

# The REMINDER

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

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## SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE

Too many marriages are failing, even among Christians. This condition is a shame, a blight and a disgrace to the cause of Christ, and a hindrance to the gospel work. The following suggestions could help.

### *BEGIN RIGHT*

1. Have a scriptural right to marry, and do not take anybody's word for this. Be certain. (see Romans 7:1-3; Matt. 19:1-9).
2. Determine to leave all others for your companion. You must accept responsibility for a new allegiance now. (Eph. 5:31)
3. Give yourself to your companion, to satisfy his or her fleshly passions, in full reciprocal partnership. (I Cor. 7:1-5).
4. Love your companion with unselfish, wholehearted devotion. (Read Eph. 5:28)
5. Determine to keep your companion for life. (Rom. 7:1-3)

### *SECURITY MEASURES*

1. There must be an abundance of mutual respect, sharing of love for each other. Real two-sided love, properly nurtured can not fail. (I Cor. 13:8; Eph. 5:23-25)
2. There must be sincere endeavor for unity in the home. Success will not accidentally happen to your marriage. (Col. 3:18-19)
3. There ought to be sincere reciprocal apologies. A troubled marriage can be soothed and calmed if both parties will apologize with humility. (Prov. 17:9)

### *HOME WRECKERS*

1. Accumulative quarrelling destroys tranquility. Ordinary arguments do not lead to divorce, but quarrels that never end, that are brought up again and again destroy marriages. (Prov. 21:19; 26:21; 27:15)
2. Unwise intimacies cause jealousies and lead to temptations that are often fatal. Too many men and women spend much more time with some other person than they do with their marriage companion. The divorce courts are full of those who learned to love another more than their companion because they had more companionship with the other. (Prov. 6:24-35)

### *ADDITIONAL STRESSES*

If the marriage results in children, we partially gage our success by how the children "turn out."

1. Hypocritical examples destroy confidence and nullify influence. Children are experts at seeing through any superficial veneer of professed integrity in parents.
2. Undisciplined children will be unruly and will lead to sorrow and failure in the home. (Prov. 29:15; 13:24)
3. Materialistic goals prevent many parents from providing nurture that children need. Children need parents more than they do property.

Leslie Diestelkamp

# Bulletin Board

Sermon  
Notes:

AM Lesson - Jack - "A Confession of Sin"  
PM Lesson - Jack - "He Ruined His Bad  
Reputation"

## A FATHER'S PRAYER

*Dear God, my little boy of three  
Has said his nightly prayer to Thee  
Before his eyes were closed in sleep  
He asked that Thou his soul would keep.  
And I, still kneeling at his bed,  
My hand upon his tousled head,  
Do ask, with deep humility,  
That Thou, dear Lord, remember me.  
Make me, kind Lord, a worthy dad,  
That I may lead this little lad  
In pathways ever fair and bright,  
That I may keep his steps aright.  
O God, his trust must never be  
Destroyed, or even marred by me;  
Let Christ in all my actions shine,  
To guide this little lamb of thine.  
So for the simple things he prayed  
With childish voice so unafraid,  
I, trembling, ask the same from Thee;  
Dear Lord, kind Lord, remember me!*  
author unknown

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*"If the men of our time had their way, God would  
be on the carpet all the time offering soothing  
explanations to angry questions."*

*"Men will wrangle for religion; fight for it; die for  
it; anything but live for it."*

**NEWS AND NOTES:** Please remember in prayer those who have serious health needs. Laura Claburn with the possibility of dialysis in the near future. John Neff's mother, who has a recurrence of her cancer. Plus the many who have on-going problems.

Our sincere sympathy to a couple of families. Jim Carithers family at the passing of his brother-in-law. The funeral was Friday. Jim plans to come home early this week. Most of our members received an email about the passing of Valerie Stringer. It was an apparent suicide. She has been in poor physical health for many years, plus suffering from emotional depression. A sad event for sure. Keep that family in your thoughts.

Some good news: Russ and Lalura Harkrider are placing membership with us, at least for a while. They are trying to sell a house in Louisiana, then may buy in a different part of Houston. They have already endeared themselves to many here. We welcome them to our family.

We've also asked Matt Miles to serve as one of the elders here. He has agreed. There will be a three week period for members to talk with him about this responsibility, plus any considerations anyone may have about qualifications.

Tonight is the monthly youth devotion

Steve and Muffy are out of town this weekend. Steve is in a meeting in Memphis. They should be back tomorrow.

### Assignments for today

Sunday, November 17, 2013

#### Morning Service

Announcements.....Scott Clanton  
Hymn Director.....Lee Williams  
Scripture Reading.....Luke 24:26-27, 44-46  
Scripture Reader.....Chris Cecil  
Opening Prayer.....Bob Ward  
Closing Prayer.....Scott Clanton

#### Evening Service

Hymn Director.....Steve Garrett  
Opening Prayer.....Mark Mann  
Closing Prayer..... Scott Clanton

## BELLAIRE church of Christ

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### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Bible study  
5:00 PM Worship

#### Wednesday:

7:30 PM Study and Devotional

#### Minister and editor

Jack Smith and Steve Garrett

*The Reminder* is published weekly by the church of Christ in Bellaire