

Braman Foundation of Charities REVIVE MAGAZINE

The Magazine of The Braman Foundation of Charities
including Biblical Studies and Discipleship

August / September 2023



BFC currently has been working on restoring the Holy Comforter Church and Rectory. The church has taken on the BIHL programs. Programs began in August of 2023.



BFC
Featured Corner

Isaiah 43:25

“I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for my own sake; And I will not remember your sins.”

– Isaiah 43:25

Friend, do you struggle with the notion that your sin is not forgiven? Remember the Bible holds true to all that is in the written word. In this verse, God through the prophet Isaiah is stating He will remove your transgressions. Friend, stop holding unto what is dark and come to know Jesus at a deeper level. Right now get on your knees and confess before the Lord and He will forgive your sins. And thanks be to God, He will not remember your sin either.

*Praise the lord,
BFC*

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BFC Editorial

Dear Friends,

Here in the summer months of 2023 we bid you greetings. As the summer moves quickly we hope you all are able to enjoy the outdoors, gardening, hiking, and all other outdoor activities. Soon we will be huddling around the fireplace to stay warm.

The Braman Foundation continues on with its Holy Comforter project in Poughkeepsie, NY. The church is being restored as the congregation grows.

In our mission work we first broke news of “Our Tears” for orphans and widows in Sierra Leone, Africa. We are traveling to Sierra Leone this August.

Additionally, the Elderly Care Program in Kenya, Africa is growing and unfolding to God’s glory.

Asapalli has finished another school building in Assam, India as we plan our late fall trip to the campus.

In this issue, we continue to emphasize the RWB Sermons and we thank God for Sandra Torrents dedication in transcribing these sermons. Upon this writing, Sandra has completed over 225 sermons.

Notice Revive has combined Biblical Studies and Discipleship into one publication.

We thank you for your continued prayer, support, well wishes, and financial support.

With Warm Wishes

Yours in Christ

BFC

Aug/Sept 2023



HOLY COMFORTER
ORTHODOX CHURCH

Join us for

Discipleship | Tuesday 7pm

Bible Study | Thursday 7pm

Prayer & Meditation | Sunday 7pm

The 2023 Scripture:

“Lord, I thank you that no weapon formed against me shall prosper and every tongue that accuses you in judgment will be condemned. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication is from me, declares the Lord.”

Isaiah 54:17

BFC Revive Magazine

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Is Religion Relevant?

“You are the light of the world.”

- Matthew 5:14

A big question, a real question in many thoughtful minds these days, is not whether there is or is not a God, or whether or not Christianity or any other religion is true, but just this; Is religion relevant? Does it have any bearing on my problems? Is it pertinent in any way to the situation we are in?

It must be noticed that much of what poses in the current scene for “religion” is essentially irrelevant.

Many a religious issue has been joined on marginal matters when Lloyd George was Prime Minister of England, he once confided to an American clergyman that his church was divided on the question as to whether Christians are baptized in the name of Christ or into the name of Christ. “Can the issue be very important?”, the clergyman asked. “Extremely”, came the answer, “And I belong to one party - I am ready to fight for it.” “Which party do you belong to?” “That’s the trouble,” said thus statesman, “I can never remember which side I’m on.”

Many times, we let little irrelevant things interfere or take up a lot of our valuable time especially in the church. Somehow or other if we really are true Christians these little details work themselves out to everyone’s satisfaction.

It can be noted too, that religion has frequently proved incapable of solving specific and immediate problems. Here is

the age-old question of war.

And yet, would you say that the radio beams our airliners fly are irrelevant? They too are incapable of solving many specific situations; they too failed to prevent many tragedies. A radio beam is powerless to guide a willful pilot; it is powerless to prevent a mid-air explosion; it is powerless to prevent the passenger on a plane from fighting one another. But I do not think that anyone would call it irrelevant so it is, in my judgment, with religion and in support of my contention I would like to enumerate some areas of our common life where religion’s beam is relevant to all who are obedient to it.

For one thing, religion is relevant to one of the chief problems of personal life: “How to live at the level of our best.”

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes once asserted that there is in every person “a demand for the superlative.” But how to live on that level? How to live up to one’s ethical ideals? That’s the problem!

Examine life; You cannot live up to your best simply by your own inner desire, and religion reminds us of the external facts which correct our internal moral guidance system. It says to us that our course must be charted with reference to other persons who are not things and who must not be used as means but must be respected as values and ends in themselves. It brings us

back again and again to the objective moral order in the universe. It makes possible a fellowship with kindred souls who inspire us to nobler ways. And it brings us face to face with a God who is never content with less than our best and who, at the same time, is willing and able to help us be our best.

A woman with a garage once wrote a number of crank letters to Muriel Lester's school in England. The Superintendent of the school guessed her identity and asked her to give up the libelous habit. At first the woman vowed innocence, but when the letters were produced, she broke down, dropped her head, wept, and remarked: "Oh miss! I'm as good a woman as God ever made- only I can't live up to it."

That's what's wrong with most of us, we just plain cannot live up to our best, except through the help and guidance of Jesus Christ. We all need his guidance and direction constantly and when we realize this in our lives then we are on the road to becoming the kind of person God wants us to become. We cannot possibly do it by ourselves. We need God's help.

Secondly-religion is relevant to what may be the chief problem of contemporary social life: "the achievement and maintenance of several liberties."

When we really get down to bedrock in analyzing the "way of life", we hold dear and wish that the whole world would discover that it is tied up in several liberties- freedom of speech, of the press, of assembly, security of person and home from arbitrary search and seizure, trial by jury, security from interference in personal life, liberty, or property without due process of law, and so on it is upon a foundation of these, we believe, that human society can succeed.

An ugly situation was developing in a small town. The high school had been successfully integrated last year, but some

were doing their best to have segregation restored. Thirteen Negroes had been frightened by the prospect of violence into staying away as school opened. Then at a public meeting Jesse Angeline Evans, 15, a grocer's daughter, a straight A student, and president of the Student Council, spoke up: "We think it is only fair that the Negroes be permitted to attend this high school." After a stunned silence she stood off a host of angry questions and the meeting finally broke up without taking any action. Why did she do it? "Someone had to speak up", she said. "I just do not think segregation is a Christian thing." Where had she learned that? In the Methodist Church.

I wonder how many of us feel that the freedom and liberties we have and enjoy are only for the white persons? Many, I'm sure. Why do we think we are the better of the races? I am sure and you too will admit that God loves the Negroes just as much as he does the white, yellow or red.

There was a boy who graduated from high school and went to college. He had been interested in astronomy and had built himself a small telescope. At college it was natural for him to hang around the observatory and take courses related to his great interest in the stars and other heavenly bodies. After some months of professor, the professor of the astronomy approached him and said, "Would you like to have a key to the observatory? You may enter when you wish and use the telescope, after a few instructions." The boy was delighted, accepted the gracious offer, and made good use of it. This incident teaches us a lesson that we need concerning freedom.

We note first of all that the boy's freedom in the observatory was something given. The professor gave him the key. He did not request a key and he made no attempts to enter the observatory uninvited. He asserted no right to use the telescope. This freedom was a high privilege and accepted

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as such.

Most of our real freedoms are like that. Take the key to the family car which many a boy earnestly desires to have. It is really something not to be demanded, it is given by another and should be so accepted.

Most of the freedoms that we have in our country are freedoms that have been wrought out and paid for by others than ourselves. It is a high privilege to accept them.

The key to the observatory was given to a boy because he showed some capability. He had shown an interest; he had built a telescope. There are many who complain that doors of opportunity do not open to them. They open to the capable. Keys are placed in their hands. Let us remember that opportunity always knocks. It's up to us to open the door and let it in. We cannot expect everything to be handed to us on a silver platter.

The key to the observatory was given to a boy who could bear responsibility. The professor undoubtedly had watched the young student. He knew that he not only had skill but also had good character.

Once Jesus said to one of his disciples named Peter, and "I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven." (As read in Matthew 16:19). What a gift! What ultimate trust in the capability and the character of his disciple!

Freedom- the symbol is the key. Someday the good master will touch your shoulder and say, I find you capable and responsible and worthy of every way to be given the key to a little corner of my Kingdom." It will be a great day in your life, as I know it must have been a great day in the life of the boy who was given a key to the observatory.

The third place where the relevance of

religion shows is in connection with the perennial riddle of human affairs: "how can the best of the past be conserved without stifling the creativity of the future?" In every age an era, humanity is caught in the dilemma of a reactionary, inflexible holding to the past on the one hand, or a revolutionary and sweeping break with all things old on the other. There are those who are certain "that the truly important in human experience is behind us; that the truly crucial battles have been fought, and that it is given to man from them," and that these truths have in fact been embodied in the existing order. There are those who cry that only "by the forcible overthrow of all existing social conditions" can any good be accomplished.

Vital religion, however, has again and again produced champions of another way, a way you might call "dynamic conservation conservatism." The dynamic conservative "penetrates to the core of the past and lays hold of the values it was trying to express." Jesus Christ was such a person; he had profound respect for his heritage. "I have not come to destroy the law"- that was his conservatism. But it was not a dead or static respect; it was moving, dynamic, applying the values of the old to the present, "fulfilling" the law, as he put it.

Paul was such a person, he never lost his zeal for all that was holy and just and good in his tradition, but from new occasions he learned new duties.

This is what we as Christians have to do in our age. We certainly can apply the principles of the Bible to our lives today. When people say that the Bible doesn't apply to us today, they are absolutely wrong, and they apparently do not understand the message of the Bible. God's word applies to us today and will apply for all time. Certainly there are new and different situations that come up today that didn't back in Christ's day but basically human beings are the same

today as they were then and thus the same principles of religion apply to us today.

I also agree that we have to make progress from year to year and that we cannot hold on to all the old things we had in the past but there are certain religious principles we should never get rid of in order to make progress and I believe if we do, we will soon find ourselves defeated and downtrodden. We most definitely need God and Jesus Christ in the middle of our everyday lives as well as at the heart of our government and our social organizations. Nothing I know of will ever take God's place and if you think so I'm afraid you are in for a big surprise.

If we have faith and courage to seek it, we shall be shown new truths in the Gospel of real and immediate relevance to our time own time, and we shall be given new insight to understand the inescapable problems which arise, almost every day at home and abroad.

Is religion relevant? My answer of course yes, religion is relevant to our time, to us and it will always be such. On it, as on nothing else, hanging the critical issues of our and every generation. This it has always been, and I believe always will be.

PRAYER



MEDITATION

7 PM | SUNDAY NIGHT

**THE HOLY
COMFORTER RECTORY**

18 DAVIES PLACE

A background image showing a hand in a prayer position with fingers spread, and a rosary hanging from the hand. The background is a warm, golden-brown color.

Grow in *Understanding Devotions*

In this book, explore and understand the meaning of true devotion. Grow in understanding of the commitment to the Lord and learn how to renounce the world. Go deeper in Jesus!

Braman
Foundation of Charities

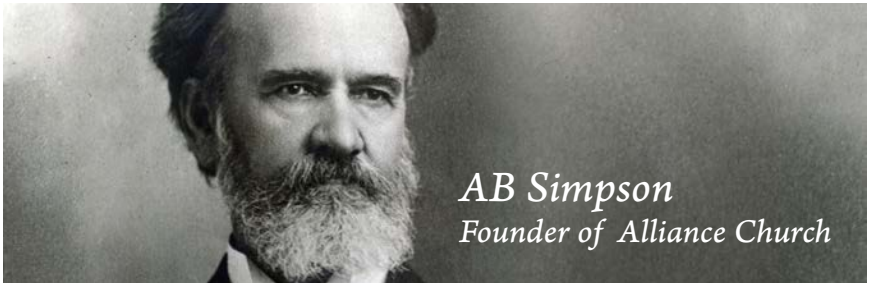
An Understanding of Devotion,
Confession, Self Reflection
& Repentance

66

Love Thy Neighbor

bramanfoundation.org

A Daily Devotional



“Ask and it shall be given you”

- Matthew 7

We must receive, as well as ask. We must take the place of believing, and recognize ourselves as in it. A friend was saying, “I want to get into the will of God,” and this was the answer: “Will you step into the will of God? And now, are you in the will of God?” The question aroused a thought that had not come before.

The gentleman saw that he had been straining after, but not receiving the blessing he sought.

Jesus has said, “Ask and ye shall receive.” The very strain keeps back the blessing. The intense tension of all your spiritual nature so binds you that you are not open to the blessing which God is waiting to give you. “Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

He tells me there is cleansing
From every secret sin,
And a great and full salvation
To keep the heart within.
And I take Him in His fulness,
With all His glorious grace,
For He says it is mine by taking,
And I take just what He says.

Biblical Studies

“Ask and it shall be given to you, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives and he who seeks finds and to him that knocks it shall be opened.”

Matthew 7:7-8

“You do not have because you do not ask.” You ask & do not receive, because you ‘ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on pleasures..

James 4:26



BFC Commentary

Did you not know that the lord, much like any good father, yearns to give you what you desire. Read verses 9, 10, 11, 12 in Matthew 7. So why are your dreams not coming true? Have you really believed in the desires of your heart?

Friends, sometimes the Lord is waiting on you to exercise your faith and move forward. In other words, maybe the Lord has opened the door for you for a new position, a new job, a fresh start, a new relationship etc. But you need to walk through the door and take the first step. Often the Lord is seeking for you to move in faith.

So, too, the Lord has presented desires in you. Whatever they are, the desires are in you as they seem to manifest. The question becomes will you seek, ask and knock in your prayer life to see these desires manifest? Pray as never before and shake the heavens for those desires.

On the other hand, often these desires manifest in our lives because this is our current sanctification in our life. If this be you, then do not be surprised but trust these desires and watch them manifest into a reality here on earth.

Pursuing your passion my friend for it is often that these passions can burn in you for God's Glory.

Press in my friends. How do you think Moses felt, or Noah or Paul when they answered their calls to serve. In many instances they moved in faith.

Finally, check your motives. Ask yourself, am I doing this to glorify God and answer His call or are my motives selfish, self-centered?

Ask the Lord and He will reveal to you the truth. The Lord is always on your side.

Be ever blessed,
BFC

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A Monthly E-Commerce Newsletter
by Braman Foundation of Charities

&
— The —
Mid Week Message

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Inspire A Monthly E-Commerce Newsletter
by Braman Foundation of Charities

BFC Thanksgiving Greetings


Thanksgiving
2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich.



It is 2 Corinthians 8:9 where we think about what our definition of the word rich is. Surely our Lord did not not give His life so we might be rich in material blessings or even rich in safety or security. The Lord our God did not live a rich life of safety and security as He continuously placed Himself in harms way to do the work of His heavenly Father. Jesus was thankful for the little, knowing that His true riches would be with His Father in heaven. If you count your riches by who and how many love you it will still fall short of the riches from our heavenly Father. As Jesus traveled and spoke the word of Christ he was hated and feared.
Thankful to the Lord for His sacrifice


Thankful:
Thankful the Lord does not give us what we deserve! He does however give us everything we need. When we live in the knowledge of need we acknowledge all the Lord has given us and we are **Thankful**

Gratitude:
Gratitude is an act of faith - especially in the midst of life's challenges. Thank the Lord regardless of our circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Jesus. **1 Thessalonians 5:18**
God's love is there always, even when we cannot feel it and He promises never to leave us. As we seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. **Mathew 6: 31-33.**



Thankfulness Leads to Witnessing
Psalm 92:1
I will give thanks to you Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. When you cultivate a spirit of thankfulness, it will spill over into your relationships. It often see you credit God for His love in difficult situations/circumstances, they will begin to wonder why?
You need not even speak the words of praise and thanksgiving - you need only to be an example of Christ at work in your life. To be a living example of kindness, love, and forgiveness as a Christ like life.


Philippians 4:6-7
Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving presents your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ.



An Inspirational Quotation

"And whatever you do, whether in word or in deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him"
Colossians 3:17

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“Lord, I thank you that no weapon formed against me shall prosper and every tongue that accuses you in judgment will be condemned. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication is from me, declares the Lord.”

Isaiah 54:17

Notable / Quotable

Temple of God

Revelation 3: 12-13 “He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of God, and he will not go out from it anymore, and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from God, and my new name.”

1 Corinthians 3:16 “Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

1 Corinthians 6:19 “or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, who you have from God and that you are not your own?”

2 Corinthians 6:16 “or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God, just as God said.”

My friend, do you not have the realization that you are the temple of the Living God? The kingdom of God is in you. Christ is a perfect incarnation of God that comes to redeem the world because of sin. Yet, you incarnate through desire. You have come here to grow in your salvation, yet you know it not. You have become lost in this incarnation in several ways. You mistakenly identify as a male, or as a female. You claim to be of a certain race, or

creed. You have conformed to a material world as real, unending. You believe you are from a lineage of a family with continued sin, shortcomings, and difficulty.

Although all you believe to be true above, those facts are not who you are in God.

God is writing through John in Revelation that you shall not incarnate here as you have overcome self. Why do you come here to earth? Ask the Holy Spirit this question. Do not allow our self to generate an answer through reason and the intellect. Learn to listen to the still small voice and overcome self.

Do you not understand that you are a pillar in which God dwells? Yet you continue to identify with a realm that is ever-changing. You must learn to go within and overcome. Then you will grasp that your only desire is God and God alone! Do not succumb to the deluded beliefs in the current church in which many beliefs are very shallow.

Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, and knock and He will open the door. Yet you receive not because you do not ask. And therefore, you lack understanding of the truth of why you are here.

Beyond Mutual Affection

*“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?
For even sinners love those who love them.”*

-Luke 32

The questions Jesus asked his contemporaries searched the heights and depths of human experience. They are timeless. When he asked his disciples, “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?”, He illumined the difference between his way and the way of the world in one flashing moment. It requires no ingenuity or particular grace for a man to love those who are kind and lovable in their response to him. But to go beyond mutual affection in obedience to the command, “Love your enemies,” requires something more than human nature. Let it be noted, too, that it was no easier for the disciples than for us to move beyond mutual affection to an unlimited liability in love for the unlovable.

It is significant, I believe, that the Greek language had no word to express what Jesus meant when he used the word “love”. They had the word “eros”. It is not difficult to comprehend the meaning of the Greek word “eros”. It is love for another because the other is lovable.

“Eros” is attraction to the attractive. It is the natural attraction we feel towards those who give the warmth of friendship, whose interests coincide with ours, whose generosity is gratefully appreciated. There is nothing difficult about it. It is simply the mutual affection of the mutually attracted. If we ask ourselves why we love someone

or another we are likely to say one of a number of things. One response might be, “I love him because he loves me.” We simply share a mutual affection. Or, it may be that the response could be, “I love him because of his character. He is generous, sympathetic, tolerant, and humble.” But in each case the love implied is encompassed by the word “eros”. There is no strain in it, no demand that makes us unique or different in our relationships.

You say, “That’s human, isn’t it?” I agree heartily. Jesus would agree, too, but he would say to us humans, “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.”

There is a second Greek word which takes us a step further. It is the word “philia”. Philia is love that exists between two people who love the same things. Two people may have an affection for each other because both of them enjoy music. There could be any number of things that people enjoy and therefore have an affection for one another.

Within the church we are bound together by “philia”. We share tasks and purposes to which we are mutually devoted. A wide variety of personalities finds common ground serving the church and its work. It may be that we have very little in

common socially. We may differ in politics and points of view, but our affection for each other is primarily in the fact we are mutually devoted to the Church of Jesus Christ. We are bound together in affection for one another by God. We all come to church, at least we should, for the same reason and purpose. And, let it be said, a host of barriers come tumbling down in the church as we work together in “philia”. There is “philia” in the relationships of families. Two persons devoted to their children and bound together by their mutual concern for their children, share love as “philia”.

Some of the great friendships of human experience come from the mutual loyalty of individuals to some cause or concern that challenges both of them.

One GI’s coming home from Korea after the decisive war in that sad country remarked, “The best friend I had was a boy who never finished high school. He was rough and tough and botched the King’s English, but we hiked over half of Korea together and each of us found strength in the other.” Normally the two men, one a college graduate, and the other almost illiterate, would have found little or nothing on which to build affection. Nevertheless, their common cause, their mutual struggle to survive, bound them together with “philia.”

It should be noted, however, that “philia” is not enough. At home our children grow up and leave home. Their need for us no longer holds us together. Causes may lose their significant or interest may change. Our interest in music may change to an interest in child psychology. The result is that when the object which binds us in “philia” disintegrates, the cement binding the relationship disintegrates too. Two people may be happily married sharing the affection of their children which actually brings them together but soon the children

are grown up and gone away and if this is the only thing holding them together, they are soon found drifting apart. “Philia” is not enough to keep us together.

It is one thing, therefore, to love those who love us because we share a mutual concern but is something else to love people as people whether they are attractive or unattractive, and whether we have common interest or not. As Jesus asked, “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.”

That leads us, of course, back to “agape”, the word the New Testament uses for love as Jesus expressed it. It went far beyond the mutual affection of “eros”, and beyond the mutual devotion of a common object of concern expressed in “philia”. Jesus gave voice to the meaning of “agape” when he said, “Love your enemies”. He revealed its scope most profoundly on the cross when he said, “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.” Even in his suffering he cared for those who hurt him and sought their good. This is real love and concern. This is “agape” and a little of what each of us needs in our lives.

A thoughtful director of a Chicago neighborhood house remarked discerningly, “Now and then I find a youngster so full of hostility that he turns the place upside down. It isn’t easy for me to love the troublemakers, but that is my most important assignment”. So it is with all of our experience, but as Paul says, “Love never gives up.” This is “agape”, love that never gives up or lets go. It hangs on to the unlovable and the unattractive with undiscourageable hope.

“Agape” makes no social distinctions, but rather cares about persons as persons. It sees all men and women as children of God to be treated not as objects, but as persons; not as marketable integers to be

used, but as centers of the love of God. It is one thing to love those who love us, but it is something else to “have this mind in you which was in Christ Jesus.” In one case we have “eros” or “philia”, but in the other we have “agape”.

Ruth M. Blue, a Chicago teacher, spent 35 years in one of the city’s worst slum areas schools and never asked for a transfer. “I have always understood that teachers were trained to teach children with no regard for race, creed, or social standing,” she wrote. She had caught something of the “agape” of the master.

Most definitely this is the kind of love we are all talking about when we refer to Christian love, the kind of love Christ showed towards those who he came in contact with during his earthly ministry. The same kind of love God has shown towards us by the sacrifice of his only son for our sakes.

Obviously, agape is costly. It takes us out of our way to be helpful. It makes U.S. Open to attack or vulnerable to the needs of others and turns unlovable strangers into objects of concern. Under its influence people are children of God, whether they are rich or poor, whether they can do anything for us or not.

Concerning Matthew 5:48. There is a suggestion of the Master’s intent when he used the word “agape” in one of his often misunderstood sayings. According to Matthew he remarked, “Be ye perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.” The word, “perfect” in our thought means “blameless”, but the claim of men to perfection was exactly what Jesus condemned. Doctor Torrey wisely and helpfully translates the sentence, “Be, therefore, all including (in your goodwill), even as your heavenly Father includes all.” As Jesus includes in his love both the lovable and the unlovable, so are we

to embrace them all in our affection and good will.

I know this is difficult, to love and be concerned for someone who may have done you or your family harm. It is difficult for our servicemen to love the North Vietnam people who are killing us. But believe me if we all really and truly believed this and practiced it, we would not be fighting and killing each other in wars. This is why spreading the message of the Gospel around the world is important if we are ever to hope to achieve peace. Certainly, it is a big job and perhaps we will never live to see any results of our efforts but with God’s help we have to try and keep on trying. It’s our only hope.

That brings us to the heart of the Christian faith, to the question that troubles us all: how can we love the unattractive, the unlovable, and the disagreeable?

The truth of the matter is that “agape”, unselfishly seeking love, is our response to the love of Christ. “We love him,” as Paul said, “because he first loved us,” and in response we love those who are precious to him. We are vulnerable (open to attack) to the need of others because he was first vulnerable to our need.

When Peter had each time answered the question put to him by Jesus, “Lovest thou me?” Jesus firmly gave him a command, “Feed my lambs”; “Tend my sheep”, “Feed my sheep”. In the light of that command, we say that love is both a response to a person, who is God in Christ, and responsibility to our brother, who is our brother in Christ. That response and responsibility are related to one another.

We should love one another in order to satisfy the needs of our own personalities. Our humanity makes a certain demand upon us. We have innate needs to be long and to feel important which cannot be met

by insulating oneself from others, or by fighting against them. The psychic needs of personality and the spiritual needs of the soul are stubbornly insistent that only through service shall we find satisfaction. John tells us that entering into an experience of loving others it's like passing from death to life. (One John 3: 14) the man who loves Little and the man who doesn't love does not live.

We should love one another in order to meet the needs of others. There must be at least a flicker of love in us or else we would not care about the needs of others. All men have two basic needs. They need to love and the need to be loved. It is common knowledge that when a child or youth is not loved his personality becomes warped even to the extent of becoming defective, resulting often in the delinquent and criminal practices.

A pastor in a depressed urban area had many calls from people seeking help. Most often they had request for financial aid. He discovered that generally their real need was not for money but for someone who

really cared for them. Perhaps the deepest need of the human soul is to the need to be loved.

We need to love one another because we have been loved. What a debt we owe to those who loved us in the past and to those who love us now. What a debt we owe to Christ who gave himself for us.

Your love for me begets my love for you. "We love, because Christ first loved us." it is the love of Christ which kindles true love in our hearts. It is his love which is the motivation of our own. When we love one another, it is striking evidence that we have caught Christ's spirit and are numbered among his disciples.

Stand yourself in the presence of the cross when you're tempted to be inconsiderate or even brutal, and you will respond to the unlovely with grace and to the disagreeable with good will. You will do it not in your own name, but in the name of Jesus Christ, who died so that we might have eternal life.



Holy Comforter Church

Drivers needed to pick up people for Bible Study, Discipleship Study, and Church.

For more details please call:
845-471-2286

BFC Corrections / Prison Behind the Walls Program

“... I was in prison and you came to visit me.”
Matthew 25:36



Life Line

An inmate's most vulnerable time, whether they know this or not, is when they are released from incarceration. Months and years, depending on one's sentencing of forced incarceration, are now dissolved. An individual is now "FREE", or at least they may think they are free; however, New York state statistics show that out of approximately every 100 inmates that are released, 78 come back into the prison system in some form. What can be done for the individual who wishes to change? The individual must truly have a change of heart. We can extend our hand and help with that change of heart.

Behind the Walls

In 1985, Braman began to witness his recovery from addiction in the New York State Correctional Facilities. Braman has presented programs since that time in many facilities including: Greenhaven, Fishkill, Downstate, Summit, and several local and county jails. It is a thorough program using the 12 step method of recovery, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Meditation techniques as well as a program for dealing with violent behavior. In addition, our program helps to provide clarification concerning the negative learned behavior that is unfortunately associated with some families.



News: We are working with Green Haven in Stormville, NY.

These are trifold materials that are used in the program of Behind the Walls.



Worship Service

Sunday

10:30 am

Adoration

1st Sunday of Each Month

11:45 Service

Our worship service is a time to meet to praise, worship, pray to God and receive a teaching (sermon) based on the Bible along with a weekly communion.

Call: 845-471-2286



HOLY COMFORTER
ORTHODOX CHURCH



11-13 Davies Place
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

For more information visit www.holycomforterny.org

The Holy Comforter

The Holy Comforter Church is participating in our Blessing Bag program! We have already begun providing bags throughout the community.

We have completed renovations on the Rectory and are beginning construction on the Church. We are awaiting funds to complete our renovations.



The Holy Comforter is working on creating a newsletter to keep the community updated on services, news, and events.

The Holy Comforter Building Fund Drive

Help Us Raise \$100,000

How will my donation be used?

The church is in need of:

Heating System Repairs

Roof Repairs

A New Organ

Interior Renovations

Masonry Work

How To Donate:

1. Scan the QR Code with your phone or visit holycomforterny.org and select "Give".
2. Select the amount you would like to donate.
3. Select and input payment method to complete.

We Thank You & Praise The Lord
For Your Financial Support.

Be Ever Blessed.

The Holy Comforter

Current Services Provided

Join us at the Holy Comforter Church for

Worship

SUNDAY | 10:30 AM



The Rectory provides

Guest rooms for missionaries & church members.



Discipleship Study
TUESDAY | 7PM

Bible Study
THURSDAY | 7PM

Prayer / Meditation
THURSDAY | 7PM

Notable / Quotable
Happiness Defined

“Full use of your powers along the lines of excellence.”

The following quote is a Greek definition of true happiness, heard from John F. Kennedy. This definition was quoted by John F. Kennedy when asked his definition of true happiness.

visit bramanfoundation.org for more essays & quotes



After prayerful consideration, I/we have decided to support the Braman Foundation of Charities.

monthly _____ one time _____ \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Braman
Foundation of Charities

PO Box 5148
Poughkeepsie, NY 12602
(845) 471-2286

info@bramanfoundation.org
bramanfoundation.org

NEW

Our Tears Orphans

Missions: Sierra Leone

Words from Pastor Joseph Koroma:

To the Braman Foundation of Charity (BFC)

Wipe Our Tears Sierra Leone and widow's care are sending Greetings to the B.F.C.

I will like to share the current situation of our orphanage safe home and the widows under our care, presently our orphans are on holidays for two month now, and they will resume back to school on the first week of September 2023.

By the special grace of God they are all doing well, though we are in a difficult month, the month of August as it's raining throughout and it's a difficult time to have food and medicine due to some illness as a result of the regular rainfall and lack of fund.





Our current needs for the orphans now, is that of their school materials, like school bag, uniform, shoe or sandal and other school charges like registration sport and PTA as well as Medical assistance for both the orphans and the widows that were seriously in need of those things.

The children were in need of better safe home for their protection as a human person.

The widows were grateful to the Braman Foundation of Charity for considering them in the time of their need, they are also asking for more consideration for their live hood as to make the world a better place for them in this time of their old age.

Long live the Braman Foundation, long live Peter Barman.

Thank you, we love you from Sierra Leone. Remain blessed!

Elderly Care Program

Missions: Kenya

We thank God for the Pine Knolls Alliance Church Men's Group, who raised and donated \$1,000 to help pay for a motorcycle to help with delivering food.

Mama Sarah and the motorcycle rider actively taking care of the elders and we will have luncheon and some gifts for the elders

But meanwhile elders are still the same as shown below:

1. Simeya Songa Nyambura age 87 years old (blind).
2. Alice Atieno Odegi age 89 years old
The above two are the senior most since the program started
3. Samuel Otieno Nyangoye aged 79 years old and having difficulty in walking
4. Maria Auma Ogunyo aged 80 years old
5. Maria Auma's grand son, Calvin Otieno 12 years old a class 7 or grade 7 who is an orphan
6. Maria Oketch Arogo age 82 years old, husband died 30 years ago and her two sons died 7 years ago
7. Benta Akongo Odhacha 79 years old. The husband died 25 years ago.





Sudan & South Sudan

Missions: Africa

Travel not recommended to South Sudan due to crime, kidnapping, and armed conflict. Submitted from the State Department.

Country Summary: Violent crime, such as carjackings, shootings, ambushes, assaults, robberies, and kidnappings is common throughout South Sudan, including Juba. Foreign nationals have been the victims of rape, sexual assault, armed robberies, and other violent crimes.

Armed conflict is ongoing and includes fighting between various political and ethnic groups. Weapons are readily available to the population. In addition, cattle raids occur throughout the country and often lead to violence.

Reporting in South Sudan without the proper documentation from the South Sudanese Media Authority is considered illegal, and any journalistic work there is very dangerous. Journalists regularly report being harassed in South Sudan, and many have been killed while covering the conflict.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency consular services to U.S. citizens in South Sudan. U.S. government personnel in South Sudan are under a strict curfew. They must use armored vehicles for nearly all movements, and official travel outside Juba is limited. Due to the critical crime threat in Juba, walking is also restricted; when allowed, it is limited to a small area in the immediate vicinity of the Embassy and during daylight hours only. Family members cannot accompany U.S. government employees who work in South Sudan.

Due to risks to civil aviation operating within or in the vicinity of South Sudan, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has issued a Notice to Air Missions (NOTAM) and/or a Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR). For more information U.S. citizens should consult the Federal Aviation Administration's Prohibitions, Restrictions, and Notices.

C&MA

Missions: India



THE CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE OF INDIA
ALLIANCE CHURCH MISSIONARY MOVEMENT
 GUJARAT SYNOD
 (P.T.R. No. F/57/Ahmedabad)



•મિશન સ્ટેટમેન્ટ•

“ગુજરાત અલાયન્સની મંડળીઓમાં સુવાર્તા પ્રચારના કાર્યમાં સક્રિય રીતે કાર્ય કરવા ઉત્તેજન આપી જાગૃતિ લાવવી તથા જુદાજુદા વાલખેડાએલા ક્ષેત્રોની શોધ કરી સુવાર્તા પ્રચાર દ્વારા અંધકારમાં રહેલા લોકોને પ્રભુ ઈસુના આધાર્યકારક પ્રકાશમાં લાવીને મંડળીઓ સ્થાપવી.”

Greetings in the holy and precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ from Alliance Church missionary movement.

We all are aware of current scenario of Manipur state of India. Many churches are destroyed and many have lost their homes. We as a follower of Christ Jesus feel a deep sorrow for all the communities of Manipur. Our Bible teaches and commands to help fellow believer's and to help those who are in need. With this vision Alliance Church missionary movement has decided to raise funds that will help the churches of Manipur to restore and help people from any community who is in need.

Here's Short summary on ground report from one pastor in Manipur : Paster Oken Khumujam.

- 52,600+ people in the relief camp. (Govt report)
- 5,565 houses are burnt.
- 245 Villages are burnt.
- 349 relief camps in Manipur.
- 241 Total Meitei Christian Churches are burnt.
- 731 Meitei Christian are in the relief camp. From Churachanpur.
- 1500+ Meitei houses are burnt from 22 Meitei villages in Churachanpur.

We appeal you and your church to come forward and contribute for this cause. The report of how funds were used will be provided in future to you. With a 1000 family target and 6 community helping project we are forwarding this requisition.

We as Alliance Church missionary movement are expecting contribution from your side and your church. We are together in this situation.

IN HIS SERVICE
 Rev Yakub Christian
 ACMM,
 GUIJARAT SYNOD

Asapalli

Missions: India

The pictures are taken at the school building dedication services held on 31st July 2023 Pastor, Church leaders, Elders, Students, Staffs, Board Members and friends are invited to witness God Faithfulness and doings in the ministry of Asapalli. Our heart is feel with joy of Thanksgiving.



These pictures are at the Relief Camp our staff have reach out to them with the most essential commodities for their living there are around 300 people here the children and the adult they are the ones affected by the ethnic clashes at our neighboring state Manipur.



SCHOOL MAGAZINE CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



Dear Students,
We are excited to announce that Asapalli English School (Senior Secondary) is currently accepting submissions for our upcoming school magazine! If you want to showcase your creativity and talent, read the following guidelines.

<p>Content</p> <p>All submitted pieces and content must be original. Copying of other's works from online or offline sources will be immediately rejected.</p>	<p>Eligibility</p> <p>All students and alumni of Asapalli English School (Senior Secondary) are invited and eligible to submit their work.</p>	<p>Topic</p> <p>Your submissions can be any topic and genre. Feel free to express your ideas through your chosen medium while following the ethical guidelines of the school.</p>
<p>Language</p> <p>All submissions may be submitted in English, Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, Hindi, and Khmer. We encourage you to seek feedback and proofread your work before submission.</p>		<p>Format</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word limit for articles, short stories, opinion pieces & essays: 300 words max. • Poetry: Submit a maximum of 2 poems. • Artwork: Submit original copies of your artwork to your class teacher.
<p>Submission Procedure</p> <p>Submit your work to your respective class teacher with the subject line: "Magazine Submission - (Your Name) - (Grade/Class)" in an envelope.</p>	<p>Submission Date</p> <p>Submit all pieces and content by 19th August, 2023</p>	<p>The Editorial Committee School Magazine Asapalli English School (Senior Secondary) Date: 8th June, 2023</p>

These pictures are at the Relief Camp our staffs have reach out to them with the most essential commodities for their living there are around 300 people here the children and the adult they are the ones affected by the ethnic clashes at our neighboring state Manipur.

This year we are publishing our school magazine we are encouraging students staffs and well wisher to pen words of encouragement hopefully to be realized in later part of Nov or first week of Dec 2023.



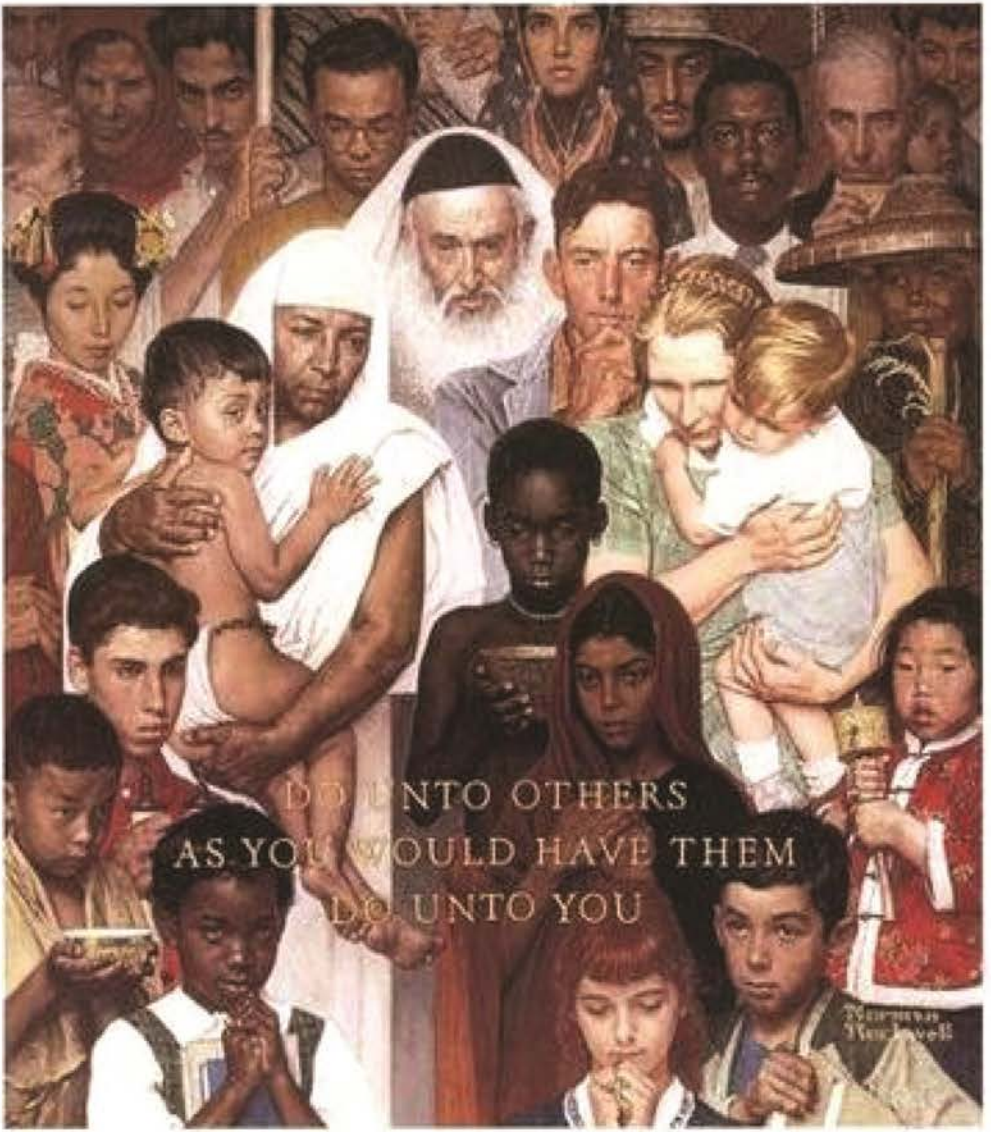
SPURGEON'S CORNER

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Matthew 7:7-8.



To men you may not always speak of heavenly things, but to God you may. “Ask, seek, knock”; let your prayer be adapted to the case; let it increase in intensity, let it advance in the largeness of its object. To receive a gift is simple, to find a treasure is more enriching, to enter into a palace is best of all. Each form of prayer is prescribed, accepted, and rewarded in a manner suitable to its character. The promise is universal to all who obey the precept. The commands are in opposition to the methods of carking care which have been denounced in the former chapter; and they are encouragements to the precepts of giving and non-recessional set forth previously, since he that can have of God for the asking may well give to men who ask, and even yield to those who unjustly demand. With such boundless stores at command, we should not be either niggardly or litigious. Lord, help me to have done with fretting, and to abound in asking, seeking, knocking; so shall I soon overflow with thanksgiving.



NORMAN ROCKWELL "DO UNTO OTHERS"

Braman
Foundation of Charities

Ph. (845) 471-2286 | info@bramanfoundation.org | bramanfoundation.org
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