

The Bulletin

Meeks St. Church of Christ

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“Never Give Up”

Author Unknown



Sir Winston Churchill, the former Prime Minister of Great Britain, was a great voice during World War II. His eloquence stirred Europe when facing capture by Hitler and the Nazi forces of Germany.

Churchill's voice throughout that darkest period was a calming, stabilizing, and a steadfast voice to the troubled people of his day. His perseverance and resolve were reassuring when things looked their gloomiest.

Following the victory over Germany, Harrow Preparatory School invited their famous alumnus, Winston Churchill, to speak before the open assembly of his former school. The headmaster instructed the assembly to take notes of the former Prime Minister, “Who was one of the greatest leaders during World War II. Churchill stood before the huge audience and said, “*Never, never, never give up,*” and abruptly sat down.

What meaning in the words of Churchill, and how stunned the headmaster must have been when the great leader took his seat! Yet, those students would never forget those five concise words.

Who better than Sir Winston Churchill to utter those words of perseverance? No one could have accomplished it like one of the greatest leaders of the twentieth century.

Note also these examples of persistence:

(1) **Babe Ruth** struck out 1,333 times, but we always remember the Babe for hitting the 714 home runs during his illustrious career. Babe Ruth never gave up following a strikeout, but kept his resolve, and continued to hit home runs. Baseball's greatest hitter was a tremendous example of endurance.

(2) **Cy Young**, one of the greatest pitchers of all time, won 511 games during his career. Yet, forgot how many he lost. Even the most successful player will face adversity during his lifetime. How he copes with disappointment and failure will determine his success.

(3) **Abraham Lincoln** was badly beaten when he ran for the legislature. He failed in business and spent seventeen years to eliminate the debt that resulted. Lincoln failed trying to get appointed to the U.S. Land Office. They defeated him in his bid for the U.S. Senate, while his effort to be elected to Vice President met with defeat. Stephen Douglas defeated the “rail-splitter” from Illinois in a competitive contest.

The man from Illinois suffered one setback, defeat, and upsetting drubbing after another. Yet, through perseverance and his “never give up” attitude he became the President of the United States. Lincoln possessed a stickability and a never-say-die attitude that eventually brought him to the pinnacle of his political career. Quit was not in Lincoln's vocabulary, and we would do well to emulate his example of doing what it takes to succeed in spite of our failures.

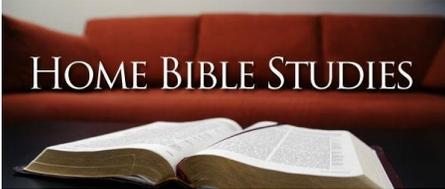
(4) **Thomas Edison** was an inventor for which we have much to be thankful for his work. He held 1,093 patents for inventions in his lifetime, but the inventions we remember the most are the phonograph, the motion picture camera, the printing telegraph apparatus, typewriting machines, and telephones. But the one that he is the most remembered for is the light bulb, which still impacts our lives today! But the light bulb was not an easy invention— Thomas Edison failed so many times before he finally succeeded. It took him over 10,000 attempts before he finally invented the way that a light bulb would work.

He is quoted as saying, *“I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.”* That numbers of times he kept trying without success, and yet kept going on, is pretty amazing! He also had some other memorable quotes worth mentioning in the matter of persistence: *“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.”* And, *“When you have exhausted all possibilities, remember this— you haven’t.”*

As one can clearly see from his thinking, he was an optimist in his approach to his pursuits as an inventor. But what about the greatest pursuit one could ever have in life— the goal of going to Heaven!

“Never give up” is the equivalent of perseverance, endurance, and persistence by incorporating these virtues that will facilitate progress. Great Biblical characters like Abraham, Moses, and Job were synonymous of patience and endurance. Therefore, we would all do well to emulate their example. The Hebrew writer wrote, *“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,”* (Hebrews 12:1).

Some Christians *“believe for a while, but in time of temptation fall away.”* (Luke 8:13) These lacking a root could not persevere, but gave up and subsequently lost their souls. Similarly, Israel often replaced God with their idols (Jeremiah 2:32). When things are well with us, we are on top of the world— but adversity causes many to give up. Remember the words from Holy Writ, *“No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.”* (1 Corinthians 10:13) Success comes when we throw off disappointment and “never, never, never, give up.”



A Women’s Bible Class
will meet monthly at Miche, TN. at the home of
Chris and Kathryn Callahan the 3rd Thursday of
the Month at 7:00 PM.

“Knowing A Servant of Jesus When You Meet One”

By Phillip Mullins

Phonies are everywhere. Counterfeit money, imitation diamonds, and false documents are used to deceive people, and often they do.

There are phony Christians attempting to pass themselves off as the genuine article. This is a particular problem when it comes to teachers who claim to be speaking for God when they are not. How can you distinguish the genuine servants of Jesus from the counterfeits? 2 Timothy 2:24-25 outlines the marks of authenticity of the of the Lord’s people.

“And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient...” (verse 24). Dialogue about God eventually leads to points of disagreement because of the religious confusion that is so prevalent in the world. However, the one who truly walks with Christ will not be abusive in making his points. He will attempt to teach in a gentle and patient way. He will not use the Bible as a club, but will instead attempt to persuade by teaching from it. A person who thrives on quarreling is not a genuine servant of Christ.

“...in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them unto repentance, so that they may know the truth...” (verse 25). A true follower of Jesus does not display arrogance,

especially when he is trying to persuade you on a point. Even if he is speaking God's truth, he does so humbly. Yet, his qualities of gentleness and humility do not mean he will not attempt to show you the error of your ways. Just as Jesus spoke words of rebuke and correction, His true servants will too. Following Christ doesn't mean a person never disagrees or condemns, because He did both. Yet, He always did it with the right motivation— love. Love demands of the servants that he attempts to show you where you need to change and convince you of the truth of God.

You can't be sure that one follows Christ and is teaching His saving message because he claims to be doing so. He must teach the message of the New Testament and manifest the same spirit that the Lord did.

News and Notes: Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Betty Hurst, Steve Switcher, Gail Armstrong, Nicky Curtis, Janis Johnson, Martha Norvell (in Corinth Rehab), Charlene Newborn, Delain & Robbie Doles, Penny Carmichael, Greg Fields, June Lawson (Lisa Busby's Mom), Mike LaRue, Eric Potts, Clois Wright, Debbie Keplinger, Robert Adams, Megan Roach, and Velma Tucker.

Those Who Serve:

Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

Opening Prayer: Tim Harris Jr.
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon: "How We See & Treat Others"

Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service: Jerry Kennemur
The Book of Luke (Mike Willis)
Page 97, Question #19

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

Announcements: Paul Johnson
Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading: Chris Callahan

Song Leader: Lee Busby
Lord's Table: Jerry Kennemur
Assisting: Daniel Holloway & Dan Cottrell
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #2: "Joseph: As A Father"
Closing Prayer: Paul Busby

Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.

June 20th:

Auditorium Bible Class: Paul Johnson
1 & 2 Samuel (Mike Willis)
Page 79, Question #1
Invitation: Adam Harris
Song Leader: Paul Busby
Closing Prayer: Dan Cottrell