

**THE FUTURE OUTLOOK**

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**SECOND PRIMARY JUNE 3 — VOTE**

The candidates who will be seeking re-election had lost in the Primary of May 6th, but, not by a very large margin. The persons who had enough votes could ask for a re-election for, there were several other candidates who were seeking the same office. Two or three of those candidates who had lost out, asked that the people vote for their next choice.

There are several people who did not have the opportunity to vote on May 6th, so, hopefully they will go to the polls and vote on Saturday, June 3, 1972. That will be the run-off between the Democrats and the Republicans. All Democrats will vote for those candidates who are on the Democratic ticket and all those who are Republican will vote for those candidates who are on the Republican ticket. Everyone must vote straight tickets! There will not be a re-election of candidates for the County Board of Commissioners, in the June 3rd primary. All other offices will be.

By all means go to the polls Saturday, early and cast your vote! The polls will be open from sunrise to sunset, in order to give everyone an opportunity to vote. The General Election will be at your precinct, and by all means know your precinct. All persons 18 yrs. and older can vote for the candidate of their choice. All college students can vote if they have been a resident of the town or city in which they are attending school for thirty days or longer.

Please, read all political advertisements and know your candidate's platform and get out and vote June 3rd and November 7!

Many citizens have moved from their old precincts since the last election. Therefore, they cannot vote unless they notify their registrar and transfer their names to their new precinct. The General Election comes off on November 7 and the college students as well as interested citizens can follow through with the house to house campaign for registering citizens and to see that they vote in the November General Election for candidates of their choice. Students 18 years of age can register and vote in this election also.

The General Election consists of the Democrats and Republican government officials, namely, Senators, Congressmen, House of Representatives, County Board of Commissioners, six District Judges of Guilford County and President of the United States.

The non-registered citizens can qualify themselves to vote by making an appointment with their registrar in their precinct or go by the County Board of Elections office, 618 W. Friendly Ave. from 9:00 until 5:00 p.m. The phone number is 272-2665.

Before a voter votes, he should go to various Democratic and Republican headquarters and talk with the officials and secure literature about the candidate and know their platforms before casting a vote.

It is customary when one is a member of the Democratic party to vote a straight Democratic ticket and if he is a member of the Republican party vote a straight Republican ticket. There was a time that if you were a member of either party, you could vote your choice

**THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON****WHAT IS THE DEVOTIONAL LIFE?****What is Our Concern?**

We can see signs in our land suggesting that many persons are seeking a spiritual dimension to living. We may include such items as the large attendance at some evangelistic rallies; the growth of religiously oriented communes among young people; the continuing sale of the Bible in vast quantities; the response to Bible study groups in local churches, in homes, in camps and retreats; the enthusiastic response to lay witness missions.

The Christian churches have always been, and continue to be, deeply concerned with the development of the spiritual life of prayer, worship, and service is basic to Christian discipleship, for such practices are essential to growth in holiness and obedience.

The various Christian denominations may differ on many points, but they all agree that the Bible is our primary source for understanding the nature and will of God. Through the Bible we may gain understanding both of God's dealings with us (for our salvation, our guidance, our encouragement) and of the way God wants us to live together with our fellow men.

This series of lessons is intended to help Christians of the twentieth century learn to use the resources of the Bible for nourishing their devotional lives, both as individuals and as a church.

Remember that these lesson materials should never substitute for reading the Bible. Rather, they should encourage you to turn to the Bible with renewed dedication and new understanding.

The greatest need and truest concern of all Christians is to be led, through the Bible and through the church, to a deeper and more meaningful relationship with God as revealed in Jesus Christ. The earnest search for this life-renewing contact with God constitutes the devotional life.

**Searching the Scripture**

The Scripture for this lesson is Psalms 63:1-8; Acts 10:1-8, 30-33. Selected verses are printed below.

Acts 10:1-8, 30-33

1 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort, 2 a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms liberally to the people, and prayed constantly to God. 3 About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius." 4 And he started at him in terror, and said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. 5 And now send men to Joppa, and bring one Simon who is called Peter; 6 he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside." 7 When the angel who spoke to him had departed, he called two of his servants and a devout soldier from among those that waited on him, 8 and having related everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.

30 And Cornelius said, "Four days ago, about this hour, I was keeping the ninth hour of prayer in my house; and behold, a man stood before me in bright apparel, 31 saying, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. 32 Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon who is called Peter; he is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the seaside.' 33 So I sent to you at once, and you have been kind enough to come. Now therefore we are all here present in the sight of God, to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord."

Memory Selection: O God, thou art my God, I seek thee, my soul thirsts for thee; my flesh faints for thee, as in a dry and weary land where no water is. — Psalms 63:1

**What the Scripture Says to Us**

Four characteristics of Cornelius have great value for us.

1. Cornelius "feared" God. The word fear here does not mean terror. It refers to a feeling of awe and reverence. Men of faith are not terrorized by a God of mercy, love, compassion, and justice.

The phrase "one who fears God" was used to identify a

gentile who had become a devout worshiper of the Jewish God, though without becoming a Jew (that is, without being circumcised or observing such laws as those about food). Thus Cornelius was a man who honored God and who sought to understand God's will for his life.

2. Cornelius cared for the poor and oppressed people of the land in which he lived. His devotional life was not a substitute for action in the world of human affairs.

Biblical writers, both in the Old Testament and in the New, saw almsgiving as an expression of righteousness on the part of God's people. The desirability of showing compassion to the needy and sharing with them out of our own resources was powerfully emphasized by Jesus in the parable of the good Samaritan. (See Luke 10:25-37.)

3. Cornelius prayed constantly to God. Deliberate worship, with all that it implies concerning the focusing of a man's life on God and his will, was a basic part of this man's life. We may feel sure that he prayed both in private and in the fellowship of other believers.

The healthy devotional life is set in the context of a community of worship and worshippers. Only thus can it be saved from the temptation to focus attention on our needs, our wants, our aspirations.

4. Cornelius was obedient to the will of God as he understood it. Here we see the working of a simple but important spiritual principle: We learn no more of God's will than we are willing to obey. Only as we act on the light we have will the next step become clear.

**Life Centered in God**

The Bible reflects the experience of men who longed for deepened fellowship with God. Our memory verse expresses this hunger for fellowship with God in the strongest possible terms.

When we turn to the New Testament, we find that though, in the main, the life of Jesus was lived out in the commonplace settings of man's daily life, he did have times of withdrawal. (See, for example, Mark 6:46.)

Probably most persons would regard the idea of withdrawal or retreat as a major characteristic of the devotional life. It is a time apart from the world's struggles and problems.

To help us think about the nature and value of a rich devotional life, we should consider another and broader definition of it. A person may be said to be living a devotional

whether Democrat or Republican, but now you must vote a straight ticket.

The citizens of Guilford County, especially the Negro should exercise their franchise at the polls due to the fact that once upon a time, many Negroes were denied the right to vote in many of the southern states. In order to vote in some southern states, Negroes had to go through a long procedure of schooling, and would have to answer certain questions selected by the registrar taken from the constitution of the United States. If he is unable to answer the questions, he could not vote.

Again, we urge our citizens to register and help others to qualify themselves to vote soon.

(Continued on Page 3)