

Courage of the Pilgrims



by Dawn Reed
Eastern Ky. Columnist

Just because my Christmas tree goes up in October doesn't mean I don't love me some Pilgrims. In fact, they are some of my favorite people EVER.

I totally can do Thanksgiving and Christmas at once!
Each year I feel it's important to have a Thanksgiving lesson with our Wednesday Nite Kidz (age 2-2nd grade) focusing on the courageous men and women of the Mayflower. I start out with, "This story is not in the Bible but is important for us to know," and use, *The Pilgrims' First Thanksgiving* by Ann McGovern. The illustrations (by Elroy Freem) are wonderful and make the journey easier to understand. (It's still hard to comprehend the magnitude even as an adult!) One of the pictures shows children bundled in blankets, sleeping on the deck of the Mayflower. That made it very real. We talked about how brave

the Pilgrims were packing up everything they owned and boarding a ship headed to a whole new world. The children have heard many a Bible story about a mean king, so they weren't surprised to hear there was one in the Pilgrim saga. When I said that the king would not let them worship God like they wanted, it was clear to our WNKidz why they left England. (A few of them had already learned about the Pilgrims in school and were eager to share the parts they knew.)
Something that helps the lesson sink in is a game using words and pictures to retell the story. It is played in Bingo fashion. After a few rounds of "Thanksgiving-O", each of our kids colored a plate and filled it with pictures of food the Pilgrims and Indians enjoyed that

first Thanksgiving: fish, cucumbers, corn, carrots, turkey, cabbage, etc.
As they worked on their "First Thanksgiving Dinner" craft, I asked them if they thought the Pilgrims were courageous. "Yes!" they announced as one. We talked about how they were strong and brave, trusting in God. And He really had watched over them. (One of our first graders informed us that some people died on the Mayflower. It was true and very sad.)
I watched as they worked... precious kids whose parents bravely bring them to church in spite of a pandemic. Tears filled my eyes.
"Do you know that God will help you be strong and courageous and you will have a story, too?" I asked. "God is writing a story in YOUR life," I went on

getting all choked up. They looked up from their dinner papers as I tried to speak.
Having their attention now, I swallowed and attempted it again. "God is writing a story in your life. Did you know that?" They nodded.
I can't wait to see what God does in their lives! They may not board a ship and sail to a new world, but I hope and pray they will follow God wherever He leads!
What about you and me? Do we have the gumption of those courageous Pilgrims to follow God's direction no matter what, even at great personal cost? It might be scary. It might be far away. It might be in our own town.
I've heard for years: "The safest place to be is in the center of God's will." That's where I want to be!

Seeds of Hope



An attitude of gratitude is always obvious. If we are grateful for what God has done for us and given to us, others will see our appreciation of it in everything we do. David gave us a fourfold formula to follow.
"I will thank You Lord, with all my heart." The thanksgiving he describes is total and consumes all of his being - his entire self. The word he used for heart would include his consciousness of God's presence, his memory of God's goodness and his awareness of God's grace. He worshiped God with excitement, enthusiasm and expectation.
"I will tell all of the marvelous things You have done." Marvelous comes from a word that means

"extraordinary, not to be surpassed by anyone and wonderful!" He is so overwhelmed by God's blessings on his life that he wants everyone to hear about it.
"I will be filled with joy!" Joy is the natural state of the one who trusts in the Lord. Knowing that "all things work together for our good" should cause His joy to radiate from our hearts into our heads and out through our hands. Everything we do should be done with a smile on our face and gladness in our eyes.
"I will sing praises to Your name, O Most High." Notice that there is only one letter different between the word "sin" and "sing" - the letter "g" - that stands for God. When we give up sin for the Savior, God gives us a new song to sing. It is a song about the Savior who loves us, gave Himself for us, is present in us and cares for us.
Sower Ministries.org
Thanksgiving

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

1 Corinthians 1:7-8

Therefore **you** do **not lack** any **spiritual gift** as you **eagerly wait** for **our Lord Jesus Christ** to be **revealed**. He will **also keep** you **firm** to the **end**, so **that** you **will** be **blameless** on the **day** of our **Lord Jesus Christ**.

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Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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Bible Word Search Answer on Page 12

Stickeler's Puzzle



Six republics and two autonomous regions make up what was once the country of Yugoslavia. How many can you name?

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 12

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Obadiah in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 9, after Jesus healed a paralyzed man, what did the man pick up and carry home? Brother, Bed, Mother, Cart
3. What is the largest number phrase specifically mentioned (described) in the Bible? Scores upon scores, One hundred thousand,

Thousand thousand, Thousands of millions
4. Which book begins, "And the Lord spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai"? Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
5. From Psalms 5:9, on referring to enemies, their throat is an open ...? Wound, Door, Sepulchre, Cave
6. In Exodus 7 what river was turned into blood? Red, Galilee, Marah, Nile
Answers on bottom of Page 12
"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.



"I must be improving — my music teacher didn't need any _____ today."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

- Crater: MASCH
- Unique: SACPILE
- Ambiguous: CLEANUR
- Scoff: PINES

TODAY'S WORD

Facing the Inevitable

by BOB CASEY, preacher
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The word 'inevitable' simply means, "things that are bound to happen." In the Bible, we are clearly taught that there are two things that we are bound to be partakers of. One of them is our earthly demise, or death if you wish to say. Even though this is repulsive to our minds; yet in due time it will happen. Only two men in Biblical history have avoided it. Paul says in **1 Corinthians 15:22**, "For as in Adam all die."

In the Book of Genesis, we read the story of how God created this world as we know it and how he furnished it with creatures of every kind; birds of the field, fowls of the air, fishes of the sea. Last of all, he formed Adam from the dirt, as in our present human form, and breathed into him the breath of life. This God did only one time, so the abortionists who believe that life only begins when the baby is spanked by the doctor, are totally wrong, because the baby when it is just conceived begins to breathe through the amniotic cord from their mother's womb. So, to murder a baby in any way is to disbelieve the word of God.

Then, after Adam was created, he was given charge of all that God had created up to this point. Then God caused all creatures to pass before Adam, and he alone gave them their names, but "there was not found an help meet for" Adam. **Genesis 2:20** Now, to the stipulation that God put upon Adam was, you can enjoy all the fruits of this beautiful forest except the tree that stands in the midst of the garden. "thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." **Genesis 2:17** After this admonition, God took a rib from Adam and from this he formed a suitable mate for Adam, whom he also named, calling her name 'woman' because she was taken from his loins. So, in this manner was the breath of life given to her. And so it continues today through fleshly birth.

So, we know from the Bible story that Adam shared with Eve his wife concerning the restriction placed upon him by God, "not to eat of this tree lest ye die." So, he did his job well. Then, one day while lingering around this tree and wondering, was the time that Satan chose to approach her with his cunning voice of doubt and deception. So, we see that his message which was a lie, convinced her to take of the fruit of this tree and in so doing convinced Adam to eat of it also. During that very minute up until this present day, the promise of God was fallen upon mankind through the sin of Adam. Even though he lived to 930 years of age, he did die.

Ezekiel 18:4 says, "the soul that sinneth, it shall die." In **Hebrews 9:27**, it says, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die." So this is an appointment which all shall keep unless the Lord returns first. In our chosen verse, we also find that after Jesus returns, there will be the judgment of all this world. A good reading of **1 Corinthians 15** will reveal the sequences of the Judgment. Then in **2 Corinthians 5:10**, is revealed the purpose of the 'coming again' of our Saviour, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." Then, he goes on to say in **Verse 11**, "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men."

This is what I am attempting to do today, and this is to get you to prepare for death and the Judgment by turning your life over to the will of the Saviour who loves you, who died for you; one who shed his blood for you. If you will surrender your will over to his, he will save you from your sins. **Acts 4:12** tells us he is the only one that can do this.

So, why not hear his pleas, obey his word, believe, and repent, confessing his name, and be baptized for the remission of your sins, live faithfully unto death and he will receive you.

So, don't ignore the inevitable, obey the Lord today. Call 1-859-369-4165 if we can help.