

# The Boys Bugle

Calling all young men to the service of Christ

Vol. 4 Number 1

Spring 2004



# Welcome to The Boys Bugle

This issues theme “Our Relationship to God and Man”

## Contents

How Should We Relate to Others...	4
Types and Shadows.....	6
Young People of the Bible	
Hezekiah.....	7
The Calling of:	
Kendal Siegrist.....	8
The Impact of Words.....	11
The Children’s Challenge	
David.....	12
Clothes.....	13
From our Readers:.....	14
God’s Relationship with his People...	18
Safety While Working with Tools...	20
Do not Smoke.....	21
Crossword Puzzle.....	22

## Subscription Information:

Please let us know, once a year, stating that you want to continue to receive “The Boys Bugle.” Back issues available. Donations appreciated. Donations include articles, stories, poems, pictures, ideas, letters, and etc. We reserve the right to print anything you send us, unless you specify otherwise. (Our cost per year for printing and postage for both “The Boys Bugle” and “Heart and Home Harmony” is \$5.20.) Please make checks payable to The Boys Bugle.

Send to:

The Boys Bugle  
156 Newton Rd.  
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

The Planned Theme for the

## Next Issue.

Rejoicing in the Lord, and rejoicing in all that you do.

Philippians 4:4,

Colossians 3:23.

If you have any special insight, good articles, poems, stories, etc on this subject, I would love to hear from you.

Please send us your contribution before May 1 to get it here in time for the next issue. Thank-you.

## Magazines also available at:

Evans and White True Value

1 Maple St. Potsdam

Collin's Market (formerly Watson's Market)

RT. 11B

The Birchbark Book Store

Ashton Rd. Parishville Center

The Potsdam Food Co-op

Elm St. Potsdam

## On the Cover:

**Top:** Pouring concrete for Rob and Emily’s house. Left to Right: Nathaniel, Luray, and Robby. Can you find the fourth person (Daniel) in the picture?

**Bottom:** Logging with Sue and Bell.



# Notice

## Change of address

The new address is:  
156 Newton Rd.  
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676  
Also make checks out to The Boys Bugle.



### Editor's Desk



Dear Readers,

Thank you all for all the letters and responses. It is very encouraging to know that you are enjoying the magazine. We have especially got many favorable comments to the story of Haiti, the ice storm and the story of the family in Heart and Home Harmony.

During the months of January and February, Luray and I were working with Daniel on the interior of Daniel's house. I decided that I would wait to work on the spring issue of The Boys Bugle until the last week of February, and then work at The Boys Bugle full time. Well, God had different plans. On Friday the 20<sup>th</sup>, I was tired and didn't work very fast. On Saturday morning, I started to work on The Boys Bugle because I was feeling too tired to go work. Halfway through the morning I got a fever, so I went to bed. During the next 5 days, I had a high fever, (up to 103.5 F. but most of the time around 102). I felt like I should sleep 36 hours a day. I lost about 10 pounds in those first 5 days, (I wasn't eating, and because I wasn't eating I could not drink much.). During the second week, I improved a little every day but I started to

cough stuff out of my lungs, (and throat). I also started to do a very small amount of activity. Because I was too sick to think well, those 2 weeks went fairly fast. During the third week, I worked about half the time. Now in the fourth week, I am working almost full time, but I still have a bad cough.

An important lesson that I learned through this sickness is that God is the one that controls when things happen in my life. I need to relax and trust God's planning. I am very small and weak.

I would like to know of other Christian Boys Magazines. I do not know of any. Please tell me if you know of any other Christian Boys Magazines.

Striving to Glorify My Maker,

# How Should We Relate to Others?

**“If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.”** Romans 12:14-21

## Love God

First and most important we need to love God and obey him. We need to put our full trust in Him.

“Jesus said to him, **You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.** This is the first and great commandment.” Matthew 22:37-38. Also read Matthew 6:33; Mark 12:28-30; Luke 10:25-27.

Trust God to control your life and the lives of your friends and enemies. Life is complex. God has many ways of influencing and ruling people.

**“Not avenging yourselves,** beloved, but giving place to wrath; for it is written, **“Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”** Romans 12:19; Proverbs 20:22.

## Love People

**Second, you are commanded to Love:**

### Your Neighbor.

“And the second is like it, **You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**” Matthew 22:39. Also see Mark 12:31; Romans 13:10; Galatians 5:14-15.

### Your Brother.

**“...We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him...”** 1 John 3:13-17; 4:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:9.

**Your wife, your husband, and your children.**

**“Husbands, love your wives,** even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it,” Ephesians 5:21-33

“That they may teach the young women to be sober, **to love their husbands, to love their children,**” Titus 2:4

### Your Enemy

“But I say to you, **Love your enemies,** bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,” Matthew 5:44

## Holiness is Very Important.

We cause great tension between each other, not just between us and God, when we do wickedly.

**“A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight.”** Proverbs 11:1

**“...Let him show his works by his good conduct with meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and strife in your hearts, do not glory and lie against the truth.** This is not the wisdom coming down from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. **For where envying and strife are, there is confusion and every foul deed. But the wisdom that is from above is first truly pure, then peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.** And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.” James 3:13-18

**“But now also put off all these things: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, shameful speech out of your mouth.”** Colossians 3:8

**“But--in imitation of the holy One who has called you--you also must be holy in all your habits of life. Because it stands written, “YOU ARE TO BE HOLY, BECAUSE I AM HOLY.”** 1

Peter 1:13-23

**“Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be cured. ...”**

James 5:16

## Communicate

It is important that we communicate with each other.

**“But to do good and to communicate forget not:** for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.” Hebrews 13:16

**“That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;”** 1 Timothy 6:18

**“Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.”** James 1:19

**“If a revelation is revealed to another sitting by, let the first be silent.”** 1 Corinthians 14:30

Notice in this next passage that the characters are speaking as well as listening. **“But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses. And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter. And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, “Men and brethren,...” Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them. And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, ...Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood...”** Acts 15:5-22

To have good communication, it is just as important to listen to what the

other person is saying, as it is to express the way you feel and what you are thinking.

Don't Gossip. Don't tell everyone everything that you know. Also, don't believe a bad report about someone unless you have clear evidence that it is true. Be sure you know the truth before you accuse someone of something. Be slow to conclude that someone is against you, or doesn't like you.

**“By the blessing of the upright the city is lifted up, but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked. One despising his friend lacks heart, but a man of understanding remains silent. One going with slander is a revealer of secrets, but the faithful of spirit keeps the matter hidden.”** Proverbs 11:11-13

**“He who covers a transgression seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates friends.”** Proverbs 17:9

## Relating to Sinners

How should we relate to sinners? **“Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.”** James 5:20. Luke 7:36-50; 15:7; 19:7.

## Relating to Sanctimonious people

Those with a true heart may not be able to have a good relationship with those who try to appear good and righteous on the outside but are wicked and unrepentant on the inside. Here are some Bible examples of how Jesus related to them.

**“But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you.”** John 5:42

**“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him.”**

*(Continued on page 16)*

# Types and Shadows

The old covenant had many contrasts with the new covenant. It was a shadow of the reality that was coming. A few of these contrasts are listed here.

## Old Covenant SHADOW (Physical)

## New Covenant REALITY (Spiritual)

### PRIESTHOOD

Heb. 9:6-8; 7:11, 12

### SACRIFICES

Heb. 10:1-6; 9:9-10

### TEMPLE

2 Sam. 7:4-5; 1 Chron. 22:6, 10

### TABERNACLE

Exodus 25:8, 9 & 40

### THRONE

1 Kings 2:12

### SEED

Gen. 12:1-3; John 8:33-39

### ISRAEL

Rom. 9:6-8

### MOUNTAIN

Heb. 12:18; Gal. 4:25

### JERUSALEM

Gal. 4:25

### LAND

Gen. 12:1 & 7; 15:18

### PRIESTHOOD

1 Pet. 2:5-9; Heb. 7:11, 12

### SACRIFICE

1 Pet. 2:5; Heb. 13:15-16

### TEMPLE

2 Cor. 6:16; Eph. 2:19-22

### TABERNACLE

Heb. 8:1-3, 9:23, 24

### THRONE

Acts 7:49, 50; Heb. 1:1-3

### SEED

Gal. 3:16-29; Gen. 12:1-3

### ISRAEL

Rom. 9:6-8; Gal. 6:6-16

### MOUNTAIN

Heb. 12:22; Rom. 11:26

### JERUSALEM

Gal. 4:26; Heb. 12:22

### LAND

Matt. 5:5; Heb. 12:22-28

# Proverbs

4:20-22

**My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.**

# Young People of the Bible

A Series of Bible Character Stories that teach a lesson.

## Hezekiah

### *Who Is Responsible?*

You can't help it if your life is not what it should be. Your parents, teachers, and general environment have made you what you are, right?

No, Hezekiah's life says, "Wrong"

Like many of the kings of Judah, Hezekiah was a young man when he began his reign. His reign was characterized by his devotion to the Lord; and it was especially remarkable because Hezekiah began his service to the Lord without any hesitation—in the very first month of his reign. It would seem that Hezekiah had become thoroughly disgusted with the abominations which went on during the reign of his father Ahaz, and so he set about to do away with them as soon as he could (2 Kings 18).

Hezekiah's life is a testimony against the philosophy so prevalent today—that young people who go wrong are not responsible for their misdeeds; that they are victims of neurotic, hypocritical parents or lack of education or a poor environment. If anyone ever had such an excuse, Hezekiah would have. His father had engaged in gross idolatry, everyone around him engaged in the same, his father was immature when Hezekiah was born, and only his mother (*if* anyone) had set him a good example. But Hezekiah realized that God will not accept excuses. He holds everyone responsible for his own actions. Hezekiah set to work immediately to carry out

God's will.

I am not trying to minimize the responsibility of parents to raise their children for the Lord, nor am I trying to deny that many parents have not properly carried out their responsibilities for one reason or another. But even if our parents have done everything wrong, God expects us to obey Him—to obey Him while we are young.

If we are open to God's will for us, God can use the failures of our parents for our blessing. By observing their weaknesses we can become better parents ourselves. We can also be more sensitive to the needs of others who have had experiences similar to ours.

God has a place for each of us in His Church, and all of our experiences are designed by Him to fit us for that place. By blaming our parents for our problems and refusing to submit to God, we miss out on the highest blessings He has in mind for us.

By M. K. Canner  
Used by permission from  
Moments With The Book  
P.O. Box 322  
Bedford, PA. 15522

# The Calling of: Kendal Siegrist

## 1. Tell us about yourself.

My name is Kendal Merlin Siegrist. I am 5' 10" tall, and have brown hair and blue eyes. I was born January 5, 1985, so I am now 19 years old.

## 2. Tell us about your family.

There are 11 of us children in my family, five boys and six girls. My parents, Mark and Karen, are both 46. My oldest sister, Juanita, is 25. She works usually one or two days a week cleaning for other people, and helps out at home the rest of the time. Glenda, 24, also has a job helping a home schooling mother one day a week. Next is Kevin, at 23. He has a small-scale auto repair business here at home and is also renting the Country Creek Auto Sales II lot about 4 mi. south of here. Krista, at 21, is the shepherdess around here. She has about eight or 10 ewes and a ram, which means 14 - 20 lambs come spring. I come next in line. Then comes Joel, 16. He is working at his second to last year of high school. Every morning he studies Spanish with Angela (14) who is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Next is Nathaniel (12), studying hard at 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Gloria (10) is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Then comes Rosanna (7) in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, and Jadon (4) who wishes he were in school. Instead, he follows us older ones around and helps when he can. His favorite toys are real tools from the shop; (fine, provided they go back



where they came from). ☺

## 3. What is it like where you live?

I live in the Lebanon Valley region of Pennsylvania, about 25 mi. east of Harrisburg. To our south the terrain is somewhat rolling, with quite a few flat areas too. Immediately to our north is the Blue Mountain. A part of our farm is actually on one of the Blue Mountain foothills, and from there we have a great view of the valley, perhaps about

10 mi. to the south and east. And what's the climate like? Well, summer highs often range from about 85 to 90, with the humidity giving a heat index of over 100. Winter temperatures seldom drop below zero; lows of about 15 are common, although this winter seems to be colder than normal. Wind chills often drop to 5 or 15 below zero.

## 4. Tell us about your schooling experience.

For my first school year, I attended Dohner Mennonite School. Then from second grade on, I was home schooled. I used a combination of Rod and Staff and Christian Light curriculum through grade 8, but for grades 9 - 12, I used all Christian Light materials. While I would have wished to quit school at grade 10, I am glad I finished 12<sup>th</sup> grade. I learned a lot in school, not only what was in the textbooks, but also *how* to learn—how to reason and figure out



practical problems.

### **5. Tell us about your faith.**

I believe that God created the entire world, including humans, in six days. As Creator, God has the perfect right to tell man what to do. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command, they became sinners and were barred from the Garden of Eden and communion with God. God had known this would happen, and he promised a Redeemer. Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, fulfilled this promise. He was born into the world as a baby, lived a sinless life on earth, and was crucified as the sacrifice for our sins. After three days and nights in the grave, he rose again. Now, any person who believes what God has said and repents of his sin will have his sins forgiven. We are not saved by works, but our works still show whether our faith is living or dead. A dead faith does us no good. We who have experienced redemption should be eager to share the good news with others. If we are unwilling to testify to others, perhaps it is time to re-evaluate our true values in life.

### **6. What is a Scripture that is meaningful to you and why?**

**“By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”** (John 13:35) This verse outlines one of the most important tests of Christlikeness. Our prayers or our righteous living is not necessarily going to make an impression on others, but here we have the promise that others will know we are His disciples if we love one another. And the world *will* sit up and take notice when they see a whole group of people whose lives revolve around their love for others. I believe this is one of the least practiced commands in the Bible—to *love one another*.

### **7. Tell us about your church.**

I attend a small home church by the name of Fredericksburg Bible Fellowship. We meet at our house every Sunday morning, with services starting at 9:30. About 7 families attend regularly. We usually sing for about 20 min., then we have a group study of some sort until 10:45 or later, and then the main message. The married brethren take turns sharing, and the rest of us brethren fill in sometimes too. For the last while we have been studying the book of Proverbs, studying it verse by verse as the textbook for life. The first 11 chapters have been very interesting and inspirational, and I'm sure the rest will be too. I can truly say that our church has been a very real blessing to my life.

### **8. Tell us about your work.**

I live and work on a dairy and chicken farm. We have about 50 cows plus our replacement heifers and calves, and somewhat more than 9,000 organic laying hens. I work mainly with the cows, and Daddy manages the chickens. My work consists of helping with the morning milking, feeding the heifers and dry cows, mixing feed, and doctoring sick cows and cows that are calving. In summer, I help with the fieldwork. We farm about 150 acres and grow nearly all the feed for our cows. I also do some of the equipment repair.

On the whole, I enjoy my work, although there are some aspects I don't care for so much. Some days when everything seems to go wrong it's easy to wish for a different job, but I suppose every job has its share of trials.

### **9. Please share with us a song, quote, or poem that is meaningful to you.**

A favorite song of mine is “Now in the Days of Youth.” (See below.) I feel that we young people should be spending our time, talents, and strength for

*(Continued on page 10)*

*(Continued from page 9)*

God. While so many young people are out living it up and sowing their wild oats, we have a higher calling, and, if we are faithful, a greater reward. I was just reminded of that this morning when we studied Proverbs 11:18. “The wicked worketh a deceitful work: but to him that soweth righteousness shall be a sure reward.” Bro. Carl explained how the work of the wicked is deceitful. The wicked man simply never gets what he is looking for. What he really wants is satisfaction and happiness, but he never will find them outside of serving Christ. My prayer is that more youth would catch the vision of service and use their vigor for God’s honor and glory.



## NOW IN THE DAYS OF YOUTH

Now in the days of youth, When life flows fresh and free,  
Thou Lord of all our hearts and lives, We give ourselves to Thee:  
Our fervent gift receive, And fit us to fulfill,  
Thro’ all our days, in all our ways, Our heav’nly Father’s will.

Teach us where’er we live, To act as in Thy sight,  
And do what Thou wouldst have us do With radiant delight;  
Not choosing what is great, Nor spurning what is small,  
But take as from Thy hands our tasks And glorify them all

Teach us to love the true, The beautiful and pure,  
Let us not for one short hour An evil tho’t endure.  
But give us grace to stand Decided, brave and strong,  
The lovers of all holy things, The foes of all things wrong.

Spirit of Christ, do Thou Our first bright days inspire,  
That we may live the life of love And loftiest desire;  
And be by Thee prepared For larger years to come;  
And for the life ineffable Within the Father’s home.

—Walter J. Mathams  
Spring 2004

# The Impact of Words

Words have incredible power. They can hurt or they can heal. They can strike fear or they can bring inexpressible joy. Most of us have a difficult time believing anything we say is powerful, that our words actually impact the lives of others. Yet, almost every word we say shapes the thinking of those who hear us. In some way the impact of our words changes their concept of us, of others, of themselves, and ultimately of God. Those who hear us most are the most affected by our words. What an awesome responsibility we have to guard well what comes out of our mouths!

Words can hurt. They are characterized variously as arrows, darts, daggers, and swords. If these powerful instruments are wielded in the wrong way, they can cut, wound, and even kill. They can alienate, isolate, and excoriate. They can divide families and destroy reputations. Yet too often we live under the illusion that others are little affected by our negative verbal behavior.

Words that criticize, judge, or demean are tools of Satan. It is the devil who is called “the accuser of our brothers” (Rev. 12:10). We must be careful we are not guilty of doing his work. (*Editor’s note: Criticism and judgment are beneficial and up building tools in the hands of a wise man.*)

In the family, the significance of relationships makes our use of words even more critical. The words and expressions of a spouse or a parent carry an inestimable weight for good or ill. Despite the destructive potential of words, the wonderful truth is that words can also heal. They can be like a soothing ointment and a ray of brilliant sunlight. They can console, calm, and comfort. They can bind up the brokenhearted and set the captive free.

Jesus used words that way. He described his words as having the power of life (John 6:63). He told his disciples to ingest his words as they were good food (6:51, 63). Wherever he went he spoke words of comfort, cheer, and deliverance.

“Just say the word,” the centurion told Jesus, “and my servant will be healed” (Matt. 8:8).

Many times in relationships that is all it would take to bring healing and reconciliation – just a word. It might be “I love you.” or “I’m sorry. Usually nothing eloquent or dramatic. The needed word at the right moment, expressed in love and understanding, can perform miracles. And to think, every one of us has access to that power! By using our tongue in the right way, we can change the world (beginning with our marriage and family) for the better.

As our relationship with God cannot exist without God’s speaking to us and our speaking to God, neither can human relationships survive without verbal interaction. Sometime at the human level dialogue is avoided because it has become so painful. However, when we understand the power of words not only to hurt and heal, but also to instruct, we can employ the right words as instruments to alleviate or remove the pain.

In the case of difficulties between husband and wife, it is essential that one (preferably the husband) take the initiative to establish positive communication. That sounds simplistic, but if it is done according to the scriptural pattern, the results will be profound.

Although sometimes we forget it or don’t want to acknowledge it, the truth is we have control over the words we speak. Such control implies awesome responsibility. It is a serious matter when we understand our choice of words not only has far-reaching implications for the here and now, but will follow us to the judgment bar.



# The Children's Challenge

To Charity and Cheerfulness

## David

At a young age, David was courageous enough to be alone with the flock of sheep. He found grass for them and streams of water when they were thirsty.

He filled the lonely hours with singing praises, to his God, who he put his trust in.

Once a lion came upon his flock. Another time a bear came to get a lamb to eat. David rescued the sheep from their mouth. When the lion turned to kill David, he grabbed his beard and killed the lion.

What he is remembered for is when he went to see his brothers. Goliath came out to dare the soldiers to come fight with him. David offered to go fight the giant. Saul put his armour on him. David said, "I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them," David took off the armour.

He took his staff and chose 5 small stones out of the brook and put them in a shepherds' bag

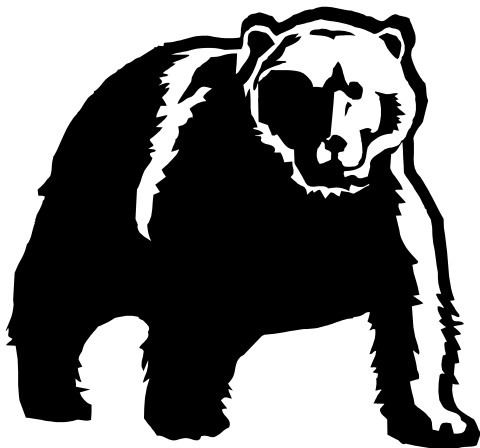
and took his sling.

Then he drew near to Goliath. Goliath made fun of him.

David said, "You come with a sword and a spear and with a shield. I come to you in the name of God.

David took a stone and slang it and hit the giant in the forehead and he fell upon this face to the ground.

Trust in the Lord. He will help you have courage.



You don't need to know where you are going, if you know whom you are following.-- Wisdom

## Clothes

Elmer Wheeler, author of *How To Sell*, says, “For all practical purposes, your clothes become a part of you. They are extensions of your personality.”

A warden of a penitentiary declares that prisoners are dressed alike so as to subdue the personality, and that drab clothes chosen for prison garb tend to take the fight out of the men.

Somewhere I saw the rules for IBM salesmen; each salesman must have his shoes shined at least once a day, must wear only white shirts, and must keep his suit neatly pressed. Another rule is that all IBM salesmen must wear conservative suits.

This does not mean that Christians conform to the rules demanded of the IBM salesmen. It does mean, however, that Christians should select clothes to suit their profession. County agents who dress like farmers are apt to gain the confidence of farmers more than the ones who dress like “city dudes.”

Dress to suit the character you want people to believe you are. Conservatism in dress is always good. The avoidance of show and finery is always best. Bulwer put it, “A gentleman’s taste in dress is upon principle of the avoidance of all things extravagant.”

You profess to be a follower of the meek and lowly Christ; then to dress like a son or daughter of Jezebel is to belie your profession.

The church from the days of its founding, has stood committed

to plainness of dress and simplicity of style for all its members, for the avoidance of the wearing of jewelry and make up. It is wholly unbecoming to a Christian to dress like a worldlyling, to wear the trappings and adornments of the age.

Look your wardrobe over, what does it say? Does it foster pride or induce Christ likeness? Are there some items that you would be embarrassed for the Master to question you about in the light of His command to evangelize all nations?

Make your dress a part of your witness for Christ. Dress in the Biblical style and seek always to honor Christ.

– Adapted from the Writings of O. G. Wilson

**If good relationships  
are more important  
to you than truth,  
then likely you will  
have a poor relationship  
with those who  
love the truth.**



## From our Readers:



Dear Melvin,

Greetings! Thank you for your fine publication. Our boys look forward to it (as well as the rest of us).

We are a “plain” Christian family- we home church at this time. Many things have become very important to us over the years that are “less doctrinal” than many care to dwell on, such as attire, hair length, beards, etc. We are grace believers and although we do not stress adherence to uniforms and embellishment restrictions, we think there is more spiritual significance than most people give credit.

My question for you or any other is concerning beards. This issue is not dealt with directly as is women’s dress and hair, yet I think it has tremendous value as a natural adornment of man. Maturity, for one. In this day and age, with feminism trying to eradicate every shred of man/women distinction, I feel it is indispensable. Yet, I lack good solid “arguments” for its value. I noticed that you have them and I think I saw others in pictures as well. Could you explain to me (in detail) any “formal church policy” or personal conviction that you or others have concerning this.

My husband has a very long beard and I love it. My oldest son

(21) is also growing his out but is wondering if it is “doctrinal?”

Thank you,  
Sincerely,  
Mrs. Cindy Hilsgen

Dear Cindy,

Thank-you for the thought-provoking letter.

Concerning the beard, my first question would be: Does the Bible tell us any thing about whether we should have a beard or not? As far as I know, I don’t think it does. The Bible does say that it is a shame for a man to have long hair, 1 Corinthians 11:14, which could perhaps apply to the beard as well as to the hair on top of the head. “I gave my back to the smiters, **and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair:** I hid not my face from shame and spitting.” Isaiah 50:6.

As far as a “formal church policy,” our church is God’s church and we have no right to make rules for God’s church. We are to abide by and teach the rules that God made. So, in

light of the first paragraph of this letter, we have no church rules concerning the beard.

Here are a few reasons why I wear a beard:

1. I don't have any reason to cut it off.

2. Why change the way God made me? I think God did a good job when he made me.

3. I can remember my chin getting very cold and having to wear a scarf before I got my beard. I have never tried this but I think that a shaved chin would be colder than no beard (like a lady or child), because when you shave you shave all the very fine, short hairs off.

4. Its much more maintenance free. It's more work to cut it off than to let it grow.

Melvin Martin

Dear Mr. Martin,

Thank you for answering my question about beards. I like your perspective- simple and practical. Though, I am "already persuaded in my mind" on the subject, this helps with others who have questions. Your insight will be helpful.

Remember that much of what we learn from the Bible is through example and story, not just straightforward doctrinal teaching. David's men were shamed (2 Samuel 10:4, 5) when Hanun cut off ½ of their beards and garments. If it had not been a further shame to fully cut it, they could have done so with out a problem. David had them tarry at Jericho until grown back.

Again, I am convinced that especially in this day and age that male/female distinction is so important, particularly in God-given ways.

Thank you again for your letter,

Grace and peace,  
Mrs. Cindy Hilsgen

### **Pen Pals from Africa**

I am a 14 year old Christian boy. I am searching for pen pals from the U.S.A. Please write to:  
Charles N. Adagi,  
P.O. Box 965  
Turbo 30106  
Kenya

*(Continued from page 5)*

**When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.”** John 8:33-59. Also read Matthew 15:1-14; chapter 23; Luke 11; 18:9-14.

Read the story of Stephen when he was stoned in Acts 6:8-7:60. This is a good example of how you will get treated when you speak the truth and when you talk of Jesus.

Sometimes it may be best to let sanctimonious people alone. Do not throw your pearls before swine. Matthew 7:6; 15:14; Mark 14:60-61.

**How should you relate to a proud person?**

“Blessed is that man that maketh the LORD his trust, **and respecteth not the proud**, nor such as turn aside to lies.” Psalms 40:4

**“The LORD will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow.”** Proverbs 15:25

“But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, **God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.”** James 4:6. Also see Proverbs 13:10; Proverbs 16:19.

## Examples

Here are some good examples and commands of how we should act and relate to each other.

**“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Do not let each man look upon his own things, but each man also on the things of others. ...”** Philippians 2:3-8

**“Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.”** Ephesians 4:25

**“Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.”** Ephesians 5:4

You must forgive your fellow man before God will forgive you. **“For if**

**you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”** Matthew 6:14-15. Also read John 3:14-21.

**“Be on your guard. If your brother acts wrongly, reprove him; and if he is sorry, forgive him; and if seven times in a day he acts wrongly towards you, and seven times turns again to you and says, 'I am sorry,' you must forgive him.”** Luke 17:3-4. Also read 1 Peter 2:19-25; Col 3:12-17.

Sometimes it's best, if you cannot keep your cool, to write what is on your heart and send it to the person that you want to communicate with. Before giving your letter, it may be a good idea to lay it aside for a day or so, then read it and decide whether or not it says what you want to communicate. **“Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the power which the Lord hath given me to edification, and not to destruction.”** 2 Corinthians 13:10

Do not wait to go speak to someone if you know that they have a problem with you. **“Therefore if you offer your gift on the altar, and there remember that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”** Matthew 5:23-24

Obeys the Golden Rule. Do unto others, as you would have them do to you. Matthew 7:12

Take care of your own problems before you worry about someone else's problems. Take the plank out of your own eye before you take the speck out of the other person's eye. “Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. **And why**



**beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."**

Matthew 7:1-5

We should judge those in the church, but not those outside of the church. **"For what business of mine is it to judge outsiders? Is it not for you to judge those who are within the Church while you leave to God's judgment those who are outside? Remove the wicked man from among you."** 1 Corinthians 5:12-13. Read the whole chapter. Our judgment must be true. **"Do not form superficial judgments, but form the judgments that are just."** John 7:24

You can live at peace with someone and still not consider him or her a Christian. "And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. **Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.**" 2 Thessalonians 3:14-16; Ephesians 5:11

In conclusion, to get along with someone, be a Christian yourself. Follow Christ's commands yourself. You will have sweet fellowship with Christians. The nonChristian may not want to be around you much. When there is a problem between you and someone else, search your heart and actions to see whether you have done anything that was wrong. If you have done something wrong, go make it right. Also, search to see whether there is anything that you can do to relieve the tension, to make it easier for peace to be made. After you have done what you know to do, let it in God's hands. You do not need to straighten all of this world's problems out. God says, "...

**Vengeance is mine, I will repay..."**  
Romans 12:19 Read the whole book of James.

By Melvin Martin

I've got the faith  
that fosters the  
fondest of friend-  
ships.

# God's Relationship with his People

## The Head and the Body

The human body as a metaphor for the people of God is definitely a post-Pentecost one. The people of God in Old Testament times were viewed as a family, a confederation of genetically related tribes or a nation, but not as one *body*. This is illustrated by the fact that there were twelve loaves in the tabernacle representing the twelve tribes of Israel, while there is one loaf, representing one body, at the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 10:17).

There is no metaphor that could express better the unity, interrelatedness, and interdependence that Christ desires among His people than the body. Christians often refer to one another as "brothers and sisters in Christ" (see Rom. 16:1; 1 Cor. 7:15; 1 Thess. 3:2; Jas. 2:15; Rev. 1:9). This expresses certain thoughts of family affection, loyalty, and mutual support; however, that unity is not as essential and intense as the unity expressed by the word "body." We know that brothers and sisters can disagree or even quarrel among themselves and that these disagreements can be more or less serious and cause more or less pain to the participants and to the uninvolved siblings. However, *any* "disagreement" among the parts of the human body will cause discomfort and pain to *all* the other parts and may lead to the death of the body.

The apostle Paul writes at length in 1 Corinthians 12 of the need of every part of the body for every other part. This theme is restated in Ephesians 4. There is no Scriptural basis for individualistic, "just Jesus and me" Christianity.

The Lord Jesus is spoken of as the

head of the body in Colossians 1:18. The same Greek word is used for "head" in this verse as in passages speaking of the head of a literal physical body. The apostle Paul did not know all that we know about the brain and its functions. And yet, everything we have learned about brain anatomy and physiology in the ensuing centuries has only confirmed our understanding of the importance to the body of the head. The brain controls the functioning of every other organ in the body and coordinates the interrelated functions of the other organs. It is true that in the human body, the brain is dependent on other organs for oxygen and nutrient supply, and so perhaps we do not want to take this analogy too far. Yet, Ephesians 1:23 speaks of "His body (the Church, the fullness of Him who fills all in all," and is, perhaps, an indication of some degree of mutuality between Christ the Head and the Church, His body.

We know from Acts 9:4, when the Lord Jesus asked, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?" that He, as Head, considers pain and persecution inflicted on the members of His body as being inflicted upon Himself. We also know that the Lord Jesus very much desired the unity of His people. He gave special promises to encourage unity. "And again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father who is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matt. 18:19, 20). The oneness of His people was one of the purposes for

which Christ died. “And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, “You know nothing at all. Nor consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people and that the whole nation perish not. And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; and not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad.” (John 11:49-52). In His intercessory prayer in John 17, four times the Lord Jesus asked that His people might be one (verses 11, 21, 22, 23).

How should these principles affect our relationships with one another? First, we should be more willing to ask for prayer from one another, more willing to admit to weaknesses, failures, brokenesses, and to ask one another for counsel and help in those areas of our lives that are not what they should be. “And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it” (1 Cor. 12:26). We suffer if other members suffer even if we are not consciously aware of who is suffering or from what. We know this is true in the physical realm. How often, for example, cancer cells are growing inside unseen, perhaps with no symptoms or with symptoms that can be ignored or attributed to something else until the symptoms become serious enough that they must be dealt with; but by this time the cancer is out of control or can only be controlled by radical, painful treatments. Hiding our spiritual, moral, or emotional problems will never make them better or contribute to the health of the body of Christ. They will eventually break out in worse form than if they had been dealt with when they began.

Second, we can and should be much more careful how we treat one another. Most of us have heard of autoimmune diseases where the body’s immune system attacks one’s own organs. Some of us suffer from such diseases; some of us have lost loved ones to such diseases. The members of Christ’s body cannot attack one another without causing serious damage to the functioning and health of the body. Constant criticism, instead of “making increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love” (Eph. 4:16), eats away at the criticized and the criticizer. There are many controversies over whom we should or should not break bread with, or with whom we should or should not be in fellowship. But let us treat the people we are *now* in fellowship with as we would treat our own fingers, toes, eyes, and heart—very tenderly and lovingly. To do otherwise is life-threatening.

Taken from:  
Words of Truth  
706 Hilton Ave.,  
Baltimore, MD. 21228  
March-April 2002

# Safety While Working with Tools

By Bryan Lee

Of special interest to me was Melvin's story of his bike accident. Being a woodworker, I operate power tools and machines quite a lot, and accidents in this realm most frequently result in serious consequences.

Basically, you place yourself in a certain amount of danger in exchange for ease and speed. And it's most important to pay attention. In addition to thinking of nothing else, this includes understanding the machine and how it works, how it interacts with the material you are working with (what kind of wood, how knotty, how the grain runs, is it clean, etc.), but most important, getting a confident feel for the machine, which takes cautious experience. And last but not least, having a path of retreat and the alert reflexes to use it for the vulnerable parts of body, because sooner or later, a freaky unanticipated departure from normal function will occur, and you best get those hands away fast! Were it not for my training myself to always keep this in mind when machining, I would have lost a finger last spring. I got a good nick though, and as I write, the nail is fully returned. Most of the flesh has healed, and with gratitude no impairment, except for a slight shyness in that finger whenever I use the jointer.

I also think it's good to use hand tools as much as practical, and by practical I mean more than dime saving. Often it is not that much slower to use a hand tool in

certain situations, sometimes even faster, often with better results, and always with a better frame of mind. It also puts you in a more reflective mood and slows your pace a bit, you can hear the birds sing (it's sometimes rude to sing back with a chainsaw). When you go back to the machines you'll have a greater appreciation for their speed and efficiency and so will use them with a greater respect and awareness. Not to mention a certain amount of gratitude for having ten fingers, without which it would be much more difficult to use the hand tools which, if of decent quality and kept sharp, you also learn do appreciate and enjoy using more and more.

Another part of my strategy for dealing with this potential danger is to concede that despite our best intentions, accidents will happen. So I have encouraged my fellow woodworkers to share the details of any mishaps, close calls, or other unusual things that come along, to increase each others awareness in the hope that man's experience will enlighten the others and lessen their potential risk.

In that spirit I will share one of my accidents. I was cleaning out a mortise for a dead bolt in the latch side jamb of a doorframe I had built. The jamb was 1 1/4" thick, the mortise about 1/2" deep. The door frame was standing upright just as it would in its final resting place. So I was pushing a very sharp 7/16" Chisel into the mortise with

my hand and using my other forearm against the back side of the mortise to brace the frame against the force of the chisel. That left  $\frac{3}{4}$ " of wood between chisel and flesh, plenty for security.

However, I was mentally distracted by a challenging interaction that had been going on between me and a fellow who was working for me, and trying to find a solution to resolve the problem (in other words, not paying strict attention to what I was doing!). My doors are insulated quite thick, so I taper the latch-side outward where the door closes. So I neglected to consider the relative thinness of the wood where the mortise was located, until I drove the chisel through the wood and over  $\frac{1}{2}$ " into my forearm and I saw blood shooting five feet into the air.

This event has always reminded me that my worst accidents, though not my worst close calls, have come from hand tools, which deserve equal respect and consideration, although the consequences are not usually as dire. It also reminds me that accidents are not purely "accidental," but have a cause. In this case, not paying full attention, and so it is with life. Mistakes are our greatest teachers.



## Do Not Smoke

Smoking makes you sick.

Smoking gives you misery.

Smoking causes emphysema and lung cancer, (kinds of sickness). Smoking around other people is not kind. Some people feel sick when someone else is smoking in their presence.

When you smoke, you are burning your money. Is it fun to spend your money on cigarettes, and pay a big hospital bill when you are old?

I encourage you to stop smoking, and start to tell others to stop smoking too.

The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 6:20 to take care of your body, because your body is God's. It is hard to overcome the problem of smoking. The way to overcome is to receive Jesus as your savior. And by his spirit, he will help you to overcome the problem of smoking.

Melvin Martin Age 12

Perhaps no two persons were ever cast so exactly in the same mould, as to think always in the same manner on every subject; and it was wisely contrived by Providence, that diversity of sentiment should take place among men, on purpose to exercise our talents and give variety to life.

# Crossword Puzzle

#A=Across, #D=Down  
Scriptures in King James Version

“Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, then would my 29A \_\_\_\_\_ fight, that I should not be 23A \_\_\_\_\_ to the 3A \_\_\_\_\_; but now is my kingdom not from hence.” John 18:36

“For the kingdom of 12A \_\_\_\_\_ is not meat and drink; but 5D \_\_\_\_\_, and 40A \_\_\_\_\_, and joy in the Holy Ghost.” Romans 14:17

“For we wrestle not against 39A \_\_\_\_\_ and blood, but against principalities, \_\_\_\_\_ against 24A \_\_\_\_\_, against the 26A \_\_\_\_\_ of the darkness of this world, against 19A \_\_\_\_\_ wickedness in high places.” Ephesians 6:12

“I exhort therefore, that, first of all, 37A \_\_\_\_\_, 25D \_\_\_\_\_, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all 28D \_\_\_\_\_; For kings, and for all that are in 35A \_\_\_\_\_; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.” 1 Timothy 2:1-2

“Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with 34A \_\_\_\_\_ thy heart, and with 34A \_\_\_\_\_ thy 31A \_\_\_\_\_, and with 34 \_\_\_\_\_ thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as 30A \_\_\_\_\_. On these two

1A \_\_\_\_\_ hang 34A \_\_\_\_\_ the law and the prophets.” Matthew 22:37-40

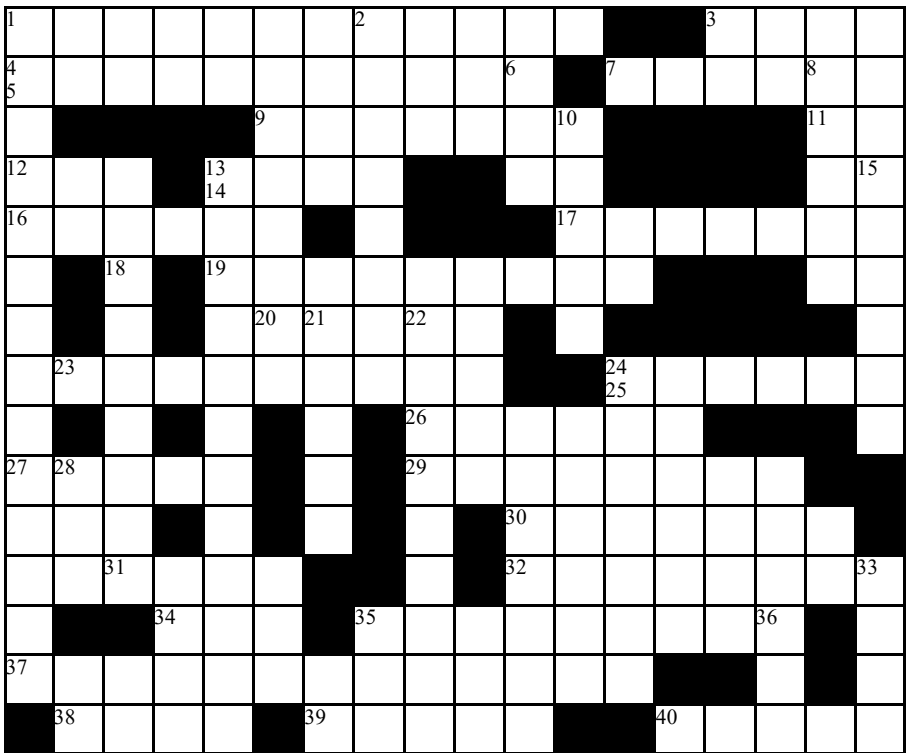
“But I say unto you, Love your 18D \_\_\_\_\_, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and 38A \_\_\_\_\_ for them which 14D \_\_\_\_\_ use you, and 22D \_\_\_\_\_ you;” Matthew 5:44

“Go ye therefore, and 21D \_\_\_\_\_ all nations, baptizing them in the 33D \_\_\_\_\_ of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:19-20

“But I say unto you, That ye 15D \_\_\_\_\_ not evil: but whosoever shall 27A \_\_\_\_\_ thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.” Matthew 5:39-42

“We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the 32A \_\_\_\_\_. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a 2D \_\_\_\_\_; and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.” 1 John 3:14-15

“For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for 11A \_\_\_\_\_, leaving us an 17A \_\_\_\_\_, that ye should follow his 20A \_\_\_\_\_: Who did no



sin, neither was 8D \_\_\_\_\_ found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth 4A \_\_\_\_\_: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being 13A \_\_\_\_\_ to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose 9A \_\_\_\_\_ ye were healed.” 1 Peter 2:21-24

“But above all things, my brethren, 10D \_\_\_\_\_ not, neither by 16A \_\_\_\_\_, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your 6D \_\_\_\_\_ be 36D \_\_\_\_\_; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall

into condemnation.” James 5:12  
 “Dearly \_\_\_\_\_ beloved, 7A \_\_\_\_\_ not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.” Romans 12:19

By Melvin Martin

The Boys Bugle  
156 Newton Rd.  
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

Address Service Requested

---

“...Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Matthew 22:37-39