



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



www.onalaskachurchofgod.com

AUGUST, 2008

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

NEVER JUDGE SOMEONE

Debbie Keck

"I do not know if the following story really happened, but the message it give is true."
Pastor

"Some people!" snorted a man standing behind me in the long line at the grocery store.

"You would think the manager would pay attention and open another line," said a woman. I looked to the front of the line to see what the hold up was and saw a well dressed, young woman, trying to get

the machine to accept her credit card. No matter how many times she swiped it, the machine kept rejecting it.

"It's one of them welfare card things. Damn people need to get a job like everyone else," said the man standing behind me. The young woman turned around to see who had made the comment. "It was me," he said, pointing to himself.

The young lady's face began to change expression. Almost in tears, she dropped the welfare card onto the counter and quickly walked out of the store. Everyone in the checkout line

watched as she began running to her car. Never looking back, she got in and drove away.

After developing cancer in 1977 and having had to use food stamps; I had learned never to judge anyone, without knowing the circumstances of their life. This turned out to be the case today.

Several minutes later a young man walked into the store. He went up to the cashier and asked if she had seen the woman. After describing her, the cashier told him that she had run out of the store, got into her car, and drove away.

"Why would she do that?" asked the man. Everyone in the line looked around at the fellow

who had made the statement.

"I made a stupid comment about the welfare card she was using. Something I shouldn't have said. I'm sorry," said the man.

"Well, that's bad, real bad, in fact. Her brother was killed in Afghanistan two years ago. He had three young children and she has taken on that responsibility. She's twenty years old, single, and now has three children to support," he said in a very firm voice.

"I'm really truly sorry. I didn't know," he replied, shaking both his hands about.

The young man asked, "Are these paid for?" pointing to the shopping cart full of groceries. "It wouldn't take her card," the clerk told him.

"Do you know where she lives?" asked the man who had made the comment.

"Yes, she goes to our church."

"Excuse me," he said as he made his way to the front of the line. He pulled out his wallet, took out his credit card and told the cashier, "Please use my card. PLEASE!" The clerk took his credit card and began to ring up the young woman's groceries. "Hold on," said the gentleman. He walked back to his shopping cart and began loading his own groceries onto the belt to be included. "Come on people. We got three kids to help raise!" he told everyone in line.

Everyone began to place their groceries onto the fast moving belt. A few customers began bagging the food and placing it into separate carts. "Go back and get two big turkeys," yelled a heavysset woman, as she looked at the man. "NO," yelled the man. Everyone stopped dead in their tracks. The entire store became quiet for several seconds. "Four turkeys," yelled the man. Everyone began laughing and went back to work.

When all was said and done, the man paid a total of \$1,646.57 for the groceries. He then walked over to the side, pulled out his check book, and began writing a check using the bags of dog food piled near the front of the store for a writing surface. He turned



NEVER JUDGE SOMEONE

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around and handed the check to the young man. 'She will need a freezer and a few other things as well,' he told the man.

The young man looked at the check and said, "This is really very generous of you."



"No," said the man. "Her brother was the generous one."

Everyone in the store had been observing the odd commotion and began to clap. And I drove home that day feeling very American.

We live in the Land of the free, because of the Brave!!! Remember our Troops of Yesterday and Today!!!

A great example of why we should be kind and patient.

Kindness is the language the blind can see and the deaf can hear.

May God's many blessings continue to be with you - ALWAYS!!!

MAY THIS OPEN A LOT OF EYES, AND HOPEFULLY HEARTS, AND KEEP SOME MOUTHS SHUT.

◆ Received from Jude Cooper

Matthew 7:1-2 (GW) "Stop judging so that you will not be judged. Otherwise, you will be judged by the same standard you use to judge others. The standards you use for others will be applied to you."

~

I wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone for making it possible for Kathleen and I to attend Camp Meeting this year. We had a wonderful time and were

deeply enriched by the fellowship and the messages we were able to receive.

Dr. John Johnson was our speaker and he spoke during the evenings on the subject of YHWH (Jewish name for God) "**God is active and present in**

every situation to bring about deliverance".

During the morning sessions he spoke on the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Lou Ann Houle of Elma, spoke on the subject "**Music in the Church Today**".



And Lloyd Moritz, our State Administrator, shared with us the message, "**Reaching out to a Secular Society**".

Our Worship Leaders were Doug and Danette Beisley, missionaries to New Zealand. The worship was uplifting and I was able to learn a couple of new songs and the sharing with us of their



missionary work in New Zealand was very inspiring.

All of the messages were a

great encouragement to my heart. God truly answered my prayer to receive a renewal of my spirit.

Chester and Donna Meeks did a great job is getting the camp ready and providing great food, in fact a little too good as I gain back a few of the pounds I had lost. Oh, well back to the diet board once again.

It would be great if several of our church family would be able to attend next year. The dates of next years Camp Meeting are July 19 - 26, 2009. Why not make plans to enjoy Camp Meeting next year?

GIVING HIM THE KEY

by Os Hillman

"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me." **Revelation 3:20**

A friend of mine tells the story of an encounter he had with a very important government official - the head of state for a country. In the course of some meetings with my friend, the official came up to him and said, "I perceive that there is a difference between you and me. Is it because I come from a different denomination?" My friend began to explain why there was a difference.

"If you were to come to my home, I would invite you in as an honored guest. As my guest, you would enjoy everything I had in my home. However, you would still be a guest. You would not have the keys to the home, and your authority in that home would be merely as a guest. However, if I said to you that I am turning over my home to you and you now have the keys to my home, I would be your servant with the responsibility to run the home through your counsel and direction." My friend continued, "This is the difference between you and me. I have given Jesus the keys to my home [heart]. You have merely invited Him in to yours as an honored guest."

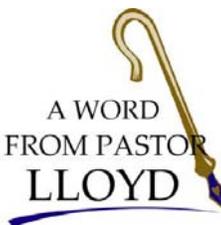
"How can I do this too?" the man replied. "All you have to do is invite Him in as the new owner."

The man did this and is now allowing Jesus to rule and reign in every detail of his life.

So often many of us enter a relationship with God that brings us salvation. This is the gospel of salvation. But what God really desires for us is to experience the gospel of the Kingdom. He wants us to experience His power and presence every day of our lives and to see His hand at work in us. This only happens when we give Him the key to our life; He must be more than an honored guest.

Where are you today? Has your life with God been more like an honored-guest relationship, or does He have the key to your life?

◆ "Reprinted by permission from the author. Os Hillman is an international speaker and author of more than 8 books on workplace calling. To learn more, visit <http://www.MarketplaceLeaders.org>"



ALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

PNA EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM

MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM

EVENING WORSHIP 7:00 PM

~
WEDNESDAYS

BIBLE STUDY
7:00 PM

~
THURSDAYS

LADIES BIBLE STUDY &
FELLOWSHIP
1:00 PM

@
ELVA SMOOTS
809 Gish Road

~
SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
9:00 AM

~
LADIES LUNCHEON
12:00 NOON

~
SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

COOKS HILL MANOR
REST HOME SERVICE
2:00 PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

~
FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

ALL CHURCH GAME NIGHT
6:30 PM

~
SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

POTLUCK FOLLOWING
MORNING SERVICE
&
VOTING ON NEW BY-LAWS

**COMMUNITY
EVENTS**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

SENIORS ON THE GO
12:00 NOON

~
THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

AMERICAN LEGION
7:00 PM

MISSIONAL CONFERENCE

The PNA is pleased to have **Milfred Minatrea**, Founder and Director of the Missional Church Center, with us this fall for a one day "Shaped by God's Heart conference." Dr. Minatrea is a noted speaker, teacher and practitioner, and travels the world assisting churches to move from survival to significance and from maintenance to missional. His book, *Shaped by God's Heart: The Passion and Practices of Missional Churches*, has had a tremendous influence on churches and leaders. All pastors and church leaders are invited to attend. The conference will be held **Friday, October 3rd** at Double K (the day prior to our PNA Annual Meeting). Be sure to attend this exceptional event that will be sure to challenge and equip your church.

PRAYER SUMMIT

OCTOBER 21-23

@
DOUBLE K

CHURCH BUILDERS PLUS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16,

THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL
BREAKFAST FOR EVERYONE.
THE BREAKFAST WILL BEGIN
AT 8:00 AM
FOLLOWING THE BREAKFAST
THERE WILL BE A BUDGET
PLANNING MEETING AT
9:00 AM
WE WOULD LIKE TO ENCOUR-
AGE EVERYONE TO COME AND
HELP PLAN THE CHURCH
BUDGET FOR 2009



Charles Shumate, the President of Church Builders Plus, an arm of the Church of God which helps churches who are considering or involved in a building program, will be with us on the weekend of August 22 - 24. Church Builders Plus are able to help churches in three different areas. **Church Consultations, Capital Fund Campaigns and Church Loans.**

He is coming as an consultant to help us determine what is the best plan in the building of a new Fellowship Hall. I hope that you will pray that God will lead us in the path that He wants us to go concerning our new Fellowship Hall.
We have raised \$ 17,836.79 towards the new Fellowship Hall.

WHAT GOES AROUND, COMES AROUND

The man slowly looked up. This was a woman clearly accustomed to the finer things of life. Her coat was new. She looked like that she had never missed a meal in her life. His first thought was that she wanted to make fun of him, like so many others had done before. 'Leave me alone,' he growled. To his amazement, the woman continued standing. She was smiling --her even white teeth displayed in dazzling rows. 'Are you hungry?' she asked. 'No,' he answered sarcastically. 'I've just come from dining with the resident. Now go away.'

The woman's smile became even broader. Suddenly the man felt a gentle hand under his arm. 'What are you doing, lady?' the man asked angrily. 'I said to leave me alone.'

Just then a policeman came up. 'Is there any problem, ma'am?' he asked. 'No problem here, officer,' the woman answered. 'I'm just trying to get this man to his feet. Will you help me?' The officer scratched his head. 'That's old Jack. He's been a fixture around here for a couple of years. What do you want with him?'

'See that cafeteria over there?' she asked. 'I'm going to get him something to eat and get him out of the cold for awhile.' 'Are you crazy, lady?' the homeless man resisted. 'I don't want to go in there!' Then he felt strong hands grab his other arm and lift him up.

'Let me go, officer. I didn't do anything.'



'This is a good deal for you, Jack,' the officer answered. 'Don't blow it.'

Finally, and with some difficulty, the woman and the police officer got Jack into the cafeteria and sat him at a table in a remote corner. It was the middle of the morning, so most of the breakfast crowd had already left and the lunch bunch had not yet arrived. The manager strode across the cafeteria and stood by his table. 'What's going on

here, officer?' he asked. 'What is all this. Is this man in trouble?'

'This lady brought this man in here to be fed,' the policeman answered.

'Not in here!' the manager replied angrily. 'Having a person like that here is bad for business.'

Old Jack smiled a toothless grin. 'See, lady. I told you so. Now if you'll let me go. I didn't want to come here in the first place.' The woman turned to the cafeteria manager and smiled. 'Sir, are you familiar with Eddy and Associates, the banking firm down the street?'

'Of course I am,' the manager answered impatiently. 'They hold their weekly meetings in one of my banquet rooms.'

'And do you make a goodly amount of money providing food at these weekly meetings?'

'What business is that of yours?'

'I, sir, am Penelope Eddy, president and CEO of the company.'

'Oh'

The woman smiled again. 'I thought that might make a difference'. She glanced at the cop who was busy stifling a giggle.

'Would you like to join us in a cup of coffee and a meal, officer?' 'No thanks, ma'am,' the officer replied. 'I'm on duty.'

'Then, perhaps, a cup of coffee to go?'

'Yes, ma'am. That would be very nice.'

The cafeteria manager turned on his heel. 'I'll get your coffee for you right away, officer.' The officer watched him walk away.

'You certainly put him in his place,' he said.

'That was not my intent. Believe it or not, I have a reason for all this.'

She sat down at the table across from her amazed dinner guest. She stared at him intently. 'Jack, do you remember me?'

Old Jack searched her face with his old, rheumy eyes 'I think so - I mean you do look familiar.'

'I'm a little older perhaps,' she said. 'Maybe I've even filled out more than in my younger days when you worked here, and I came through that very door, cold and hungry.'

'Ma'am?' the officer said questioningly. He couldn't believe that such a magnificently turned out woman could ever have been hungry.

'I was just out of college,' the woman began. 'I had come to the city looking for a job, but I couldn't find anything. Finally I was down to my last few cents and had been kicked out of my apartment. I walked the streets for days. It was February and I was cold and nearly starving. I saw this place and walked in on the off chance that I could get something to eat.'

Jack lit up with a smile. 'Now I remember,' he said. 'I was behind the serving counter. You came up and asked me if you could work for something to eat. I said that it was against company policy.'

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What Goes Around, Comes Around

'I know,' the woman continued. 'Then you made me the biggest roast beef sandwich that I had ever seen, gave me a cup of coffee, and told me to go over to a corner table and enjoy it. I was afraid that you would get into trouble. Then, when I looked over, I saw you put the price of my food in the cash register. I knew then that everything would be all right.'

'So you started your own business?' Old Jack said.

'I got a job that very afternoon. I worked my way up. Eventually I started my own business that, with the help of God, prospered.' She opened her purse and pulled out a business card. 'When you are finished here, I want you to pay a visit to a Mr. Lyons. He's the personnel director of my company. I'll go talk to him now and I'm certain he'll find something for you to do

around the office.' She smiled. 'I think he might even find the funds to give you a little advance so that you can buy some clothes and get a place to live until you get on your feet. 'If you ever need anything, my door is always opened to you.'



There were tears in the old man's eyes. 'How can I ever thank you?' he said.

'Don't thank me,' the woman answered. 'To God goes the glory. Thank Jesus... He led me to you.'

Outside the cafeteria, the officer and the woman paused at the entrance before going their separate ways.

'Thank you for all your help, offi-

cer,' she said.

'On the contrary, Ms. Eddy,' he answered. 'Thank you. I saw a miracle today, something that I will never forget. And thank you for the coffee.'

◆ Received from James Sparks



QUIZ

The answer to last month's quiz was Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah, who made herself queen following his death, then and she had all her other children slain except Joash who escaped and became king six years later. You can find this story in the 22 & 23 chapters of 2 Chronicles.

Once again Pastor Jeanne Hossler was the first to come up with the correct answer. I was able to give her the candy bar at Camp Meeting.

Here is this months quiz.

Because of us the Law was changed,

And we received everything we claimed.

It's not our fault that no boys were there,

What we wanted was just our share.

And so we went to the man of God, And asked him if he would plead our cause.

And so he turned immediately to prayer,

The answer we sought was soon right there.

So the Law was changed that day, When we came and had our say. Give us our names to win the prize, A candy bar will be your's if you name all five.

MOSES & THE RED SEA

Nine-year-old Joey, was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday school.

"Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon



bridge and all the people walked across safely.

Then, he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked.

"Well, no, Mom. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

LOT'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing

how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, "My Mummy



looked back once, while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "and she turned into a telephone pole!"