



The Dove



Chapel of Peace Christian Church Newsletter

Feb. 2012

Volume Two



Pastor Linda McQuown



The Pastor's Pen

The Most Important Word

The most important word in the English language, or in any language, is **love**. As a people, we are funny. We love our clothes. We love our car. We love how someone is wearing their hair. And the truth is that is ok! We can "love" those things, but real love has to do with relationships!

Jesus gave us two commandments. In Matt. 22:37-39 Jesus said, "Love the Lord God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself".

In our society love is portrayed as being that gushy romantic love between two people which on a first date may mean you end up in bed. The truth is romance is important and it needs to be cultivated and cherished even in a long marriage, but going to bed on the first or second date isn't love. It is just attraction, or lust.

The most important love relationship we will ever have is our love for God!!!! All else is secondary. The sad thing is so many of us in this world miss that relationship. We may have asked Jesus in our heart years ago, but we have failed to develop that relationship. The Old Testament tells us that our God is a jealous god. He wants no other gods before Him, not our work, our kids, our families, or even our spouses! When we fail to

maintain our relationship of love with our Lord, we have cut off our source of life! Jesus said to the woman at the well in John 4:13-14, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." Living water is the Holy Spirit flowing through us. The Holy Spirit heals us and transforms us with God's love. He gives us strength, peace and insight. He helps us see people as God sees them, which allows us to love the God in them. This is why Jesus tells us to love our neighbor as ourselves. If we have the Holy Spirit living in us, then God can help us love in Christian love even those who are challenging.

The 13 chapter in First Corinthians is called the love chapter of the Bible. In this chapter Paul tells us what real love is. Love is patient. Love is kind, does not envy, doesn't behave rudely, isn't self-seeking, and keeps no record of wrongs. Wow! If we would all seek to live by that and treat each other as Christ would have us to treat each other the love of Christ would transform the world!!

As Paul said, "... faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." (1 Cor. 13:13)

Yours in Christ

Pastor Linda



Walking by Faith

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

2 Corinthians 5:7

Imagine you've gone through a difficult experience in your life and you're fearful of what the future might hold. To encourage you, a friend says, "You can do it, one day at a time. Remember: just walk by religion, not by sight." Walk by religion? To a biblically-literate Christian, the very sound of that phrase is off-putting, to say the least.

Not religion, for you probably know what Paul really said in 2 Corinthians 5:7: "For we walk by faith, not by sight." But even the idea of walking by faith seems contrary to common sense. If we walked by religion, we would at least have a tangible structure—things that are seen—to pin our hopes on: buildings, traditions, schedules, liturgies, ministers, and the like. If we walk by faith, we have only the promises of God. But we also have "the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). We not only have God's promises, we have the evidence from thousands of years of history that He has kept His promises to those who trust Him. And He will keep His promises for you.

If you are facing an uncertain future (and who isn't?), remember to walk by faith—faith in the God who promises never to leave you nor forsake you (Hebrews 13:5).

Walking by faith means being prepared to trust where we are not permitted to see.

John Blanchard

**As you meet others in your life,
Watch your thoughts; they become words.
Watch your words; they become actions.
Watch your actions; they become habits.
Watch your habits; they become character.
Watch your character; it becomes your
destiny.
And, most importantly, remember to praise
the One
who watches over your journey and destiny!**

Unknown

Father, Son and Holy Scriptures?

"Jesus answered: Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time?" (John 14:9).

The disciples had been with Jesus for three years. They'd seen miracles - dead men came back to life, the sick were healed, and water was turned to wine. These were but a few of the hundreds of miracles they saw Jesus perform. However, even after these experiences, they lacked one important thing - intimacy with Jesus. They didn't really *know* Jesus.

This must have been a great disappointment to Jesus. He'd invested so much into developing a close and intimate relationship with the twelve. Consider that they spent three years with their Master. They learned about Him during those years. However, they had knowledge without intimacy. They experienced God's power individually and He even performed miracles through their own lives. Sometimes it is easier to do the work of God without the intimacy with God.

A friend once commented about the current condition of much of the mainline churches today: "You'd think the trinity was *the Father, Son and Holy Scriptures* versus the Father, Son and *Holy Spirit*. There's never been a better description of the Church today.

But, alas, this is a challenge to my own walk with God. It is easy for me to fall into this trap of working so hard *for* Jesus that I forget to work *with* Jesus. Jesus desires intimacy more than works. He tells us in John 15:5: "*I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.*" Whatever works we do must be a fruit of our intimacy with Him.

Lord, help us not to just know about you. We desire to *know* you.

Max Lucado

Live one moment at a time and that moment for God. Don't think of a holy life for that will drown you by its' immensity, but remember that a holy life is a series of holy moments.

C.S. Lewis

TAKE IT PERSONALLY!

By Rev. Marcy Williams

WORDS THAT BUILD CHARACTER

These six things the Lord hates, yes, seven are abomination to Him...

(19) A false witness who speaks lies and one who sows discord among brethren. Proverbs 6:1, 19 NKJV

This year I would like to see music directors, pastors, teachers and everyone in the fellowship to be lifted up more than they have. I have seen and heard negative talk about just about everyone in the church and it is just not right.

We need to pray more and speak less. The Holy Spirit will help us if we would only obey.

To be a Christian it takes more than saying you believe it takes actions. Jesus said: "If you love me keep my commandments". John 14:15 He gave only two commandments for us to live by found in Matthew 22: 37-40 "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" (38) This is the first and great commandment. (39) And the second is like it: you shall love your neighbor as yourself. (40) On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets". Being a Christian is not about being a good person or giving the church your money every Sunday. It is about the life you are living. Does it give glory and honor to your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?

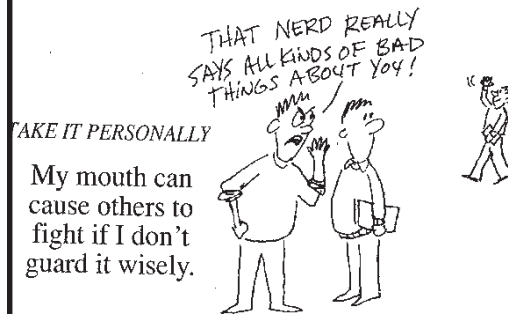
Words said in the wrong place to the wrong person can start a fight or even wars. Words that are misused can break up homes, families, and churches. Gossip is a fancy way of saying lies with a flare. When we tell things about a person we over heard, it is not building that person up. It is tearing them down. This is because you don't know if what you heard was the truth or not. We need to let God through the Holy Spirit put a guard on the things we say and do. Careless words cause people to leave the church not knowing that there is no perfect church. The churches are filled with sinners some saved by Grace. If someone has offended you in any way go to that person let him or her know what they did. Give them a chance to ask for forgiveness maybe it was unintentional.

Take it Personally be a peace maker not a peace breaker. Only what you do for Christ will last, everything else will pass away. Live wisely be obedient to the Holy Spirit and study the Word of God.

By Rev. Elder Marcy J. Williams

One of the seven things which are detestable to God:
 "...A man who stirs up dissension among brothers."

Proverbs 6:19 NIV



Victim or Victor

we do not lose heart. **2 Corinthians 4:1**

A woman lamented losing \$50,000 worth of heirlooms dating back to the Civil War that were stolen from her home last July. The nineteenth century antiques were discovered missing after a new maid cleaned out more than she was hired to do.¹ We all treasure earthly heirlooms. But God has given a promise to believers that is far more precious than any keepsake—and it needs protection.

Prowling around, discouragement creeps inside the safe haven of our Christian homes. When we close the door at night, drained from life's unceasing activity, discouragement can rob us of the full and joyful life God wants to give us: "...for in due season we shall reap *if we do not lose heart* [italics added]" (Galatians 6:9). So how do we bolt the doors and keep the bandit of discouragement from stealing God's promise?

As believers, we have the right to claim God's promises. When discouragement sneaks in and you don't feel like reading the Bible—go to the Word. When you're frustrated with life's circumstances and are tempted to quit—go to the Word.

Protect your heart from discouragement. Open the Bible. Claim His promises. And that old desperado named discouragement will be driven away.

Dr. David Jeremiah

Meet Our New Assistant Pastor

Marcella J. Williams was installed as Assistant Pastor of Chapel of Peace Christian Church on Saturday, January 28th 2012.

She comes from a varied background. "Marcy" has pastored her own church in Pasadena CA. and has co-pastored, been the choir director, and served in many capacities in other churches. She is currently teaching three Bible studies among her other duties in the church. She is a dedicated worker for the Lord.

Thanks to our Pastor, Linda McQuown and our new Assistant Pastor Marcy Williams we are looking forward to great things for Chapel of Peace Christian Church.

Deliverance from the Black Hole

"As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Joshua 1:5b).

A black hole is a place of total nothingness. It's a time in our life when God removes the resources and supports that we normally rely on to feel secure - our careers, finances, friends, family, health and so forth. It is a preparation time.

When you find yourself in a black hole experience, don't just sit and brood. Take stock of your life. Take a look at your relationship with God.

First, ask God if there are any sins, habits, or attitudes that He might be judging in your life. It's important to discern whether the trial we face is the result of God's discipline for our sin, or if it is preparing us for a future leadership role?

Second, when you enter a black hole, don't trust your feelings. Trust God. Your feelings will tell you, "God has rejected you. Abandon hope. He has left you utterly alone." Feelings change; God never changes. Feelings come and go; God is always with us.

Third, remember that your black hole experience is not only intended to refine and define you; it's also intended to influence and change the lives of hundreds or even thousands of other people. Our adversity is not just for us, but others in our sphere of influence.

Fourth, don't try to hurry the black hole process along. Remember, when Joseph was in the depths of the pit, there was nothing he could do about it. He couldn't climb out, jump out, levitate out, or talk his way out. All he could do was pray and wait upon the Lord.

Fifth, lean on God. Even when you don't feel like praying, pray. Even when you don't feel like reading His Word, read. Even when you don't feel like singing songs of faith, sing. When you pray, don't just talk; listen. Be silent before Him and listen for His still, quiet voice.

Sixth, be alert to new truths and new perspectives. During a black hole experience, God often leads us to amazing new discoveries. A black hole can be a storehouse of unexpected riches for the soul.

O.S. Hillman



Upcoming Events

Praise Team Sunday at 9:30 am

Tuesday Bible Study at 7:00pm

Hands of Peace Sign Choir practice is on the first, second & fourth Sunday of the month

Feb. 10th

Annual February Dance 7pm-until?

**Come and join the fun
536 North Euclid Ave.
Ontario, CA. 91761**

Feb. 19th

Third Sunday Birthday/Anniversary potluck

March 4th

Annual Psalmfest at the Warner Grand Theatre
at 478 W. 6th St. in San Pedro, CA 90731

Starts at 7:30 pm

Chapel of Peace Website



www.chapelofpeacechurch.org

Chapel of Peace Christian Church

**536 North Euclid Ave.
Ontario, CA. 91761**

**In the Annex
Service Time: 10:30 am
909-908-8405**

March 24th

Praise Rally in Hemet

Contact Pastor Linda McQuown for details

909-908-8405

ACC West Conference -go to
ACCWest2012.com for more information

June 7th - 10th

Holy Convocation at Christ Chapel World
Ministries- San Diego



Happy Birthday

Mary Williams Feb. 22nd

Everything You Need

Are you hoping that a change in circumstances will bring a change in your attitude? If so, you are in prison, and you need to learn a secret of traveling light. *What you have in your Shepherd is greater than what you don't have in life.*

May I meddle for a moment? What is the one thing separating you from joy? How do you fill in this blank: "I will be happy when _____"? When I am healed. When I am promoted. When I am married. When I am single. When I am rich. How would you finish that statement?

Now, with your answer firmly in mind, answer this. If your ship never comes in, if your dream never comes true, if the situation never changes, could you be happy? If not, then you are sleeping in the cold cell of discontent. You are in prison. And you need to know what you have in your Shepherd.

You have a God who hears you, the power of love behind you, the Holy Spirit within you, and all of heaven ahead of you. If you have the Shepherd, you have grace for every sin, direction for every turn, a candle for every corner, and an anchor for every storm. You have everything you need

O.S. Hillman