

# *the Maine Focus*

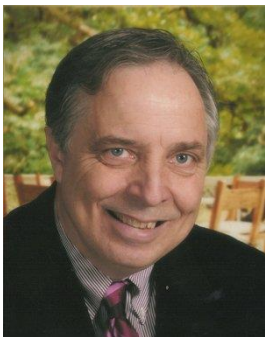
THE MAINE DISTRICT UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL ■ SPRING 2021 ■ VOLUME XIV, No. 2



O taste and see that the  
Lord is good: blessed is  
the man that trusteth in  
him.

*Psalm 34:8*





## LOVE GOD, LOVE THE TRUTH, LOVE EACH OTHER

*By: Rev. Rick Stoops, Superintendent  
Maine District UPCI*



The Sadducees were a dignified and aristocratic religious sect in the days of Christ who taught that there is no resurrection after death. They came to Jesus to publicly humiliate and discredit him. Jesus taught that there IS INDEED A RESURRECTION DAY COMING, and they didn't like it one bit!

One of them gave a wink, and sidled up to Jesus, "Sir, Moses said that if a man died without children, his brother should marry the widow and their children would get all the dead man's property. Well, we had among us a family of seven brothers. The first of these men married and then died, without children, so his widow became the second brother's wife. This brother also died without children, and the wife was passed to the next brother, and so on until she had been the wife of each of them. And then she also died. So, whose wife will she be in the resurrection? For she was the wife of all seven of them!"

Here is what Jesus had to say in Matthew 22:29, "Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God." Their error was caused by their ignorance of the Scriptures. Jesus Christ commanded us to search the scriptures.

In John 5:39, we read, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."

When Pharisees heard that Jesus had routed the Sadducees with his reply, they thought up a fresh question of their own. One of them, a lawyer, spoke up, "Sir, which is the most important command in the laws of Moses?"

Here is what Jesus had to say in Matthew 22:37-39, "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

### LOVE GOD

The Bible teaches us to Love the LORD thy God with all thy heart, soul, and mind. Many years ago I attended Gateway College of Evangelism in Florissant, Missouri. I was working my way through college and it required long days and nights. I was headed for my room one night and walked into the chapel to pray. I was dead tired and knelt in the darkened chapel. After praying for a few moments I heard someone else praying several rows ahead and this is what I heard. "I love you, but I don't love you enough, help me to love you more." I recognized the voice. It was a lady missionary who had buried her husband on the mission field of Ethiopia. She had ministered in a leper colony. From that day to this, one of my prayers is: "Lord, I love you, but I don't love you enough. Help me to love you more." I challenge you to make this one of your prayers as well.

There is a true story of a little boy whose sister needed a blood transfusion. The doctor explained that she had the same disease the boy had

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## FOCUS ADJUSTMENT

By: Rev. Cameron Cox

As you look around the world today there is so much stress, fear, strife, and turmoil. Our human nature is such that we have a tendency to so easily get caught up in the negative, even inside of the church. The problem we face however, is when our focus is on one area, we lose sight of everything else. If you were to extend your thumb out in front of your face and focus only on your thumb, everything beyond becomes blurred and out of focus. You could be standing in front of the most beautiful, scenic view, but if your focus is in the wrong place you will miss out on what is readily available to you. Yet, the opposite is also true. You can simply adjust your focus to look beyond your thumb, and suddenly it is that scenic view ahead that consumes your vision.

The same is applicable in our spiritual lives. We can become so preoccupied by the issues, stress, and negativity all around that we lose sight of what is really important; and can no longer see clearly the hope we have in the God that we serve. I just want to simply encourage you today to adjust your focus, look beyond your situation, and see that there is still hope.

I recently went for a walk behind my house and I came across a tree that immediately captured my attention with the strange shape it held. I stared in wonder and surmised that in all likelihood, this tree had suffered a catastrophic event very early in life. Perhaps a person had twisted its small trunk; or potentially another tree had fallen on it, causing the apparent deformation. Regardless of what occurred, something abnormal and unfair happened to this

tree. The amazing part though is the tree continued to grow, develop, and thrive despite what had happened to it.

Sometimes it is the simple things like this in life that God uses to teach us a lesson. In that moment of looking on that deformed tree I felt God speaking to me that even though we face issues and unfair circumstances there is still hope, there is still life, and there is still an opportunity for growth. Too often we allow hurts and unfortunate situations to

cripple us and prevent future growth. Your hurt, pain, emotional trauma, and circumstances dealt to you may dramatically alter your future; but it does not have to crush your potential. If you are reading this right now, that in itself, lets you know that you still have life, and you still have hope.

I'm reminded of the Psalmist David as he penned the words of Psalm 121 where he said,

*"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help! My help cometh from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."*

Even though you may have just experienced the most challenging year of your life, you may be in the deepest valley you have ever walked through, I encourage you to look to the hills and see the God of hope and allow Him to carry you through. Keep growing, keep pressing on, adjust your focus, there is still life and there is still hope.

*Rev. Cameron Cox is Youth Ministries President for the Maine District UPCI. He serves as Associate Pastor at Crossroads Apostolic Church in Ellsworth.*





## 2020 MAINE ESTHER CONFERENCE

By: Jackie Little

Girls in Maine celebrated the 2020 Esther Conference in a different way than we originally expected. While the pandemic disrupted many of our normal activities and prevented us from gathering together as a full group, Maine Ladies Ministries was committed to helping our girls feel loved. Over 90 girls, ages 8-16, registered online and each received a free Esther Conference t-shirt as well as many other fun treats. Several churches hosted their own Esther Conference event and gathered in small groups. Sis Debbie Sanders from Hawaii shared a devotion related to our theme of being *Known* and loved by God. The enemy wants nothing better than to destroy our children. Your giving to Mother's Memorial made this virtual event possible. Thank you for investing in the Kingdom and helping us impact girls across Maine!

*Sis. Jackie Little is pastor's wife at the First UPC of Lewiston and serves as the Maine District Ladies Ministries President.*





# BROKEN BUT BLESSED

By: Rev. Jerron Carney

There was a survey taken where people were asked to finish this sentence. The question asked was, “Jesus became real when...” There were many different responses; here are a few:

- Jesus became real when I could no longer pretend, I was in control.
- Jesus became real when I had to admit that I couldn’t fix things.
- Jesus became real when I knew I wasn’t strong enough.
- Jesus became real when I had no one else to turn to.
- Jesus became real when I had disappointed everyone who loved me.
- Jesus became real when I was told I had three months to live.
- Jesus became real when I had lost control of my addiction.
- Jesus became real when my depression became too much for me.
- Jesus became real when I lost my thirty-year job.

The list goes on and on. But what all of those people were expressing can really be wrapped up into one single response: Jesus became real when...I was broken. Being broken is not an easy journey, because none of us want to go there. To put it another way, we have got to come to the end of ourselves for God to use us. “The end of me!” “Me” doesn’t like confrontation, and “me” is most interested in the promotion and success of me. “Me” would much rather learn how to advance me, not end.

But Jesus said in Luke chapter nine that whoever wants to hang on to his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will find it. He said a lot of seemingly upside-down things like that. Time and time again, Jesus shows us that blessings begin and fulfillment is found in the least likely place—the end of ourselves (our brokenness). Because it’s at the end of ourselves that we finally realize we aren’t strong enough, smart enough, or talented enough.

Ironically that is when we are in the best position to be used by God in significant ways.

***Real life is found at the end of me.*** When we read the Gospels, we see Jesus leave his throne in heaven and robe himself in flesh. He gave up perfection for brokenness and pain. If we really want to come to the end of me, it starts with us being “broken.” Jesus’ best known lesson is called the Sermon on the Mount. This is where he

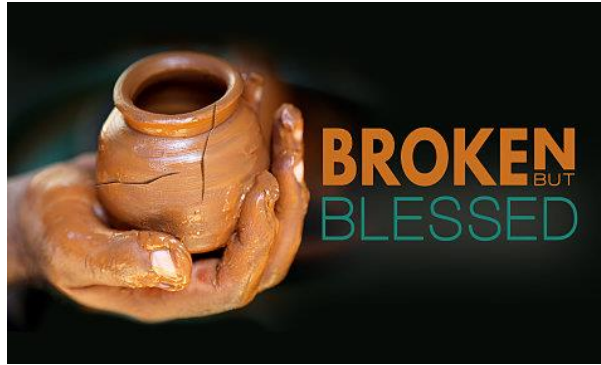
introduced the great kingdom paradox: that at the end of me, we find real life in Him.

In Matthew 5:1-2 (NKJV), we read, “And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying.” And he begins

launching his sermon with a list of very striking paradoxes. One of the first was, “Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:3) “Blessed are the poor.” You might be thinking, “Yes, I win, because I’m completely broke.” Maybe Jesus misspoke, surely it should be “Blessed are the rich.” Jesus uses a word for “poor” here what translates to “destitute” or “bankrupt.” He’s basically saying “Blessed are those who are bankrupt in spirit...or blessed are those who are broken in spirit.” Jesus is saying that His kingdom begins in you when you come to the end of yourself and realize you have nothing to offer. When you come up with nothing, that’s when you are in the position God can use you.

In Luke chapter seven, we read about dinner at the home of a religious leader named Simon, who is hosting the visiting rabbi, Jesus. Simon is apparently not a Jesus enthusiast. Luke makes this pretty clear to us. There was a protocol for this kind of evening. It was all spelled out in the rules. It began with greeting the guest with a kiss of the hand, a sign of welcome. But Simon passes on this. After that, foot washing was a daily reality in a dusty culture that revered cleanliness. The roads weren’t paved, so you washed your feet when you visited a friend. At this kind of dinner, the host was expected to help wash the visitor’s feet. Simon blew off this rule too. At the very least, he could have offered a bowl of water and let Jesus wash his own feet, but he didn’t do that either.

*Continued on page seven.*



# MAINE District Family Camp

June 21-25, 2021

★ Old Town

## Highlights

**The Superintendent's Message**  
*Rev. Rick Stoops*

**Morning Bible Classes**

**Kids Church!**

**Youth Service**

**Anointed Preaching**

**Fellowship**

**Music and Singing**

## Guest Speakers



**Dr. James Littles**



**Rev. Wayne Huntley**

## Local Accommodations

**Black Bear Inn**  
4 Godfrey Drive  
Orono, Maine  
Tel 207 | 866-7120

**Comfort Inn**  
10 Bangor Mall Boulevard  
Bangor, Maine  
Tel 207 | 990-0577

**Howard Johnson**  
336 Odlin Road  
Bangor, Maine  
Tel 207 | 942-5251

**Country Inn**  
936 Stillwater Avenue  
Bangor, Maine  
Tel 207 | 941-0200

**Maine District Campground**

**2220 Bennoch Road**

**Old Town, Maine**

*Exit 197 of I-95 North, go Southeast on  
ME-43. Go to first four-way intersection, turn left.  
Campground is 1.4 miles on the left.*

# Make plans to attend!

## BROKEN BUT BLESSED, *continued...*

The next item on the checklist was anointing the guest's head with oil. This was an especially hospitable gesture, and very fine oil should be used. But once again Simon has no anointment for Jesus. Simon isn't trying and getting it wrong. He's not trying at all! Remember, Simon is a religious leader, and right out in front of all the dignitaries, he's ignoring the religious rules. Perhaps, because of his wealth, he is comfortable. Because of his power, he is respected or at least feared. Because he's at the top of his game, he's arrogant.

Then, there is a scene everyone recognizes. In the middle of the meal, a woman crashes the party. She has no invitation, she just walks in. Suddenly things get a little uncomfortable. Luke 7:37 identifies this woman as someone who has "Lived a sinful life." She's a prostitute. And here she is at the religious leader's home.

Her heart must have been feeling some blend of shame, humiliation, and doubt. But something brought her there. With daggers being stared at her from every direction, all this woman sees is Jesus. As their eyes lock, there is no judgement. She is broken and she knows it, but he sees something else. She is beautifully broken. As the woman approaches Jesus, she comes first to His feet. Feet left filthy by Simon. She looks around hesitantly. Then she meets the gaze of Jesus, full and bold. He sees treasure, not trash. He doesn't simply accept her, she seems to have made his day. Because of this, she is undone. She has come to the end of herself. Tears begin to flow from her eyes. At this point all she can do is be real, because the love of Jesus is real.

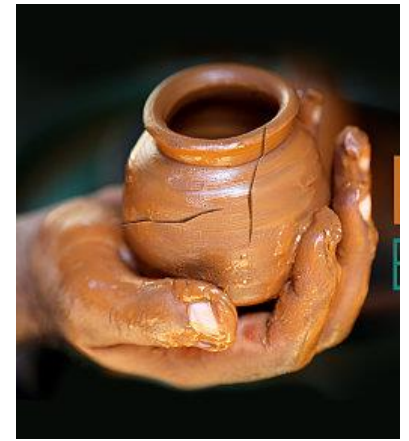
She falls to the floor and begins to let the tears become the cleansing water Simon should have supplied. Here is the powerful thing about tears: that when they fill our eyes, that's when we see most clearly. She knows Jesus' feet need to be washed at this time. But she can't just call for a towel. Instead, she lets her hair down. In those days women always wore their hair up in public. If a woman let her hair down for a man who wasn't her husband, it was considered grounds for divorce. We can only imagine the audible gasp that filled the room as she reached to unfasten her hair. This woman provided water from her eyes, and a towel from her hair. A dirty woman has become a living

embodiment of cleansing. Then she brings out the perfume.

Women of the time often wore a small flask around their necks, filled with a bit of fragrance. For a prostitute, it would be an important part of daily business. Where one drop would have been enough for the feet of Jesus, she empties the entire flask. She will not need this ointment anymore. She offers all that she has because He has changed all that she is. We read in Luke 7:44-48 (NKJV), "Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for my feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. Therefore, I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven.'" With those words, Jesus has enacted the beatitude "Blessed are the poor in spirit." He has blessed the poorest spirit imaginable and rebuked the gaudiest, richest, and most arrogant.

Which person in the story do you want to be most like? The high and mighty, or the broken but blessed? If you had to choose, would you be more like the well-respected religious leader who seems to have his stuff together? Or would you rather be the broken prostitute who embarrasses herself but deeply experiences the love and grace of Jesus Christ?

This is a bit of a trick question because most of us want both. We want to be made whole without having to be broken! But the harsh reality is we are all broken. Some of us just do a better job of hiding it than others. In Luke 7 it is painfully obvious that the woman is broken. But what about Simon? This is a guy who has spent the first twelve years of his life memorizing the first twelve books of the Bible. By fifteen, he had memorized the entire Old Testament. This means he can recite nearly 300



*Continued on page eight.*



## BROKEN BUT BLESSED, *continued...*



prophecies about the coming Messiah. And at this moment, he's looking across the table at him. Yet Simon treats the Messiah as an unwanted dinner guest. Simon is broken too. He doesn't know he is broken, but he is just as broken as the

woman who entered his house that evening. After all, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23 NKJV)

But we are great masters of illusion, experts at covering pain, partakers of loneliness, worried about what the rest of this year will bring. Is it even worth it to stay in the ministry? Some of us have been wearing masks for much longer than the pandemic. Will we embrace the paradox that brokenness is the way to blessing? The beautiful truth is God makes the broken blessed. He takes the overlooked, the undervalued, the left out, the written off, the damaged and destroyed, and then He does what only He can do. He makes the broken beautiful. He makes the broken blessed.

In his book *Lord, Break Me*, William MacDonald points out that in the physical world, broken things lose their value. They are thrown away. Glassware, dishes, furniture. Flaws are fatal. But in the spiritual world, just the reverse is true. Broken things are precious. Broken people revel the beauty and the power of God!

If you want to be made whole, allow yourself to be broken first. We see this demonstrated in the ministry of Jesus Christ. He's at the peak of his ministry career, if you will, in the book of John. Miracle after miracle. But He knew there was a greater purpose, a greater calling. A breaking was necessary. Jesus began his trip to Jerusalem, knowing that soon he would lay down his life for our sins. He sends Peter and John ahead to the Upper Room in Jerusalem to make the preparations for the Passover Feast. That evening after sunset, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples as they prepared to share in the Passover. By performing this humble act of service, He begins by breaking His will, so the will of the Father can be accomplished. As the Lamb of God, Jesus was about to fulfill the meaning of Passover by giving his body to be broken and his blood to be shed in

sacrifice, freeing us from sin and death. His body (the flesh) had to be broken in order for His body (the Church) to be blessed.

In the ultimate breaking of His will, Jesus and the disciples left the Upper Room and went to the Garden of Gethsemane. The disciples, weary from the week, slept while Jesus prayed, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done. Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground." (Luke 22:42-44 NKJV) In Isaiah 53:5, we see our brokenness from the perspective of the cross. "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed."

The word wounded in this verse actually refers to bruises, black and blue marks created by broken blood vessels. And the word healed comes from a root word meaning "mended, repaired, thoroughly made whole." Isaiah is saying that we are made whole because He was broken! WHY brokenness?

In Isaiah 64:8 (NKJV), we read, "But now, O Lord, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter; And all we are the work of Your hand." We must remain broken to be moldable and pliable. Being broken always allows the Potter the opportunity to build back better. It's those stiffnecked and stubborn vessels that have to be either repaired or replaced.

HOW to stay broken? Intentional humility and submission. Humility being not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less. Submission is releasing or relinquishing control to a higher authority. "Not My Will, but Thy Will be done."

Brokenness does not disqualify us from becoming blessed; it is a necessary ingredient. That's why worship is so important. Worship can take brokenness and turn it in to blessings. Every time you worship, it's the beginning of something great. Every time you are faithful, it's the beginning of something great. Every time you shout in the midst of your trouble, it's the beginning of something great. Our brokenness leads to our blessing!

*Rev. Jerron Carney is from Columbia, Mississippi. This article is based on a message he shared at District Conference 2021.*



## ORDAINED AND BLESSED OF GOD

At the recent Maine District Conference, two ministers were prescribed ordination credentials by the United Pentecostal Church International. This ministerial credential is the highest level of ministry credential, and those who commit to ministry



and service to the Lord by being an ordained minister are both a blessing and blessed. This year, Rev. Nick Doucette and Rev. Jonny Channell were ordained. Bro. and Sis. Doucette moved to Bangor in 2018 from Canada to work with Bishop Charles Hurst. He became the Pastor at The Apostolic Lighthouse Church in Bangor in November 2020. In their spare time, the Doucette family enjoys spending time together and traveling to the many beautiful areas of the great state of Maine. Bro. and Sis. Doucette have two children: Gabby and Bowden.

Bro. Jonny Channell first felt the call of God on his life when he was just 12 years old. He has been pursuing that call ever since. In 2004, he met his wife,

Elizabeth, and they married in 2005. He and Elizabeth first became involved in youth ministry when they were appointed as



Youth Pastor at Apostolic Lighthouse Church in Bangor. They served there for two and a half years before becoming youth pastor at Calvary Apostolic Church and serving in that role for three years. Bro. Jonny Channell became a licensed minister in 2011. He was elected to serve as assistant pastor and music director at Calvary Apostolic Church in 2012. In 2015, he was elected to serve as Senior Assistant Pastor, and currently holds that position. Bro. and Sis. Channell have three boys: JJ, Jaxon, and Judah.

## SUMMER CAMP UPDATE

As we continue to exercise caution, ensure safety and wellbeing for all who attend our events, and give respect to guidance and requirements in place by the state of Maine and its governing agencies, we are adapting our summer camp schedule. Family Camp will be held the week of June 21-25 on the campgrounds. Crusaders' Camp has been canceled for this year. We will be hosting Kids Church during Family Camp—10:30 a.m. on Tuesday through Friday, and we hope children from across the state can participate in those services.

Youth Camp is being adapted to a youth-convention style event July 21-23. All activities and services will be held at an alternate location from the campgrounds. Parents and leaders at the local church level will be responsible to transport young people to and from the activities; there will be no housing hosted by the district for youth camp. The Black Bear Inn has rooms available for \$89 per night for those who wish to stay in the area. They can be reached at (207) 866-7120. Please refer to Maine Youth Ministries leadership and their Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/maineupciyouth> for additional information. As well, we have enclosed a flyer with more details about Youth Camp 2021 with this edition of *The Maine Focus*.

### Upcoming Missionary Schedule

**June 8 – 13, 2021**

Jacob Palma | Uruguay

**July 6 – 11, 2021**

Robert Dame | Bolivia

*If you want information on hosting a missionary in your church, please reach out!*

**Rev. Todd Little**

P. (207) 754-3582

E. [teachrtodd@aol.com](mailto:teachrtodd@aol.com)

We appreciate all who have hosted a missionary service, hosted a missionary, gave to the "I Am Global" offering, and who faithfully support our missionaries through Partners in Missions. Your support makes a difference!



## LOVE GOD, LOVE THE TRUTH, LOVE EACH OTHER, *continued...*

recovered from two years earlier. Her only chance of recovery was a transfusion from someone who had previously conquered the disease. There is a true story of a little boy whose sister needed a blood transfusion. The doctor explained that she had the same disease the boy had recovered from two years earlier. Her only chance of recovery was a transfusion from someone who had previously conquered the disease. Since the two children had the same rare blood type, the boy was an ideal donor. "Would you give your blood to Mary?" the doctor asked. Johnny hesitated. His lower lip started to tremble. Then he smiled and said, "Sure, for my sister." Soon the two children were wheeled into the hospital room. Mary, pale and thin. Johnny, robust and healthy. Neither spoke, but when their eyes met, Johnny grinned. As the nurse inserted the needle into his arm, Johnny's smile faded. He watched the blood flow through the tube. With the ordeal almost over, Johnny's voice, slightly shaky, broke the silence. "Doctor, when do I die?" Only then did the doctor realize why Johnny had hesitated, why his lip had trembled when he agreed to donate his blood. He thought giving his blood to his sister would mean giving up his life. In that brief moment, he had made his noble decision.

**You decide** whether or not you will love—the Lord, the Truth, and each other. I made a decision to love the Lord Jesus Christ many years ago. Jesus gave a warning concerning the end times! We read in Matthew 24:12-13, "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."

Don't let the evil goings on of our day cause your flame for Jesus to flicker and finally go out! You can make this! He that shall endure unto the end! Stand firm! Be faithful! It will be worth it all when we see Jesus!



## **LOVE THE TRUTH**

When Jesus spoke of the end times he warned of deception and delusion. We read in Matthew 24:4-5, "Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."

Perhaps one of the most important prophetic, end time passages in the entire Bible is found in 2 Thessalonians 2. Paul beseeches the brethren by "the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him." Paul believed and taught in the imminent return of Jesus Christ! Paul taught that the reason many will be left behind and come under the sway of the Anti-Christ is because, though they knew the truth, they did not love the truth.

II Thessalonians 2:10-11 says, "And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; **because they received not the love of the truth**, that they might be saved. And **for this cause** God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie." We also read in Proverbs 23:23, "**Buy the truth, and sell it not.**"

## **LOVE EACH OTHER**

In Matthew 22:39, we are instructed, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." May God help us not to forget what really matters.

Carl Coleman was driving to work one morning when he bumped fenders with another motorist. Both cars stopped, and the woman driving the other car got out to survey the damage. She was distraught. It was her fault, she admitted, and hers was a new car, less than two days from the showroom. She dreaded facing her husband.

Coleman was sympathetic; but he had to pursue the exchange of license and registration data. She reached into her glove compartment to retrieve the documents in an envelope. On the first paper to tumble out, written in her husband's distinctive hand, were these words: "*In case of accident, remember, Honey, it's you I love, not the car.*"

Jesus said, "It must needs be that offenses come." Anybody who lives on this earth is going to

*Continued on page 11.*



LOVE GOD, LOVE THE TRUTH,  
LOVE EACH OTHER, *continued...*



be offended at times. It must needs be that offenses come. The most important thing is that we do not STAY offended.

I'm remembering the neighbor who was watching his friend plowing with a mule. His friend would with great effort pull the mule's head around at the end of each row. Finally he called to his neighbor, "Hey Fred, you know that mule is trained to turn when you call "Gee" or "Haw." The farmer replied, "Yep, I know it, but this mule kicked me seven years ago and I haven't spoken to him since." Remember the Lord's Prayer says, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." In Matthew 6:14-15, we read, "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

Not once but twice the Bible warns, "With the merciful thou wilt show thyself merciful..." There was a young man in Napoleon's army who committed a deed so terrible that it was worthy of death. The day before he was scheduled for the firing squad, the young man's mother went to Napoleon and pleaded for mercy for her son. Napoleon replied, "Woman, your son does not deserve mercy." Her answer gives us a better understanding of just what mercy is. She said, "I know, if he deserved it—then it would not be mercy." With the merciful thou wilt show thyself merciful.

**LOVE GOD! LOVE THE TRUTH!**  
**LOVE EACH OTHER!**

## CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

The 2021 NE Senior Bible Quizzing Extravaganza champions in the experienced division are the quizzers from the First United Pentecostal Church of Augusta. This year's extravaganza was held in Chesapeake, Virginia. Bible quizzing is a program requiring commitment to study, prayer, and practice. Our hats are off to Alexander Davis and Daniel McCray on their team win! Congratulations to Daniel McCray on achieving the highest scoring individual award at the extravaganza as well. Many thanks to Coach Joseph Giuffrida, Pastor Rick Stoops, and the parents, friends, family, and supporters of Bible Quizzing!





## June 2021

1	SOC Offering Due	
1-12	Campground Clean-up Days	Old Town
5	Junior and Senior Bible Quiz Finals	
7	Ladies of Prayer International	
20	Father's Day   Men's Ministry Offering Sunday	
21-25	Family Camp	Old Town
23	District Board Meeting	Old Town
24	Ministers & Spouses Banquet Following Camp Meeting Evening Service	
30	Mother's Memorial Offering Due	

## July 2021

1	Sheaves for Christ Kick-off
5	Ladies of Prayer International
21-23	Youth Camp (Modified) for Ages 12-18
23-27	Senior Bible Quizzing National Tournament
30-31	Men's Motorcycle Ride

## August 2021

2	Ladies of Prayer International
19-20	Men's Conference
27	Back to School Rally
29	Sheaves for Christ Offering Call-in Date



*All correspondence, article submissions and input should be sent to*

### THE MAINE FOCUS

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