
The Messenger



"... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15

**A Weekly Publication of the Christians Meeting at
Westlake church of Christ, 2291 Highway Z, Wentzville, Missouri 63385**

Website: westlakechurchofchrist.org

Sunday: AM Bible Study – 9:30 a.m., AM Worship – 10:30 a.m., PM Worship – 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday: PM Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

Dedicated to the Proclamation of the Truth in the Spirit of Love (Ephesians 4:15)

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Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30.

Looking for Greener Pastures

by Titus Edwards

The picture of the proverbial cow with his head stuck through the fence straining to reach some grass, when he has a whole field of the same to his leisure probably gave rise to the adage, "the grass is always greener on the other side." Seeing such a sight would give us occasion to laugh at the folly of the poor cow. But "the grass is always greener on the other side" has been and can be applied to the thinking of many people.

In talking with a lot of weak and unfaithful members of the church, you get the impression that their unfaithfulness is not their fault. There is always a reason - their spouse, the children, the job, the finances, a busy schedule, poor health, etc. If they had a different situation then they would be just as faithful as anybody else. Maybe if their parents had raised them "in the church" it would have been easy for them to be a Christian too! Maybe if they didn't have to work where they did around such an immoral environment, they could be more holy too. Sounds like the grass is much greener over there!

Obviously situations in life are different. But everybody faces temptations and has problems in their life! Faithfulness is simply a matter of dedication to God, not a matter of circumstances. Some may have more problems to overcome than others in being faithful unto God, but by seeking the Lord first they will be able to do it like anybody else.

Sometimes even preachers are affected with this kind of thinking (and some churches too). We hear of a work that is growing and doing well and we begin to think that the reason they are and we are not is circumstances. If we were “in their pasture”, we could have the same results. But here, it is much harder. Here you can’t get people interested in coming to church and studying the Bible.

Obviously, some areas may be a little easier to work in than others, but the key to church growth is hard work! The Mormon Church in Britain has grown more than 400% in 30 years! We would say that Britain is a hard area to work in. It would be just as hard for them, yet their work has paid off for them. With a great number of workers and hours worked we can see why they would grow.

Paul could have dismissed Athens and Corinth as hard places, but he just did his work and let the results be taken care of by God. He could have complained that his Jewish background and thorn in the flesh made it difficult for him to be faithful, but he did not. He just kept trying to do the best he could to serve God.

Let all of us do all that we can and not try to cop out, bemoaning about the circumstance and the “grass being greener on the other side”.

News and Notes:

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

“...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

- James 5:16