

men@trinity

Newsletter

July-August 2007

Future events

Stroll and a pint 20th July

Meet in the Church Car park 6.30pm to leave at 6.45pm. If you can not make this time please speak to Mike Bartrop.

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Cherokee Indian Fatherhood

Do you know the legend of the Cherokee Indian youth's rite of passage?

His dad takes him into the forest - blindfolded - and leaves him.

He is required to sit on a stump the whole night and not take off the blindfold until the ray of sun shines through it.

He is all by himself.

He cannot cry out for help to anyone.

Once he survives the night he is a MAN.

He cannot tell the other boys of this experience.

Each lad must come into his own manhood.

The boy was terrified. He could hear all kinds of noise. Beasts were all around him. Maybe even some human would hurt him. The wind blew the grass and it shook his stump. But he sat stoically, never removing the blindfold. It was the only way he could become a man.

Finally, after a horrific night, the sound of the night disappeared. He could feel the warmth of the sun. He removed his blindfold.

It was then that he saw his father - sitting on the stump next to him - on watch the entire night.

We are never alone.

Even when we do not know it, our Father is protecting us.

He is sitting on the stump beside us.

All we have to do is take off our blindfolds.

Live Simply. Love Generously. Care Deeply. Speak Kindly.

Leave the Rest to God.

A Man Winning His Spiritual Struggle

Militaristic descriptions of faith can often be a turn off. Yet we can miss the sense of urgency, the danger, and even the victory God promises if we underestimate the nature of our spiritual struggle. Here are some interesting Scriptures for having a proper biblical perspective...

The Nature of Our Struggle

1 Samuel 17:47: It is not our battle. The battle belongs to God.

2 Timothy 2:3-4: We are soldiers in Christ's army. We are neither civilians nor POWs.

1 Corinthians 15:54-56: The battle has already been won.

Our Enemies

The world (the spirit of this age, not people): 1 John 2:15-17

The flesh: Romans 7:15-25, Galatians 5:16-21

The devil: John 8:44, Ephesians 6:12, liar, accuser, devourer, deceiver, god of this world.

Death: Hebrews 2:14-15, 1 Corinthians 15:22-26

Our Weapons

Ephesians 6:10-18: The Armour of God, having done everything, "to stand."

Galatians 5:16-18: Live by the Spirit.

1 Peter 2:11: Abstain from sinful desires which war against your soul.

Our Victory

Hebrews 4:15-16: Jesus, tempted as we are, offers mercy and help.

1 John 4:3-5: This is the victory that has overcome the world, our faith.

2 Timothy 4:6-8: Fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

Romans 8:37-39: We are more than conquerors through Christ.

Warmly in Christ,

Pat Morley, Ph.D.

from "Man in the Mirror".



If you have any articles you would like to contribute to men@trinity newsletter, please email to men@trinitymethodist.org.uk, or drop into pigeon hole B for the attention of Mike Bartrop.

Recently, I was diagnosed with A.A.A.D.D. - Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder.

This is how it goes:

I decide to water my garden. As I turn on the hose in the garden,

I see my car and decide it needs washing.

As I go to the garage, I notice the post on the hall table that was delivered earlier.

I decide to go through the post before I wash the car.

I lay my car keys on the table, put the junk mail in the rubbish bin under the table, and notice that it's full

So, I decide to put the bills back on the table and take out the rubbish first.

But then I think, since I'm going to be near the postbox when I take out the rubbish, I may as well pay the bills first.

I take my cheque book off the table, and see that there is only 1 cheque left.

My extra cheques are in my desk, so I go inside the house to my desk where I find the tin of Coke I'd been drinking.

I'm going to look for my cheques, but first I need to put the Coke aside so that I don't accidentally knock it over.

The Coke is getting warm, and I decide to put it in the refrigerator to keep it cold. As I head toward the kitchen with the Coke, a vase of flowers on the worktop catches my eye--they need water.

I put the Coke on the worktop and discover my reading glasses that I've been searching for all morning

I decide I better put them back on my desk, but first I'm going to water the flowers.

I set the glasses back down on the worktop, fill a container with water and suddenly spot the TV remote. Someone left it on the kitchen table.

I realize that tonight when we go to watch TV, I'll be looking for the remote, but I won't remember that it's on the kitchen table, so I decide to put it back by the side of the TV, where it belongs, but first I'll water the flowers.

I pour some water in the flowers, but quite a bit of it spills on the floor.

So, I put the remote back on the table, get some towels and wipe up the spill.

Then, I go to the kitchen door, trying to remember what I was planning to do.

At the end of the day:

The car isn't washed, The bills aren't paid

There is a warm tin of Coke sitting on the worktop

The flowers don't have enough water,

There is still only 1 cheque in my cheque book,

I can't find the remote, I can't find my glasses,

And I don't remember what I did with the car keys.

Then, when I try to figure out why nothing got done today,

I'm really baffled because I know I was busy all day, and I'm really tired.

Speeding Hymns

If you MUST speed on the highway, sing these hymns loudly:

at 45 mph.... "God Will Take Care of Me"

at 55 mph.... "Guide me, O Great Jehovah"

at 65 mph.... "Nearer My God to Thee"

at 75 mph.... "Nearer Still Nearer"

at 85 mph.... "This World is Not My Home"

at 95 mph.... "Lord, I'm Coming Home"

at 100 mph.... "Precious Memories"