

Bright Eyes



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www.crumbaugh.org

J.T. & E.J. Crumbaugh Memorial Spiritualist Church

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KEEPING THE FAITH

Taken in part from work by Ronnie McBrayer

Faith is a lot like your computer, you don't think about it much until it stops working. Faith isn't much different in that respect.

A young woman, let's call her Annie, had become very sick. She was a firm believer that God was going to heal her of her sickness. She re-iterated her faith in this belief over and over but it felt she was just doing her best to talk herself into a hoped-for outcome rather than giving testimony to genuine faith. As it happens, she was not healed and required surgery to save her life.

Annie was devastated and fell into a real spiritual crisis. What she fervently believed had been torn from her and dashed on the rocks of her disappointment. She felt that her years and years of belief had gotten her nothing in return. She had lost her faith in God.

What Annie failed to understand is that faith is not our "Get out of jail free" card. Faith doesn't always lead us away from trouble but can sometimes lead us into trouble. But in the process, faith is precisely what gets us through it.



When our computer goes on the blink or crashes completely, normal level-headed people go bonkers. A crashing computer and crises of faith are a lot alike. When faith and your computer work, life is awesome. But when either of these fail, oh boy, lookout. But, they can have a similar recovery. See, it may not be a fault with faith or a crashed computer at all. Maybe it is a virus. A virus can be a real nasty thing to encounter. It can really screw up the operating system.

Likewise, many of us have viruses in our faith. Sure, we have faith but if there is even the least little bit of nasty that has wormed its way into our operating system, there could be trouble. We may not even know the invader is there until we call on our faith to work for us.

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RUMBLINGS from the President

by Butch Tull, Board President



Thanks, Everyone!

I would like to say a very special Thank You to all who came and helped out with our spring clean-up day. We had a great time. We got a lot of the much needed cleaning done and the Church was sparkling and the garden trimmed when we finished.

We are blessed to have such a fine place to congregate. Spring is here and will be over before we know it. Time to

plant new gardens and plow under all the old used up things of the past and focus on planting new thoughts and desires. If you don't plant it-it won't grow.

When things get you down, add some good fertilizer to those troublesome thoughts and things will work out. We all tend to focus on the things we can't change rather than focusing on those we can change. Love life for the good and the bad for it is what made you who you are today. I, for one, would not change a thing. Life brought me here to this church and blessed me with meeting all of you.

Blessings!

Butch

P.S. Don't forget to stop and smell the flowers.



THE SIDEBAR

CHURCH BULLETIN BLOOPERS

The scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other recycled items. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

Next Thursday will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 pm at the church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 pm - prayer and medication to follow.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Friday at 7 pm. Please use the back door.



The First Pancake

A mother was fixing breakfast for her two sons, Kevin, 5 and Ryan, 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, "Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait." Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus."



AND NOW A WORD... from our Pastor

How Do You Define Prosperity?

What is the definition of prosperity? That actually depends on who you ask. Different people have different ideas about what manifesting prosperity means to them. Raymond Charles Barker defines prosperity as **"the ability to do what you want to do at the instant you want to do it."**

To me, that sounds pretty darn good. It does not merely focus on attracting wealth. Now, I am not saying having an abundance of money is not a good thing but if that is all you have, then you are not living a fully prosperous life. If you are truly intent on manifesting prosperity into your life, then you must be clear on what that means to you.

What is your definition of prosperity in relation to finances? Would you be comfortable with an income of \$100,000 a year or do you need more? What level of wealth would let you relax and feel a comfortable sense of freedom?

How do you define prosperity in connection to your health? Do you really think about being healthy or do you just take whatever is handed out to you? Do you want a body that is strong and lets you move easily and do all the things you enjoy doing? Are you sleeping well and waking up feeling refreshed and

ready to face your day? How about a body that has all its parts working in perfect harmony and balance? How is your mental clarity?

How do you define your prosperity in relationships? Are you surrounded by supportive, positive people who you can place your trust in and know they have your back? Would you like a special person to share your life with?

What is your definition of prosperity where success is concerned? Do you want to move up at work or start your own business? Are you in a job where you are free to express your ideas and opinions? Do you desire a more positive and supportive environment so going to work each day is a pleasure and not a chore?

Do you get the idea? The Law of Abundance indicates you can have all the prosperity you desire and there is no limit to the good you receive. But be clear about what you truly want in the various areas of your life so the law works to bring to you what you desire. If not, you will continue to receive the level of prosperity you already have. Once you are clear on what you want or need, allow it to flow into your life easily and joyously and sit back and enjoy life

Blessings for your love,

Pastor Bob

RAFFLE

Buy your raffle tickets for the hand-made throw.

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The drawing will take place in mid-May.

Keeping the Faith

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Like Annie in a time of illness, or a marital issue, or job loss or financial crisis, or when we can't e-mail our friends, with the pressures of life bearing heavily on us, we will find out if our faith is functional.

So what do you do if your faith may have a little virus? Well, don't throw it away. Take a little time to do some faith maintenance. Scan your files, check the firewall, and delete corrupted files. Protect your faith as you would your computer as both have natural enemies. Once you do this, reboot your system and check the e-mail waiting for you in your spiritual inbox.

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