



F. Y. C.

For Your Consideration

❖ JANUARY 2019 ❖

NEW

Something NEW has great appeal!

New year to enjoy ❖ New car to drive. ❖ New house to live in.
New job to provide for the family. ❖ New friends to enjoy. ❖ New baby to hold.

“New” has a special, pleasant connotation. To have any of these is a wonderful experience. But they can’t begin to compare with:

New Covenant

And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.”

Luke 22:20

New Commandment

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”

John 13:34

New Creature

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

2 Corinthians 5:17

New Life

Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:4

New Heaven and Earth

But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

2 Peter 3:13

CONTRIBUTION

...contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

Romans 12:13

The word “contribution” is most often used by Christians to refer to what members put in the collection plates during assemblies. But in this verse “contributing” is about giving, sharing, and providing what is needed. Giving of our time. Sharing our resources. Expressing our concern. Demonstrating our love for those in need. Especially those who share a common faith.

Another’s Need Is An Opportunity To Do Good

But whoever has the world’s goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

1 John 3:17-18

Supplying what is needed individually, along with others, or at the direction of the shepherds.



O the Things We May Do

①

Have you lifted a stone from your brother’s way,
As he struggled along life’s road?
Have you lovingly touched some frail, toil worn hand,
Shared with someone his heavy load?

②

Have you spoken a word full of hope and cheer?
Have you walked with a slower pace,
Till the weary of heart who were stumbling on,
Took new courage to run the race?

③

Have you held up your light thro’ the shadows dark,
So that somebody else might see?
Have you lived with the Christ thro’ the long, long day
Gaining many a victory?

Refrain

O, the things we may do, you and I, you and I;
O, the love we can give if we try;
Just a word or a song as we’re passing along,
They will count in the great by and by.

Author: Lizzie DeArmond

What needs to be supplied?

Providing meals for those who are unable to care for themselves.

Giving aid and comfort to those are hurting physically.

Giving encouragement to those who are downhearted.

Providing financial aid to those who need it.

Giving encouragement and support to those who are overwhelmed.

Providing transportation for those unable to get around.

Extending sympathy for those who are distressed over a loss.

Concern for those who have strayed from the narrow way.

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds: Love for One Another

Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.

Galatians 6:9-10

BEEN THERE — DONE THAT

*Learning from the mistakes
and successes of others.*

BIG PLANS FOR SELF

And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man was very productive. And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' "Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 'And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry." Luke 12:16-19 **But he died that night!** Cf. Luke 12:20.

There are a number of lessons to glean from this account, but it's apparent that we have little or no control over most of what happens. Circumstances can change in an instant. It happens all the time. Tragic events, accidents, and sudden illnesses do happen.

When planning, it's best to be aware that something may happen that derails, or destroys your best laid plans.

Here's some sound advice:

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit." Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that." James 4:13-15

DON'T ASSUME THAT SOMETHING WILL DEFINITELY HAPPEN!



REMEMBER



NEVER FORGET

Some things we need to remember!

"In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Acts 20:35

'HELP THE WEAK'

Weak (Greek: *astheneh'-o*): to be feeble (lacking strength, vigor in any sense).

Remember that helping others benefits both the giver and the one helped. And it is pleasing to our Lord. It's a win-win-win activity.

Anyone who has helped the weak can testify of the satisfying feeling one receives. A case in point: A young woman, who was depressed and had little self-esteem, was advised reach out and help someone in need. She did, and later exclaimed, "I never felt so good about myself."

ADMONITION

Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves. Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to his edification. Romans 15:1-2

What Jesus said. What Paul did.

What we need to do.

Let's put our faith to work by remembering to help those who are weak physically, weak spiritually, weak in faith, or weak in any sense.

Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

1 John 3:18

'More Blessed to Give Than Receive'



STOP SIGNS

Two very true statements: (1) Stop signs don't stop cars. (2) God's laws don't stop sin.

Laws are not designed to stop lawlessness. They only specify what is forbidden. It's the driver who either obeys or disobeys stop signs. And it's the individual who obeys or disobeys God's commandments.

The driver must deal with the consequences of disobeying stop signs. And the individual must deal with the eternal consequences of disobeying God's "stop signs."

Ignoring a stop sign may not always result in a serious consequence, but disobeying God's commandments will certainly incur consequences. Sometimes in this life, but definitely in the judgment.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

2 Corinthians 5:10

"He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day."

John 12:48

LESSONS

Obey stop signs to avoid serious problems.

Obey God's commandments to avoid eternal consequences.



Ponder
This

EXAMPLES

OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLES

Are given so we may learn from the successes and failures of others who lived long ago.

Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

1 Corinthians 10:11

NEW TESTAMENT EXAMPLES

Show us how others lived for the Lord during the difficult early years of Christianity.

The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:9

CONTEMPORARY EXAMPLES

Provide guidance and encouragement for living as a Christian in today's world.

Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.

Philippians 3:17

YOUR EXAMPLE

Live in such a way that when (not if) others follow your manner of life they will be doing what is good and acceptable in His sight.

Be a good example!

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