

# NSD Notes

*For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. (1 Cor. 9:19)*  
Volume 4, No. 5 November 1, 2009

## Services

- Bible Study ..... 10 a.m.
- Morning Service.....11 a.m.
- Evening Service.....6 p.m.
- Wednesday Meeting.....7 p.m.

## News @ NSD

### WELCOME VISITORS!

#### Prayer List

- It was good to see **Ken Holloway** out at last Wednesday's meeting. He is progressing well with his recovery from a recent stroke.
- **Martha Holloway** -- chronic heart condition.
- **Dema Franklin** -- fractured spine needs care and rest.
- **Sally Harper's** relative was recently diagnosed with diabetes.
- **Logan Harper's** sister and entire family are down with swine flu.
- **Cassandra Fredrickson** - away at college.
- Please continue to pray for **Samantha Wilson**.
- Marie Adams --recovering at home from hip surgery.
- Jeanne Lynne -- has a few more surgeries to go.

#### November Birthdays

Yedid Minjares -- 23rd  
Jessica Fredrickson -- 24th

**Sunday Class**  
Studies in James

**Wednesday Class**

## THE SHIELD OF SHAME

**David A. Sargent**

Keith Wishum reports that there are several types of beetle larvae that carry what is called a fecal shield. They keep their own excrement and build a shield from it on their backs. That discourages predators -- not just for the reasons we might think. It's not that potential predators find the shield contents disgusting; they find them dangerous. The beetles feed on noxious plants so that their fecal material is poisonous. Other creatures do not want to bother them!

Some people are like that: they feed on toxic thoughts! They store them up and build an invisible shield that is highly effective at keeping others away. Being near them proves to be very unpleasant. BEING them is even more repulsive.

If we store up and carry around noxious things from our past, the past poisons the present and it robs us of joy. If we hope to be joyful, we must do some forgetting.

And among the most important things to forget are our failures.

<sup>13</sup>Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 3:13-14**

For Paul, part of his past was "persecuting the church" (**Philippians 3:6**). At one time he was convinced that he ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth (**Acts 26:9**). He realized his error when he was confronted by the risen Christ and he became a Christian (**Acts 9, 22, 26**).

Paul's past was dark. It could easily have darkened the rest of his days. But, by God's grace, he could forget what was behind. YOU can, too!

We all have our share of shame, however, we don't have to carry it around.

*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (**Romans 3:23**)*

God offers to free us from our shield of shame to let us live with joy and hope.

*Excerpted from Living Water, October 22, 2009*

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All are welcome to our worship  
and study meetings!

*... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs  
with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Col 3:16*

Your word I have treasured in my heart,  
That I may not sin against You.  
Blessed are You, O LORD;  
Teach me Your statutes.  
With my lips I have told of  
All the ordinances of Your mouth.  
I have rejoiced in the way of Your  
testimonies,  
As much as in all riches.  
I will meditate on Your precepts  
And regard Your ways.  
I shall delight in Your statutes;  
I shall not forget Your word.

*Psalm 119: 11-16*

God's tomorrow is a day of gladness  
And its joys shall never fade  
No more weeping  
No more send of sadness  
No more foes to make afraid

God's tomorrow, God's tomorrow  
Every cloud will pass away  
At the dawning of that day  
God's tomorrow, no more sorrow  
For I know that God's tomorrow  
Will be better than today

*A.H. Ackley*

## KINDNESS CAN HELP CHANGE THE WORLD

*Frank Walton*

*Be kind to one another, tender-hearted...*

**Ephesians 4:32**

"Kindness" (Gr. chrestos) has the root meaning of "fit, useful" (Thayer). Hence, it means doing to another what is "fitting." This is practical consideration of what is good, benevolent and pleasant for another. It is love in concrete action, which is suitable for the occasion, because "love is kind" (**1 Cor 13:4**). Kindness is being thoughtful, polite, gentle and helpful. Kindness is the benevolence God showed us, while we are so unworthy, in the giving of his Son Jesus to save us from sin. (**Titus 3:4, Rom 11:22**).

*The kindness of God leads you to repentance.*

**Romans 2:4**

God's kindness is a powerful benevolent force to touch hearts and influence lives. The world should note that our character has been transformed by divine kindness.

Kindness is part of the fruit of the Spirit, when God is working in our lives to make us more like Jesus in treating others well.

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering,  
kindness, goodness, faithfulness...*

**Galatians 5:22**

Let's examine our lives. Are we sometimes too harsh, too quick to snap back, too thoughtless, or short with others? Many of us have good intentions but are unaware of how we come across in dealing with others. Remember, there's another person with feelings, just like me, on the receiving end of my interaction.

Kindness can lift loads and encourage hearts.

Kindness shows that Jesus is real to us, and we want the sweetness of His love to help others.

Our Christ-like kindness can help lead some seeking soul to Him.

So, how much kindness will you show today?

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