Virtual Christian Magazine
Hope And Encouragement For The Real World

"This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men."—Titus 3:8

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Life Lessons From The Birds

By Sharon VanSchuyver

We can see many lessons for life in the things we see around us, but what lesson can we learn from the birds?



RECENTLY, WHILE READING A BOOK by Christian psychologist James Dobson, I was introduced to a lesson that I won't soon forget. Dr. Dobson was commenting on the pop psychology parable from the 1970s *Jonathon Livingston Seagull,* which subscribed to the theory of individuality and independence, as well as the refusal to follow the dictates of society.

The book itself is not important to this article, but the lesson introduced in Dr. Dobson's book has replayed in my head many times over. He drew a parallel to the virtues of Christian life, and how the "all about me" attitude really flies in the face of true Christianity. Choosing a life of seagull-ism will always prove detrimental.



Seagulls are selfish, even to the point of killing one another in order further themselves. A seagull alone is as wondrous as any other bird, soaring graciously and flying high. However, the seagull becomes quite a different bird when in a flock. Gulls will dive-bomb other seagulls, even kill them, just to steal a tiny morsel. Seagulls are fiercely competitive and jealous, maintaining a "look out for number one" mentality.

This is comically illustrated in the children's movie *Finding Nemo,* as the seagulls each shriek, "Mine! Mine! Mine!" whenever they spot something they want. You can't help but laugh at the ridiculousness of the situation.

However, according to author Philip Yancey, "If one were to tie a red ribbon around the leg of one gull, making him stand out, you sentence him to execution. The others in his flock will furiously

attack him with claws and beaks, hammering through feathers and flesh to draw blood. They'll continue until he lies flattened in a bloody heap." A little morbid, I know, but you get the picture. A sea gull will not allow another to be different, or possibly better, than himself.

A different bird

On a lighter note, another bird reflects something more along the lines of behavior that we should strive to model. Geese do not typically fly individually, but tend to thrive in a flock or family. Geese fly in a *V* formation because it distributes the hardship of travel. The goose at the center point of the *V* has a greater challenge, as it meets the greatest wind resistance in flight; therefore, this position is rotated every few minutes so that the geese can fly long distances without rest.



The easiest position is at the rear of the *V*. The stronger geese, consequently, allow the young, weak or old birds to occupy these less arduous positions. If a goose becomes too tired or ill to continue, it is never left alone or abandoned. The bird will leave the flock, with the assistance of a healthier bird, and remain grounded until it can continue its flight. This social order greatly contributes to the survival and well-being of their flock. The "honking" of geese is believed to be the method of the strong encouraging the weaker birds to continue.

The attributes possessed by the sea gull are not characteristic of God's way.

While I am not an authority on birds, the parallels drawn here do bring to light the logical consequences of working independently as opposed to working together toward a common goal. The seagull's attributes are not characteristic of God's way. Selfish, aggressive, proud and jealous behavior is not what we, as a Christian family, are to model at any time in our lives. Instead, we are instructed to work together, as a family, taking care of those who are weak.

Paul gives just such instruction in Romans 12:4-5, "Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others" (New International Version).

As high school graduates begin making their way out into the "real world," and teens and preteens make their way to summer camps, maybe these are thoughts that can be taken along with you. Let your light shine to those around you by exhibiting the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Nowhere among these fruits is there room for self-serving behavior.

Make the Golden Rule something you meditate on daily. Solidly put into practice Philippians 2:3-4, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also the interest of others" (NIV).

When the opportunity arises to spread our wings in the face of adversity (just as geese in a strong wind current), we can do so with grace and ease.

These reminders may sound simplistic, but because they typically go against our own human nature, they are sometimes very difficult to put into practice. If you can do it once, you should gain confidence that you can do it again and again. In the words of Dr. Phil McGraw, "behave your way to success." Each time we are successful, it becomes easier to repeat the behavior and appreciate the spiritual and emotional rewards that ensue.

Life's journey can, at times, seem very long and difficult. When we see someone wavering, possibly not believing in their own abilities, we should "honk" at them as the geese do, offering encouragement. When the opportunity arises to spread our wings in the face of adversity (just as geese in a strong wind current), we can do so with grace and ease. We should take our turn in assisting when the young, the weak or the old are no longer able to bear the most arduous tasks alone.

When we see someone who could use a break, we should offer our strength or possibly our shoulders, to carry their burden for a while. When someone in our flock is ill, weary or downtrodden, we should stay with them until their strength is restored. These are all elements that enable a flock of geese to remain strong and maintain social order. Practicing these fundamentals within our personal lives should prove likewise, improving our collective and individual relationships, as well as our general quality of life.

Recommended reading

For more information on ways you can implement some of the suggestions in this article, please request a copy of our free booklet *Transforming Your Life: The Process of Conversion*.

Ants

By Colin Ogles

Ants are a nuisance we all deal with at times. Yet there's a lot we as Christians can learn from the little ant.



"THERE ARE FOUR THINGS which are little on the earth, but they are exceedingly wise; the ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their food in the summer; the rock badgers

are a feeble folk, yet they make their homes in the crags; the locusts have no king, yet they all advance in ranks; the spider skillfully grasps with its hands, and it is in kings' palaces" (Proverbs 30:24-28).

I have no problems with rock badgers, locusts or spiders. Ants, however? That is another story. But first, what is Proverbs 30:24 trying to tell us by saying ants are exceedingly wise? Ants are just ants, aren't they? They can be real pests if they get into your house. However, if we examine how ants go about surviving in a hostile world, we begin to see the wisdom of ants. For even though just about every creature is bigger and stronger than they are, they are great survivors.

How we live our lives carries over into our spiritual activities... We need to be diligent in all aspects of our lives to at least be considered wise as an ant.

Survival is a driving factor for all life on this planet. Without this powerful drive, all species would become extinct, because the odds are stacked against all of us. Thankfully, a wise and intelligent God has given all life the means of survival. And ants, being one of the smallest, are given an extra dose of wisdom for this purpose. Understanding this wisdom is a general lesson in survival for mankind, particularly when it comes to Christian spiritual survival.

This proverb, written by Agur, son of Jakur, calls ants exceedingly wise and a people not strong. But why would God refer to ants this way, unless it is to get our attention? And it should get our attention, because Christians are a people not strong that need to remember this world is hostile to the truth revealed in God's Word and to those who live by it. And so God's people are warned: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

Ants do what they can while they can

Notice that ants prepare their food in the summer. Ants don't put off what they should be doing today until tomorrow. Tomorrow might be too late. They diligently go about their means of survival now, while they can. Sadly, many who want to be Christians keep putting off making the first step. The diligent study of the Bible, which provides spiritual food, in the summer of life while there is still time. None of us know what the autumn or winter of life may bring for us. Have you noticed how ants scurry about, searching every nook and cranny for food? We, too, should be searching every nook and cranny of God's Word for the spiritual food God has provided for us.



Foraging ants pass food by a mouth-to-mouth process called trophallaxis. Christians have for centuries passed the truth of God from person to person. Few could afford the expense of having a personal hand-written copy of the Bible. Today, we can afford to have a Bible because of the printing press. But even today it is still important, indeed commanded, that Christians assemble themselves each Sabbath to hear the Word of God preached. Why? So that we can be fed spiritually and help each other to survive. "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as

you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:24-25). Not to do so is to deny oneself the spiritual food necessary for survival.

I have a number of potted plants in my conservatory that continually get reinfested with scale insects and aphids. As soon as I remove them another lot appear. Yes, the ants are responsible. These are their cattle and they promptly restock my plants so that they can harvest the honeydew from these insects. The lesson we can learn from the business that ants carry out is to be diligent in making a living and surviving financially. Consider this: Have you ever seen a lazy person who is spiritually diligent? It seems that how we live our lives carries over into our spiritual activities. It is God's desire that we prosper (3 John 2), especially in those things that lead to eternal life. We need to be diligent in all aspects of our lives to at least be considered wise as an ant.

Ants keep doing

We have to be persistent. We have to seek, to look for God and knock on His door.

Ants are extremely persistent! If I catch them on the bench, I flush them down the sink; but within a short time, more of their colony arrive. They diligently search for food and water. God also wants us to diligently search. Jesus tells us: "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened" (Matthew 7:7-8).

Yes, God wants a relationship with us, but we have to be persistent. We have to seek, to look for God and knock on His door. You might ask, "How do I seek and where do I knock?" If you are reading this, then you are probably seeking. If you pray to God about understanding His Word, then you are knocking. And if you do so, the Bible tells us, the door to wisdom will be opened so you may "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

Ants do for others



Ants will die saving their nests. Just recently, I disturbed an ant colony and was impressed how each ant rescued a baby ant and carried it off to safety. Each ant knew what to do and did it. It was not every ant for itself. Human society, on the other hand, is becoming increasingly selfish and dangerous. There is no secret why this is happening. It is directly tied to the spiritual condition of each and every one who shuns God and ignores the path of righteousness. We find in the book of Romans this clear and unequivocal statement: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:1-2). If humanity strived to do this, then society would indeed be blessed with peace and security.

You may think that this utopian condition will never come about, but be assured it will in due time. In the meantime, find out how you can have your mind renewed; please request the free

booklet *The Road to Eternal Life*. It points out many scriptures that, when understood, lead to wisdom and renewal.

Peanuts and Perfume

By Donna Black

God admonishes us to love others and do unto them what you would have them do unto you. Please think about health issues with which some have to contend and try to be aware, understanding and considerate of other people's needs.



PEANUTS? No, I'm not referring to the cartoon strip! Most everyone enjoys peanuts and peanut butter. However, peanuts can be deadly to some people! It has become necessary to post signs on school doors. Parents of children with peanut allergies use extreme caution to prevent their child from consuming even the smallest amount of peanuts. Anyone can develop an allergy to peanuts, but it is more common in people who have other atopic conditions, like eczema, asthma or hay fever, or who have immediate family with these conditions.



What do peanuts have to do with perfume? Recently I was diagnosed with multiple chemical sensitivities (MCS), a condition that, like peanut allergies, can be deadly or crippling. I'm not allergic to peanuts, but I am allergic to the chemicals in perfumes, aftershave, colognes, some hair sprays, some deodorants, etc., which affect my respiratory system causing labored breathing or worse.

In the book *Get a Whiff of This: Perfumes (fragrances)—the Invisible Chemical Poisons* by Connie Pitts, the foreword (by Rosalind C. Anderson, Ph.D.) tells the story of how the book's

author became a victim of MCS. Interestingly enough, the cover shows a picture of a perfume bottle with a skull and cross bones on it.

In the preface, the author states that a large number of perfumes contain harmful substances and few are safety tested. After World War II, synthetic chemicals were found to be much cheaper and easier to use for creating fragrances. The introduction states that while people are aware of the toxic effects of tobacco smoke, they are still in the dark when it comes to the serious health risks related to exposures from perfumes, colognes and other scented products and fragrances (p. xvii). MCS has become an epidemic in the United States. Many fragrance chemicals can act as sensitizers, causing immune system damage so that you become allergic to the chemical (p. xvii).

Anyone can develop an allergy to peanuts, but it is more common in people who have other atopic conditions, like eczema, asthma or hay fever, or who have immediate family with these conditions.

What is MCS?

According to the Web site http://www.ourlittleplace.com/mcs.html, "Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) is basically a subset of Environmental Illness (EI), which is caused by living in a toxic world. The chemicals synthesized after World War II (including, pesticides, synthetic fragrances, cleaning products, detergents, etc.) are mostly 'petro-chemicals' (petroleum based) and are quite toxic to humans.



"One of the biggest offenders is perfume and other scented products. Did you know that many of the ingredients in your perfume are the exact same ingredients found in gasoline?! The scary thing is the perfume industry is not regulated at all—they can put any number of chemicals in fragrances without revealing what those chemicals are—or how they affect humans, and it's making some of us very sick.

"Coal miners took canaries into the mine with them to warn them when the air became toxic. It was time to get out when the canary stopped singing or died. We 'human canaries' are here to warn the rest of you that unless you start making changes and avoid as many toxic chemicals as possible, you too may become very sick. Non-toxic living is actually much 'simpler' and cheaper!"

Mr. Don Hooser published an article in the January 2002 issue of *United News* entitled "Colognes, Chemicals, Compassion and the Church," which explains how Church members and leaders can help. Check it out on the UCG Web site at http://www.ucg.org/un/un0201/church.htm. You can read John LaBissoniere's personal story at http://www.kubik.org/health/labis.htm.

Let's take a minute to think about the dangers of secondhand smoke, which is defined as a combination of smoke given off by a burning cigarette, pipe or cigar, plus any smoke the person exhales.



The following is a quote from the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America: "Tobacco is treated with chemicals so that it will keep burning even when it is not being smoked. Secondhand smoke contains up to 4,000 chemicals, including trace amounts of poisons like formaldehyde, arsenic, DDT and cyanide. More than 40 of the substances in secondhand smoke are known to cause cancer. Many more cause irritation of the lungs and airways."

My affliction began with secondhand cigarette smoke in the workplace, interestingly enough. I now am allergic to the chemicals in fragrances.

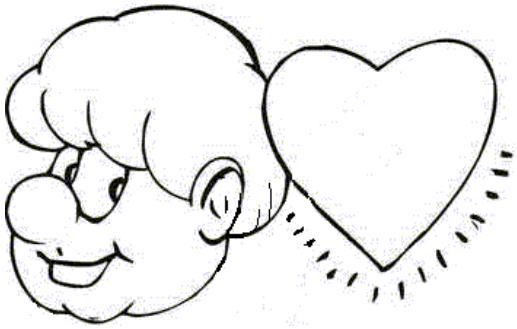
My affliction began with secondhand cigarette smoke in the workplace. I now am allergic to the chemicals in fragrances.

Please consider what you personally can do to help people with this condition. If you find out that people in your church or workplace have such allergies, please don't go to services soaked in perfume or cologne. Even if you don't approach the afflicted person yourself, you can still affect him or her. Your perfume can rub off on others you might hug and they might have contact with the sensitive person. You can decimate their ability to return to socialize with others. Please be aware, understanding and considerate of others' needs.

Take a Listening Heart to the Feast

By David Palmer

When you see or hear the word "feast," what comes to mind? To members of our Church, the word relates to a wonderful yearly festival, the biblical observance of the Feast of Tabernacles.



LET'S CONSIDER FOR A MOMENT the word "feast" itself. Most modern dictionaries will describe "feast" as a "joyful religious anniversary, an annual village festival, a sumptuous meal, especially in public."

The biblical expression "feasts of the Lord" in Leviticus chapter 23 emphasizes the importance of the feast as a festival observed as a fixed time or season, an assembly convened for a definite purpose.

The Feast is a wonderful opportunity to prepare for the Kingdom of God.

The Easton's Bible Dictionary (1897 edition) describes the word "feast" as "a mark of hospitality (Genesis 19:3; 2 Samuel 3:20; 2 Kings 6:23); occasions of domestic joy (Luke 15:23; Genesis 21:8); and the occasion of a marriage (Judges 14:10; Genesis 29:22). [In ancient Israel,] feasting was a part of the observances connected with the offering up of sacrifices (Deuteronomy 12:6-7; 1 Samuel 9:19; 16:3, 5), and with the annual festivals (Deuteronomy 16:11).

"It was one of the designs of the greater solemnities, which required the attendance of the people at the sacred [tabernacle], that the oneness of the nation might be maintained and cemented together, by statedly congregating in one place, and with one accord taking part in the same observance."

The dictionary then goes on to state: "To keep the people's consciousness alive to God's way, to revive, strengthen, and perpetuate it, nothing could be so well adapted as these annual feasts."

Solomon's request should be our own



The phrase "keep the feast" also encourages us to commune spiritually. In other words, as God's people travel each year to one of the various festival sites to keep this "anniversary," we recognize that we are invited guests, not only to a banquet of good food, fine drink and wonderful fellowship with other brethren who have made the same trek, but we also recognize that the invitation is from God. Not only does He want us to rejoice at the physical blessings that have been bestowed on us over the past year (Deuteronomy 14:22-26), but also He wants us to commune spiritually with Him, and with each other. What exactly does that mean? How do we commune spiritually? Let's look at a biblical example.

When Solomon replaced his father David on the throne, God appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, "Ask! What I shall give you?" (1Kings 3:5). Solomon asked for an understanding heart, better translated as a hearing or listening heart, that he might better judge God's people and be a better king. "The speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing" (1Kings 3:10). Solomon was blessed not only with the wisdom of a listening heart, but great physical blessings as well.

The lesson we learn is this: Not only do God's people participate in the Feast of Tabernacles for the physical meat, but also for meat that leads to everlasting life (John 6:27). Remember what the apostle Paul wrote: "It pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe" (1 Corinthians 1:21). If we develop a determination to attend the Feast with a listening heart, we will not only be in spiritual communication, drawing closer to God and Jesus Christ, but like Solomon we will find the physical blessings are much more enjoyable as we also draw closer to each other.

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The chance to grow closer as a family



The Feast is a wonderful opportunity to prepare for the Kingdom of God. It is a great occasion for people to commune. The word "commune" merely means fellowship, and fellowship gives us the marvelous opportunity to apply some of Solomon's wisdom, such as, "A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, and a word spoken in due season, how good it is!" (Proverbs 15:23) and "Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones" (Proverbs 16:24).

God's people meet many personalities at the Feast, some who are quiet and shy, and some who have a hard time communicating. What better way to get to know God than by getting to know someone else God has called? After all, you and that new person you talk with may well be in the Kingdom of God forever. So why not take the opportunity to get acquainted while attending the Feast of Tabernacles?

For more information about the Feast of Tabernacles and the rest of God's annual Holy Days, please request the booklet *God's Holy Day Plan: The Promise of Hope for All Mankind*.

Spiritual Lessons From Glass

By Andy McClain

Glassmaking is an amazing and ancient art. Would you believe some properties of glass offer an interesting analogy for the Christian life?



THROUGHOUT HISTORY, GLASS in its many forms has been precious and sought after. It is very beautiful, and can be formed into elaborate and elegant shapes. It is also useful in many ways. We might take glass for granted since it has become so common and we use it so extensively in our everyday lives. However, the fascinating history of glass making, the processes of glass making and the properties of glass can illustrate many interesting lessons.

Glass is elementary

Natural glass has existed since the beginnings of time. Man-made glass beads have been found in Egypt and Eastern Mesopotamia dating back to 3500 B.C. Glass is fairly easy to make since it requires very few ingredients. The main ingredient is molten, liquid sand (silicon dioxide). Common glass, otherwise known as soda-lime glass, is mostly sand mixed with a little soda, lime and aluminum oxide. Other types of glass are made by adding ingredients such as lead or boron.

Like glass, we are made from the basic elements of earth.

Like glass, we are made from the basic elements of earth. In Genesis 2:7, God says He formed man from the dust of the ground. Ecclesiastes 3:20 calls us dust. When God created us, He used something elementary and commonly found.

Much like sand has to be changed into glass to make it into something useful, we also have to be changed. Romans 8:8-9 says that we must have the Holy Spirit within us to please God and be useful to Him. God is in the process of changing us so that we can be spirit beings in His Kingdom (1 Corinthians 15:42-49).

Glass is durable and strong

Glass may seem fragile, but it has great inherent mechanical strength and can withstand extremely high compressive stresses. As surprising as it may seem, glass is harder than most grades of unhardened steel. It is affected by few chemicals and resists most industrial and food acids. Because of this, it is used in a variety of industrial chemical plants and laboratories.

So why does glass have the reputation of being fragile? This comes because of its tendency to be weakened by surface imperfections. Two things can be done to reduce and eliminate the imperfections in glass.



First, glass can be improved by a factor of up to 10 by treating the glass with heat or chemicals so that the outer surfaces are compressively stressed at relatively high levels. This causes the cracks to be "held closed" by the continuous residual stress. This is called tempering or tempered glass. Second, the glass can be kept away from anything that could scratch the surface.

Like glass, we must become durable and strong with the help of God's Holy Spirit. As Ephesians 6:10 says "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might." Our strength comes only from God (Psalm 31:24). We have many surface imperfections, much like glass. It takes God's Spirit to help us see and overcome our inherent weaknesses.

We have many surface imperfections, much like glass.

One way that God helps us to overcome is to subject us to various "compressive stresses," otherwise known as trials. Trials help us to strengthen our relationship with God and draw closer to Him. The apostle Paul is a wonderful example of someone who faced many stresses in his life but, because of the help of God's Holy Spirit, he could still say "when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Corinthians 12:10).

We also must keep away from the temptations that can "scratch" our surface and weaken us. We are told to in James 4:7, "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

Glass is inert

If you recall from your chemistry classes, "inert" means that something is not chemically active. The molecular structure of glass does not allow it to react with other elements because it has a full outer valence shell. Its full valence shell cannot acquire or lose electrons to react with other elements.

Inert can also mean peaceful and stable. These are characteristics that God wants us to have as Christians. We are to develop a peaceful nature and a stable mind. We know that "to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Romans 8:6).

Isaiah 26:3-4 says, "You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You." Again, Barnes' commentary adds, "The mind that has confidence in God shall not be agitated by the trials to which it shall be subject; by persecution, poverty, sickness, want, or bereavement."

Do we have a calmness of mind because of God's Spirit working with our mind, or are we troubled and anxious? Recall what David said in Psalm 119:165 when he wrote, "Great peace have those who love Your law, and nothing causes them to stumble." Knowing that God is in control should give us peace and stability each day.

Glass requires heat to be formed

Crushed sand, limestone and sodium carbonate must be blended and heated at temperatures near 2,500 degrees Fahrenheit for extended periods of time in order to form glass. It may take up to 24 hours in a furnace to rid liquid glass of small bubbles that can cause imperfections before liquid glass is ready to be used.



Even while glass is being blown, molded or pulled into its finished shape, it requires constant heat. It can only be removed from the furnace for short periods of time without cracking.

The apostle Peter compared the trials that Christians must go through to build godly character as refining fires. He spoke of "the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire" (1 Peter 1:7). Later he wrote, "Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy" (1 Peter 4:12-13).

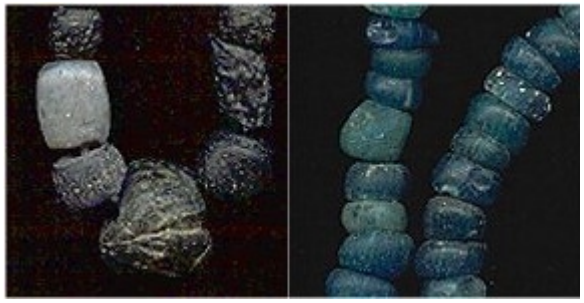
And like glass, we must be constantly hot with zeal. To do this, we must constantly strive to offer our lives as a living sacrifice to God (Romans 12:1).

As Christians, our goal is to become openly transparent and at the same time, reflecting the character of God in all that we do.

Since our body is now the temple where the Holy Spirit resides, God wants the intents of our heart and mind to always reflect His nature (1 Corinthians 6:19; Psalm 51:16-17). To do this difficult task, we must cultivate a deep love for our Father and His truth in our lives. We can only be shaped and formed by God if we have a continual fire burning within us.

Glass is brilliant

The most obvious characteristic of ordinary glass is its transparency, which allows light to pass through it. This occurs because ordinary glass is homogeneous on all length scales greater than about a wavelength of visible light. As a result, glass is extremely beautiful and brilliant, especially when placed in bright light.



As Christians, our goal is to become openly transparent and at the same time, reflecting the character of God in all that we do. Ephesians 5:8-10 tells us to "walk as children of light." We do this by reflecting the "fruit of the light" as the margin reads for verse 9. In John 8:12, Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." Are we developing character of light?

If we are not, then we are like the tares spoken of in the parable of Matthew 13:24-32, which are cast into the furnace of fire. Our lives must reflect God's light through the fruits of the Spirit.

In conclusion, we who hope to be the bride of Christ and share eternal life with Him must learn and live these lessons. We need the qualities of character that are illustrated so vividly by the wonderful stuff we call glass.

Letters to the Editor

Cherishing the Sabbath



Thank you for that wonderful article on the Sabbath. We who are close to a church don't realize how blessed we are. I learn from the appreciation of others.

Thank you!

Some feedback messages are edited for space and/or clarity