

America's **Heartland** Roger Alford RogerAlford1@GMail.Com

Two young men from the other end of the state were flying to the big city for a visit. Before they left home, their father gave them some advice: "You watch those big city taxi drivers. They'll rob you blind. Never pay them what they ask for. You have to haggle."

men caught a cab to their hotel. When they got there, the driver said, "That'll be \$20."

"Oh no you don't," one of the young men said. "My dad warned me about you big city taxi drivers. You'll be getting \$15 from me and not a penny more."

"Yeah, and you'll only be getting \$15 from me, too," said the other.

Enjoy haggling prices? Don't try it with the Kroger clerk

more than willing to accept \$30 instead of \$20. I don't know about if you heal me, I'll be in church evyou, but I'm not a very good haggler. It seems I almost always end up paying at least what someone is asking for something, if not more.

very much a part of the culture. Folks almost never pay the asking price. Street vendors always have an asking price and a selling price.

It doesn't take very long for Americans to get comfortable making lower offers than a street vendor is asking for one thing or another. Wouldn't it be something if that worked at Kroger stores here in the states? When the checkout lady tells you "that'll be \$110," you reply, "I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll give you \$55 and not a penny more." While I've At the big city airport, the young never tried that, I feel quite certain it wouldn't work, not in the United States, anyway. The clerk would say, "That's not the way it works here."

> who try to haggle with the Lord, attempting to strike a deal. But it doesn't work with him, either.

crisis and who have promised God *gmail.com*.

I'm sure that taxi driver was things in exchange for him answering their prayers. Things like: "God, ery Sunday," or, "If you get me out of this situation, I'll never do this

Why should God bargain with us In the Middle East, haggling is for something we should already be doing, or why should he bargain with us over something we should not be doing anyway? The fact is, most people never uphold their end of those bargains. They forget all about it when the crisis has passed.

The truth is, we do not need to bargain with God. All that we have, he gave us. He loves us, and he wants the best for us. He says: "Ask and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Matthew 7:7-8).

Even those boys who haggled Well, there are lots of people with the taxi driver have sense enough to know you'll never find a better deal than that.

Roger Alford is pastor of South Did you ever know people who Fork Baptist Church. Reach him at found themselves in the midst of a 502-514-6857 or rogeralford1@



We have about a month 'till the opening day I intend to hunt with? Are my boots still water- decides to put hunting things out; we check evson opens, and then take action to make sure on August 15th. we have a worry-free opening day of squirrel

Our squirrel season opens on the third Saturday in August, (August 15th). I remember well the big deal it was, back in the 50's and throughout the 80's, when my dad and his friends would start packing to drive from Letcher County to hunt the Cumberland National Forest, now the Daniel Boone National Forest, in Pulaski County. There, we filled the woods with tents, campfires, and hunters; usually between 35 to 50. Since the introduction of turkey and deer, squirrel season is not such a big deal.

Let me ask the older hunters, like myself, aren't some of your most favorite memories of years gone by, including hunting squirrels with of hunting season, again. Are you ready??? That your dad and family? Real hunters don't just take is the same question, I ask myself beginning for granted everything will fit; I have enough each season. Do my hunting clothes still fit, has shells, my gun didn't rust, and my boots started my firearm been oiled, and has it gotten rusty leaking at the end of last season. We don't wait in my gun safe. Do I have any shells, for the gun 'till that big super store, I don't recall its name, proof, or has the threads dry rotted, and have erything to make sure it still works, then head the soles became too worn to make it unsafe to off to Cabela's, Sportsman's Warehouse, Dicks, climb hills? Do I have replacement filters for my or Dunham's, and make sure you are ready to Therma-Cell? Or, am I going to use spray? These enjoy yourself. Till next week, stay safe, and are things us hunters think about, before sea- start getting yourself ready to our next season,

> You can email Steve Brewer at <Steve@EstillTribune.com> and message is forwarded.



Lil Neers bring home the rings!!! They played in the Turn Up The Heat Tournament in Montgomery County, this past weekend, playing three games, scoring a total of 46 runs and giving up only 15. Pictured left to right are, front row, Katie Campbell, Olivia Shearer, Preslee Muncie, Aviyah Bingham, Sawyer Young. Second row, Evie Riddell, Harper Hale, Annie Bingham, Jovie Spicer, Paxton Bingham, Lyza Walker. Coaches are Jamie Bingham, Robbie Muncie and Shaun Hale. Not picture Hadley Moore and Randall Young. Congratulations to Sawyer Young being picked by the umpire for MVP. (Photo courtesy of Robbie Muncie)

The Spats







Reach Out and Touch Someone

Sunday, July 26th, 2020 Morning Message Bro. Warren Rogers, Ivory Hill Baptist Church Based on Mark 5:25-34

This is an old familiar passage that you have probably heard preached more than once. The lady in this story was not the focus of His journey but Jesus took time to meet her need.

²⁵"And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years," Under Jewish law she couldn't marry because her condition was grounds for divorce. She couldn't go to the temple to worship and according to the law anything or anybody she touched would be considered unclean. If touched, that person must wash their clothes, take a bath and would be considered unclean until evening. For twelve years she lived this way.

Everybody has issues while going through life. For this woman it was physical. You may have some unresolved issues. They might be physical, financial, social, spiritual -- sin problems weigh-

People try all kinds of cures & doctors for their

spiritual ailments such as: #1 -- Dr. Morality -- try to get on God's good

side by living a good moral, upright life. #2 -- Dr. Feeling -- they try to stay on a spiritual high by attending seminars, reading books, attend Christian concerts, & listening to feel good

#3 -- Dr. Legality -- obeying all the rules set up by the church, and other Christians.

#4 -- Dr. Church -- People try to impress God with their attendance, "Look God, aren't you impressed with me."

²⁶ "And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse," We see that this lady had tried everything, numerous doctors, all kinds of medicines, but without results.

²⁷"When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. 28 For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole." She turned to Jesus who never fails. **Romans 10:17,** says "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

She had heard of this man, Jesus, and she had faith in just touching the hem of his garment.

²⁹"And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague. The healing was immediate. That's how it is when we obtain our salvation -- you are saved immediately. You cannot buy or work yourself into heaven. You must come by the way of the cross. Jesus died for your sins and mine. You are either saved or lost -- there is no in between.

³⁰"And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?" Jesus already knew but He wanted to expose her. She probably didn't want to be singled out. This should teach us that God wants us to show the world that there is hope for them also.

³¹ "And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me? ³²And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing. ³³But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth." What truth/issue do you need to tell Jesus this morning? Are you suffering from a sinful past?

Read 1 John 1:8-19. Maybe you suffer from a sinful past? At some time in the past you have failed God? Or maybe failed to live the Christian way of life? You have nothing to hide from God.

Sometimes we come to church and sing the songs, pray the prayers, read along, listen to the sermon. Then we go home unchanged, taking your issues with you because you never connected with Jesus. If a neighbor does something for you, don't you want to say thanks? Does Jesus deserve any less?

Speak out, say AMEN once in awhile. Praise Him for his goodness, mercy and grace. You get out of a service what you put into it.

In **verse 34,** notice that Jesus called her - daughter. "And he said unto her, **Daughter**, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague."

There is a story about a beggar asking a man for money. The man said, "Brother, I don't have any to give." the beggar said, "You gave me more than I asked for. You called me brother."

It is important that we treat anyone we meet with this kind of attitude.

Many people are satisfied with just a touch of Jesus, but we need to reach out for the hem of his

Do you want to touch Jesus? Are you satisfied being a part of the crowd? None of those in the crowd got a response from Jesus because they were just observing.

Jesus was on his way to Jairus's house but took time to stop for this woman. Jesus is never too busy to listen to you

Notice that the crowd stopped when Jesus did, pointless to go on without Jesus.

Friends, it is pointless to go on through life without Jesus. If you need to turn your heart over to Jesus, I would be glad to pray with you Friends, until next week, may God bless you is

our prayer.

Bro. Warren (606-481-0444)