

The Sunday School Lesson

A Ministry of the
Burnt Swamp Baptist Association

FEBRUARY 21, 1962

EMPOWERED TO WITNESS
St. John 6:7-13; Acts 1:6-11

by Rev. Tony E. Browington.
This Sunday's lesson is an excellent continuation of last week's attention upon fruit-bearing in Christ or the lack of it apart from him. Attachment to the vine is good and essential, but not enough. Attachment can exist and still yield no fruit. Underneath the skin of the branch must flow a sap spreading life giving, fruit-bearing energy from the root of the vine to the tip of the branch.

This Sunday's lesson is about that spiritual sap with which God empowers His human branches to produce baskets of fruit. Vehicles that run out of energy stop. Lungs

that have no breath collapse. Veins that transport no blood dry up and teeth that have no bite leave a gap. So is the epitaph of any association with Christ. Christ-likeness includes attachment to the body of Christ and enactment of his spirit. Follow that process with Jesus' disciples in our lesson.

DISCIPLES ARE CALLED
Mark 6:7

Like the Gospel writer John (15:16), Mark states the importance of being chosen by Christ for the task. Mark indicates that Jesus called his disciples, an act of sovereign selection in the midst of human rejection. Man is able to move toward God only because God has first moved toward him. Jesus' calling disciples was a part of the

Divine blueprint of the Kingdom of God to be built on earth. It was to be a cooperative interaction of divinity and humanity, of Creator and creature working together.

DISCIPLES ARE COORDINATED
Mark 6:8-11

Have you ever watched an individual or group attempt to perform an act when there is an obvious lack of coordination? Good performance demands equally good coordination and balance.

In these verses Jesus stresses the importance of balance in the disciples' ministry. Not only is there a tendency sometimes to go unprepared, there is an equal likelihood that excessive packing may be the case. Either can handicap the achieving of an assigned task. Jesus offers suggestions on how to properly journey as witnesses for him. In like manner, Christians today must always use humble judgement in determining how much physical luggage is needed in the Christian journey. We must be careful of our life style, social gluttony, and unnecessary weight." (Heb. 12:1)

In Jesus' day hospitality was a natural ingredient of Jewish culture. Travel was made without a great deal of concern for reservations in public places. The Jewish household would provide lodging for the disciples. It would facilitate their mobility and availability to reside in a particular home while ministering in a certain area. vs. 10. The town folk wouldn't have to worry about where to visit God's man during his stay, and the disciples would be able to concentrate on who they could feed with God's Word rather than who would next feed them.

Not all people warmly welcome the message or the messenger. In such incidents the disciples are instructed to illustrate God's impatience with rejection and ridicule of His abiding Spirit by dusting off, or turning from, such unsightly selfishness.

THE DISCIPLES ARE CONSIDERED
Mark 6:12-13

The word consider means to give in charge, commit or entrust. These verse point to the task immediately assigned them. They were compelled

to go, to reach beyond themselves and their fellowship. Jesus had come to draw men to repentance. The disciples were sent to preach that message. Not only did they deliver the souls of men through repentance, they removed the demonic and physical handicaps. God intended for His Word to be preached to men and also placed upon their hurts and humiliations.

THE DISCIPLES ARE CORRECTED
Acts 1:6-7

The Jewish community had been oppressed by numerous pagan cultures for centuries. At this time Rome was at its height in power and dominated the people of God. Prophets had declared that a Messiah would deliver them. Jesus, the Messiah, was now in their midst and the disciples, still misunderstanding his true mission, cornered Jesus to encourage his haste toward nationalizing the Jewish land. Jesus found it necessary to correct their misconceptions and political expectations.

We may be guilty at times of "expecting" certain acts of God to punish the wicked but

God does not work according to our time frame or long range plans. God designed the blueprint and wrote the specifications. He did not leave room for our re-designing or re-scheduling of the Master Plan.

THE DISCIPLES ARE COMPLETED
Acts 1:8

The task set before the disciples would require more than determination and sincerity on their part. They could learn all the do's and don'ts and follow the instruction to the finest details, and still fail. Their true discipleship absolutely depended upon the spiritual energy that Jesus would provide. The empowering of the Holy Ghost was not an afterthought in Jesus' plans, but He (the Holy Ghost) was the ink in the pen that drew the plans and the fuel in the equipment that would do the construction. The premises of this work would not be limited to a particular neighborhood or community but would extend beyond all boundaries and cultures.

THE DISCIPLES ARE COLLARED
Acts 1:9-11

I recall a time in my youth that my mother gave me a chore to do. The timing of that task was poor because at that moment my eye was captured with intense interest upon a bird making a nest in the bow of a tree. Apparently she repeated her instruction with out my obedient response. The next thing I knew she had caught me by the shirt collar, attracted my devoted attention and said "Get to it!"

That's what happens in these verses. Jesus has called them, coordinated them, consigned them, and completed their equipping. Now they are caught with eyes confined to the clouds. The two men, heaven's angels, collar them and remind them of the task at hand.

Disciples today cannot afford star-gazing or time spent in looking for Jesus to return. The task at hand is to prepare men's hearts for it.

Doctor Talk

By Dr. Harold E. Ligon

Literally, millions of teenagers, adolescents, and sometimes women in their 20s and 30s develop a skin condition called acne.

Strangely enough, despite the fact that its occurrence is universal, many teenagers undergo deep emotional conflict-to the point of constant embarrassment and even withdrawal. Also-there are many misconceptions about acne-predisposing factors suggesting dietary indiscretions, puberty and sexual overtones, etc., that are misleading and untrue.

Literally, acne is a chronic inflammatory hair follicle disease beginning at puberty and, though hormonal and growth factors, develops into inflamed nodules, pustules, cysts, and sacs. It most often involves the face, neck, chest, shoulders, and upper back. The lesions vary in degree from slight "bumps" to deep inflamed nodules and pus-filled cysts.

In general, there are two basic categories of acne: 1-superficial acne, which is what we see most often. The lesions are less severe, in general, and comprise inflamed papules, blackheads, whiteheads, surface cysts, and pustules. Over 80% of the cases are of the superficial type. 2-deep acne (or acne conglobata), in which deep inflamed nodules and pus-filled cysts mar and scar the skin-much to the chagrin and embarrassment of many adolescents. The deep acne is extremely difficult to manage and almost invariably scars and pits after healing.

Generally, acne is worse during the winter months, the sun of summer tending to improve the condition. Diet and dietary supplements have little to do with the disease process.

Acne can be expected to spontaneously subside "beyond the teens". In the meantime, the next discussion will take up some current management and healing prospects for the active disease.



The first television panel game show was a six-a-side Spelling Bee, presented by the BBC May 31, 1938.

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"Diligence is the mother of good luck." Benjamin Franklin

AREA SCOREBOARD

WARRIORS CONTINUE WINNING WAYS

The Pembroke Warriors had on their running shoes last Friday night as they easily won over the Clinton Dark Horses 73-64.

The Warriors were led by stalwart center Roscoe Charles, 20 points, and sleek Ryan Tuck, who led all scorers with 23.

BUT COME UP SHORT AGAINST WEST COLUMBUS

But they were "out-quickened" by West Columbus Tuesday night 60-53 in its final home game.

Again, Charles and Ryan led the Pembroke effort with 17 and 15 points respectively.

Pembroke Coach James Howard Locklear, Sr. said, "Their guards are extremely quick and we weren't ready for that...we showed tiredness tonight."

Pembroke finishes third in the Three Rivers 3-A Conference and earns a berth in the District III 3-A in Lillington

Feb. 23-26. The top five teams in the Triangle 3-A Conference (Southern Durham, East Wake, Western Harnett, Oxford Webb and either Durham Jordan or Apex) will be there with the top three in the Three Rivers (East Bladen, West Columbus and Pembroke).

The last week in the Three Rivers Conference Pembroke will face the first seed in the Triangle (Southern Durham) Tuesday. Southern Durham is currently ranked No. 1 in the state 3-A poll and is led by 6-5 high school All American Curtis Hunter.

STATS...

BOYS VARSITY PEMBROKE (73) - Charles 23, Tuck 23, Brockhead 1, Bell 10, Moore 3, E. Locklear 2, Lendon 4, A. Locklear 1, Jordan 2.

CLINTON (64) - Fulton 8, Dixon 4, Caldwell 4, Smith 6, Mayor 10, McPhail 2, King 1, Richardson 2, McCoy 2.

February 23 11 17 - 73

Clinton 14 11 23 - 64

GIRLS VARSITY

CLINTON (65) - Duford 8, Caldwell 20, Kee 11, Hicks 4, Williams 4.

PEMBROKE (46) - Rogers 17, Locklear 3, L. Locklear 2, Holloman 2, Moore 11.

Clinton 7 14 18 - 46

BOYS VARSITY

WEST COLUMBUS (59) - John Brown, Michael Bryant, Henry Crawford 11, Scott Brown, John Gault, Trammell Gause 20, Walter Gause 15, Mike Gault 2, Powell 10, David Adams 4.

February 18 19 21 - 59

West Columbus 13 15 31 - 59

GIRLS VARSITY

WEST COLUMBUS (37) - Frieda Herwig 11, Lorraine Cole 4, Amy Triggler 8, Beverly Hunt, C. Hunt.

February 18 19 21 - 37

West Columbus 13 15 11 - 37