



F.Y.C.

For Your Consideration

Lesser Known Disciples

Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Susanna

Mary who was called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others who were contributing to their support out of their private means.

Luke 8:2-3

Phoebe

I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea; that you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need of you; for she herself has also been a helper of many, and of myself as well.

Romans 16:1-2

Mary, Tryphaena, Tryphosa and Persis

Greet Mary, who has worked hard for you ... Greet Tryphaena and Tryphosa, workers in the Lord. Greet Persis the beloved, who has worked hard in the Lord.

Romans 16:6,12

Andronicus and Junias

Greet Andronicus and Junias, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners, who are outstanding among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.

Romans 16:7

What's the Point?

They made a difference. They were the "supporting cast." It was people like these and many others, that are not mentioned in the Bible, who did what they could with what they had, where they were. And it is the same today. It's those members who quietly go about doing what they can. They may not receive much recognition, nor do they seek it. But, oh, do they make a difference!

Be one who makes a difference!

Most of What I Need to Know

There was a best seller book, "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten" by Robert Fulghum. **Well, most of what we need to know about life, is found in Genesis 1-4.**

THE UNIVERSE

God created it.

It was not an accident.

Mankind was created in the image of God, and different from all other created things.

Man is not just an animal. He is composed of body, soul, and spirit.

What was created is good, very good.

Man was not created sinful, nor is he born sinful.

MARRIAGE

Woman came from man; man comes from woman.

Man and woman are interdependent.

One man and one woman are to be united.

Sexual perversion is wrong.

Husband and wife are to cleave and not leave.

Monogamy, not polygamy, not divorce.

SIN

Don't be deceived.

Sin is deceitful.

Don't do it just because you can.

Choice and free will. Just because you can is not enough reason to do it.

Don't do it just because someone else did it.

Can't blame others with "made me do it."

PUNISHMENT

Do wrong, suffer punishment.

Cause and effect clearly seen. Consequences are inevitable.

God is just.

God is fair and just.

God is loving. He promised a remedy.

God is love. God loves mankind.

LIFE

Offer acceptable worship and be pleasing to God. (Able did).

First and foremost commandment.

Rivalry and jealousy can escalate to envy, hate, murder. (Cain's anger).

Self-control is a must.

Not everything in life is fair. (Righteous Abel was killed.)

The righteous may suffer while sinners prosper.



Drive Friendly

Highway signs along the roads in Texas read: "Drive Friendly." (Friendly defined: favorably disposed; not antagonistic; amicable.)

One may obey the rules of the road out of obligation. (The law requires consideration of other drivers.) However, this sign encourages consideration based on relationship, not obligation. There is a lesson here in our dealing with other people, not only on the roads, but in everyday life.

One may consider others out of obligation (compelled: "have to do ..."). However, the Scriptures teach that our consideration of others should be based on relationship. In living with others, and before God, it takes more than right actions. It takes the right attitude: "love" combined with "law."

*And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor,
and if I deliver my body to be burned, but do
not have love, it profits me nothing.*

1 Corinthians 13:3

James sums it up well:

*If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law,
according to the Scripture, "You shall love
your neighbor as yourself," you are
doing well.*

James 2:8

Live friendly!



WORD STUDY

enhance your
Bible knowledge

COMMUNION: 1 Corinthians 11

MEMORIAL

:24 ... "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

Remember *what* Jesus did.

Remember *why* He did it.

Look back at what was done.

COVENANT

:25 ... "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

New with new provisions.

Ratified with His blood.

Look up at what has taken form.

FELLOWSHIP

:18 ...when you come together as a church ...

Based on shared, mutual faith.

Can't think of the "body" of Jesus, without thinking of His church.

Look around at those who share.

PROCLAMATION

:26 *For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.*

A living hope based on God's promise.

Held by a firm faith.

Look ahead to His second coming

SELF-EXAMINATION

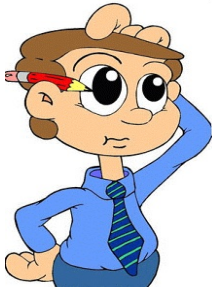
:28 *But a man must examine himself ...*

Test self, not for "worthiness", but faithfulness.

Examine thoughts, feelings and disposition.

Recognize our body is the "temple of the Spirit"

Look inward at the soul's condition.



Ponder This

Comparing

If you compare yourself with someone who is smarter, more talented, or more physically attractive, you look inferior. If you compare yourself with someone who is less intelligent, less talented and less attractive, you feel superior.

If you compare yourself with yourself, you feel good. Yet you are the same person in all of the comparisons.

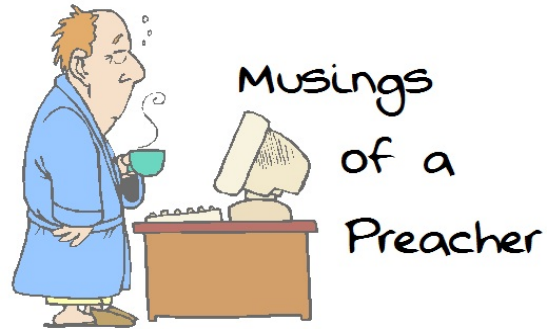
If you want to have a true measure of yourself, measure yourself by the true standard: the Word of God.

Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy. But to me it is a very small thing that I should be examined by you, or by any human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself. For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but the one who examines me is the Lord.

1 Corinthians 4:1-4

For we are not bold to class or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves; but when they measure themselves by themselves, and compare themselves with themselves, they are without understanding.

2 Corinthians 10:12



When Silence Isn't Golden

(This happened during my high school years, but I am including it because it made a lasting impression.)

After winning the long jump competition in a high school track meet, the results were printed in the local newspaper. The next day at school some students, having read the results, were amazed at the distance I had jumped. They said the reported distance was a new school record, breaking the old one by almost two feet.

However, their praise was somewhat bittersweet. True, I broke the record, but the paper made a mistake in the distance I jumped. Here's where my silence wasn't golden.

The praise and adulation was such a heady experience (a seldom one at that), I chose not to mention that the report was in error. All day long the praise kept coming but my silence only made me feel worse.

At days end it was apparent I had made the wrong decision in keeping silent. One must be truthful, even if it means the loss of praise or having to suffer hurt and shame. Not correcting what is wrong, harms the one who keeps silent. Silence never alters facts.

The truth did come out later and the embarrassment was even harder to endure.

The truth may hurt, but a lie is agony.

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Be thoughtful and kind.

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