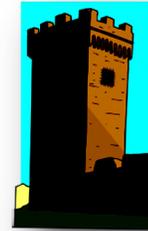


FORT DES MOINES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Love God Love People Serve Everyone

WWW.GODSFORT.ORG



Office:
515-285-1254

Fort Connections

Service Times:
Sunday School- 9 AM
Worship- 10 AM

Mike Demastus

August 2013



Last month we began talking about the issue of tongues. There are also many who conclude that tongues has ceased to be used by God in the modern age. They base this off of what Paul said toward the end of 1 Corinthians 13. In that passage Paul says:

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. (1 Corinthians 13:8-12, NIV)

So Paul says that when “perfection” comes tongues will be stilled. What is the “perfection” Paul is speaking of in this passage? The Greek word translated perfect is the word “teleios” (pronounced te-lay-ahs). Variants of this word occur 20 times in the New Testament.

Some would say that the “teleios” in 1 Corinthians 13 is referring to the completed canon of Scripture. Once that came together the church no longer needed these other minor gifts like tongues and spiritual healing. Some would say that it is linked back to the apostles and the “laying on of hands” to impart these kinds of spiritual gifts like tongues. Once the apostles died, there was no one left to impart the gifts, so they just naturally died out.

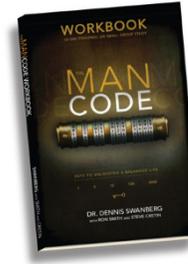
This, in my opinion, does a great disservice to the context of 1 Corinthians. For starters, nowhere in the New Testament does “teleios” ever refer to a document or an inanimate object like the canon of Scripture. It is more than just a stretch to make that word apply in such a way, it is poor scholarship. Second, to apply “teleios” to the laying on of the apostles hands again makes no sense contextually.

Of the 20 uses, “teleios” is used to describe a matured spiritual state. Jesus used it this way (Matthew 5:48; 19:21). Paul used the term elsewhere this way (Philippians 3:12; Colossians 1:28). It is used by the author of Hebrews to refer to Jesus (Hebrews 2:10; 5:9; 7:28).

I believe this definition of “teleios” best fits the context of 1 Corinthians 13 as well. When you examine how Paul addresses the issue of tongues with the church in Corinth in his first letter, it is very clear that it was a problem in that church. The way the gift was being used (or abused) was creating controversy and Paul goes out of his way to point out that tongues is a lesser gift. When we mature in Christ we do not need that kind of a spiritual pacifier. We mature when we begin to love like Christ loved.

I do not want to say unequivocally that tongues do not exist. I know that what is claimed as tongues in many American churches is not a biblical practice. But I can see how God can still utilize such a gift on the mission field. Tongues was a contentious issue in Paul’s day and it still is in ours. Let’s simply abide in what we know...God’s Word and not anything else.

Man Code is, I suspect, a relic of a men's conference, but it is a fast read, and very down to earth. It deals with the need for men to establish spiritual friendships and growth groups. It seems that women, like us "crazies", more instinctively reach out for friendship and support. No matter what the gender-Jesus is our example in building Christian friendships and spiritual lifelines.



Missions Ministry Update

By MargE DeRuyscher

On inquiry by the Mission Ministry regarding the cost of caring for a child at Shiloh Christian Children's Ranch we received this answer:
It costs around \$1,400 per month for a child in one of our homes. That costs includes all the major Elements: groceries, childcare costs, house costs, utilities, homeparent salaries, auto and healthcare insurance, auto expense and fuel, etc. Your contribution will make a difference in



helping us further our ministry in loving and caring for our Shiloh children!
 With your help, Shiloh is changing young lives FOREVER!

What does IDES do with the money we send to do Christ's work? In July IDES sent:

- *July 3 A mission in Myanmar replacing a collapsed church & teacher's house. IDES sent \$10,000.
- *July 5 Help Haiti Know Jesus Ministries, Inc. as they feed 70 school children 2 meals a day through the year. IDES sent \$6,760.
- *July 11 South Nassau CC, NY continuing "Sandy" recovery efforts on their church building and their community. IDES sent \$10,000.
- *July 13 Asia Christian Services, Thailand, providing medical kits for distribution to about 150 ministry leaders. IDES sent \$6,000.
- *July 15 Haitian Christian Mission providing a home for a Christian widow and her children. The 2010 earthquake destroyed their home. IDES sent \$4,000.
- *July 16 Christian Mission for Haitian People repairing an orphanage and 12 homes that were damaged by a fire. IDES sent \$22,551.55.
- *July 17 IDES DART, TX, providing help to the COC West, TX, responding to the explosion at the fertilizer plant. IDES sent \$1,288.09.
- *July 18 American Int'l Ministries shipping a truckload of food and relief supplies to tornado victims in OK. IDES sent \$3,250.
- *July 19 A mission in Myanmar bringing clean water to a village of 47 families. IDES sent \$4,800.
- *July 20 Cebu Christian Mission, Philippines, repairing a girls dorm and library damaged by a fallen tree. IDES sent \$10,000.
- *July 23 Asia Christian Services providing relief supplies for a refugee village destroyed by fire. IDES sent \$5,500.
- *July 24 Bring Good News Philippines, providing motorbikes for 6 evangelists making the ministries more effective. IDES sent \$7,200.
- *July 25 Oklahoma City Christian Churches reaching out to tornado victims rebuilding their homes and lives. IDES sent \$100,000.
- *July 26 Colombian Christian Mission providing clean water for a Church camp and a local neighborhood. IDES sent \$4,000.
- *July 27 Harvester CC, MO, as they reach out to the tornado victims in their area. IDES sent \$27,500.
- *July 29 A mission providing clean water for a village in Northern Myanmar. IDES sent \$800/matching funds.
- *July 30 Agape Haiti Mission providing food to relieve hunger in 3 churches, Creole Bibles and benches, plus repairs on 2 of the churches. IDES sent \$5,202.
- *July 31 North India Christian Mission providing rehydration packets, a well, and 3 tankers to distribute water to villagers in crisis due to extreme heat. IDES sent \$25,000.

Fort Facts

Total Income for June: \$14,745.64

Total Expenses for June: \$15,481.01

CIA Update

By Mike Demastus



The CIA took a break for 6 weeks, but will be restarting with a BANG! We will be doing service projects every Wednesday during the month of August. We are going to help clean up trash at Fort Des Moines County Park, wash dog kennels at Heinz 57, serve a meal to the homeless at Bethel Mission, do a yard project at InnerVisions in West Des Moines, and package meals at Meals From the Heartland. You are more than welcome to join us for any or all of our projects! Please pray for the CIA!



InnerVisions HealthCare
An unPlanned Pregnancy and STD Medical Clinic



BACKPACK ATTACK!



We will be collecting **50** backpacks with school supplies for Studebaker Elementary School this month! Pick up a tag on the cross in the foyer, buy a backpack and the school supplies on the tag, and bring the backpack to the church office by August 31st with the tag attached. Let's be a blessing to children on the south side again this year!

The International Conference on Missions (formally known as the National Missionary Convention) is going to be held in Kansas City, MO on November 14-17. Many of the missions that we support and love will be there (Rapha House, Adrien and Lula Sanchez, Matt and Karen McClean just to name a few). The Fort can get a group rate of \$150.00 for up to 100 people. If you are interested in going, please see Shannon for more details.

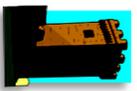


The Elders of The Fort are Lonnie Hoodjer, Jim Meisch, Richard McMichael, and Luther Abel. Please keep these men in your prayers as they strive to serve the Lord in all they do!

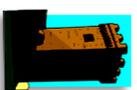


Server Schedule

	08/04/13	08/11/13	08/18/13	08/25/13
10 am Service				
Greeters	Jack/Ramona	Terry/Bev	Bob/Linda	Jack/Ramona
Scripture	Roy	Jennie	Jacob	Doren
Praise Team	Mary/Bob	Nate/Demastus	The Abel's/ Hoodjer	Demastus/DVD
Offering Meditation	Richard	Doren	Mike	Luther
Communion Meditation	George	Lonnie	Ramona	Bob
Server	Miles	Terry	John	Russ
Closing Prayer	Doren	George	Bob	Lonnie
Stewardship	Nate/Terry	Luther/Lonnie	Doren/Richard	Floyd/Jim
Children's Helpers				
Nursery/ Toddlers 11:00am	Nate/Melissa	Jacob	Bev	Ashley
Junior Church	Kirk/Ashley	Bob/Linda	Julie	Cleo
Other Minis-				
Communion to Sick	George	Richard	Lonnie	Luther
Communion Prep	Kirk/Ashley	Kirk/Ashley	Kirk/Ashley	Kirk/Ashley



August 2013



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3
4 Board Meeting	5	6 Jim & Cleo Anniversary	7 CIA @ 6:00	8 Elders Meeting @6:00pm	9	10
11	12 Bob B-Day	13 Bev B-Day	14 CIA @ 6:00	15	16 Charity B-Day	17
18 Bruce & LeAnne Anniversary	19 Joyce B-Day Doug & Sue Anniversary	20 Jack B-Day	21 Clyde & Joyce Anniversary CIA @ 6:00	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 CIA @ 6:00	29 Danny & Cathy Anniversary	30 Harold & Jennifer B-Day	31