

His Workmanship at Westside

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works."

—Ephesians 2:10

Vol. XXV

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No. 19

"Honor Your Mother," by Robert Harkrider

Today is Mother's Day, and we are thinking about honoring our mothers. But let me tell you about some who do not have honor or respect.

Most of us become upset at the stories we hear of child abuse. Front page stories in newspapers shock whole communities, and citizens rise up in righteous indignation to prevent it. Yet another form of abuse within families often occurs—no less despicable, yet this abuse often goes unnoticed by society. No committees are formed to prevent it, and newspapers would not print the story even on an inside page. The Lord has indelibly written His righteous indignation against (you guessed it) "parent abuse." Jesus rebuked some who were guilty of parent abuse, yet they thought of themselves as righteous. You see, this is not a new problem to society, but we have not learned from the mistakes of past generations. Even today, so-called "respectable citizens" who may also be considered "good Christians" are worse than infidels and have denied the faith, 1 Tim 5:8.

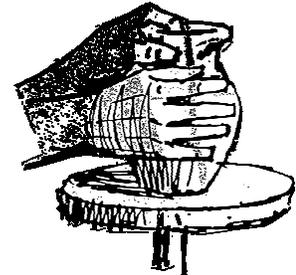
Jesus called them hypocrites! They had found a religious loophole to justify themselves when they failed to honor their mother. They said it was "corban," i.e., they vowed a gift to God in the future so that nothing was left in the present to support their needy parents. In their neglect of their father and mother, they had "rejected the commandment

of God." Jesus said to them, "Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition? For God commanded, saying, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.' But you say, 'Whoever says to his father or mother, 'Whatever help you might have received from me is a gift to God'—then he doesn't have to honor his father or mother.' Thus you have nullified the commandment of God by your tradition. Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: 'These people draw near to Me with their mouth and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'" Mt 15:3-9.

He is not a faithful Christian who selfishly pushes his mother out of his life; who leaves her solely to welfare and charitable organizations for financial assistance; and who forgets her in the hour which should be her crowning glory years! Solomon wrote, "Whoever curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out in deep darkness," Pr 20:20. God abhors disrespect, and one day He will repay all who neglect their parents.

How Do We Honor Our Mother?

1. **Show your appreciation!** Financial support is not the only way to honor our mother. We witness this truth in families. A parent can buy every toy his child desires but still have no influence over the child. The best things in life are those things which money cannot buy. A child needs you! A mother also



Isaiah 64:8

needs you! How often do we hear, "No one appreciates me." Employees, wives, husbands, children—and even our mothers—are left with an empty, lonely feeling when no one seems to appreciate them. A few kind words, thoughtful phone calls, texts, cards, or emails, and various gifts of remembrance can show that you care; cf. Eph 1:16; Phil 1:3; Col 1:3; 1 Thes 1:2; 3:9; 2 Thes 1:3; 2:13; 2 Tim 1:3; Philem 4.

2. **Give her your time!** One of the saddest visits we can make is to an elderly woman whose family has no time for her. She spends hours of loneliness, but her depression could be alleviated with the gift of time. Your mother, by hours of labor, helped provide your needs. Through sleepless nights when you were sick, she had time to help you through troublesome periods. Is it true that now you have become "too busy" with worldly things to make a few small sacrifices for the one who gave so much to help you become who you are? Spending time together shows your love, cf. Lev 8:3-4; Num 1:18; 8:9; 1 Sam 20:41-42; Job 2:11, 13; Ps 34:3; 50:5; 133:1; Is 60:4; Jer 31:13; Zech 10:9; Ax 2:44; 12:12; 1 Cor 1:10.

3. **Support her!** The word "honor" describes something of inherent worth or value, and we honor those whom we esteem highly. "The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice, and he who begets a wise child will delight in him. Let your father and your mother be glad, and let her who bore you rejoice," Pr 23:24-25. Finan-

continued on p. 2

“Honor Your Mother,” from p. 1
 cial support is not the only way to honor our mothers, but the lack of it is certainly a way to “reject the commandment of God,” Mk 7:9-13. Children who turn a mother over to churches or the government for her care have a sad day facing them in judgment. *“But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever,”* 1 Tim 5:8; see also v. 16.

4. **Love her!** Perhaps we have all heard the story of the mother who, along with her young daughter, was driving her aged mother to admit her into the nursing home. As she topped the hill, the home came into view, and the mother remarked what a nice place it was. The young girl asked, “Is that where I will be taking you some day?” The mother was dumb-struck. She had never thought of herself in that role. She turned the car around at the next convenient place and took her mother back home.

Nursing homes should provide extraordinary care which the average home cannot. This is not intended as a criticism for nursing homes nor for those who have put their mothers in nursing homes. However, if the motive for placing a mother in such a home was to get her out of the way and to relieve yourself of the day-to-day responsibility as a loving, caring child, then there is justification for criticism! *“Let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and truth,”* 1 Jn 3:17.

5. **Be patient with her!** Mothers have an incredible job. No position in the business world compares to the physical, emotional, and spiritual commitment she has in motherhood. In spite of all she does for us, we often become impatient. We get so used to her taking care of things that we come to expect it and are outraged: *“Those clothes are still dirty?” “You’re out of my favorite cookies?”* Or she was five minutes late picking you up at school. *“Therefore, as the chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving whatever grievances you may have against another; even as Christ forgave you,*

so you also must do,” Col 3:12-13; see also Gal 5:22-23; Eph 4:2. Love her patiently. She’s tender to your needs, and so that’s all the more reason to be patient with her. Don’t be more kind, considerate, or patient with your friends and your friends’ mothers than your own mother.

This letter from an 80-year-old woman written on her birthday was read on the radio: *“To all my children:*

This is a good time to tell you that what I truly want are things I can never get enough of, yet they are free. I want the intangibles.

I would like for you to come and sit with me and for you to be relaxed. We can talk, or we can be silent. I would like for us just to be together.

I need your patience when I don’t hear what you say the first time. I know how tiresome it is always to be repeating, but sometimes I must ask you to repeat. I need your patience when I think too much about the past, and when I am slow and set in my ways. I want you to be tolerant with what the years have done to me physically.

Please be understanding about my personal care habits. I spill things. I lose things. I get unduly excited when I try to figure out my bank statements. I can’t remember what time to take my medication, or if I took it already. I take too many naps (sometimes sleep helps to pass the day).

Well, there you have it: time, patience, and understanding. Those are priceless gifts that I want. Finally, the Apostle Paul wrote, “I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me,” Phil 4:13. I know I can, too! It’s a wonderful feeling to know “His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He cares for me.” I guess being old isn’t so bad after all!
 Love,
 Mom

The Little Hut

The only survivor of a shipwreck was washed up on a small, uninhabited island. He prayed fervently for God to rescue him, and every day he scanned the horizon for help, but no help ever came. Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect himself from the elements.

One day after scavenging for food, he arrived home to find his little hut in flames, the smoke roiling up to the sky. The worst had happened—everything was lost. He was stunned with grief and anger. *“God, how could you do this to me?”*

he cried. Early the next day, however, he was awakened by the sound of a ship approaching the island. It had come to rescue him. *“How did you know I was here?”* asked the weary man of his rescuers. *“We saw your smoke signal,”* they replied.

It is easy to get discouraged sometimes when things appear to be going badly. But we should not lose heart, because God watches over His servants, even in the middle of pain and suffering. For all the negative thoughts and conditions our lives, God gives us a reason to be hopeful:

- You say, *“It’s impossible,”* but God says, *“All things are possible with Me,”* Lk 18:27.
- You say, *“I’m too tired,”* but God says, *“I will give you rest,”* Mt 11:28-30.
- You say, *“Nobody really loves me,”* but God says, *“I love you,”* Jn 3:16.
- You say, *“I can’t go on,”* but God says, *“My grace is enough for you,”* 2 Cor 12:9.
- You say, *“I can’t figure things out,”* but God says, *“I will direct your steps,”* Pr 3:5-6.
- You say, *“I can’t do it,”* but God says, *“You can do all things through Me,”* Phil 4:13.
- You say, *“It’s not worth it,”* but God says, *“It will be worth it,”* Rm 8:28.
- You say, *“I can’t forgive myself,”* but God says, *“I forgive you,”* 1 Jn 1:9; Rm 8:1.
- You say, *“I can’t manage,”* but God says, *“I will supply all your needs,”* Phil 4:19.
- You say, *“I’m afraid,”* but God says, *“I have not given you a spirit of fear,”* 2 Tim 1:7.
- You say, *“I’m always worried and frustrated,”* but God says, *“Cast all your worries on Me,”* 1 Pet 5:7.
- You say, *“I’m not smart enough,”* but God says, *“I give you wisdom,”* 1 Cor 1:30.
- You say, *“I feel all alone,”* but God says, *“I will never leave you or forsake you,”* Heb 13:5.
- You say, *“I’m too wicked and sinful,”* but God says, *“I have removed your sins far, far away, as far as the east is from the west,”* Ps 103:12; Is 38:17.

Some days and weeks we all feel our huts are on fire. But the next time your little hut is burning to the ground remember to summon God. The sons of Korah wrote, *“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble,”* Ps 46:1. May you always find the *“grace to help in time of need,”* Heb 4:16.



Psalm 133:1

God's harvest we'll glean in 2016 "Please let me go to the field and glean heads of grain after him in whose sight I may find favor." —Ruth 2:2

MSU, from p. 4
program so that he might obtain his counseling degree.

MSU spokeswoman Suzanne Shaw told the Springfield News Leader that "the university strictly prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion or any other protected class." She didn't see the hypocrisy in her statement—the university should not allow the discrimination that she was currently committing against Cash because of his religious beliefs.

MSU could learn a very painful lesson. "In 2012, Eastern Michigan University paid \$75,000 to a Christian student after she filed suit for being expelled from the school counseling program. Julea Ward had declined to affirm a fellow student's sexual relationship and was faced with the choices of undergoing homosexual sensitivity training, facing a formal review by the university, or leaving the program and forfeiting her degree. She chose the review and was consequently expelled from the program. While the university eventually agreed to a settlement over the matter after Ward filed suit, it noted that it would still require counseling students to affirm the homosexual lifestyle."

Unless and until Christians begin to make religious discrimination hurt financially, the politically-correct Nazis will continue to be emboldened. Let's hope MSU will feel the pain and think twice before expelling a Christian for his beliefs.

MEMORY VERSE LIST Adults/Kids

April-May 8

Luke 1:37

Matthew 26:41

Colossians 3:2

Galatians 6:2

1 John 4:8



Discipleship Here At Home

"Sing, O heavens! Be joyful, O earth! And break out in singing, O mountains! For the LORD has comforted His people and will have mercy on His afflicted. But Zion said, 'The LORD has forsaken me, and my Lord has forgotten me.' Can a mother forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; your walls are continually before Me." Isaiah 49:13-16

CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Christian Harrod; Addison Tope; Rocco Jr.;

Ann Cox; Logan Corray; Pat Wilkes—asthma

Orchid Cox—chronic blood clot condition

Autumn Hadders—epilepsy; celiac disease

Jonathan Hadders—RA

Delmer Hice, Lynda Szymanski—COPD

Kirk Johnson—MS; **Amanda Mailloux**—IBS

Sarah McMurray's mentee **Lakeisha Griffin**,

age 12; missing from school, not located

Virginia Menard—macular degeneration

Eric Perry—pre-diabetes

Judy Sartin—rotator cuff injury; spinal stenosis

Judy and Mike Strand—hepatitis treatment

Cheryl Reames—fibromyalgia; diverticulitis

Rejoice New babies: Stella Mae Shreve,

born 5/4, 7 lbs 11 oz; **Jamie Page Addy**, born

5/6, just over 5 lbs, in NICU to regulate blood

sugar; **Witheringtons** expect their first in Oct

Mekiah Fink is nominated for Mayors' and

Commissioners' Award, Clear Creek County

Bereaved Kay Ransom, former member—

mother passed away Wed of COPD; cards to

Kay Ransom, 3428 Cove View Blvd,

Galveston, TX 77554

Dean Ransom (Kay's father), P. O. Box 2,

Clifton, TX 76634

Our brother in Christ **Mark Campbell, Larry's**

brother, passed away in his sleep Tues of

heart disease in Montrose. A memorial ser-

vice will be held 5/31 in Pekin, IL. Cards to

Mark's mother, **Ruth Campbell**,

P.O. Box 643, Pekin, IL 61555

Mark's daughters: **Brandi Austin**,

405 W 26th St, Rifle, CO81650, and

Tori Campbell, 1498 N Wintertree Ave,

Meridian, ID 83642

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you send

donations to the Brad Campbell Memorial at

www.bradcampbellmemorial.com

Travel the **Corrays** are in Breckinridge

Moving **Michelle Franke** has finished her

studies at School of Mines for the year; travels

back to TN next Sunday for the summer

PRAY FOR healing, protection, help

• **Janelle Hall**—chemo to begin 5/25; still in pain since surgery

• **Jennifer Clayton**—battling Lyme disease for 18 mos. symptoms from Lyme co-infections worsened in April, including muscle & joint pain, neurological issues; pray 2-mo regimen to kill babesia, bartonella, and parasites will be effective, not require additional treatment, and not prevent Jennifer from work and worship; treatment makes symptoms worse at first; pray for her mental, physical, and emotional health

• **Sandra Perry**—breathing and diabetes complications after pneumonia in April

• **Judy Strand**—at home after pneumonia; preparing for liver transplant in Sept

• **Brittany Tope's** grandmother—on dialysis, in ICU last week in Colorado Springs; **Brittany's**

mother **Gayle**—breast cancer has spread

• **Sarah Hadders**—recurring chest pains

• **Brett Witherington's** mother **Cheryl**—breast

cancer just diagnosed; **Sylvia Chapman, Brett's**

grandmother—third stage pancreatic cancer;

grandmother **Sue** had a heart attack recently,

10% blocked; **Sue & Aunt Connie Doss**—cancer

• **Mike Menard, Virginia's** son—pancreatic can-

cer; home, had 2nd chemo; **Virginia** pain from

wrenched leg

• 10-year-old **Benjamin Hymel**, of Longmont church—

brain cancer; at home, school after surgery; now start-

ing year's chemo and radiation cycles; eye patch

• **Valerie Greenwalt**—recovering from surgery to

remove broken needle in elbow

• the **Boyd's** extended families are undergoing

hardships: **Wendy's** father, **Dan Gutierrez**, back

in care center with cognitive problems; pray for

Eileen and Dan; Kenny's sister and brother-in-

law—divorce; pray for family **Jennifer, Kevin,**

Chloe, & Elijah Whittemore; Kenny's employ-

ee, **Damon Todd**—great grandson killed and

great granddaughter injured in collision recently

• **Samantha Harrod**—benign cyst removed from

her back recently; recovery another few weeks

• **Linda Szymanski**—broken arm & wrist; **Tracy**

Corray—broken bone in foot

• **Sheryle McNeill**—boil removed recently; pinched nerve

• **Berney Charo's** brother **Eliud**—prostate cancer

• **Ian Anderson, Mina Gonzalez's** nephew—rehab

• **Letha Fink's** brother **Kenneth Morrison** of GA—liver

disease, diagnosed with neuro-muscular disease

• **Bill Dennis**—improving; recurrent infections

• **River and Forest Cox's** great grandmother

Martha Rowe—in rehab for knee strengthening

• **Judy Sartin's** friend **George Vernon**—stage 4

esophageal cancer

• **Kim Howell's** coworker **Rachel Daniels**—new

baby **Titus**, genetic disease; **Howells'** 19-year-

old neighbor **Savannah Svensen** has leukemia

• **Noah Hadders's** teacher **Sharolyn Elmore**—

radiation for breast cancer

• **Randy Reames's** co-worker **Diane Estes**—ocular

melanoma



Exposing current trends *religious freedom on campus*

MSU Intern Expelled for Stating He Wouldn't Counsel, *by Michael Ware*

The sodomite agenda has more in mind than "equal rights." Conformity seems to be at the heart of what the militants are doing. There is in their actions a type of confessional that has not been seen since the Inquisition. It is not enough that they have changed the legal definition of marriage; they also want you to agree that it is right.

This kind of thinking has caused one student at Missouri State University to be expelled from the counseling program. Because he stated that he could not counsel a homosexual couple to remain as a couple, the school disallowed his intern hours and eventually expelled him. But the school may have to pay for this stand.

Christian News reported: "A former student at MSU has filed a legal challenge against school officials after he was allegedly expelled from the university counseling program for advising that he could not counsel those involved in homosexuality on relationship matters." Students in the program must complete 600 hours of internship work and 240 counseling hours.

Andrew Cash worked as an intern with the Springfield Marriage and Family Institute. In a class presentation, Cash invited a representative from the institute to talk to his class about relationship counseling. During the presentation, a student asked if the institute counsels homosexuals, and the representative said the institute would certainly counsel homosexuals individually, but not as a "couple." He advised that the Biblical convictions of organization workers would not align with assisting people to stay in homosexual relationships.

This, of course, caused the school to cry discrimination. The following week, MSU internship coordinator Kristi Perryman met with Cash and asked him about his beliefs regarding counseling homosexuals. Cash stated that he would rather provide a referral to another counselor for relationship advice.

Perryman advised that Cash would not be permitted to continue his internship at the Springfield Marriage and Family Institute and that his internship hours would not count toward the requirement. He was also asked to write a paper about working with homosexuals and demonstrate that he had "learned from the experience." Cash applied for a new internship, but also asserted that there was nothing wrong with working with the institute. Perryman met with peers about the matter, who agreed that Cash must either leave the program or go through remediation. Part of the remediation included retaking classes he had already passed with an A grade. Cash appealed the decision to his superiors, but was unsuccessful and was expelled from the university counseling program not long before graduation.

According to Cash's lawsuit, he was "targeted and punished for expressing his Christian [sic] worldview." He is seeking to be readmitted to the

continued on p. 3



meets at
13789 W. 8th Avenue
Golden, Colorado 80401
720-295-4530

Pastors

Larry Campbell (303) 246-8810
DeWayne Howell (303) 973-7283

Preacher

Jim Reingrover (303) 973-5102

info@thechurchingolden.com

Like us: www.facebook.com/pages/Westside-Church-of-Christ/276475819148309

Assembly Schedule

Sunday

Bible classes	9:00 am
Morning assembly	10:00 am
Afternoon assembly	1:30 pm

Wednesday

Bible classes	7:30 pm
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Sunday morning

- **adult Bible class**, "Courage to Live Holy Lives," DeWayne Howell

- **sermon**, Preaching Through First Corinthians (PTFC): chapter 11:16-34, "The Right Way to Observe the Lord's Supper," Jim Reingrover

Sunday afternoon

- **sermon**, Journey through Genesis, "Sodom, Gomorrah, and Lot," Genesis 18-19, Randy Reames