



Let's Get Better! Let's Do Better! Let's Be Better!

Helping Developing Christians Grow!

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David's Devotional

The Resurrection of Christ makes all the difference!

People say it is virtually impossible to convert a Muslim to Christianity. However, Muslims have been converted (*as tough as that is!*)! They forfeited much in their life! Most not only lost their local jobs, they lost their families! It takes great faith to give up so much for Jesus!

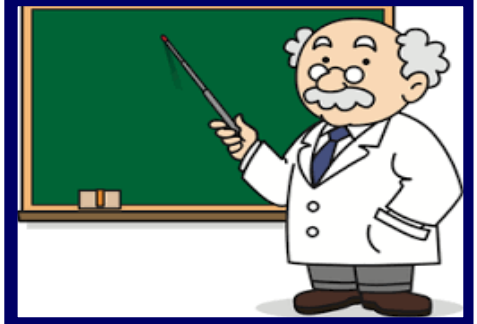
It almost makes me ashamed that we have given up so little for Jesus! Think about it! Has anyone threatened us or our family because of our faith? Have we been disdained for proclaiming Jesus? Have we suffered in any real sense because we are a Christian? We are truly blessed! We are (*and should be*) grateful to God that we enjoy such privileges to serve Him!

However, too many times, we won't even attend church to worship Him regularly, much less give up our families! We won't sacrifice a dollar, much less our jobs! We won't even tell a friend about Jesus even when we will not be shunned for doing it!

One converted Muslim was asked, "What was one of the main reasons you left your faith to become a Christian?" His response was, "Mohammad lived in this world and then died, but Jesus lived, died, and was **RESURRECTED!** That is a real Savior!" That is what made the difference! How many of us life-long Christians ever really think of this great truth? We serve a **RISEN SAVIOR!**

This simple but awesome truth should motivate us to Give more, Sing more, Pray more, Preach more, Worship more, Attend more, and LOVE more!

Let us encourage one another to be more Christ Like and then (*just like Christ*) we, too, will be **RESURRECTED** to hear Him say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make the ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord." **Matthew 25:21** David Conley



An Interesting Quote:

"The tighter we cling to an identity, the harder it becomes to grow beyond it." James Clear

"I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me." John 8:18

It is true that we can be imprisoned with self defeating thoughts, like "I am not good at that" or "I will never be able to do that". However, if we are a child of God, we should know who we are and cling tight to it!

It took two witnesses to testify to a truth. Jesus knew He was the Son of God! He is one witness and His Father is the second! Let's be a witness to our identity!

David Conley

Did You Know?

April 17th was "Haiku Poetry" Day!

Haiku Poetry originated in Japan. It is a three line poem with seventeen syllables. The first line has five syllables. The second line has seven syllables. The third line has five syllables.

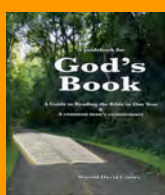
April 17th was also mine and Debra's Anniversary! This is my Haiku Poem to celebrate: *Forty Two Years now
 What a pleasure it has been
 Might as well keep me!*

Happy Anniversary & Haiku Poetry Day!



What Happened? Hackleburg Church of Christ Gospel Meeting

It was a pleasure to preach at the Gospel Meeting hosted by Hackleburg Church of Christ! Lots of good people with lots of smiles! Rick Collum, the preacher there, and his wife, Lisa, were so warm and welcoming! Pictured here with me is one of the elders. His last name is Hood. Rick calls him "Brotherhood"!



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Devotional Books by David Conley

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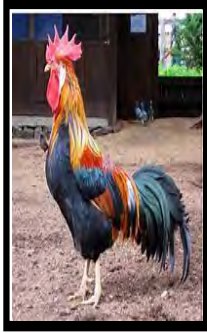
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Once Upon A Time ...

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven"
Ecclesiastes 3:1



Floppy & Charlie

Floppy was a rooster. His neck was glittered with gold. His breast and tail were coal black. His wings were gold with a bit of red hue. Floppy was the perfect "Weather Vane" style Rooster!

However, Floppy's comb flopped over his beak! That's why we named him "Floppy". Daddy let our chickens run free in the yard. A hen would disappear for a while, then show up with several chicks running behind her. Floppy was the father of a lot of chickens!

One of Floppy's sons was Charlie. He looked just like Floppy except his comb stood straight and proud. He was the "cock of the walk"! Charlie loved to fight. He would win every time. One day Charlie attacked Floppy. It was awful! Floppy was almost killed. Daddy was very upset with Charlie. We had six Guineas we kept in a pen. Daddy told us to catch Charlie and throw him into the pen with the Guineas! They tossed Charlie back and forth to each other like a piece of wadded up paper. As I watched, I had mixed emotions. Charlie was being mercilessly beaten, but he had mercilessly beaten Floppy. He was getting what he deserved, but he was helpless! I felt happy and sad at the same time! It was a weird feeling.

Daddy did not let Charlie die. He allowed us to rescue Charlie from the Guinea pen. Charlie never fought again! I think he even apologized to Floppy! We can argue whether or not Daddy was "humane", but there could be no argument over the result! Perhaps Daddy agreed with Solomon: **Proverbs 23:14** "Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell." I think there would be less crime if Daddy had been President.

David Conley

Don't Wait For a "Cave Moment"

Imagine how Saul felt. The women sang, "Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his TEN thousands"

I Samuel 18:7

Saul was the King of Israel! Didn't he deserve more respect than that! From that day forward he was jealous of David!

In Samuel Chapter 24 Saul took 3,000 men and looked for David. David and his men went into a cave to hide. Saul, in his pursuit, came upon the same cave! When Saul went into the cave, David and his men hid in the sides of the cave.

The men told David the Lord must have delivered his enemy into his hands. David said it would not be right to kill a King that God had anointed. Instead, David quietly cut off a piece of Saul's clothing to prove he was not a threat to Saul.

When Saul came out of the cave, David bowed himself to him! David said, "Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?" **I Samuel 24:9** In other words, "Why did you listen to people who told you lies about me?" David showed him the cloth he had cut from his clothes, proving he could have killed him if he had wanted to. Saul saw he had been wrong about David. He told David, "Thou art more righteous than I..." **I Samuel 24:17**

We should never judge people based solely on what others say about them. Wouldn't it be a shame to harbor ill feelings toward someone who never said or did what we were told? Relationships can be destroyed all because we listened to the wrong people! Even if they did say it, did they really mean it the way those people told us they meant it? Go to our brother, sister, friend, or neighbor and work it out! Don't wait for a "CAVE MOMENT" to prove it.

Wouldn't it be a shame if the GRAVE came before the CAVE and we never worked it out?

David Conley



A Funny Thing Happened ...



The preacher watched two men standing on the side of the road. Each of them held a sign. One sign read "The End Is Near!" the other sign read "Turn Back Now!" A car approached. The driver seemed upset. As he passed the two men, he yelled from the car window, "Go home you religious nuts!" Then he sped past them. A few moments later there was a loud crashing noise. One of the two men turned to the other and said, "Maybe it would be better if our signs just said, 'The Bridge Is Out!'"

The preacher thought of **Ezra 4:18** "The letter which ye sent unto us hath been plainly read before me." When King Artaxerxes plainly read the letter sent by the Jews' enemies, he issued orders against Jerusalem. Sometimes we can read plainly and still miss the true message!