

# ***MOVING SPIRIT***

Winter, 1997

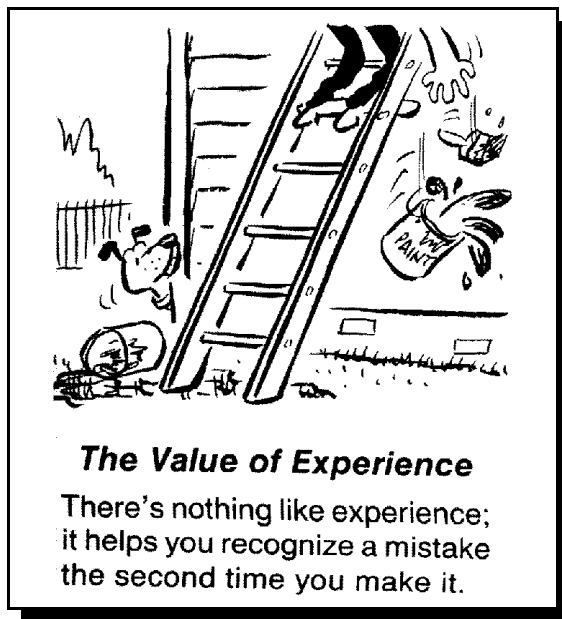
## ***Eskaton Village Community Church***

### ***Pastor's Parcel***

My father always told me that you don't have to learn things the hard way . . . watch someone else make the mistake, and don't do what that person does. I've avoided much pain by taking my dad's advice. Nevertheless, all of us still make mistakes, and often we make them several times before we find what we are doing wrong.

I feel that these two truths work together in our use of the Bible. We avoid many troubles by obeying the directives of God's Word. We read about Bible characters who fall into sins, and their examples instruct us to avoid their mistakes. At the same time, we can read a Scripture precept for half a lifetime and fail to get the point until we've experienced the same error many times. That is one reason church is important. In Hebrews 10:25 it says, "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another . . ."

It's important to meet with other Christians both to give and to receive encouragement. The church is to be a place where God's Word is publicly proclaimed and where the church family helps us stay accountable to it. We hope this is your experience at EVCC. As we meet and fellowship



together, we need to be in prayer for one another's victory in our daily walk with God. God's grace is sufficient for us, but we need our other brothers and sisters in Christ. ---Pastor David

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### ***Parish Proclamations***

#### **Parament Memorials**

A special memorial fund has been created for worship decorations. The items are a linen "In Remembrance of Me" communion table cover, and two sets of reversible pulpit banners, bookmarks and table runners. These paraments follow the four colors of the Christian year and have traditional symbols embroidered in gold. Mary Frances Feth is receiving contributions

and recording memorial names. Sally Lyon Smith will make a calligraphic memorial document to be copied for distribution at a future memorial and dedication service. Those wishing to contribute should give Mary Frances Feth the clearly-spelled names of those being remembered and make checks to "Arcade Special Ministries." The total amount needed is \$1219.00, and at the time of this printing, \$200 has already come from outside our congregation.

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### **Baptism**

Baptism is a sacramental ordinance of the Church in which Christ invites all believers to follow Him. While the method of baptism is controversial, this ritual is central to Christian faith. As an interdenominational church, we will observe the form of baptism desired by each person. Let Pastor David know if you desire baptism or want to know more about it.

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## ***People's Pulpit***

When your cup runneth over, let someone else drink from it: the water never tasted so good.

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***People's Pulpit*** is a forum to share with others your blessings from the Lord. It can be thanksgiving, a Bible verse with special meaning to you, a praise for answered prayer, a personal story, etc. We all have testimonies. Don't be afraid to write . . . we'll edit you, if you get too long-winded!

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## ***Pithy Pieces***

### **From Bethlehem to Eternity**

The immense step from the babe at Bethlehem to living, reigning, triumphant Lord Jesus, returning to earth for his own people -- that is the glorious truth proclaimed throughout Scripture. As the bells rang out the joys of Christmas, may we also be alert for the final trumpet that will announce his return, when we shall always be with him.

--Alan Redpath in *The Final Victory*

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### **Love's Handiwork**

Only a God of love  
Would care enough  
To make the Winter sky  
So deep a blue.  
Only a God of love  
Would glaze each branch with ice.  
Then sugar it with frost  
So that each shining twig  
Reflects light twice.  
Only a God of love  
Would make from cold  
This dazzling crystal filigree.  
Open your winter-weary eyes  
And see!

--- Elizabeth Rooney

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## ***Praise's Portion***

### **Light Shining Out of Darkness**

God moves in a mysterious way  
His wonders to perform;  
He plants his footsteps in the sea,  
And rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines  
Of never failing skill,  
He treasures up his bright designs,  
And works his sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;  
The clouds ye so much dread  
Are big with mercy, and shall break  
In blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,  
But trust him for his grace;  
Behind a frowning providence,  
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,  
Unfolding every hour:  
The bud may have a bitter taste,  
But sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err,  
And scan his work in vain;  
God is his own interpreter,  
And he will make it plain.

---William Cowper  
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### **Jesus, Name Above All Names**

Every sphere of human greatness has been enriched by Jesus, the humble carpenter of Nazareth. Jesus painted no pictures, yet some of the finest paintings of Raphael, Michelangelo, and Leonardo da Vinci received their inspiration from Him. Jesus wrote no poetry, but Dante, Milton, and scores of the world's greatest poets were inspired by Him. Jesus composed no music, still Haydn, Handel, Beethoven, Bach, and Mendelssohn reached their highest perfection of melody in the

hymn, symphonies, and oratorios they composed in His praise. Socrates taught for 40 years, Plato for 50, Aristotle for 40, and Jesus for only three. Yet the influence of Christ's three years ministry infinitely transcends the impact left by the combined 130 years of teaching from these men who were among the greatest philosophers of all times.

---Henry G. Bosch  
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### ***Prayer Priorities***

I find that my prayer life is most productive when the problem is so seemingly impossible that I do not even know what to ask of the Father and my Lord. I become like a little child with a toy that is broken, and simply take it before a living, loving heavenly Father, and with trusting eyes, give it over and say, "Abba (Papa, Daddy), fix it." In silence I rest in His arms, waiting, and finally leaving it there knowing it is out of my hands and in good hands.

---Norman Elliot  
\* \* \* \* \*

God has an 800 number: PRAYER.  
\* \* \* \* \*

Prayer enlarges the heart  
until it is capable of containing  
God's gift of Himself.  
\* \* \* \* \*

When the call for help isn't right, God answers, "**NO**." Trust Him. He'll come up with a better idea or better timing or better people.

When the call for help is ill-timed, God answers, "**SLOW**." Wait till He

brings the right person, project,  
purpose, and plan together.

When the call for help finds you ill-  
prepared to receive the blessing, God  
answers, "**GROW**." He'll shape and  
sculpt you, connect and correct you.

When everyone and everything is in  
place, God answers, "**GO**." Now!  
Share your dream and mountains move,  
miracles happen, your prayer is  
answered. ---Robert Schuller

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## *Poetry's Place*

### Trees

I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.  
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;  
A tree that looks at God all day,  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;  
A tree that may in Summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair;  
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.  
Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.

---Sergeant Joyce Kilmer

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There are daring unmarked paths  
On which each generations strides  
To search for truth toward unknown stars  
Or mountains never climbed before.  
Some travel strongly, purpose-filled,  
And others timidly -- with hope,  
And some leap flying to some  
Distant star, or crest and unknown peak.  
However you walk, or fly, or climb,  
Know this: that some who flew or walked  
Or climbed before, believed with you

In stars and mountains only dreamed.  
--Jack Poole of Nine Mile Falls, Wash.

\* \* \* \* \*

## *Pearls of Prudence*

Learn to see yourself as the Lord sees  
you, through the eyes of Love.

\* \* \* \* \*

Death is not extinguishing the light, it  
is only putting out the lamp because  
the dawn has come.

\* \* \* \* \*

I wondered why somebody didn't do  
something, then I realized *I* was  
somebody.

\* \* \* \* \*

Most people are willing to take the  
Sermon on the Mount as a flag to sail  
under, but few will use it as a rudder  
by which to steer.

---Oliver Wendel Holmes

\* \* \* \* \*

The traits that make us all different  
are the same traits that make each of  
us special.

\* \* \* \* \*

Who seeks more than he needs  
hinders himself from enjoying what  
he has.

\* \* \* \* \*

God is an Experienced Guide.

\* \* \* \* \*

Caring can cost a lot, but not caring  
always costs more.

\* \* \* \* \*

Where you have nothing left but God,  
then for the first time you become  
aware that God is enough.

\* \* \* \* \*

When someone shares your tears, it's  
not pity you're getting, it's healing.

\* \* \* \* \*

When you depend on someone, you're  
not weak, you're close.

\* \* \* \* \*

Courtesy is one of the properties of  
God, who sends the sun and rain on  
the just and the unjust through  
courtesy. Courtesy is the sister of  
charity, by which hatred is overcome  
and love is prized.

---Francis of Assisi

\* \* \* \* \*

Blessed is the one who digs a well  
from which another may draw faith.

## *Precious Principles*

### Christian Destiny

*Perfect salvation --*

The LORD is my shepherd;

*Perfect satisfaction --*

I shall not want.

*Perfect rest --*

He makes me to lie down in green  
pastures;

*Perfect refreshment --*

He leads me beside the still waters.

*Perfect restoration --*

He restores my soul;

*Perfect guidance --*

He leads me in the paths of  
righteousness for His name's sake.

*Perfect protection --*

Yea, though I walk through the  
valley of the shadow of death, I  
will fear no evil;

*Perfect company --*

For You are with me;

*Perfect comfort --*

Your rod and Your staff, they  
comfort me.

*Perfect provision --*

You prepare a table before me in  
the presence of my enemies;

*Perfect consecration --*

You anoint my head with oil;

*Perfect joy --*

My cup runs over.

*Perfect care --*

Surely goodness and mercy shall  
follow me all the days of my life;

*Perfect destiny --*

And I will dwell in the house of the  
LORD forever.

---from Pulpit Helps

\* \* \* \* \*

I will not offer to God that which  
costs me nothing!

\* \* \* \* \*

Accept and enjoy each other without  
fear of judgment.

\* \* \* \* \*

Is anybody there?

Does anybody care?

Does anyone see what I see?

Someone is out there.

He is a lot more than I am.

He really cares.

He can and will listen.

---from Broadway musical, 1776

\* \* \* \* \*

For a holy life, pray this daily:  
Almighty Lord, show me the world of  
my heart in your divine light.

\* \* \* \* \*

If we weren't meant to keep starting  
over, would God have granted us

Monday?

\* \* \* \* \*

When you get to your wit's end, you'll  
find God lives there.

\* \* \* \* \*

"God so loved the world that He gave  
His only begotten Son, that whoever  
believes in Him should not perish but  
have everlasting life."--John 3:16

\* \* \* \* \*

God be with you, till we meet again!

\* \* \* \* \*

## *Parting Poem*

### Happiness

Swollen tight with expectation  
At her second interview,  
She was bursting with excitement  
When the hiring call came through!  
But her work became vexation,  
Which at first was a delight,  
Now, to close her day's complaining,  
She writes resumé's at night.

He could barely break from bragging  
When the car was new and clean . . .  
It was more than transportation,  
His enjoyment was serene!  
But the fresh became familiar,  
His fulfillment came and went,  
And the driver, once so happy,  
Shops again to be content.

What a joy to greet her baby,  
Hold the child, her very own!  
And the warm elation lasted  
Till her toddling boy was grown . . .  
But the teenage years were tragic,  
Dashing mother-hopes to dust.  
Now she's glad her son is leaving  
From the home of broken trust.

Passion's ecstasies in marriage  
Made first years a honeymoon,  
But the daily grind of duty  
Put the singers out of tune.  
Now he fantasizes daily  
Of the pleasure it would bring  
Living with another woman,  
If he tossed his wedding ring.

Happiness can be elusive:  
What seemed pleasing at the start  
Slowly loses its attraction,  
As the magic feelings part.  
Bright beginnings dim and darken  
Till emotion's thrill is lost . . .  
Misspent searches for perfection,  
Never compensate their cost.

When we look to things and people  
For the joy we think they lend,  
Happiness and satisfaction  
Are as shifting as the wind.  
Joy springs not from new possessions,  
Perfect children, job, or wife:  
True contentment comes when Jesus  
Is the Center of our life.  
--- David L. Hatton, 7/9/95