



# CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



[www.onalaskachurchofgod.com](http://www.onalaskachurchofgod.com)

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## A STORMY FLIGHT

A pastor had been on a long flight from one place to another. The first warning of the approaching problems came when the sign on the airplane flashed on: Fasten your seat belts. Then, after a while, a calm voice said, "We shall not be serving the beverages at this time as we are expecting a little turbulence. Please be sure your seat belt is fastened."

As he looked around the aircraft, it became obvious that many of the passengers were becoming apprehensive. Later, the voice of the announcer said, "We are so sorry that we are unable to serve the meal at this time. The turbulence is still ahead of us."

And then the storm broke. The ominous cracks of thunder could be heard even above the roar of the engines. Lightning lit up the darkening skies, and within moments that great plane was like a cork tossed around on a celestial ocean. One moment the airplane was lifted on terrific currents of air; the next, it dropped as if it were about to crash.

The pastor confessed that he shared the discomfort and fear of those around him. He said, "As I looked around the plane, I could see that nearly all the passengers were upset and alarmed.

Some were praying. The future seemed ominous and many were wondering if they would make it through the storm.

"Then, I suddenly saw a little girl. Apparently the storm meant nothing to her. She had tucked her feet beneath her as she sat on her seat; she was reading a book and everything within her small world was calm and orderly.

"Sometimes she closed her eyes, then she would read again;

then she would straighten her legs, but worry and fear were not in her world. When the plane was

being buffeted by the terrible storm when it lurched this way and that, as it rose and fell with frightening severity, when all the adults were scared half to death, that marvelous child was completely composed and unafraid." The minister could hardly believe his eyes.

It was not surprising therefore, that when the plane finally reached its destination and all the passengers were hurrying to disembark, our pastor lingered to speak to the girl whom he had watched for such a long time. Having commented about the storm and behavior of the plane, he asked why she had not been afraid.

The child replied, "Cause my Daddy's the pilot, and he's taking

me home."

There are many kinds of storms that buffet us.

Physical, mental, financial, domestic, and many other storms can easily and quickly darken our skies and throw our plane into apparently uncontrollable movement. We have all known such times, and let us be honest and confess, it is much easier to be at rest when our feet are on the ground than when we are being tossed about a darkened sky.

Let us remember: Our Father is the Pilot. He is in control and taking us home.

♦ Received from Joe & Freda Downs

## CHOCOLATE CALORIES



A good piece of chocolate has about 200 calories. As I enjoy two servings per night, and a few more on weekends, I consume 3,500 calories of chocolate in a week, which equals one pound of weight per week.



Therefore...

In the last 3 1/2 years, I have had a chocolate caloric intake of about 180 pounds. I weigh only 165 pounds, (I obviously didn't write this, as I weigh considerably more than 165) so without chocolate, I would have wasted away to nothing about three months ago!

I owe my life to chocolate.



## **"BEWARE OF GARBAGE TRUCKS!"**

How often do you let other people's nonsense change your mood? Do you let a bad driver, rude waiter, curt boss, or an insensitive employee ruin your day? Unless you're the Terminator, for an instant you're probably set back on your heels. However, the mark of a successful person is how quickly she can get back her focus on what's important.

Sixteen years ago I learned this lesson. I learned it in the back of a New York City taxi cab. Here's what happened.

I hopped in a taxi, and we took off for Grand Central Station. We were driving in the right lane when, all of a sudden, a black car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us. My taxi driver slammed on his breaks, skidded, and missed the other car's back end by just inches!

The driver of the other car, the guy who almost caused a big accident, whipped his head around and he started yelling bad words at us.

My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And, I mean, he was friendly. So, I said, "Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!" And this is when my taxi driver told me what I now call, "The Law of the Garbage Truck."

Many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage, full of frustration, full of anger, and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they

need a place to dump it. And if you let them, they'll dump it on you. When someone wants to dump on you, don't take it personally. You just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. You'll be happy you did.

So this was it: The "Law of the Garbage Truck." I started thinking, how often do I let Garbage Trucks run right over me? And how often do I take their garbage and spread it to other people: at work, at home, on the streets? It was that day I said, "I'm not going to do it anymore."

I began to see garbage trucks. Like in the movie "The Sixth Sense," the little boy said, "I see Dead People" Well, now "I see Garbage Trucks." I see the load they're carrying. I see them coming to drop it off. And like my Taxi Driver, I don't make it a personal thing; I just smile, wave, wish them well, and I move on.

One of my favorite football players of all time, Walter Payton, did this every day on the football field. He would



jump up as quickly as he hit the ground after being tackled. He never dwelled on a hit. Payton was ready to make the next play his best. Good leaders know they have to be ready for their next meeting. Good parents know that they have to welcome their children home from school with hugs and kisses. Leaders and parents know that they have to be fully present, and at their best for the people they care about.

The bottom line is that successful people do not let Garbage Trucks take over their day. What about you? What would happen in your

life, starting today, if you let more garbage trucks pass you by?

Here's my bet. You'll be happier.

## **NOW THIS IS DRUNK**

A man goes to a party and has too much to drink. His friends pleaded with him to let them take him home. He says NO -- he only lives a mile away. About five blocks from the party, the police pull him over. They check his license and

ask him to get out of the car and walk the line. Just as he starts, the police



radio blares out a notice of a robbery taking place in a house around the block. The police tell the party animal to stay put, they'll be right back and they run around the corner to the robbery.

The guy waits and waits and finally decides to drive home. When he gets there, he tells his wife he is going to bed, and to tell anyone who might come looking for him that he has the flu and has been in bed all day. A few hours later the police knock on the door. They ask if Mr. Smith is there and his wife says yes. They ask to see him and she replies that he is in bed with the flu and has been there all day.

The police still have his driver's license. They ask to see his car and she asks why. They insist on seeing his car, so she takes them to the garage. She opens the door. There sitting in the garage is the police car, with all its lights still flashing.

True story; told by the driver at his first AA meeting.

◆ Received from James Sparks

# ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

## STORY OF ELIJAH

### SUNDAYS

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

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EVENING SING & PRAISE SERVICE  
6:00 PM

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### TUESDAYS

KID'S CLUB  
3:30 — 4:30 PM

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### WEDNESDAYS

BIBLE STUDY  
7:00 PM

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### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

THE LADIES LUNCHEON  
12:00 NOON

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### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING  
10:00 AM

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### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

ANNUAL CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

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### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

MEN'S BREAKFAST  
7:00 AM  
DAN BOES  
FROM FISH & WILDLIFE  
GUEST SPEAKER

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### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

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### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

ALL CHURCH GAME NIGHT  
6:30 PM

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### COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### SENIORS ON THE GO

WEDNESDAY,  
OCTOBER 17  
12:00 NOON

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#### AMERICAN LEGION

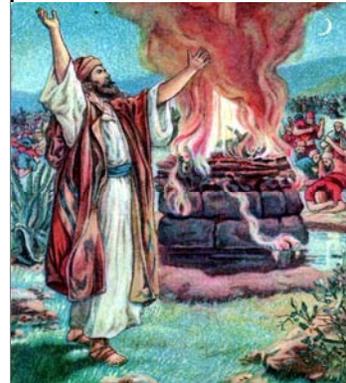
THURSDAY  
OCTOBER 18  
7:00 PM

### PNA EVENTS

#### PNA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6  
DOUBLE K CHRISTIAN  
RETREAT CENTER

The Sunday school teacher was carefully explaining the story of Elijah the Prophet and the false prophets of Baal. She explained how Elijah built the altar, put wood upon it, cut the bullock in pieces,



and laid it upon the altar. And then, Elijah commanded the people of God to fill four barrels

of water and pour it over the altar. He had them do this four times "Now, said the teacher, "can anyone in the class tell me why the Lord would have Elijah pour water over the bullock on the altar?"

A little girl in the back of the room started waving her hand, "I know! I know!" she said, "To make the gravy!"

## ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

Our Annual Church Business Meeting will be on Sunday, October 14, following our Morning Worship Service. This is a very important event in the life of our Church. The following items are some of the things that we will be considering.

- ◆ Election of leaders for various position within our church.
- ◆ The budget for next year.
- ◆ The condition of the parsonage.
- ◆ The building of a new fellowship hall.

If you are 18 years of age or older, have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and have attended the Onalaska First Church of God for the past 6 months you are eligible to vote in this meeting.

Please keep this meeting in prayer that God will grant us the wisdom to fulfill His will for the life of our church.

## CALLED

By Mary Warner

Those of us who love and serve Jesus have a calling on our lives. We are called to minister His love to others. You do not have to be an evangelist or a Pastor to minister the Love of Christ to others. When the Lord calls you, He will equip you. The Lord will use an empty, humble vessel, one He can pour His Spirit into. You have to be empty in order for the Lord to fill you. Only when we are truly empty of self and we have learned to rest in God, will we be of use to Him to help and reach others. One day in prayer the Lord showed me that there are three positions in our walk with Him.

- ◆ **Struggling**
- ◆ **Clinging**
- ◆ **Resting**

When we are in the struggling position we are in the deep water fighting against all the mighty



waves, and we are in desperate need of help ourselves, we cannot help others in this position because we need to be rescued ourselves.

When we are in the clinging position, we have found the life boat and are clinging to it for dear life we have both hands on the life boat (clinging to Jesus) but we have no free hand to help others. We are still trying to keep ourselves from going under.

In the Resting position we have climbed on board the life boat, sitting there at peace, resting (Resting in the Lord). Both our hands are now free to help rescue others. This is the position that

the Lord can truly use us. This is literally our place of deliverance! Give Glory to God, this is the place where we are resting in our faith.

In our place of struggle we are fearful that we cannot do what God has called us to do. This is the place that we find out that God can do all things if we will get out of the way and let Him. Did you ever try to rescue someone who is drowning? The person is flailing their arms and legs and struggling to live, in the process it makes rescuing them nearly impossible. This is when we live by the verse "Do not be afraid, only believe." We are allowed to fail here, in order that we will give up struggling.

We will then begin to get in the position of Clinging. We cling to Jesus and all of God's promises; pleading with Him to come to our rescue, and He never fails to. Again we cling to the verse: "Do not be afraid, only believe."

After all of this we will find our resting place. This is the position that God can truly use us. This is the place of rest, where we rest in all His wonderful promises towards us. This is where 'self' quits struggling and clinging and is able to rest in Him, and to trust in Him. Our verse is fulfilled here: "Do not be afraid, only believe." This is where the verse "We can do all things through Christ who gives us strength," really comes to life. We can acquire His Strength, His Power, and Wisdom in this place of rest. This is the final place of absolute trust:

- ◆ **We rest in the Lord; knowing He controls all things.**
- ◆ **We rest in the Lord; and we do not worry.**
- ◆ **We rest in the Lord; we do not complain.**
- ◆ **We rest in the Lord; we do**

**not struggle.**

- ◆ **We rest in the Lord; we do not cling to the boat.**

We rest in the Lord; the results are His, the glory is His, our job is just to rest in Him.

Just as the branch rests in the vine, getting its nourishment from the vine, so should we rest in Him. The vine controls the branch, the branch doesn't strike out on its own or it will perish.

He has grafted us into the Vine, all the sap can flow through us, but we are a branch in the Savior, the branch is an extension of the vine, and the branch gets the nourishment, but it is the needy that get the fruit.

So, Brothers and Sisters, perfect peace and contentment is found in the Rest of God, and in Resting in God.

No harm can befall us as we rest in the Lord, in the shadow of His wings, like a chick rests in the shadow of its mother, so shall we rest in the Lord.

We are the called out ones, the Bride of Christ, his extension to this lost, dying world. To reach the world for Christ, we must find the absolute peace, contentment and place of rest in Him.

Your calling is sure, as a follower of Christ you are called to reach the lost, to complete that great commission. Onward, onward Christian soldiers! We must rescue the perishing.



**Jay & Mary Warner:**  
Ministering in the oil fields of Wyoming.

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Z



Once again Jeanne Hossler was the first one to come up with the correct answer to last month's quiz. The answer is found in the 18 chapter of 1 Kings. The man who was sent to find grass was **Obadiah**, the man he met was **Elijah** who sent him back to **Ahab**.

Here is this month's quiz.

*My name you'll never find in the  
Book,  
It doesn't matter how hard you  
look.  
You can look from beginning until  
the end,  
But you'll never find it there my  
friend.*

*Yet the story you know quite well  
The man's name is easy to tell.  
He lived in a land far removed  
He came to Israel his health to  
improve.*

*He didn't like what he was told to  
do  
So he headed home just like a  
fool  
But I a servant said, "Why be so  
mad"  
If you do it and it works you'll be  
glad.*

*As so he did just what he was told  
And he came out looking like pure  
gold.  
Now tell me his name if you think  
you can,  
And a candy bar you'll hole in  
your hand.*

## DO NOT TALK TO MY PARROT

Wanda's dishwasher quit working so she called a repairman. Since she had to go to work the next day, she told the repairman, "I'll leave the key under the mat. Fix the dishwasher, leave the bill on the counter, and I'll mail you a check ."

"Oh, by the way don't worry about my dog Spike. He won't bother you. But, whatever you do, do NOT, under ANY circumstances, talk to my parrot!" **"I REPEAT; DO NOT TALK TO MY PARROT!!!"**



When the repairman arrived at Wanda's apartment the following day, he discovered the biggest, meanest looking dog he has ever seen. But, just as she had said, the dog just lay there on the carpet watching the repairman go about his work. The parrot, however, drove him nuts the whole time with his incessant yelling, cursing and name calling. Finally the repairman couldn't contain himself any longer and yelled, "Shut up, you stupid, ugly bird!"

To which the parrot replied, "Get him, Spike!"

See – some men just don't listen!

◆ Received from Jude Cooper

## BROKEN BONE

While leading a tour of kindergarten students through our hospital, I overheard a conversation between one little girl and an x-ray technician.

"Have you ever broken a bone?" he asked.



"Yes," the girl replied.  
"Did it hurt?"  
"No."  
"Really? Which bone did you break?"  
"My sister's arm."

◆ Received from Jim Sparks

## DOG PROTECTION

My sister, a truck driver, had decided to get a dog for protection.

As she inspected a likely candidate, the trainer told her, "He doesn't like men."

Perfect, my sister thought, and took the dog.

Then one day, two men in a parking lot approached her, and she watched to see how her canine body-guard would react.

Soon it became clear that the trainer wasn't kidding. As the men got closer, the dog ran under the nearest car and hid.



◆ Received from Jim Sparks

## No Novocain

A woman and her husband interrupted their vacation to go to the dentist. "I want a tooth pulled, and I don't want Novocain because I'm in a big hurry," the woman said. "Just extract the tooth as quickly as possible, and we'll be on our way."

The dentist was quite impressed. "You're certainly a courageous woman," he said. "Which tooth is it?"

The woman turned to her husband and said, "Show him your tooth, dear."

◆ Received from James Sparks

