



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER

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MAY, 2007

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD: 3RD. AVE. & HWY. 508 ONALASKA, WASHINGTON 98570

A STRONG WOMEN

A strong woman works out everyday to keep her body in shape, but a woman of strength kneels in prayer to keep her soul in shape.



A strong woman isn't afraid of anything, but a woman of strength shows courage in the midst of fear.

A strong woman won't let anyone get the best of her, but a woman of strength gives the best of her to everyone.

A strong woman walks sure footedly, but a woman of strength knows God will catch her when she falls.

A strong woman wears the look of confidence on her face, but a woman of strength wears grace.

A strong woman has faith that she is strong enough for the journey, but a woman of strength has faith that it is in the journey that she will become strong.

◆ Received from Norm & Velma Chilson

AN ARMY OF TWO

By
Jim Liebelt

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."
Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

An old lighthouse sits on the edge of the shore not far from

where I live. At this lighthouse a plaque memorializes what has been called "An Army of Two." During the Revolutionary War, a British ship anchored just off shore and lowered smaller boats with British troops that headed toward the shore. Two young girls, having seen the British soldiers approaching from the lighthouse, took a drum and fife outside and played. The British troops heard the music and mistakenly assumed that the noise was coming from an American militia and quickly retreated. No one would have ever thought that two young girls could have won a decisive battle that day, all without a shot ever being fired.

If you've ever thought that you can't make a difference, let this simple, true story from America's history be an encouragement to you. Amazingly, something as simple as playing a fife and drum can make a huge difference! God has gifted you uniquely and specially and if you offer yourself to Him today, you can expect that even in some small way, He will provide you with opportunities to make a difference in someone else's life.

How? Who knows? It may not take much. Perhaps a kind word spoken to a stranger, an e-mail to a friend, giving a hug to a family member, or helping a peer at school or work, could be just the



encouragement that someone in your life needs to help them make it through a tough day.

Don't underestimate God's willingness to use your ordinary actions to touch the life of someone else in extraordinary ways! Today, be willing to be "An Army of One."

◆ Received from Joe & Freda Downs

AIN'T

Author Unknown

He was just a little boy,
On a week's first day.
Wandering home from Sunday School,
And dawdling on the way.

He scuffed his shoes into the grass;
He even found a caterpillar.
He found a fluffy milkweed pod,
And blew out all the "filler."
A bird's nest in a tree overhead,
So wisely placed up so high.
Was just another wonder,
That caught his eager eye.

A neighbor watched his zig zag
course,
And hailed him from the lawn;
Asked him where he'd been that day
And what was going on.

"I've been to Bible School,"
He said and turned a piece of sod.
He picked up a wiggly worm replying,
"I've learned a lot about God."

"M'm very fine way," the neighbor said,
"For a boy to spend his time."
"If you'll tell me where God is,
I'll give you a brand new dime."

Quick as a flash the answer came!
Nor were his accents faint.
"I'll give you a dollar, Mister,
If you can tell me where God ain't."

MEAN MOMS

Someday when my children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates a parent, I will tell them, as my Mean Mom told me: I loved you enough...to ask where you were going, with whom, and what time you would be home.

I loved you enough to be silent and let you discover that your new best friend was a creep.

I loved you enough to stand over you for two hours while you cleaned your room, a job that should have taken 15 minutes.

I loved you enough to let you see anger, disappointment, and tears in my eyes. Children must learn that their parents aren't perfect.

I loved you enough to let you assume the responsibility for your actions even when the penalties were so harsh they almost broke my heart.

But most of all, I loved you enough . . . to say NO when I knew you would hate me for it.

Those were the most difficult battles of all. I'm glad I won them, because in the end you won, too. And someday when your children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates parents, you will tell them.

Was your Mom mean? I know mine was. We had the meanest mother in the whole world! While other kids ate candy for breakfast, we had to have cereal, eggs, and toast.

When others had a Pepsi and a Twinkie for lunch, we had to eat sandwiches.

And you can guess our mother fixed us a dinner that was different from what other kids had, too.

Mother insisted on knowing



where we were at all times. You'd think we were convicts in a prison. She had to know who our friends were, and what we were doing with

She insisted that if we said we would be gone for an hour, we would be gone for an hour or less.

We were ashamed to admit it, but she had the nerve to break the Child Labor Laws by making us work. We had to wash the dishes, make the beds, learn to cook, vacuum the floor, do laundry, empty the trash and all sorts of cruel jobs. I think she would lie awake at night

thinking of more things for us to do. She always insisted on us telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

By the time we were teenagers; she could read our minds and had eyes in the back of her head. Then, life was really tough!

Mother wouldn't let our friends' just honk the horn when they drove up. They had to come up to the door so she could meet them. While everyone else could date when they were 12 or 13, we had to wait until we were 16.

Because of our mother we missed out on lots of things other kids experienced. None of us have ever been caught shoplifting, vandalizing other's property or ever arrested for any crime. It was all her fault.

Now that we have left home, we are all educated, honest adults. We are doing our best to be mean parents just like Mom was.

I think that is what's wrong with the world today. It just doesn't have enough **MEAN MOMS!**

◆ Received from James Sparks (From Carol Ann Bergesen of Southern California La Mesa Area)

A MOTHER ASKED

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

*A mother asked President Bush,
"Why did my son have to die in Iraq?"*

Another mother asked President Kennedy,

"Why did my son have to die in Viet Nam?"

Another mother asked President Truman,

"Why did my son have to die in Korea?"

Another mother asked President F. D. Roosevelt,

"Why did my son have to die at Iowa Jima?"

Another mother asked President W. Wilson,

"Why did my son have to die on the battlefield of France?"

Yet another mother asked President Lincoln,

"Why did my son have to die at Gettysburg?"

And yet another mother asked President G. Washington;

"Why did my son have to die near Valley Forge?"

Then long, long ago, a mother asked...

"Heavenly Father, why did my Son have to die on a cross outside of Jerusalem?"

The answers to all these are similar

--

"So that others may have life and dwell in peace, happiness and freedom."

◆ Received from Ruth Bushnell



ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

SUNDAYS

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM
MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM

~

EVENING SING & PRAISE
SERVICE
6:00 PM

~

WEDNESDAYS

SUP & STUDY

~

SATURDAY, MAY 5

SPECIAL LADIES LUNCHEON
12:00 NOON

~

SATURDAY, MAY 12
CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
10:00 AM

~

SATURDAY, MAY 19

MEN'S BREAKFAST
7:00 AM

~

SUNDAY, MAY 20

FOOD BANK SUNDAY
&
LIGHTHOUSE QUARTET
11:00 AM SERVICE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

THURSDAY, MAY 3

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
NOON TO 1:00 PM
AT CENTRALIA LIBRARY'S
GAZEBO
EVERYONE IS INVITED
MUSIC, PRAYER, SCRIPTURE

~

BLACKWOOD BROTHER'S QUARTET

@

ONALASKA ASSEMBLY OF
GOD
6:00 PM

~

SENIORS ON THE GO

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16
12:00 NOON

~

AMERICAN LEGION

THURSDAY, MAY 17

PNA EVENTS

7:00 PM

MEN'S RETREAT

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
MAY 18 & 19

@

DOUBLE K

A WORD FROM OUR CHURCH COUNCIL

At our April meeting our insurance broker came to offer some explanations pertaining to our coverage. There are a few areas we will need to increase coverage. Overall it was a good meeting. We learned there are a lot of exceptions in insurance policies to what most folks believe might be covered.

A draft proposal for the Pastor's contract was presented for consideration. It will be discussed and voted upon at the May meeting.

The By-Laws Committee will present necessary changes to keep our church in compliance with current rules and laws. These will be discussed and voted upon at the May meeting.

A few members of the congregation contributed to help prepare baskets for the Onalaska High School Scholarship Auction. Our church donated two baskets with a kitchen theme. Each basket sold for \$ 35.00 at auction. We were asked to participate next year. So put on your thinking caps that our church may contribute something really unique that will help to swell the scholarship fund. More than \$14,000.00 was raised from the dinner and auction this year to help students begin their college educations.

I believe there are two critical areas we all need to work towards changing to be successful in God's work. First we must change from a negative mode of approaching any subject presented to one more positive. Secondly, we must begin to think outside the eye of a needle. These are the things that hold back church growth, as well as personal growth, in the fulfillment of God's way. Please pray for greater vision.

Our next Church Council meeting will be May 12, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.; meetings usually last two hours. Please feel free to join us in our deliberations. This is your church and your contributions towards governing the church more successfully are a most valuable asset.

Susan Olsen
Church Council Chairperson

LIGHTHOUSE QUARTET

On Sunday, May 20 the **LIGHTHOUSE QUARTET** will be sharing with us their love for Jesus Christ in a concert during the 11:00 am Worship service. The quartet is from our sister church in Lacey, the Olympia/Lacey Church of God. You will enjoy the Southern Gospel music they present. This would be a wonderful time to invite your neighbors and friends to visit our church. We will be taking a love offering for them at the end of the service.

NO SCHOOL DESKS

Back in September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a social studies school teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten.

On the first day of school, with permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she took all of the desks out of the classroom.

The kids came into first period and there were no desks. They obviously looked around and said, "Ms. Cothren, where's our desk?" And she said, "You can't have a desk until you tell me how you earn them."

They thought, "Well, maybe it's our grades."

"No," she said.

"Maybe it's our behavior."

And she told them, "No, it's not even your behavior."

And so they came and went in the first period, still no desks in the classroom. Second period, same thing, third period too. By early afternoon television news crews had gathered in Ms. Cothren's class to find out about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of the classroom.

The last period of the day, Martha Cothren gathered her class. They were at this time sitting on the floor around the sides of the room. And she says, "Throughout the day no one has really understood how you earn the desks that sit in this classroom ordinarily." She said, "Now I'm going to tell you."

Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it, and as she did 27 U.S.

veterans, wearing their uniforms, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. And they placed those school desks in rows, and then they stood along the wall. And by the time they had finished placing those desks, those kids, for the first time I think perhaps in their lives, understood how they earned those desks.



Martha said, "You don't have to earn those desks. These guys did it for you. They put them out there for you, but it's up to you to sit here responsibly to learn, to be good students and good citizens, because they paid a price for you to have that desk, and don't ever forget it."

Friends, I think sometimes we forget that the freedoms that we have are freedoms not because of celebrities. The freedoms are because of ordinary people who did extraordinary things, who loved this country more than life itself, and who not only earned a school desk for a kid at the Robinson High School in Little Rock, but who earned a seat for you and me to enjoy this great land we call home, this wonderful nation that we better love enough to protect and preserve with the kind of conservative, solid values and principles that made us a great nation.

◆ *Received from Jude Cooper*

A MOTHER'S CONCERN

A Mom was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling

that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe.

So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor, Mrs. Goodnest, if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

Mrs. Goodnest said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed.

The next school day, Mrs. Goodnest and her little girl, Marcy, set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor boy he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the boys walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally he said to Timmy, "Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?"

Timmy nonchalantly replied, "Yeah, I know who she is".

The friend said, "Well, who is she?"

"That's just Shirley Goodnest", Timmy replied, "and her daughter Marcy".

"Shirley Goodnest? Who is she and why is she following us"?

"Well", Timmy explained, "Every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life', so I guess I'll just have to get used to it"!

May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today, and always.

◆ *Received from Eva Dean Stone*



Q
U
I
Z

Last month's answer was the little boy with his lunch of five loaves and two fishes. My brother, Jim, in Scottsdale was the first who came up with the correct answer and I think someone here also had the right answer but for the life me I can't remember who it was. If you were the one to answer the quiz please let me know and I'll give you the candy bar.

Here is the quiz for this month.

Three men I killed
That's what I did.
It cost me my life,
For the life that I lived.

I had a lot of power
And it went to my head.
You know the names
Of the three that are dead.

The first I killed
Was for revenge.
And if I could
I would do it again.

The second I killed
Was for my king
Although he had said
We should not do such a thing.

The third I killed
So I could keep my place.
But I ended up
Dying a death of disgrace.

I killed many more
The Bible do show
But the name of these three
Are the ones you should know.

Now tell me my name
And the name of three I did kill
And a candy bar will be yours
If you have this skill.

A SCIENCE LESSON

Miss Jones had been giving her second-grade students a lesson on science. She had explained about



magnets and showed how they would pick up nails and other bits of iron.

Now it was question time, and she asked, "My name begins with the letter 'M' and I pick up things. What am I?"

A little boy on the front row proudly said, "You're a mother!"

◆ Received from Jude Cooper

APPLES AND WINE

Women are like apples on trees. The best ones are at the top of the tree. Most men don't want to reach



for the good ones because they are afraid of falling and getting hurt.

And besides it takes a lot of work to climb to the top and pick the best. The apples at the top think something is wrong with them, when in reality, they're amazing. They just have to wait for the right man to come along, the one who is brave enough and is willing to climb all the way to the top of the tree.

Now Men... Well men are like a fine wine. They begin as grapes, and it's up to women to stomp the stuffing out of them



until they turn into something acceptable to have dinner with.

◆ Received from Ruth Bushnell

PROPER WAGES

A man owned a small dairy farm just outside of Onalaska, Washington. The Washington State Department of Labor



claimed he was not paying proper wages to his help and sent an agent out to interview him.

"I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them," demanded the agent.

"Well," replied the rancher, "There's my milker who's been with me for 3 years. I pay him \$600 a week plus free room and board.

The cook has been here for 18 months, and I pay her \$500 per week plus free room and board.

Then there's the half-wit who works about 18 hours every day and does about 90% of all the work around here. He makes about \$10 per week, pays his own room and board."

"That's the guy I want to talk to, the half-wit," says the agent.

"That would be me," replied the dairy farmer.

◆ Received from Jude Cooper

GOOD ANSWERS

TEACHER: Winnie, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.

WINNIE: Me!

TEACHER: Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?

SIMON: No sir, I don't have to. My Mom is a good cook.