



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



www.onalaskachurchofgod.com

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

FABLE OF THE PORCUPINE

It was the coldest winter ever - many animals died because of the cold.

The porcupines, realizing the situation, decided to group together. This way they covered and protected themselves; but the quills of each one wounded their closest companions even though they gave off heat to each other.



After awhile they decided to distance themselves one from the other and they began to die, alone and frozen. So they had to make a choice: either accept the quills of their companions or disappear from the Earth.

Wisely, they decided to go back to being together. This way they learned to live with the little wounds that were caused by the close relationship with their companion, but the most important part of it, was the heat that came from the others.

This way they were able to survive.

Moral of the story: The best relationship is not the one that brings together perfect peo-

ple, but the best is when each individual learns to live with the imperfections of others and can admire the other person's good qualities.

◆ Received from Mary Noland & Joe Downs

IS PERCEPTION REALITY?

*TGIF Today God Is First Volume 2 by
Os Hillman
Tuesday, July 06 2010*

"The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too" 1 Kings 19:14.

The CEO walked into his manufacturing plant only to observe an employee standing by idly not working. Angrily, he walked over to him, peeled off a \$100 bill and gave it to him: "Here, go spend your time elsewhere!" The man looked at the CEO somewhat puzzled, but left with the \$100. "How long has that man worked for us?" said the CEO to the employee standing nearby. "Well sir, that man does not work for us; he is only the delivery man."



Perception is not always reality. Elijah was in a crisis. Jezebel wanted to kill him. The na-

tion was falling to Baal worship. From his vantage point - it was all over. He was the only prophet remaining in all the land who had not bent his knee to the idol of Baal. He wanted to die.

Then, the Lord sent His angel to correct Elijah's perception: "Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel - all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed him" (1 Kings 19:18). There were seven thousand Elijah knew nothing about! Elijah's perception was not reality.

Whenever things are going poorly, there is a temptation to believe God is not working in the situation. We may even believe our life is over. Everything from our vantage point is dark. We see no future. However, even in these times, God's plan is being orchestrated behind the scenes. He is accomplishing His purposes. But we need a fresh perspective on our situation.

Do you need a reality check on your situation? Ask God to show you the truth. It may be very different than your perception.

"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>"

FRONT YARD CROSSES

When driving to, from, and through Frankenmuth, Michigan. I'm always intrigued with the many small simple crosses in the front yards of the homes we pass by. Those crosses are a statement of support for Frankenmuth's Christian foundation.

Two years ago an atheist living there

complained about two crosses on a bridge in town. He requested that they be removed and the town removed

them. He then decided that, since he was so successful with that, the city shield should also be changed since it had on it, along with other symbols, a heart with the cross inside signifying the city's Lutheran beginnings.

At that point, the residents decided they had had enough. Hundreds of residents made their opinions known by placing small crosses in their front yards. Seeing this quiet but powerful statement from the community, the man removed his complaint. Those simple crosses remain in those front yards today.

After passing those crosses for two years, it finally hit me that a small cross in millions of front yards across our country could provide a powerful and inspiring message for all Americans

passing them every day.

I think it might be time to take this idea across America. We have an administration that says "we are not a Christian nation" and everywhere you look the ACLU and others are trying to remove from our history and current lives any reference to God, prayer, or the fact that our country was founded on Judeo-Christian principles. Our administration can't bring themselves to talk about



"radical Muslims or Islamic terrorists" for fear of offending them, but they can talk about

Americans "clinging to

their guns and their religion", or insinuate that our own military troops coming home from service overseas might turn into terrorists.

The majority of Americans are Christians, why are we letting this happen to us?

It's time to stand up and make a statement - a small, quiet, but powerful statement.

If you agree, place a small white cross in your front yard or garden for all to see that they are not alone.

It would be a beautiful thing to see crosses all across America. Let's tell everyone who we are.

Please pass this along. Encourage all you know to stand for America's Judeo-Christian heritage and our religious freedom.

OUR BELOVED ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple.

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

The bandage was wound around the wound.

He could lead if he would get the lead out.

Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.

A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.

When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.

There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.

Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.

They were too close to the door to close it.

The peasant decided to desert his dessert in the desert.

The buck does funny things when the does are present.

The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.

ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

YOUTH NEWS

SUNDAYS

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM
 MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM
 EVENING SERVICE 5:pm

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MONDAYS

WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT
 BIBLE STUDY
 IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
 2:00 PM

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TUESDAYS

AL-ANON MEETING
 6:00 PM

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WEDNESDAYS

BIBLE STUDY
 7:00 PM

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THURSDAYS

THE BEATIDUES
 BIBLE STUDY
 @ THE MASSEYS
 7:00 PM

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

O. C. Y. C. NIGHT
 We need sandwiches & cookies
 For the youth
 At the church by
 3:00 PM

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

LIVIN' HARMONY CONCERT
 6:00 PM

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

ROBYNNE BRUCKENSTEIN
 OF
 CHOSEN PEOPLE
 "THE GREAT DAY OF
 ATTONEMENT"
 6:00 PM

COMMUNITY EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, 20th

SENIORS ON THE GO
 12:00 NOON

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THURSDAY, 21st

AMERICAN LEGION
 6:00 PM

YOM KIPPUR

"GREAT DAY
 OF ATONEMENT"

On Sunday evening, **Oct. 17, at 6:00 PM.** Robynne Bruckenstein from Chosen People will be our special guest. She will be sharing on the subject of *Yom Kippur*, The Great Day of Atonement, Leviticus 16.

Please invite your neighbors and friends and plan on a time of fellowship following this special service.

The Youth Group is growing and going. This past Sunday, the youth walked an obstacle course backwards with and without directions. The lesson was to show how we need to walk in our daily life. Are we asking for God's guidance or just stumbling along and hitting our feet against rocks? The youth also have truly enjoyed going over to Kimberly Ellen's Bakery once a month for turnovers, pie or those delicious cinnamon rolls. Pray for us as we continue to grow and go.



LIVIN' HARMONY

Saturday, October 16, at 6:00 PM. The livin' Harmony quartet will be ministering in music. Invite your neighbors and friends to come and enjoy good music and a time of fellowship following the concert.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Our Annual Church Business Meeting will be on Sunday, the 10th of October following the morning worship service. We will be electing Council members, Sunday School Superintendent, Assistant Sunday School Superintendent, Head Usher, PNA Representative and Alternant Representative. We will also be voting on our annual budget, as well as planning for the future.



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

Please be in prayer for this meeting. Come and share your hopes and dreams for our church.

AN EMPTY BIRD CAGE

There once was a man named George Thomas, pastor in a small New England town. One Easter Sunday morning he came to the Church carrying a rusty, bent, old bird cage, and set it by the pulpit.

Eyebrows were raised and, as if in response, Pastor Thomas began to speak. "I was walking through town yesterday when I saw a young boy coming toward me swinging this bird cage. On the bottom of the cage were three little wild birds, shivering with cold and fright.

I stopped the lad and asked, "What do you have there, son?"

"Just some old birds," came the reply.

"What are you going to do with them?" I asked.

"Take 'em home and have fun with 'em," he answered.

"But you'll get tired of those birds sooner or later. What will you do then?"

"Oh, I got some cats," said the little boy. "They like birds. I'll take 'em to them."

The pastor was silent for a moment. "How much do you want for those birds, son?"

"Huh??!! Why, you don't want them birds, mister. They're just plain old field birds. They don't sing. They ain't even

pretty!"

"How much?" the pastor asked again.

The boy sized up the pastor as if he were crazy and said, "\$10?"

The pastor reached in his pocket and took out a ten dollar bill. He placed it in the boy's hand. In a flash, the boy was gone. The pastor picked up the cage and gently carried it to the end of the alley where there was a tree and a grassy spot. Setting the cage down, he opened the door, and by softly tapping the bars persuaded the



birds out, setting them free. Well, that explained the empty bird cage on the pulpit, and then the pastor began to tell this story:

One day Satan and Jesus were having a conversation. Satan had just come from the Garden of Eden, and he was gloating and boasting. "Yes, sir, I just caught a world full of people down there. Set me a trap, used bait I knew they couldn't resist Got 'em all!"

"What are you going to do with them?" Jesus asked.

Satan replied, "Oh, I'm gonna have fun! I'm gonna teach them how to marry and divorce each other, how to hate and abuse each other, how to drink and smoke and curse. I'm gonna teach them how to invent guns and bombs and

kill each other. I'm really gonna have fun!"

"And what will you do when you are done with them?" Jesus asked.

"Oh, I'll kill 'em," Satan glared proudly.

"How much do you want for them?" Jesus asked.

"Oh, you don't want those people. They ain't no good. Why, you'll take them and they'll just hate you. They'll spit on you, curse you and kill you. You don't want those people!!"

"How much?" He asked again.

Satan looked at Jesus and sneered, "All your blood, tears and your life."

Jesus said, "DONE!" Then He paid the price.

The pastor picked up the cage and walked from the pulpit.

◆ *Received from Ruth Bushnell*

A CHILD'S WISDOM

A four-year-old child, whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman, who had recently lost his wife. Upon

seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentle-

man's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there.

When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy just said,

"Nothing, I just helped him cry."

◆ *Received from Marlena Mulkins*



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Z



I almost stumped everybody but my sister from Scottsdale came up with the correct answer to last month's quiz. The answer was the great fish or whale that God created to swallow Jonah. It had no soul until it swallowed Jonah and then it lost its soul when it spit out Jonah.

Here is this month's quiz. I hope I do as well this time.

*The day I was born was very
sad,
We lost that day what once
we had.
Its something that we held so
dear,
And now its gone so far from
here.*

*Now on the day of my birth,
There was no singing there was
no mirth.*

*A bitter cry went up that fate-
ful day*

*When four of my family passed
a way.*

*Now tell me my name it's in the
Book*

*All you have to do is look.
Name the four that died that
day,
And a candy bar will come
your way.*

Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord: and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

A SENSITIVE MAN

The room was full of pregnant women with their partners. The class was in full swing. The instructor was teaching the women how to breathe properly and was telling the men how to give the necessary assurance to their partners at this stage of the pregnancy.

She said "ladies, remember that exercise is good for you. Walking is especially beneficial. It strengthens the pelvic muscles and will make delivery that much easier!" she looked at the men in the room, "and gentlemen, remember -- you're in this together --- it wouldn't hurt you to go walking with her."

The room suddenly got very quiet as the men absorbed this information. Then a man at the back of the room slowly raised his hand.

"Yes?" answered the teacher.

"I was just wondering. Is it all right if she carries a golf bag while we walk?"

◆ Received from James Sparks

ELEVEN PEOPLE ON A ROPE

Eleven people were hanging on a rope, under a helicopter. Ten men and one woman. The rope was not strong enough to carry them all, so they decided that one had to leave, because otherwise they were all going to fall. They weren't able to choose that person, until the woman gave a very touching speech.

She said that she would voluntarily let go of the rope, because, as a woman, she was used to giving

up everything for her husband and kids or for men in general, and was used to always making sacrifices with little in return.

As soon as she finished her speech, all the men started clapping...

◆ Received from Joe Downs

GOOD NIGHT KISS

At the end of their first date, a young man in a bygone era took his favorite girl home. He decided to try for that important first kiss. With an air of confidence, he leaned his hand against the wall, smiled, and said, "How about a good night kiss?"

"Are you crazy?" she said. "My parents will see us!"

"Oh, come on! Who's gonna see us at this hour?"

"No, please. Can you imagine if we get caught?"

"Come on, they're all sleeping!"

"No way. It's too risky!"

"Please, please, please. I like you so much."

"No, no, no. I like you too, but I just can't!"

"Oh yes you can. Please?"

"No, no. I just can't."

"Pleeeeeease? . . ."

Then to their surprise, the porch light went on, the door opened, and there stood the girl's sister, hair disheveled, in her pajamas. In a sleepy voice she said, "Dad says to go ahead and give him a kiss. Or I can do it. If need be, dad will come down himself and do it. Whatever you do, tell your date to take his hand off the intercom button."

◆ Received from Jim Sparks