board is organizing a building committee to decide what kind of structure to put on the lot north of the church. If you are interested in serving on this committee, see Steve Carson.

2013		OCTOBER					2013	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
								
6 Open House at Midland 5:00 PM Youth Group	7	8	9 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study	10	11	12  8:00 AM Men's Breakfast SOS 9:00 AM		
13	14	15	16 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Elders	17	18	19		
20  Fall Fellowship at Beightels at ? 10:00 AM Pocket Change for Progress 5:00 PM Youth Group	21	22	23 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study	24	25	26		
27 5:00 PM Youth Group	28	29	30 6:15 PM Worship Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study	31				

Valley Falls
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On the web: www.valleyfallsc.org
Find us on Facebook!

Mike Kirby, Pastor

You are welcome to join us!

Sunday Service times:

Bible Study (all ages) – 9:00 AM
Worship – 10:00 AM
Youth Group – 5:00 PM

Midweek Bible Study:

Wednesday 7:00 PM

(I Got a Rock continued)

In teaching about communion, 1 Corinthians 11:25-26 tells us to “do this as often as we drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he returns.”

So as often as we come together on Sunday mornings as the body of Christ, we participate in His body through communion in obedience to the scriptures. We will proclaim His death and the reason for it until the day He returns to take His church to be with Him.

Why? So we never forget. So we don’t get so caught up in the classes, the fellowship, the programs, the music or whatever that we lose sight of the reason we are all able to be in the family of God. Because while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Each Sunday morning, when the emblems of communion are passed, thank God for our Rock and Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Mike

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE NEWS

Ronda Turner said they had been asked for information on costs so here’s what she figured out.

2013 Average cost of school supplies for students. (does not include cost that the school supply drive does not furnish. Example; scientific calculator, usb flashdrive, headphones, Kleenex, disinfectant wipes, and pe uniform/gym shoes)

Average of 2nd, 4th, and 7th, & 8th grade classes was used.

\$22.86