



Top 10 Signs You Are Dying

If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. ~ Luke 9:23

Many of you asked for a copy of the list I shared during my sermon last Sunday ñ **Top 10 Signs You Are Dying**. I thought that I would share that list with everyone in our newsletter this week. For those of you who might have missed the sermon, or for those who receive this newsletter but worship in other places, it is important to note that for the purposes of this list dying is a good thing. We want to die to ourselves ñ deny ourselves and take up our crosses daily. Here are the top 10 signs you are dying:

10. You find yourself in regular communication with your physician.

Matthew 9:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Ephesians 6:18

9. Your speech starts to change.

Colossians 3:8; Ephesians 4:25, 29; Luke 6:45

8. Your appetite starts to change.

Philippians 3:19; John 4:32; John 6:35

7. You start getting rid of junk.

Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:21

6. You take advantage of every moment left.

Ephesians 5:15-16; Colossians 4:5

5. You experience greater joy.

Philippians 4:4; 2 Corinthians 6:10; James 1:2

4. You start to worry less.

Luke 12:22-31

3. You start to think differently.

Romans 13:14; Philippians 4:8

2. You have less to fear.

Psalms 118:6; 1 John 4:16-18

1. Forgiving others comes easier.

Colossians 3:13; Luke 23:34

Are you dying? Are you taking up your cross daily to follow Jesus?
Is this list characteristic of you? If so, then you just might be dying.
Praise God!
-Gilbert

Ordinary

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong... so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord' (1 Cor 26-31 NRSV).

Earlier this week during Sunday Night Supper, the college group was talking about how God blesses his people with gifts, talents, abilities, etc. which they can use to serve Him. One of the important things that came out of that discussion was realizing that our lives need not be a grandiose adventure to serve God!

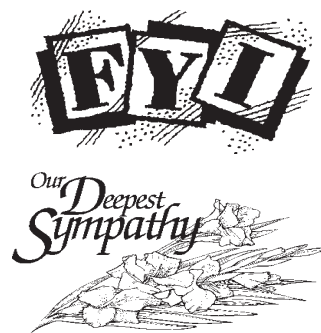
As humans, I think we tend to be ambitious. We see, or hear about people that have done great things (from Paul, to Augustine, to Billy Graham) who have affected millions (even billions) of people on a very large scale, and aspire to be just like them. The life of a Christian, however, is not a grandiose one. Our service to God more often than not involves small, simple, daily acts of service and humility.

Some people are called to do those grandiose things, but most of us, well, we are called to be ordinary people praising an extraordinary God.

-Phil

Wanita White was dismissed from Home Hospital on Monday after being there most of last week....**David Henke** had emergency surgery on Monday morning (1:00 AM) for an obstruction. He is in St. Elizabeth Hospital, room 2140, and will be there for several days....**Grace Reel**, newborn daughter of Laura & Jason, has been hospitalized for tests....**Hattie Coffel** is now at Seton Specialty Hospital, room 2320 (located in St. Elizabeth Hospital)**John & Sherry Marksí** daughter, **Melanie Ratcliff** had her gall bladder removed on Tuesday.... Continue praying for **Irene Fox** (*hospice care*), **Steve Cable**, **Steve High**, **Eva Wilson** (*Vickie Sanders' mother, stroke*), **Willie Batts**, **Edith McCoy**, **Mike Sutherland**, **Leon Johnson**, **Bernie Ciota**, **Randi Verett**, **Jean Stockberger**, **Lance & Lane Pepper**, **Eileen Richardson**, **Kaden Koebcke**, **Amanda Powlen**, **Julie Lichty**, **Pat Johnson**, **Marge Campbell**, **Irene Sims**, **Henrietta Frampton**, **Marie DeWoody**, **Paul & Argie Verett**, **Delpha Allen**, **Eagle Bailey**, & **Minnie Scott**.

Serving in our military: **Mark Wilson** and **Shawn Wilson**. After a stop in Hawaii, **Philp Devine** will be going home to California.



Our deepest sympathies to Angela Asbill and her family on the death of her grandmother, **Mildred White**. She was in her nineties and was in a nursing home in Atkins, Arkansas. Craig and Angela and the children were able to attend her funeral.

Men's Retreat: November 7-9

FAITH is the theme for this year's men's retreat held on **November 7-9**, at **Ross Camp**. Cost is \$20 for student; \$30 for single; and \$40 for a family. Registration is Friday evening from 5:00 until 6:00. Chili will be served before the first session at 7:00. The study will be taken from the book of James. Jason Cochran will speak on **Faith: the Test**. The two Saturday sessions will start with Bob Waltzis, **Faith: the Evidence**; and end with Tom Milleris, **Faith: the Prayer**. Rooms are available for those who want to stay Friday night and Saturday night. Sunday morning there will be a short wrap up and conclude with the Lord's Supper before heading back to the church building for second service. Contact me at 474-3110 for more details.

-Kevin Walters



*Elmwood friends:
The calls, cards, and visits I received during my recent hospital stay reflects the warmth we feel as we attend church functions. Thank you all and I am doing fine.*
-Amos Miller

Christmas for Everyone, Dec. 13

Christmas will be here soon and we have another great opportunity to take part in the **Christmas for Everyone** program. CFE is a program that allows church members to sponsor low income children in the community so that you can provide them with to a special Christmas that would not be possible on their own. You volunteer to sponsor a child, we provide you with a Christmas wish-list from that child, and on December 13th we distribute the gifts. Your commitment is no more than \$30 per child.

Will you help a child experience the joys of Christmas this year? Sign-up list will be in the Farris Foyer between services this Sunday.

Thank you all so much for the sweet pink blanket you sent us for Callie! She is already enjoying it. We miss you all alot. Thank you for the nice surprise!
Love, Cody, Jenny, Cassie, Carter, Caden, Colson, & Callie

2009 Spiritual Adventures

We have a tradition for some time now of printing a weekly article on the back of our newsletter titled, *iSpiritual Adventure*. To continue this tradition we are once again in need of volunteers to write these articles. The Bible is divided into weekly readings and you would need to write something of your choosing to correspond to the reading for that week. If interested, please call the church office and Carol will notify you of your writing assignment. We hope you enjoy writing these as much as we all enjoy reading your insights and stories of faith.

October 26, 2008
Class: 172 Worship: 279
Contribution: \$5,197

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Elmwood Church of Christ Men's Retreat November 7-9, 2008

It isn't too late to sign up! The retreat is just over a week away, so please tell Kevin Walters or call the church office today if you have not signed up and would like to attend. The price is very reasonable: students (teens and college) \$20, individual men \$30, and special family price \$40 (dad and son or sons). The price includes two nights' lodging and five meals. All attendees will also get a Men's Ministry T-shirt. Mark your calendars and make the call today! You will be glad you did! ñ Lee

RETREAT SCHEDULE:

November 7, Friday Night

5:00 - 6:00 PM Arrival and Registration
6:15 ñ 7:00 PM Dinner
7:00 ñ 7:15 PM Introduction and Charge
7:30 ñ 8:30 PM Reading the letter of James
Faith - The Test ñ *Jason Cochran* - James 1:2-18
Small Groups Discussion

November 8, Saturday Morning

8:00 AM - Breakfast
9:00 - 9:30 AM - Singing
9:30 ñ 10:30 AM **Faith - The Evidence** ñ *Bob Waltz* ñ
James 2:14-26
11:00 AM Small Groups Discussion

November 8, Saturday Afternoon

Noon ñ 1:00 PM Lunch

1:00 - 5:45 PM Free time

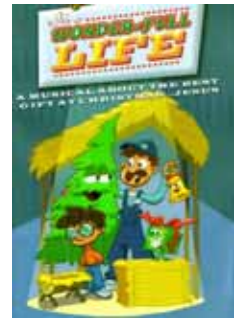
November 8, Saturday Evening

6:00 ñ 7:00 PM Dinner
7:00 ñ 7:30 PM Singing
7:30 ñ 8:30 PM **Faith - The Prayer** - *Tom Miller* ñ
James 5:13-18
8:30 ñ 9:00 PM Small Groups Prayer Time
Camp Fire

November 9, Sunday Morning

7:30 ñ 8:00 AM Breakfast
Singing and Communion ñ *Lee Porter and
Song Leader*

It's a Wonder-Full LIFE Christmas Program



The children's Christmas program for this year is, "It's a Wonder-Full Life." It will be presented on Sunday evening, **December 14, at 6:00.** The 4's, 5's and kindergarten aged children will also have a separate program that evening.

Rehearsal for 1st grade-high school age is this Sunday at 3:00 PM.

Shults-Lewis Milk Money Contribution, November 2



One of the ways Elmwood members have of showing their gratitude for God's bounty all year is through our willingness to provide milk for the children of Shults-Lewis Home in Valparaiso, Indiana. **That collection will be on Sunday, November 2.** Shults-Lewis provides a safe, loving environment to children who otherwise would have no home or anyone to care for their needs. Our continued support is necessary for Shults-Lewis to become more responsive in reaching out to those in need.



Food
Pantry
Needs

The food pantry is always in need of personal items: **soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste & toothbrushes, and toilet paper.** All food items are also welcomed.



November 2, 3:00....Rehearsal for "It's a Wonder-Full Life," 1st graders thru high school
November 2, 4:30 in A-2....Mark your calendars, **Parents' Meeting!**
November 2, 6 PM....Worship at Elmwood; Finger Foods to follow in the A-2 fellowship room
November 7-9....Men's Retreat at Ross Camp
Dec. 13.... Christmas for Everyone

Read:
 Ezekiel 22-37; Psalms 141-150; John 12-16

2008 Spiritual Adventure

Week 46: November 10-16

Son's Story


I love Ezekiel 34:11-16. It reminds me that God is our Shepherd and we are His sheep. Praise God for that! God watches over and tends to us. He looks for the lost and helps the injured. I go to this passage a lot. It helps me in times of trials. It reminds me that God takes care and watches over me.

In fact, just this week I was telling one of my Thai friends that I met doing LST this story. Let me tell you about my friend who is really struggling right now. His name is Son (English nickname) and he is trying to finish college in Bangkok. He has two more years in the engineering program. The problem he is having is paying for school. His family lost everything (including their house) when he was fourteen. His parents had just enough money for a train ticket to Bangkok. Since Son was the eldest child at age 14, his parents sent him to Bangkok to live on the streets and find work. The rest of his family stayed in their hometown (2 hours from Bangkok) and lived with relatives. Neither of Son's parents had jobs so he had to send the little money he made to them. This meant that he lived on the streets for a long time. He was even stabbed and left to die. Son is a new Christian. He became a Christian just a year ago. He stays at the campus Christian center and in return he is their handyman, translator, cleaning person, and anything else they need. So with school and his responsibilities at the campus Christian center, he has no time for a job. His father passed and now his mom is really pressuring him to work and get money to send to help her with his two siblings.

I talk to Son about every week. The pressure is really getting to him and I am afraid for him. My heart aches and I feel helpless being here and not being able to pay for all his schooling. But then I am reminded of Ezekiel 34:15-16 and am encouraged that God will care for and protect His flock. But I also know that we are God's body and we must step up and help fellow Christians. I pray this happens for Son and others in need.

ñMandy Anderson

Weekly Schedule	Elders	World Missions
<p>Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Life Groups 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Bill Bell 463-1139 Joe Mathews 474-8369 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653</p>	<p>Kevin Chambers World Christian Broadcasting Anchor Point, Alaska 99536</p> <p>Loren and Penny Hollingsworth Phuket, Thailand 83000 E-mail: lholly54@yahoo.com</p> <p>Bren and Cheryl White P.O. Box 245 New Market, MD 21774</p>
<p>Our Vision: Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known.</p>	<p>Staff</p> <p>Ministers Gilbert Kerrigan 418-3652 Lee Porter 463-6993 Phil Travis 447-2874</p> <p>Office Sherry Marks, Manager 447-2874 Carol Bell, Secretary 447-2874</p>	

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