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Mike's Message

*Wilmington
Emmaus*

Did You See The Eclipse?

Did you look up at the sun last month to see the eclipse? Almost everyone did. It was beautiful. It was dangerous, at least without the proper glasses.

I learned that the moon is 400 times smaller than the sun. The only reason that an eclipse works is because the sun is 400 times farther away than the moon. Even though the sun is bigger, brighter, and more powerful, that dead stone circling the earth can block it out completely.

James said "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." We know that God is our source of light and power. Sometimes, however, we let other distractions come in between and block our view. We should draw near to God every day through prayer, study, and action. We should pursue a relationship with Him. He certainly is worth pursuing!

De Colores - *Mike Daugherty*
Mike Daugherty

Tabor's Tidbits (reprinted from the Times Gazette)

Never talk to strangers

The other evening my wife and I were out walking our dog, per our normal custom. It was after dark and we were casually walking up the street when a car went past us to the next intersection and stopped. We didn't recognize the vehicle. When the passenger rolled down the car window, reached out and asked us if we wanted a cookie, we, politely (I think), declined and went on our way.

It was not until we turned the corner and they had gone on that we realized that we did know them, that they were good friends of ours, and that we just simply had not recognized their car nor identified their voices!

That evening Susie and I had operated on that age-old principle that we had always heard from our mothers' knees: "Don't talk to or accept gifts from strangers!" Since we could not identify these folks on a moment's notice, our instincts kicked in, and that principle for living took over.

We all have a set of principles like that. They may be "Things We Learned from Mom or Dad," or as one writer has put it, *Things We Learned in Kindergarten* or whatever we have learned from whatever place we learned it.

How can we exactly know what we should do or how we should be thinking in certain situations or points of decision in our lives? How can we effectively evaluate the advice we have received from Mom or Dad or Grandpa or Grandma?

The answer to these questions is most assuredly found in knowing and understanding the will of God for our lives. When it comes to discovering or affirming what the will of God is for each of us, we need to have a set of principles that will kick in, almost instinctively, which will govern and direct our thinking and our actions.

We have been thinking about the principles we can follow in order to know, understand, and affirm the will of God for our lives. The first of these principles is what I call the ship principle.

The ship principle simply states that God will direct a person who is already moving. If you have ever been in a boat on the water, you know that it is easier to move or change directions if the ship is already moving. For the vessel that is making headway, the slightest change in the rudder's position, or the angle of the sails, will result in a major change of direction.

However, for the ship that is dead in the water, you can change the direction of the rudder or the position of the sails all you want, and it will do absolutely nothing to redirect the ship.

The same is true for life. God asks us to get moving in the direction that He wants us to move. If He then needs to redirect our thinking or actions, He will do it. We first **NEED to get moving!**

Practically speaking then, for us to determine things in our lives that are unknown or uncertain – whom we should marry or what career we should pursue – we should start by following, doing, and (continued on p. 3...)

More Tidbits from Chuck Tabor...

obeying the Scriptures which tell us what the will of the Lord is – such as 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (“Give thanks in every circumstance, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”)

Simply put, the ship principle tells us that we should first of all busy ourselves about obeying the commands of Scripture. God will then redirect us into His path and His will for our lives when we are moving.

By the way, the same couple who stopped to offer us cookies the other night stopped again last night. And do you know what? They offered us cookies again! This time we accepted their gift!

GET MOVING for God and He will direct you!

God bless...

De Colores! *Chuck Tabor*



From the September 1997 Emmaus newsletter
By then chairman Yvonne Ferris

Blessings I’ve been given while serving our Lord: (Servanthood)

Salvation and forgiveness of all my sins

Eternity guaranteed to be spent in His presence

Rest in His peace when the load gets too heavy

Vitality in the midst of weariness

Authority to call Him savior and represent Him here on earth

Needing nothing except the assurance of His love

Truth that is absolute in a nebulous world

Help when there is a decision to be made which carries responsibilities that frighten me

● **o**ther children of God to depend upon for support, encouragement – even sanctuary

● **o**pportunities to love all people as He has loved me

Definition of the meaning of life – we are here to fellowship with Him and love Him through our service done humbly in His name

Wilmington United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 191

Wilmington, OH 45177

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

Come to the next gathering – Tues., Sept. 12 @ 7 p.m.
(music begins at 6:45 p.m.)
Board meeting at 6 p.m.
Men's Walk # 63 - first (1st year reunion @ 6 p.m.)
Remember to bring finger food for the social hour.

Please pray for

Pam Smith	Mark Kersey
Becky Kersey	Jennie Harner
Sue McConnaughey	our country
Brian	heroin addiction
unspoken prayers	our ministers
hurricane(s) victims	
the Drew East family	
teachers and students	
the Emmaus community	
the upcoming walks	
Lasley and Iris Wilkinson	
Christy Mitchell's church	
Susie and Todd Graves	
Dean and Dawna Jo Kiesling	
Christians around the world	
Janet and Mark Workman and family	