



I Want...

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. -Psalm 23:1

I have to be honest and admit that I can say the first half of that verse in sincerity. It is not that I disagree with the other half. I just cannot say it without feeling a little hypocritical. The truth is that, while I should not be in want, I still find myself wanting lots of other things. I do not need all those other things. I truly believe that the Lord gives me all that I need, but I am not always content with just the things I need. I have plenty of wants!

I thought about this verse last week in the LIFE Group I attended. We were reading words of Paul that I believe echoes the well known psalm of David, Psalm 23. Paul wrote in Philippians 4:11-12, *"I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little."* Sounds a lot like David writing, *"I shall not be in want."* Right?

I want you to notice that Paul says, *"I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything."* I believe we all understand that it is tough to be content when you have almost nothing, but is Paul also suggesting that it is hard to be content even when we have almost everything? I think he is. But the truth is that we do not really need Paul to point that out to us. An honest reflection on our lives would tell us that. How many of us have more than we really need, yet still want more because we are not content? How many of us have fooled ourselves into thinking that contentment is just a new High Definition Flat Screen TV away?

I want to know Paul's secret. I want to be content with whatever I have. I want to say with David, in full confidence, *"The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want."* -Gilbert Kerrigan

Not Safe, But Good

From *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*:

"...Aslan is a lion - *the* Lion, the great Lion"

"Ooh!" said Susan. "I'd thought he was a man. Is he - quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion."

"That you will, dearie, and make no mistake," said Mrs Beaver; "if there's anyone who can appear before Aslan without their knees knocking, they're either braver than most or else just silly."

"Then he isn't safe?" said Lucy. "Safe?" said Mr Beaver; "don't you hear what Mrs Beaver tells you? Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good. He's the King I tell you."

What a powerful statement about Christ! Often I find that we don't like to conceptualize our Savior as a dangerous being. Rather than portraying him as an agent of change and power, a creator and sustainer; we prefer a sunny, serene, "flannelgraph Jesus". And while God is the God of Peace and love, God is also the God who commands the storms, who creates floods, and who sends God's only begotten son to die for a bunch of folks who betray God on a daily basis. God is demanding. God demands all that we are and all that we have. God demands we turn away from our sin, and follow God exclusively. God demands that we not store up treasure, but have faith in God. Change is not safe, it leads away from the safe, away from the familiar and the treasured, but the changes God demands are, like God, Good. -Phil Travis



Kaden Koebcke has begun a new medicine to treat his nephrosis...**Marge Campbell**, Nan Waltz's mother in Carmel, Indiana, will begin treatments for cancer at the end of the month....**Joe Bailey** is receiving daily antibiotics by IV as an outpatient.... Continue praying for **Sara Postlethwait**, **Eugene Zinn** (*upcoming surgery*), **David Henke** (*ongoing chemo treatments*), **Kaleb Anderson**, **David Hughes**, **Mike Sutherlin**, **Henrietta Frampton**, **Charles Moore**, **Herb King**, **Eileen Richardson**, **Hattie Coffel**, **Marie DeWoody**, **Irene Sims**, **Mary Tavana**, **Paul & Argie Verett**, **Delpha Allen**, **Valley Stockton**, **Eagle Bailey**, **Minnie Scott**, **Anna Dale**, **Irene Fox**, and **Burnell Gulden**.

Serving in our military in Iraq: **Steve Brady**, **Mark Wilson**, and **Ti Draughon**.

Calling all Funologists! Power Lab VBS June 2-6, 6:00-8:00 PM

Registration is now open for VBS 2008. Visit elmwood's website at elmwood-church.org or complete a form that is available on the bulletin board next to the teachers' workroom.

One final chance to volunteer before being asked. Sign up to be a crew leader, help with decorations, assist at registration, or provide transportation to kids who need a ride. You'll be glad you were a part of it! Thank you. *-Michelle Robson*

High School Seniors Celebration Sunday, 6:00 PM, May 4



High School Seniors Sunday is the evening of May 4th. We will be honoring ten seniors: **Brighton Baker**, **Chris Crable**, **Sarah Han**, **Jeremy Heath**, **Krista Howe**, **Blaine Merriman**, **Heaven Miller**, **Mark Moore**, **Natasha Risley**, and **Patrick Ruhl**. Please make your plans to attend this very special celebration and to offer your support to our seniors and their family at this event.

Good \$ense Budgeting Class

Do you ever wonder where the money goes? Most people do. We cannot ignore the reality of the importance of money. Some view it as the root of all evil, because it has led to crime, suicide, divorce, worry, scheming and many other nightmares. This crucial matter has no shortage of information in the Bible. Some two thousand Scripture passages touch on the theme of money.

A six week DVD series will be facilitated by Janet Boston begins next Wednesday, **April 23, 2008**, in the Conference/Media room. The program will be from 5:50- 6:50PM each Wednesday evening. You will discover tools and develop skills to help you to manage and control your finances. **THIS CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE!**



Senior Servants' Schedule

The senior servants will meet on **April 30th** at **Golden Corral** at **11:30 AM**. Everyone is welcome!

Congratulations!

Josh Boyd received the Purdue Communication Department's teaching award for 2007-2008. Congratulations, Josh!

New Address!



Bud & Mary Darby have moved. Their new address:
1101 Seaton Circle
Montgomery, AL 36116

CSC Alumni Reunion (1989-1995)

July 25-27, 2008.

Contact **Donna (Burrell) Porter** at danddport@comcast.net by **May 15**, if you plan to come. There will be activities for all ages.

April 20, 2008

*Class: 193 Worship: 295
Contribution: \$5,450*

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Dominion Part II – Follow-up to Gilbert’s Sermon

There is a mistaken impression that God gave us this world to do whatever we want with it. Right after Adam and Eve were created, God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth” (Genesis 1:28, NKJV). People sometimes think that because humans were granted “dominion” over other living things, that gives us the right to do whatever we please. But that word “dominion” really includes a responsibility to care for the planet. And in the years after they were expelled from the garden, more rules were given to the Hebrews about how they were to take care of nature, with specifics on everything from how to harvest a field to the humane treatment of domesticated animals.

The president or prime minister of a country has dominion over that country. He or she has been appointed to oversee the running of the nation. Does that mean these leaders can do whatever they want? All checks and balances aside, if government officials hope to be reelected, they can’t just do anything they choose, serving only themselves and ignoring the needs, wants, and opinions of the people who elected them. Because of the trust countries put in their elected leaders, government officials have a greater responsibility to serve the nation than ordinary citizens. As one of my closest friends is always saying, “To whom much is given, from him much will be required” (Luke 12:48, NKJV). Or, as Uncle Ben from Spider-Man paraphrases the Holy Book, “With great power comes great responsibility.”

Because we are God’s people, we are “presidents” of nature. The Creator of the universe has elected us to look after the world he has made. Does this mean we can do whatever we want? On the contrary, it means we have a huge responsibility to care for his creation. The earth is a precious gift we’ve been asked to care for, not an entitlement. Just because it was my turn on my big brother’s scooter didn’t give me the right to destroy it.

Don’t make the mistake of thinking that, because you are young, you don’t have great power or great responsibility. We teens have a huge influence on our nation. Our parents are moved by our passion; younger kids think we are the coolest thing since sliced bread. We can use that influence for God. If we are on fire, the world will follow. Our generation is a generation that can change the planet. (adapted from “It’s Easy Being Green” by Emma Sleeth) I totally agree with Ms. Sleeth...I believe this generation has more power for change than any I have seen in a long time. I know that many of you are not interested in just sitting there while there are things that need to be done. Go ahead, step up and make some changes, use your dominion in a God honoring way. – Lee



CSC Spring Banquet this Friday, April 25

The annual CSC Spring Banquet is **Friday, April 25, 7:00 PM**, at the **Outpost** located at **14 N. 2nd Street, downtown Lafayette**. The CSC will be honoring three seniors: **Rob Flynn, Caitie Jones, and Megan McHenry**.



*To all the “dear people” at Elmwood Church of Christ, My **whole family** would like to thank you for the prayers and cards during this difficult time. It has been such a joy being cared for by you all. Thank you, too, for the beautiful floral planter and card. And lastly, thank you to my LIFE group for the pansies!*

-Beth Holt

Dear friends,

Just a word of thanks for your thoughtfulness in caring for Ivan, for the beautiful memorial service, the plant and the time of fellowship with the meal on the day of the service.

It is leaving very fond memories for me and the family, and gave us an opportunity to greet Ivan’s ministers and friends. May the Lord continue to bless you all!

Sincerely, Viva Ellis

National Day of Prayer

May 1st is our **National Day of Prayer**. The theme for this year is **Prayer! America’s Strength & Shield - Psalm 28:7**. If you are interested, there will be a **City-Wide Concert of Prayer** that will be held at Kossuth Street Baptist Church at 7 PM on May 1st.



- April 23, 7 PM**....Bible classes for everyone
- April 23, 5:50-6:50 PM**....Good \$ense class begins
- April 25**....College Spring Banquet at the **Outpost**,
- April 27, 6 PM**....LIFE Groups
- May 4, 6 PM**....High School Seniors’ Celebration
- June 2-6, 6-8 PM**.... Elmwood’s Vacation Bible School

