

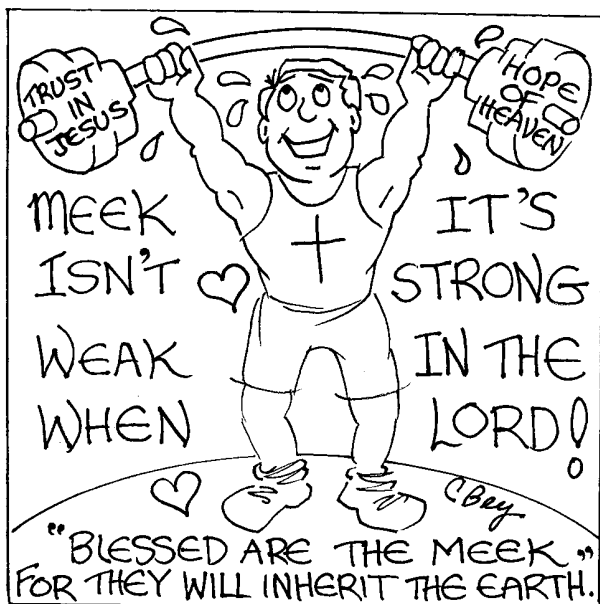
NEWSLETTER

May
2010

How can I be happy when I'm not getting my way?

"Blessed are the meek."

Matthew 5:5



Who wants to be considered meek? A meek tiger doesn't get ahead in the jungle and a meek person doesn't seem to get ahead in this world. To be meek is not always to insist on your rights. To be meek is to let the other guy get his way while your own needs and desires are kept under wraps. "Meek" not only sounds like "weak," but to most people to be meek is to be weak. And to be that way never gets you ahead in school, in business, in relationships, right?

Not so with followers of Jesus. He once equated happiness with being meek and, what's more, he said that Christians actually will get ahead by putting others first. This is how he said it: *"Blessed (happy) are the meek, for they will inherit the earth"* (Matthew 5:5).

You see, Jesus was talking to some very secure people when he said that. He was talking to those who had put their trust in him. They weren't secure because they had great careers or lots of money. They were secure because they knew they had the most valuable thing anyone can ever have: a place in heaven. They trusted that Jesus would take them to heaven when they died and that made all the difference in the way they lived. Secure in God's greatest treasure, they didn't have to live the rat race of trying to secure their financial fortune by running over somebody else's rights.

Jesus' followers know this life is not all there is. Jesus' followers know they can be meek—they don't have to get their way all the time because Jesus has set them up for an eternity of happiness.

Guess what happens when you live this way? People notice. People respect you for the way you live. People honor you as someone who puts the needs of others before your own. In that way you "get ahead" without even trying. You "inherit the earth" even if your meek lifestyle doesn't translate into big bucks.

Jesus blesses us when we walk his way in this world. Being meek isn't being weak. It's being strong. Strong in your trust in the Lord Jesus. Strong in your hope of heaven. Strong in your belief that your loving God will take care of you in this life and the next. Strong enough not to always insist on your way. Be meek. Be happy.

CHURCH NEWS

Jesus Cares Bible Class We continue our ministry to people with developmental disabilities. Bible class is scheduled here at church on Thursday, May 20th at 6:30PM. Members of the congregation are welcome to come and join in this ministry.

Glencoe Parade We will be participating in the Glencoe Parade on Sunday, June 13th. The Youth Group has volunteered to help with building this year's float, however, we are always looking for extra hands. Also, we need someone who is willing to provide a vehicle and/or drive the float in the parade. Speak to Pastor Reichow if you are interested.

Sunday School All parents of Sunday school children are invited to attend an Awards Ceremony at 11:00 am on Sunday, May 23rd. There will also be a picnic lunch to follow. Please watch the Sunday bulletins for more details.

Thank You We are finishing another Sunday School year in May. We give a big "thank you" to the Sunday School staff (April Muchow, Pauline Schmidt, Althea Mathwig, Teresa Ross, Kathy Stuedeman) for their dedicated and faithful service. We thank the substitute teachers (Joyce Koepp, John Ross, Lonnie Rabe, Heather Schulz and Kathy Stuedemann) for their help and willingness to serve. We also thank Jennifer Koenen and Jenny Scherer for their dedicated service with our "Jesus and Me" program. Thank you to the spouses of these staff members and any others who gave their direct support, encouragement, and help to our staff members.

Let's remember that the Lord has given all of us the responsibility to minister to these precious "little ones" with his Word.

Confirmation Eighth grade students, Derek Ortloff, Christopher Ross and Mark Schuth will be confirmed on May 16th in our Sunday worship service. These are precious souls which the Lord has entrusted to our care. Remember them in your prayers, continue to encourage them and help them grow in their faith.

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SUMMER BIBLE SCHOOL

Summer Bible School will be held Sunday through Thursday, August 8th - 12th from 6:30 to 8:30PM. Children age 3 through adults are welcome and encouraged to participate. Please plan your summer family events accordingly.

We will be having a meeting in May to discuss and plan this year's Summer Bible School program. All interested teachers, helpers and especially parents are asked to attend and give their input and be a part of the planning process. More information will be available on the exact date and time.

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YOUTH NEWS

Aluminum Cans We will meet here at church on Saturday, May 8th to collect the cans to turn them in for recycling. *Thank you to all the members who have been saving their cans and supporting us!*

Valleyfair It was decided that we will be going to Valleyfair in June or July. (Just a reminder to check your email and get back to Gene with the date that works best for you so we can finalize the trip) Family and friends are invited to come along. Watch the Sunday bulletins for more information.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

2 nd	Helen Luehrs
5 th	Kelly Kettner
9 th	April Muchow John and Sharon Glawe (51 st Anniversary) Larry and Eleanor Litzau (40 th Anniversary)
10 th	Jacob Reichow
14 th	Tyler Koepp and Amber Schmidt
17 th	Christy Ittel
19 th	Jakob Siewert
21 st	Aaron Goette
21 st	Ava Koenen
22 nd	Melvin and Adeline Litzau (64 th Anniversary)
23 rd	Earl and Beverly Schuth (51 st Anniversary)
27 th	Bertha Milbrand, Jamin Goette, Tony Roush and David Von Berge
31 st	Jodi Lange