

# Banner

---

"You have set up a banner for those who fear you, that it may be displayed because of truth." Psalm 60:4

---



*"Pleasing God,  
Making Disciples  
of  
Jesus Christ"*

A COMMUNICATION MINISTRY OF QUIDNESSETT BAPTIST CHURCH

It happens all the time. I have grown to anticipate it with a level of enjoyment. I usually don't get more than five feet into the house before it happens. Out of nowhere comes my dog filled with excitement and energy welcoming home her master and grabbing my attention. It may not seem like a big deal, but as I watch her daily ritual I see a couple of spiritual lessons worth learning. First is eagerness to spend time with the Master. Nothing draws away my dog's desire. She wants to see me. Not even a juicy dog snack would divert her desire. Do I seek the Lord Jesus in my quiet times with intense desire to behold His glory and enjoy His presence?

Another spiritual lesson I take away from my dog is faithfulness.

She never grows weary of greeting me knowing a nice petting will soon follow. Loyal and committed, she draws me to consider my faithfulness and expectation when meeting with my Lord. Do I expect Him to teach me about Himself, myself, and the spiritual truth of His Word

***"I am reminded of my need to love my Master and seek quality time with Him."***

as I read it so that I may obey it? Yes, my dog Pepper has been used to teach me valuable spiritual lessons about my devotional life. When I see her fast wagging tail and friendly brown eyes greeting me after a day's work, I am reminded of my need to love my Master and seek quality time with Him.

In this issue of the Banner we will be looking at various aspects of our devotional lives.

## Inside This Issue

GOSPEL GLIMPSES 2  
*"Jesus and the Model Prayer"*

THE PASTOR'S PEN 2  
*"Affection and Commitment"*

WALKING WITH THE MASTER 3  
*"Legacies and Examples"*

BOOK REVIEW 3  
*"Communion with God"*

DID YOU KNOW? 3  
*"The English Puritans"*

QBC HAPPENINGS 4  
*"May & June 2006"*

## GOSPEL GLIMPSES

It is truly a mystery beyond comprehension to ponder the prayer life of our Lord Jesus. How could one begin to understand the perfect Son of God and prayer? Yet, it is clear Jesus was committed to prayer.

The 19th century theologian, William Garden Blaikie in his book *Glimpses of the Inner Life of our Lord*, wrote on the prayerfulness of our Lord. He began by stating, "It is an interesting feature of the third gospel [Luke], that more than any of the other three it dwells on the prayerfulness of our Lord. All of them give prominence to this feature of His earthly life, making it impossible for us even in imagination to separate prayer from the life of Jesus."

One instance in Luke's gospel of

Jesus' prayer life reveals an important aspects of prayer—its restorative and refreshing nature to the one praying.

The episode comes from the garden of Gethsemane. Luke states, *And He came out and went, as was His custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed Him. And when He came to the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed* (LUKE 22:39-41).

Jesus saw prayer in its true light—a time to share burdens and life itself with the Heavenly Father. He poured out His soul to the One who would restore and complete His will through His Son.

There are two important lessons on prayer to incorporate into our

devotional lives. First is consistency. LUKE 22:39 reads, *And He came out and went, as was His custom.* Jesus established and maintained consistency in His prayer life. When we commit to such consistency in seeking the Father, we will find prayer to be refreshing and restorative. A second lesson we may learn from Jesus is found in verse 41—*And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed.* As great as the corporate prayer meeting is, we will not grow deep in the grace and knowledge of God unless we are willing to "go it alone" in the prayer closet. Intimacy is personal and that is the living example we receive from the Lord. May His Spirit guide us into a prayer life that refreshes and restores.

## THE PASTOR'S PEN

John Newton, the author of the famous hymn *Amazing Grace*, said, "Take a toy away from a child and give him another, and he is satisfied. But if he is hungry, no toy will do. As newborn babes, true believers desire the sincere milk of the Word, and the desire of grace in this way is grace." He is quoting the familiar text found in Peter's first epistle - *As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby* (I PETER 2:2).

When it comes to our devotion to the person of the Lord Jesus, the Bible is inseparable from that devotion. Any affection for Jesus and subsequent commitment to Him must include affection and commitment to the scriptures.

Peter offers us three important lessons which will help us in our devotional life.

The first lesson of devotion to the scriptures and the Lord Jesus is remain as a little child. As John Newton said of a child, "But if he is hungry, no toy will do." Maintaining a child-like attitude is not only essential for salvation; it is essential for sanctification. Our growth in the Lord must be approached with the

***"Any affection for Jesus must include affection for the scriptures."***

simple faith of a child believing what is written without question.

A second lesson is develop a desire for the Word. This becomes a constant petition in the prayer life of the believer. Job captures the proper desire for the Word of God - *My foot hath held his steps, His way have I kept, and not declined. Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; for I have esteemed [treasured] the words of His mouth*

*more than my necessary food* (JOB 23:11-12). We can test whether or not this desire is present in our lives by simply looking at two things - the quantity and quality of our time given to the Word of God.

A final lesson from Peter is really a self check-up. Simply ask the following questions: "Are we growing in the knowledge of the Word? Do our lives reflect a working understanding of the Word manifested by daily obedience? Is this growth measurable by looking back to where we were compared to where we are?"

Our devotional time certainly must include the Bible. But an open Bible is of no value unless its contents are passionately desired and, unquestionably relied upon with a willingness to grow in grasping its life-changing message. May our devotion to Jesus be a devotion to His Word!



## COMMUNION WITH GOD: A GUIDE TO THE DEVOTIONAL SPIRIT

Robert Philip  
RHB Publishers  
Paperback, 152 pages

This is a delightful book recently reprinted by Reformation Heritage Books. Joel Beeke and Jay Collier have aptly described Philip's book "Whether you are seeking to lay hold of God's promises, struggling with assurance, enduring trials, lacking zeal, or simply desiring further encouragement in your prayer life, reading COMMUNION WITH GOD prayerfully will be a blessing to your soul and a sure 'guide to the devotional life.'"

(This book may be ordered by calling RHB at 1-616-977-0599 or email: [orders@heritagebooks.org](mailto:orders@heritagebooks.org))

### QUOTABLE QUOTE

"Christ dying for us is our Redemption; Christ dwelling and living in us is our Reformation."

WILLIAM DELL

The Lord Jesus left His people very

### WALKING WITH THE MASTER

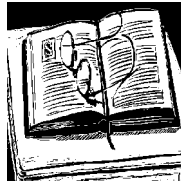
rich legacies and enduring examples. Think about what legacies the Christian receives from Him. There is His peace - *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you* (JOHN 14:27), His joy - *These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full* (JOHN 15:11), and His sympathy - *In all their afflictions He was afflicted* (ISAIAH 63:9).

Now think for a moment about the enduring examples. We have His devotion to His Father's work - *I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that You gave Me to do* (JOHN 17:4), His life of ministry - *Even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many* (MATT. 20:28),

and His delight in the Father's will - *And He who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him* (JOHN 8:28).

Yes, the Lord provides for us both rich spiritual legacies and enduring examples, but do we realize them in the day-to-day of being a believer? This realization does not come in the flurry of Christian activity, but in the solitude of Christian devotion. Ask yourself this simple question - Am I spending more time learning from Jesus or learning facts about Jesus. Don't get me wrong. We need to be growing in knowledge of Him. However, knowledge without devotion is cold. Let's pray the Lord draws us to discover His rich legacies and enduring examples!

### DID YOU KNOW?



Our focus in this issue of The Banner is on the English Puritans. Did you know?

- From its very first use in the early 1560's, "Puritan" was a term of abuse, implying a "holier than thou" attitude on the part of those who were so called.

- When Oliver Cromwell became Lord Protector of England, he canceled Christmas. But it was not a Scrooge-like hatred of joyous festivities that prompted the Puritans to distrust carols, mistletoe, and decorated trees. Christmas, like the rest of the saints' days and festivals in the Catholic/Anglican calendar, was in whose view not unnecessary and unbiblical.

- The Puritans took Sabbath observance very seriously. When King James I threw down the gauntlet by publishing the Book of Sports—a list of sports and games one could lawfully engage in after church—the controversy that followed was so volatile that a 17th century historian cited it as one of the leading causes of the English Civil War.

- The Puritans did value recreation—just not on Sunday. On other days of the week, they enjoyed hunting, a form of football, fishing, bowling swimming, skating, archery, and any other amusement they did not deem immoral. Some Puritan leaders urged employers to give their workers time for play and exercise during the week, so that Sunday could truly be a day of rest.

QUIDNESSETT BAPTIST CHURCH  
6356 Post Road  
North Kingstown, RI 02852-1896



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization  
**U.S. POSTAGE**  
**PAID**  
North Kingstown, RI  
Permit No. 140

Teach me  
your way,  
O LORD,  
& I will  
walk in  
your truth...  
Psalm 86:11

## ***QBC HAPPENINGS***

### **MAY 2007**

- Missions Conference will be held *Friday through Sunday, May 4th to 6th*
- Young at Heart Fellowship will be held on *Tuesday, May 8th*
- Part 5 of the DVD series DOES THE TRUTH MATTER ANY-MORE? will be shown on *Sunday evening, May 20th*
- Men's Ministry Fellowship will be held *Tuesday, May 29th.*

### **JUNE 2007**

- Young at Heart Portland trip will be held on *Monday, June 4th*
- Men's Ministry Fellowship will be held *Tuesday, June 26th.*

THE QUIDNESSETT

# **Banner**

"Pleasing God,  
Making Disciples  
of  
Jesus Christ"



The Quidnessett Banner is the bi-monthly newsletter of Quidnessett Baptist Church. It is free of charge and readily available for all who would like to be placed on our mailing list. If you desire to receive The Quidnessett Banner in your home, simply contact the church office.

QUIDNESSETT BAPTIST CHURCH

6356 Post Road

North Kingstown, RI 02852

401-884-9111

Email: [office@qbchurch.org](mailto:office@qbchurch.org)

Website: [www.qbchurch.org](http://www.qbchurch.org)