

her family discovered more than 1,200 letters that Harry had written to his lifelong spouse. Harry never stopped honoring Bess.

Remember Peter's words? "Likewise you husbands, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered" (1 Peter 3:7,-emphasis mine, mb).

"To honor something is to ascribe value to it. Priority is given to things but people are honored. The president of the United States is honored by the playing of "Hail to the Chief," and by hundreds of other acts of protocol, large and small. Men, would your wives know by your actions that you honor them? Could they tell by the things you say and do that you value them above anyone else? Gary Smalley describes honor as "a reflex of the heart toward one who is deeply treasured." I like that definition. Honor is the overflow of a loving heart. Ask your wife what would honor her. You might be surprised at how simple it would be to bestow this gift of sacrificial love. Maybe it is a phone call to say you are running late. Or an offer to drop dry cleaning off on your way to work. Or a warm hug at the end of a day that's been demanding for her as it has for you. Or even the simple words "I love you," spoken at just the right time."/1

Husbands, do you still express honor to your wives? Do you still open the car door for them? When was the last time you sent them flowers (and it

wasn't their birthday)? When was the last time you took them out on a date night for a movie and dinner? When was the last time you sent them an email or a letter and told them why you love them? Harry honored Bess for over half a century. Let's emulate his example.

1/ Ed Young, "How To Have A Marriage That Sizzles," Romancing The Home, 77

Christians must have empathy

By: Richard Mansel



Empathy connects us with our fellow man, allowing us to inhabit their skin, so to speak. It is essential that any good citizen is imbued with a vast amount of empathy. For Christians it is absolutely essential. Empathy is defined as, "The intellectual identification with or vicarious experiencing of the feelings, thoughts, or attitudes of another."/1 The origin of the word roughly means, "Affection to suffer."/2

The empathetic have the ability to step out of their world and suffer with someone else. Instead of seeing their experiences as the standard, they can feel for someone who has endured something they have never encountered. "Empathy depends not only on one's ability to identify someone else's emotions but also on one's capacity to put oneself in the other person's place and to experience an appropriate emotional response."/3

As Christians, empathy is necessary for the following: First, evangelism

requires empathy. When we approach someone with the gospel, we must do so as we would want to be treated. We hear ourselves as someone who is in need of the simple message of Jesus. They are a soul that needs love, rather than condescension and ridicule. Understanding their situation can allow us a special tenderness and we will listen better. We feel their pain and confusion and do what we can to ease their troubled road.

Second, fellowship requires empathy. How can we "bear one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2, NKJV), if we cannot feel them? How can we see where our brethren are hurting if our eyes cannot see past ourselves? If we can only see them in light of our own experiences and perspectives, we are a threat to judge them (Matthew 7:1-2), rather than reaching out to their hearts.

Third, benevolence requires empathy. Without it, we judge and condescend, seeing everyone as a liar. While it is true that many are lying, a lack of empathy means we will likely never help anyone. We match up wisdom, experience and empathy to create a powerful force in the community. In a way, worship requires something similar to empathy. We need to imagine what God feels when we worship. If we focus on him, our worship will be more reverential and passionate. We will connect with him in ways we have never experienced.

Is life about us? If so, empathy will always be elusive and we will never endear ourselves to those around us.

1/ <http://tinyurl.com/ytldx2>

2/ Ibid.

3/ <http://tinyurl.com/3m67on2>

You're invited to our Fall Gospel Meeting!

**Where: Rich Creek Virginia Church of Christ
at 211 Church Street Rich Creek, VA 24147**

October 28-30, 2011 Speaker: Joey Barkley

Friday-Saturday at 7:pm

Sunday morning services: 9:30 & 10:30am

On Sunday, October 30, 2011 we will have a covered dish luncheon after Sunday Morning Services. Don't forget that our Evening Services will directly follow our luncheon.

www.exhorter.com wwjd@exhorter.com 304-324-7799



We would like to extend our sympathy to Michael, Carrie and Charity Ray and his family. Michael's grandfather Samuel Shelton from Cabin Creek passed away. He was 90 years old. We want the family to know that they are in our thoughts and prayers.



Natalie Begil
10/17
Mya Frazier
10/17
Johnny Pitzer
10/20

Gary & Cathy
Durham 10/17

Justin & Natalie
Begil 10/19



Attendance: October 2, 2011
A.M. Worship -28 P.M. Worship -21
October 5, 2011 Wednesday: 24

Darlene and Sharon will be having a Fall party for all the kids on Friday, October 21st starting at 6pm at the building. Please see Darlene or Sharon for more information.

Prayer List: **Cancer:** Kenneth Dunn; Rhonda Bogus; Rick Campbell; Debbie Boggs; Lowell Crumfield & Barbara Hill; Tammy Hodges; Barbara Francis; Jeff Wiley Hamilton. **Health problems:** Virgil Steele; Donald Rife; Eugene Holdren; Patricia Rotenbury; Steve and Pam Poorman's-daughter; Glenna Dempsey; Marlin Harles; Hazel Farr & JR Farr; Jean Walden; Kara Christian; Gary Durham; Myers;

Rex "Jimmy" Backus; Dosie Branscome & Katie Hensley. Arnold Dempsey; Ken McWilliams; Gene Booth; Wanda Rowe; Diane Haleston; Billy Myers; Zack Holland; Mini Mills; Darlene **Strokes:** Richard Clement; Amanda Lance. **Other:** Shelby Lindsey-fibromyalgia; Kenny Asbury-problems with his neck; Kyle Hockenberry-recovering from military injuries; Betty Bailey-not eating; The Brooke family, Ken McWilliams friend Wolf - recovering from eye surgery; Junior Taylor-is not doing well; Darrell Fletcher's Father Franklin Fletcher-aneurysm in his brain; Emma Steele-recovering from knee surgery; Elaine Rocchetti- surgery on broken arm; Travis Durham-back problem; Darla Pitzer-recovering from surgery on her finger. Steve Mullins-heart problem; David Carrico-Leukemia; Gary Durham's mother Lura Durham-dizziness; Ken McWilliams friend Wolfe-son and his wife were involved in a bad car accident; Emilee Begil-Hand foot mouth disease; Christine Asbury-back problems; Shelia Gates-fractured her knee; Samantha Metheny's Grandmother; Connie Hill's mother-has a broken wrist; Robin Hodges; Betty Scott-tests; Hazel Anderson-fluid around her heart; Caleb Hill -pneumonia in his left lung, a viral infection and cough; Blake Morris-Eye surgery on Oct 18; Karma Burns-heart surgery; Debbra Lagos-issue with her pregnancy; Justin Begil's nephew Payton -meningitis; Hazel Lowe pneumonia; Don Davis-waiting on results of one test; Steve Mullins-waiting on test results on his heart. Whitney Lockman-health problems; Edna Roberts-tumor on thyroid; Kimberly Redden -Spots on lungs; Christine Asbury-back surgery around November 1st; Darlene Fletcher- Respiratory infection and other health problems; Kathy Durham-sinus and ear infection. **Alzheimer's:** Zella England; Mary Lou Thomas, & Leo Hamby. **Nursing home:** Peggy Barie is in the Loving Hands Adult Care; Ethel Pitzer- Country View Assisted Living; **Military:** Zachary McConnell.

Mailing Address:
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Preacher:
Roger Hazelwood:
Cell: 304-324-7799
rlh90@comcast.net

Services:
Sunday:
Bible Study: 9:30 AM
Worship: 10:30 AM
Evening: 6:PM
Wednesday: 6:PM

Serving Communion:
James Asbury
Darrell Fletcher
Don Davis

Attendance:
October 9, 2011
A.M. Worship -36
P.M. Worship -14
October 12, 2011
Wednesday: 16

Contribution: \$ 470.33
TV Programs on Sunday
In Search of the Lord's
Way 7:30 am
INSP Channel

The Gospel of Christ
10:am CW Channel
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Church of Christ



Exhorter October 16, 2011



Give Her Honor by: Richard Mansel

History records that former President Harry Truman (1945-1953) was a dyed-in-the-wool romantic. He pursued a lovely young lady by the name of Bess (Elizabeth Virginia Wallace) and vied for her affections back in 1910. The two dated by visiting in the sitting room, going on picnics and fishing with family and friends.

Harry and Bess were united in marriage some nine years later on June 28, 1919. Once they were together, Harry continued to court and romance his wife throughout the entirety of their 53 year relationship. Even though he was frequently away on governmental business and the affairs of his political office, he never failed to write Bess and tell her how much he loved her.

When Bess died of congestive heart failure in 1983,