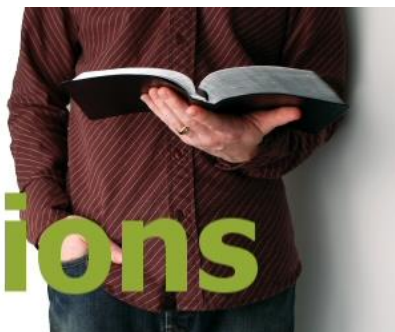


# Daily Devotions



**South Burlington Church of Christ**

Set your mind  
ON  
Things above

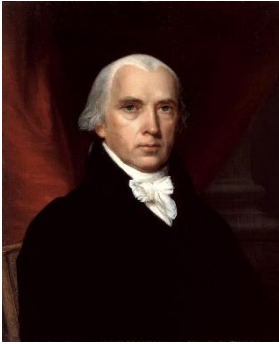
*Colossians 3:2*

**For the Week of  
October 19-25  
2020**



Monday  
October 19, 2020

# Humility



The truly great person never feels any worthy task is too low for him.

When James Madison completed his eight years as President, he retired to his Virginia plantation and filled the office of justice of the peace. No wonder he had climbed up, for he knew how to climb down. He didn't have to appear to be great, for he was; and no office could make him less. His meekness was not weakness. His humility was not humiliation.

The size of the job is not half as honorable as the size of the man who fills it.

*“By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honor, and life.”*

Proverbs 22:4

Tuesday  
October 20, 2020

## Spiritual Sponges



What a difference there is between a river and a sponge! Yet, there are some Christians that we can only liken to spiritual sponges. This kind of Christian loves to hear the simple Gospel and delights in attendance at meetings and conventions. These “sponges” sit and listen and soak up all they hear – and that is the end of it. It just doesn’t enter their thoughts that there should be an outworking of what they have received in a disciplined and effective life of prayer or of sacrificial service. They are quite happy to listen, to taste, to approve or to criticize.

The sponge, however, does not come in to the list of metaphors used in Scripture to describe the life of a believer. I read instead of a “well of water springing up” and also “rivers of living water” flowing out of the inner being of the real Christian. Let us pray that we may be delivered from the tragedy of the spiritual sponges. These people need to be squeezed until it hurts, and until they learn that what they have received, they have received in order that they may share it with others.

*“Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” (John 7:38, ESV)*

Wednesday  
October 21, 2020

## Your Appetite



Having a good appetite is important. When a child says, “I’m not hungry,” and is pushing his plate away, it immediately suggests to the mother that the child is not well. A good appetite goes with good health.

The same is true in the realm of the spiritual life of a Christian.

The Christian should have a good appetite for Scripture. In 1 Peter 2:2, Peter says, *“Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation.”* How hungry are we for the Word of God? This is the nourishment that has been provided for our health.

In the realm of nutrition there are dangers. We might not get enough, we may not get the right food, we may not have regular meals. The nourishment God has provided is designed for development as well as health. It is provided in order “that by it you may grow up.” The Christian is meant to grow as well as live. What a tragedy it is when a baby does not develop! There are too many Christians who remain “babies in Christ.”

*“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst...”*

Matthew 5:6

Thursday  
October 22, 2020

# The Buzzard, the Bat, and the Bee



If you put a buzzard in a pen six or eight feet square and entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of his ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of ten or twelve feet. Without space to run, as is his habit, he will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkably nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it's placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler will be there until it dies unless it's taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

In many ways, there are lots of people like the buzzard, the bat and the bee. They are struggling about with all their problems and frustrations, not realizing that if they look up, they'll find the answer.

Friday  
October 23, 2020

## How Eagles Pick Mates



A female eagle has an interesting way of picking a mate. She will pick up a twig and fly high into the air and drop it. Male eagles will fly beneath her and try to catch the twig. She will do this until a male has caught the twig three times.

The female is testing the male for his ability to catch young eagles as they are directed out of the nest for flight. When it's time for the young eagle to fly on its own, the mother eagle pushes her young out of the nest. She carries the young eaglets on her back up high into the air and shakes them off. It is the responsibility of the father to swoop down and catch the young eaglets until they learn to fly on their own.

Just as the female eagle is testing the male for his reliability, God will test a believer in his or her faithfulness and dependability. Similarly, in our walk with God we often run into difficult situations that require us to make decisions. These decisions are clear indications to the Father whether or not we can be trusted to move ahead to the next level of responsibility. As the female eagle tests the male with twigs to determine which one would be her choice for a mate, God is testing us through daily decisions to determine which ones He can rely on to be used to build His kingdom.

Saturday  
October 24, 2020

## A Little Burro



A story has been told about the days of the great western cattle ranches. A little burro sometimes would be harnessed to a wild steed. Bucking and raging, convulsing like drunken sailors, the two would be turned loose like Laurel and Hardy to proceed out onto the desert range. They could be seen disappearing over the horizon, the great steed dragging that little burro along and throwing him about like a bag of cream puffs.

They might be gone for days, but eventually they would come back. The little burro would be seen first, trotting back across the horizon, leading the submissive steed in tow. Somewhere out there on the rim of the world, the steed would become exhausted from trying to get rid of the burro, and in that moment, the burro would take mastery and become the leader.

And that's the way it is with the kingdom and its heroes, isn't it? The battle goes to the determined, not to the outraged; to the committed, not to those who are merely dramatic. Some battles are just too important to lose!



Sunday  
October 25, 2020

## The Other Side



A sick man turned to his doctor, as he was preparing to leave the examination room and said, “Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side.” Very quietly, the doctor said, “I don’t know.”

“You don’t know? You, a Christian man, do not know what is on the other side?”

The doctor was holding the handle of the door; on the other side of which came a sound of scratching and whining, and as he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness.

Turning to the patient, the doctor said, “Did you notice my dog? He’s never been in this room before. He didn’t know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing...I know my Master is there and that is enough.”

May today there be peace within you. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.





Daily Devotionals  
Provided by the

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