

every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy . . ." (Philippians 1:3, 4)

- "For I bear him (Epaphras) witness that *he has worked hard for you* and for those in Laodicea and in Hieropolis." (Colossians 4:13)
- "To Timothy, *my beloved child*" (2 Timothy 1:2)
- "To Titus, *my true child in a common faith...*" (Titus 1:4) He greeted, complimented and encouraged those to whom he wrote. He mentioned names of people whom he admired and appreciates and was not showy or dramatic in his affirmation.

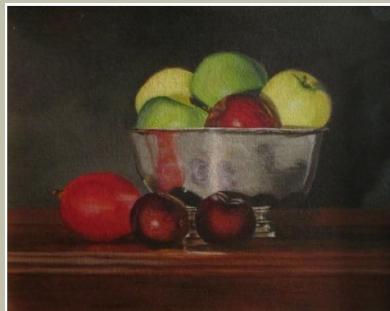
You and I can follow Paul's example. We can do so in writing, just as he did with a few well-chosen words. It can also be done personally, with a touch, hand-shake or hug. All it takes is the courage to push those words past our lips. One such sentence could be, "I am glad you are my . . ." You fill in the blank with friend, wife, husband, son, daughter, teacher, etc."

One note of caution, however—you had better mean every word, because they will probably know if you are not sincere.

ARE YOU AN ARTIST?

By: Ron Bartanen

Are you an artist? Usually we think of art in terms of categories such as visual (painting, sculpturing, etc.) and musical. However, the word "art" is defined first as: "a skill acquired by experience, study, or observation (the art of making friends)" (*Merriam Webster's Deluxe Dictionary*). All forms of art have an innate, God-given base, but must be developed. Life itself is a precious gift from God, but the fulfillment of life into the purpose for which God granted life is in our hands. To illustrate: it is sometimes said of a painter or musician, "He was born with that talent," yet unless the talent is put to use in a meaningful way, it will be wasted. Likewise, we may think of life itself as an art. We have all received it, but how we use it will be a deciding factor in its outcome.



The art of living must begin with recognition that life is a precious gift from God. The tragedy is that few recognize the value and purpose of their lives, and, as a consequence, find their lives inadequate and unfulfilled. God, who has created us, has provided in His word, the Bible, sufficient direction for attaining that fulfillment of life which all crave. The status of life is not to be found in comfortable living conditions, or in material wealth. The Bible offers a more satisfactory answer.

It is impossible to single out one single scripture that would fully provide this instruction. However, the admonitions of Philippians 4:1, 4-9 would be a choice selection. Pick up your Bible and read the characteristics that will help make your life an adequate, fulfilled life. We might summarize it by saying that in Christ there is to be found adequate love, joy, gentleness, security, inspiration and peace.

Many have mastered the art of existing, but few the art of truly living. The art of living may well be the most seldom learned of all the arts. It doesn't come naturally. It begins when one is "born again (from above)...of water and the Spirit" (John 3:3, 5) in a commitment of life to God. That's the beginning point. Continued adherence to Christ and His word will then make you a master of the art of living. Jesus indicated as much when He declared, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

UPDATES

Our Worship and Bible study are being streamed Live on Facebook and are able to be shared.

We are also uploading the bulletin, new articles, and our videos to our website and YouTube

The West Virginia Christian Youth Camp will not be conducting their 7 weeks of camp this year.

The Family Newsletter

Volume 14 Issue 17

05/24/2020

AFFIRMATION

—Lance Cordle

Humans need it. We want others to give it freely, not grudgingly. We want it to come without prompting and we would love for it to happen on a regular basis. However, most of us are of such disposition we do not need it every day or, for that matter, every week...but we do need it. What is "it?" The answer is affirmation—the acknowledgement by someone

outside ourselves, that we are needed, wanted and valued for our unique contribution to their life.

The apostle Paul was a master of affirmation. Just a quick glance at the New Testament books which are his letters to churches and individuals will confirm this. As you look over the following verses, note the phrases of affirmation (in italics, for my emphasis):

"He greeted, complimented and encouraged those to whom he wrote."

"Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in the Lord, *who risked their necks for me . . .*" (Romans 16:3, 4)

• "I rejoice at the coming of Stephanus and Fortunatus and Achaicus . . . *For they refreshed my spirit as well as yours...*" (1 Corinthians 16: 17, 18)

• ". . . Tychicus *the beloved brother and faithful minister* in the Lord will tell you everything." (Ephesians 6:21).

• "*I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in*

WASHINGTON STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

102 Washington Street—PO Box 357, Fairview, WV 26570

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

Dennis Straight—Diagnosed with MDS, taking chemo treatments

PO Box 71, Fairview, WV 26570

Brandi Bane—Cancer surgery this past Friday

PO Box 106, Grant Town, WV 26574

Dave Riley—Stomach surgery this past week

1137 Wades Road, Morgantown, WV 26501

Shirley Clelland—Appreciates your calls, cards, and prayers

PO Box 162, Fairview, WV 26570

Ethel “Aldene” Efav—Unable to be out

327 Medical Park Drive, RM# 7312, Bridgeport, WV 26330

Shelby Chisler—Freshman at WVU

713 Oakland Hall, 438 Oakland Street, Morgantown, WV 26505

Oneita Opyoke—Hoping to be out

3659 Crossroads Road, Fairview, WV 26570

Rose Boggs—Unable to be out

924 Robinson Run Road, Rivesville, WV 26588

Kate Wells—Unable to be out

PO Box 174, Fairview, WV 26570

Congratulations to our high school graduates!

Olivia Powell

28 Jones Lane, Farmington, WV 26571

Jahkari Mesidor

PO Box 187, Fairview, WV 26570

**Pantry Item
of the Week
Any Canned
Good**

Wednesday Night
Bible Study
Studies in Psalms

Bible Word Search

Elders
Delmas Houghton
449-1678
Donley Rinehart
449-1437

Deacons
Bill Frank
449-1628
James Toothman
449-1127

Ministers
Peter Ray Cole
304-288-1576
Kevin Maul
304-481-6167