



Wilmington
Emmaus



Christ
Offers
Forgiveness
For
Everyone
Everywhere



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Bob's Beliefs

It's spring time. Finally!! Spring is one of my favorite times of the year, Christmas being the other. Spring starts out with everything being new again. The grass is greening up and growing. Flowers and trees are blooming and animals are being born. To me, it gives a person just a wonderful feeling when spring arrives, especially after a long winter although this winter did not seem too bad.

Just like our relationship with God. When we accept Him as our Personal Savior, we all have that wonderful feeling as if everything is brand new in our lives. Our winter is over with our old life changing into a new spring life. II Corinthians 5:17 says: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new."

I hope you feel encouraged as I do to welcome your spring. Let's shake off the old winter doldrums, open the windows to your new spring. I look forward to mowing the yard and smelling the fresh grass, playing with our three dogs in the yard. I love watching them run and wrestle, chase birds and rabbits. Spring brings grilling out, planting tomatoes, long walks or just sitting on our deck watching the geese fly over .

Mostly, I look forward to see what the Lord is going to bless us with in the coming year.

Here's hoping you have a blessed spring!

De Colores!
Bob Brown



Dave's Dispenses by Dave Hinman

I am writing this to you just prior to the annual celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday. Easter this year will be a little different for the Hinman's. We're in Florida for vacation and are planning to attend the Vero Beach ocean side sunrise service. (I know, I know, tough job but someone has to do it.)

We arrived on the Tuesday before Resurrection Day, and our son, his wife, and their four kids are coming on Thursday. It's not hard to figure out that my son's having four kids means we have FOUR GRANDKIDS, and so the chance to enjoy Easter ... in Florida ... with the grandkids ... is a great joy to look forward to.

While vacationing, we stay with my in-laws at Vero Beach, and my mother-in-law is a tremendous cook. This Sunday I'm sure we'll have a scrumptious ham with all the fixin's, and either homemade pie from scratch or her Clinton County Fair and her winning chocolate layer cake for dessert. I can hardly wait. It will take a week's worth of workouts to compensate for the calories in that one meal, but it's worth it for sure.

We'll have an Easter egg hunt for the grandkids after dinner (did I tell you my son has **four** kids?). There will be a few colored eggs hidden, but a lot more plastic ones filled with jelly beans and multitudinous other types of candies. My son wants us to load up on the Reese's chocolate peanut butter eggs, and he will shoo his kids towards the Chicken Peeps so he can scoop the Reese's into his own pockets. That's a boy after my own heart!

Our festivities will be sandwiched between a March Madness basketball game, our throwing Frisbees, and blowing soap bubbles. When things gear down some in the evening, some will get out the Sequence game, others will begin a jigsaw puzzle while some try to nap amidst the grandkids sugar-high mayhem. I just love Easter.

One of my favorite scriptures is verse 3 of Jesus' high priestly prayer in John 17: "This is eternal life, that you might know the only true God and Jesus whom He sent." If you're like me, the term "eternal life" conjures up thoughts of the quantity of life being everlasting - without end - infinite. Although quantity is a valid aspect of life, Jesus' definition highlights the quality of that neverending life; it denotes the depth of our truly knowing God; intimate relationship; knowing in fact what we are believing for in faith.

Jesus paid the price for our sins. He received the sentence we each deserve for the sins we've committed, and suffered a horrendously despicable death on our behalf. And he didn't stay dead but entered into eternal life when God raised Him in the resurrection. We are blessed with that same promise of life eternal, appropriated by our trusting in His resurrection life.

I hope your Easter was a blessing. Though I'm looking forward to the Easter egg hunt, ham, chocolate cake, and a good nap, it's truly all about the resurrection. AMEN! **DeColores!**

Dave Hinman

I am immersed in God's comforting love.

COMFORT

In times of sadness or sorrow, I may turn to familiar sources of comfort: favorite foods, loving friends, or a gift for myself. While these offer temporary release from pain, for long-lasting comfort I turn to God.

I settle in to the comforting love of God and quietly release my concerns. In the silence, I return to the Truth—God's desire for my life is always the highest and best.

I close my eyes, breathe deeply and slowly, and feel the presence of Spirit. My heart is filled with the warmth of God's love. Any concerns I may have dissipate, and my faith is restored. I am immersed in the comfort of Spirit. I rest secure in the knowledge that I am valued, guided, and protected.

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. – John 14:16

from the **Daily Word** Sept. 15 publication



I find acceptance in friendships
and experience in the love of God.

ACCEPTANCE

So many spiritual practices are available today—from yoga to poetry writing. Some friends meditate. Others paint to express their gratitude. It's time for me to try something new.

I release any fear of family and friends not accepting my new practices. I look to Jesus for inspiration. The people in his hometown of Nazareth remembered him as a boy—the son of a carpenter. They did not recognize his wisdom. This did not stop Jesus from sharing his message of love.

Jesus created a new circle of friends. I follow his lead and connect with loving people. My friends lift me up and challenge me to grow. I find acceptance in new friendships and experience the love of God.

And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. – Luke 4:24

from the **Daily Word** Sept. 15 publication

I focus on the quality of my experiences.

QUALITY

True joy lies not in the quantity but in the quality of my life experiences. Engaging in too many activities—even fun activities—may leave me feeling drained. I am deeply nourished when I do a few things with love and attention.

I begin my day in prayerful discernment, setting aside, without guilt, any nonessential tasks. By focusing on what really matters I make more heartfelt connections with others. I notice the beauty of my surrounding. I savor my meals. Rather than rushing through an endless list of activities, I focus on each moment of my precious existence.

Focusing on the quality of my experiences becomes a habit as I consciously practice doing less and paying more attention. I am aware of God in every moment of the day.

The kingdom of God is among you.—Luke 17:21

From the **Daily Word** Sept. 15 publication



I have faith in divine direction.

FAITH

While walking trails in a nature preserve, I find signs marking the way. I may not have a clear picture of the way through the forest. I simply trust the signs and follow the path to my destination.

Likewise, as I start new ventures, make important decisions, or heal relationships, I have faith in divine direction. I do not need to envision the entire pathway before I start. God guides every part of my journey—even when I do not see clearly around the bend. What a relief to let go of the need to know every detail.

If I encounter obstacles, I regard them as stepping-stones. Everything leads to my divine destination as I exercise faith in the mighty power of God.

If you have faith the size of a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible for you. – Matthew 17:20

From the **Daily Word** Sept. 15 publication

Wilmington Area Walk to Emmaus

Wilmington United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 191

Wilmington, OH 45177

We're on the web:
www.wilmingtonemmaus.org

See you at the GATHERING
April 12 - 7 p.m.
Singing - 6:45 p.m.
Bring a snack to share
during fellowship time!

A Prayer in Spring by Robert Frost

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night
And make us happy in the happy bees.
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

And make us happy in the darting bird
That suddenly above the bees is herd,
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,
And off a bloom in mid air stands still.

For this is love and nothing else is love,
The which it is reserved for God above
To sanctify to what far ends He will,
But which it only needs that we fulfill.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Rainee Angles	Jobey Lucas
Dawna Jo Kiesling	David Waits
Lynnette Shanton	Dan Foose
Mr. and Mrs. Calvin (Carla) Martin	
Jill Nunnbry	Connie Harper
Jason Salyers	Abi Lykins
Daisy Gill	Cathy Snowball
unspoken requests	friends' dilemmas
relationships with God and family	
Students, teachers, and administration in education system	