

Perspective

The phrase “the glass is half full” is often used to illustrate the idea of having a positive perspective about circumstances and events in our lives. Someone who has a negative perspective on that same glass of water describes it as “half empty”. For most people, the perspective one has on such things indeed becomes their reality, a view and attitude that guides their lives on a daily basis.

Those of us who have had the opportunity to visit with our dear sister Glenna Richardson over the past week have been astounded (though *not* surprised) by the positive perspective she has about her circumstances. Not only does she shift the focus of the conversation away from herself, she emphasizes the need for the visitor to carry on the Lord’s work for her when she is no longer here on earth. Her love for the lost and willingness to help others in every way possible continues to shine forth from her even in her present condition. Her faith in God’s promises has never faltered and she insists that each visitor keep that perspective when considering her health situation.

How can we have this same perspective about our soul’s condition? Where in God’s Word can we read of these assurances?

Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

James 1:12 Blessed *is* the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. —continued.....

Philippians 4:13

One of the more famous statements by Paul is found in this passage. To the Philippians he stated, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” Even though we might not be able to pinpoint its exact location, most of us know this passage by heart. It contains some of the most encouraging and inspiring words for us. Let’s break it down and study its component parts.

Personal (“I”)— A quick search of the book of Philippians finds that the various personal pronouns are found 118 times in its 104 verses. Indeed it is a very personal and pointed book. Individual responsibility is emphasized throughout the Bible. Each of us is personally responsible for how we handle God’s word (Rev. 20:12).

Possibilities (“can”)— Everyone likes someone with an “I can” attitude. Being in Christ opens up a realm of possibilities not available in any other. He has come to give an abundant life now and for eternity (Jn. 10:10). Through Him, you can.

Participation (“do”)— Accomplishments can be attained only in doing. It is in our active participation with His commands that we are blessed by Him (Phil. 2:12; Jas. 2:14-26). To claim Him as Savior and then refuse to obey His will is contradictory (Lk. 6:46; Mt. 7:21-23). Are you “doing” His will?

Potential (“all things”)— Certainly, these things to be done are those things which are in accordance to His will. All that He has required of us can be accomplished and all the promises He has made to us will be forthcoming if we abide in Him (Jn. 15:1-7).

Partnership (“through Christ”)— All things that one can do hinge on this thought. It is only through Him that we are able to have the joy that so permeates the Philippian letter. As Paul told the Colossians, it is “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Col. 1:27). Faithfulness to Him is, of course, required for continued partnership with Him (Rev. 2:10).

Power (“which strengtheneth me”)— The power is not provided by us, although, as stated, we must obey His will in order to receive His blessings. He is the source of all blessings (Eph. 1:3; II Pet. 1:3). Our strength is His strength (I Pet. 5:10). It is through His gospel that strength is revealed and attained (Rom. 1:16). Are you being strengthened regularly by His word (II Tim. 2:15)? Do you have the “I can” mindset which is available “through Christ?”

Teens

June/July dates for Teens:

June 25—SummerYouth Devo at West Side

July 1-6, 2007 Horizons Senior Week

July 8-13, 2007 Horizons Junior Week

(Elder's Desk—continued)

Perspective

James 2:5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

2 Timothy 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

1 John 2:25 And this is the promise that he hath promised us, *even* eternal life.

1 Cor. 9:24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

Let us continue to encourage one another to run life's "race" with this same positive perspective. —

- *The Elders*

FIVE FIRSTS TO SUCCESS

1. Give God the **FIRST HOUR** of the day.
2. Give God the **FIRST DAY** of the week.
3. Give God the **FIRST PORTION** of your pay.
4. Give God the **FIRST CONSIDERATION** in every decision.
5. Give God the **FIRST PLACE** in your heart.

• West Side's Older Workers

The **WOW Group** is inviting all members who are interested to tour Dixie Caverns. This event is scheduled for Saturday morning, July 21st at 10:00.

If you plan to attend, please sign up on the WOW bulletin board. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

Team Events

Team 1—Will be having s cookout on June 30 at 4:00 at the Duff's home. Bring a lawn chair, appetite and a dessert. Sign up sheet will be posted.

Team 2—Will be coordinating our Quarterly Fellowship Meal **today**.

Team 4—Will be hosting an ice cream social after evening services in the pavilion on July 22. Everyone is invited!

THE BIBLE

Last eve I paused beside a blacksmith's door
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime,
Then looking in, I saw upon the floor
Old hammers worn with beating years of time.

"How many anvils have you had," said I,
"To wear and batter all these hammers so?"
"Just one," he said; then with twinkling eye,
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."

And so, I thought, the anvil of God's Word
For ages skeptic blows have beat upon;
Yet though the noise of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unharmed—the hammers gone!

-author unknown -

SICK

Glenna Richardson is continuing her pain management/hospice care at the home of her sister, Sandy. Visitors are welcome, but please call before visiting. Address: 4006 Dakota Street, Roanoke
Telephone: 563-2387.

David Cox will be having surgery on June 25 at RMH.

Evelyn White is scheduled for neck surgery on June 29 at UVA.

Dotty Collins will have out-patient eye surgery June 28.

Remember the following in prayer: **Luetta Gregory, Larry Phillips, Betty Jenkins** and the **Richardson** family.



Happy Birthday this week to:

David Brown - 6/25
Eddy Gilpin - 6/29
Linda Maness - 6/29

Happy Anniversary to:



Barry & Gloria White — 6/25
Adam & Dee House — 6/29



MAY & JUNE ITEMS FOR STAFFORDS:
Tic-Tacs (Cy's fav is green) and low fat microwave popcorn. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!!

Reminder— All July & August Events need to be into the office by this Wednesday, June 27. You may e-mail these to: office@westsideofc-salem.com. or place them in the box on the Media Door. Thanks in advance!!

NEW ADDRESS:

Marie & Willard Campbell
6715 Blacksburg Road
Catawba, VA 24070

MOVING CREW NEEDED !!

Address: 1024 Starmount Ave., NW
Roanoke, VA

Dates: Friday, 6/29 at 6 pm (*the most preferable date*) and Saturday, 6/30 at 8 am to finish up.

Directions: Turn off Peters Creek Road at the Intersection of First Team Auto and Barrens Road.

Laurie Cook and family will be arriving in town on 6/29 and strong guys with strong backs are needed to help unload the truck when it arrives at 6 pm on Friday evening 6/29 and again at 8 am on Saturday morning 6/30 to finish up. Also very much needed are moving dollies. (Please see **Fred Altizer** for questions or details).

WEST SIDE SUMMER SERIES

West Side Summer Series will be "in-house" this year. Several men of our own congregation will be presenting lessons on Wednesday evenings this summer. This week will be Tom Richardson and Richard Simms.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Our Quarterly Fellowship Meal will be **today** after services. Team 2 will be in charge of set up and clean up.

PRIMARY TEACHERS MEETING

Primary class teachers and elders will be having a meeting today at 4:00 in the Fellowship Hall to discuss the recent surveys. ALL TEACHERS NEED TO ATTEND!

YOUTH DEVO DONATIONS

The Summer Youth Devo will be held at West Side tomorrow, June 25. We will be needing canned drinks and snacks. Please sign up on the board today.

HORIZONS—SENIOR WEEK

The bus for Horizons Senior Week will leave on Saturday, June 30 at 6:00 A.M.

VBS MEETING

There will be a VBS Meeting on July 1 at 4:00 for all writers, skit leaders and coordinators.

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday Fellowship Meal will be on July 4 at 5:45. Menu will be big salads. Sign up and pay your \$5 at the door!!

WEDDING RECEPTION

There will be a wedding reception for Willard and Marie Campbell on July 15 after evening services. Dorothy Mays will host.

July 2007**Announcements** Tom Duff**Song Leader (AM)** Charlie Gwaltney**Opening Prayer (AM)**

7/1 Don Pettit

7/8 Glen Hartman

7/15 Jim Cooke

7/22 Gene Benefield

7/29 A. C. Janney

Preside at Communion Don Pettit**Serve Table** Grat Tucker Luke Guard
Charlie Puckett George Mellon**Closing Prayer**

7/1 Bobby Martin

7/8 Jim Bush

7/15 Collin Gregory

7/22 Greg Edwards

7/29 Eric Earnhart

Song Leader (PM) David Brown**Opening Prayer (PM)**

7/1 Squeaky Valentine

7/8 Mike Durham

7/15 Richard Simms

7/22 Murphy Scott

7/29 Youth

Scripture Reader Garrett Durham**Closing Prayer (PM)**

7/1 Crawford Keith

7/8 Paul Mays

7/15 Josh Whitlow

7/22 Claude Crowe

7/29 Youth

Serve Table (PM) Sam Valentine Bradford Durham**Song Leader (Wed)** Josh Whitlow**Prayer (Wed)**

7/4 Charlie Gwaltney

7/11 Wayne Dixon

7/18 Roger Mays

7/25 Tom Richardson

Open/Close Bldg Jim Harrington**Greeters** Harringtons Paxtons**Nursery Attend** Jean Argabright Sondra Tyler**Ushers** Herb Baker John Black**Handouts** Bob Garby David McFalls**Alternates** Mark Brooks**Prepare comm.** Melissa Rogers Amanda Brown**Cards & Pencils** Sydney Durham Chandler Jearls**Last weeks attendance** 6/24 & 27/07

Bible Class—1 Worship Service—1

Eve. Worship— Wed. Service—

Contribution—\$