

What Does Love Require?

By Jean LaRosa

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus. (Philippians 2:3-5)

A few weeks ago, the CDC announced that fully vaccinated people no longer needed to wear masks in most settings. Many of us are now celebrating the freedom to leave our homes and do things we haven't done in over a year, without a mask. It's great to be able to see people's faces again.

I often like to take a walk around town before I begin my workday. Based on the current CDC guidance, I got into the pleasant new habit of leaving my mask at home. I enjoyed the freedom of going out without a mask, of not having to suddenly reach for it if I saw another person approaching. It felt good not to have to even worry about putting one in my pocket just in case I encountered a neighbor. One morning I ran into a friend of mine, also out for a walk. My friend was still wearing a mask. I stopped to chat with her and apologized for not having a mask available to put on. She deals with some serious medical issues, and I knew that for her the pandemic wasn't over yet. She put me at ease about my maskless condition, but said she had been advised that even though she is fully vaccinated, the vaccine may not be effective for her, and she needed to continue to take all precautions.

I thought about this for a while after I got home. A couple of days later, I was out for another walk, again without a mask, and ran into my friend a second time. I felt so awkward, and knew that our conversation would be more comfortable for her if I were wearing a mask too, because my mask would have protected her. I decided to begin putting a mask in my pocket again before my morning walk, just so that I could honor my friend and her

Continued on page 2...

Celebrating the Start of Summer!



Tom and Kate Taylor, our Children's Sunday School teachers, held their annual class picnic in June with a barbeque and fun games in their Hamilton Square back yard.

“What Does Love Require?” continued...

compromised immune system if I ran into her again. I haven't figured out how to negotiate all of these new social situations yet, but have decided that I will keep a mask handy to put on when I am speaking with someone who chooses to continue wearing a mask. They might be someone like my friend who needs extra protection.

This has all caused me to think about how our freedoms are sometimes paid for by other people. Jesus set aside his privileges and prerogatives as God in order to set us free from bondage to sin, free to enjoy fellowship with the Father. And He invites us to be like Him. As restrictions have been rolled back, I've thought more about how to harmonize the exercise of my freedom with demonstrating love for my neighbors. The core issue isn't really about wearing a mask or not, although that was the situation God used to get my attention. It's more about considering how others are affected by my actions. Is someone else paying a price so that I can enjoy my freedom? We often don't know what burdens other people are carrying. Does my exercise of freedom make someone else's burden heavier or lighter?

In addition to my friend in town, there are other people in my circle of acquaintances who must continue to wear masks: a work colleague who is immunocompromised, another colleague who has a cancer survivor in his family. My employer has dropped mask requirements for vaccinated people. Should I wear a mask around these colleagues when I am not required to, in order to lighten their burdens? If so, for how long?

Paul wrote that we should value others above ourselves and look not only to our own interests but to the interests of others (Philippians 2:3-5). Jesus said, *“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”* (John 13:34-35).

Simple opportunities to show kindness present themselves every day. Some of them may be opportunities to voluntarily lay aside our freedom, or give up our time, in order to support and show love to another. Andy Stanley, one of my favorite Bible teachers, includes this question in some of his

messages: “What does love require of me?” When I think about that question, I think about more than just masks. I think about a friend going through a rough patch who feels so alone right now. And another friend who has had more than her fair share of family drama lately. What does love require of me in these relationships? Maybe more than just a quick text to check in?

Loving our neighbor is often inconvenient. It takes time and intention. It may involve doing something we would rather not do or feel too busy to do. But Jesus said if we love one another, people will recognize us as his followers. That's pretty amazing when you think about it. The way we do that will look different for each of us. May Jesus teach us how to love one another in such a distinctive way that everyone will know we are His disciples.

Kids' 5-Day Club Starts Soon!

Windsor Chapel will be holding a Kids' 5-Day Club, in partnership with CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship), for children ages 5 – 12. It will be held July 19 – 23, from 7:00– 8:30 pm. Fun activities



will include songs, Bible stories, games, missionary stories and outdoor play. The theme this year is “Australia Bay.” Please register your children on our website at www.windsorchapel.org, and share this exciting news with your family, friends and neighbors, too! All are welcome!

Adult helpers would be greatly appreciated for greeting parents, arranging snacks, or decorating. Youth ages 12 and over are also encouraged to get involved. Since many parents stay at the church during the event, the 5-Day Club presents a perfect opportunity to welcome new people to Windsor Chapel. Indicate your interest in helping by sending an email to chapel@windsorchapel.org or by speaking with Pastor Andy or Ed MacQueen. Please pray that God will draw many children to this event and prepare their hearts to hear and believe the Gospel!

Elders' Corner

By Tom Taylor

Scripture teaches us many responsibilities of an elder:

- Speak and teach the Word of God to you
- Be growing in faith and stature
- Be an example of Christ's love and truth inside and outside of the church
- Be a good steward of the gifts God has given you

With this in mind, I would like to ask, what are you responsible for? In some ways it is a very easy question to answer. We all know that we are responsible for our thoughts, our words, our decisions, to love God with all our heart, all our soul and all our mind. To love our neighbor as ourselves. But how do we work it out day to day? Do we know specifically what and who we are responsible for? This is where it becomes more challenging. Lord, what have you said to me and what are you saying now?

David asked God to search him and to know his heart. Also, to try him and know his anxious thoughts. This is where knowing God makes all the difference. Is He good? Is He in control? Does He love me? Has He called me to be like Jesus, and has He given me the ability to do it? And, oh yes, does He know the future? Yes, yes, and yes!

My prayer for us and challenge to us is to know Him and His calling to us. He never calls us to something or someone without giving us the ability (grace) to accomplish His purposes. It is a great question and great prayer: Lord, show me what and who I am responsible for? May we make it the desire of our hearts to bear fruit for His holy name.



Golden Anniversary

*Happy Anniversary to
Tom and Susan Boote
who celebrated fifty years of marriage on
June 23. Best wishes to a faithful couple
who have been part of the Windsor Chapel
family for many years!*



Blessings to all who celebrate a birthday this month. May you feel the love, joy and presence of the Lord as we all celebrate your special day with prayers and warmest wishes.

Evelyn Ambrose	July 2
Tom Boote	July 6
Graeme Cull	July 10
Janet Berrill	July 15
Lise Hill	July 16
Don Ober	July 16
Jim Gilanyi	July 17
Stephen Berrill	July 19

Picnic and Pool Party on July 11!

Please join us for a wonderful time of fun, food and fellowship at the Picnic and Pool Party at the Straubels' home, located at 691 Hughes Drive, in Hamilton. It will be held from 4:00 – 7:00 pm on July 11. Everyone is invited! Please bring lawn chairs, a towel and bathing suit if you wish to swim, and either a salad, dessert or beverage. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Help setting up the tent and tables on July 10 would be very much appreciated. Text any questions to Pastor Andy at his cell (484-354-8813), or email him at andrew.straubel@gmail.com.

Worship Team News

By Don Ober



Practice Makes Perfect

“Practice makes perfect.” We’ve all heard the adage. A music teacher friend of mine grimaces at that adage though and rather insists “perfect practice makes better.” By saying this, he means no amount of practice will ever make someone perfect, and practicing improperly can actually do harm.

When I was just starting to take music seriously, a jazz musician friend promised me if I went home and learned all the major and minor scales (there are twelve of each), he could give me one lesson that would change my complete musical understanding. I took him up on his challenge and went home on a mission. For months I practiced over and over again all the scales. I played them both hands up and down two or three octaves together. I played them two hands, the left going down and the right going up and reverse. I played these scales until I could tell anyone what any note was in any key. For me this was preparation for something promised much greater.

My father felt much different about my new quest, though. I remember him asking, “Is he ever going to play music again? All I hear for hours on end are these maddening scales.” It must have been a struggle for him and the rest of the family, because “practicing” is not quite as enjoyable to listen to as the resulting music when a musician is fully prepared by this proper practice. Ask anyone who lives with a serious musician, and you will find out this is the truth.

This preparation though, later opened up a world of musical knowledge from that jazz musician friend when I later returned prepared for his lesson. As

promised, since I was now prepared with a full knowledge of all the scales, he could teach me harmony, chords, chord voicings, bass movements and a whole host of other tools that needed this simple basis of “scales.”

I thought the other day how this applies to our faith. Most of us have read the Bible from cover to cover, and if you haven’t done this, may I suggest you do. There are great apps for this by the way. But even for those of us that have read it in its entirety, once we read God’s Word, are we done? I would contend that like the serious musician does not play the scales once and move on, neither does the serious child of God read his Word and then stop there. Reading God’s Word is our preparation for life itself. There are nuggets of wisdom and truth in those pages that you may never get from the first or even the fifth time you read them. We also have the help of the Holy Spirit to guide our readings. Just when we need it most, something we have read many times may finally apply to an issue we are having in life and resonate with an answer.

This is why I belong to The Gideons International. We have a simple goal and we work diligently at it. We distribute God’s Word to hospitals, schools, hotels, motels and really just about anywhere we can. We are non-denominational other than we all believe in the inerrant Word of God, and all of us belong to a local Bible-believing church.

So, my question to all of us is simple. Are we doing our scales as we should? Just like my jazz musician friend promised, and delivered on that promise, that if I practiced and learned those scales, wonderful musical knowledge would follow, God’s promise is even greater. If we read God’s Word, really read it, he will reveal himself to us in his Word. Like the scales are the center of all musical knowledge, God’s Word is the basic building block we need to really love and know our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. Remember, it’s not “practice makes perfect,” but rather “perfect practice makes better.” What we put in results in what we get out of life. God’s Word is irreplaceable preparation and requires constant attention.

Further Up and Further In

*Inviting dialogue to encourage growth in
and among us*



By Cindy Bills

“...Let There Be...Cicadas!”

In the spring of 1775, Paul Revere made his famous ride through portions of New England, warning the rebellious colonists that the British were coming (though he did not ride through the streets shouting the famous phrase). In J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Return of the King*, relief for the embattled forces for good was proclaimed by the phrase, “The eagles are coming!” And as the weather warmed up this spring, we heard the drumbeat of a different sort of announcement: “The cicadas are coming!” And while the arrival of the cicadas does not represent the threat of 18th Century, British troops coming to keep colonial America in line or the help that the eagles gave to Aragorn's forces as they were surrounded by evil orcs and goblins, it has become nonetheless a topic of conversation among us. Some are curious and interested in the unusual sight; some are annoyed by the noise; others are staying in their homes because they hate crunching on cicadas that are littered all over their walkways; and still others are totally ignoring the phenomenon.

I will not argue that cicadas are vital to our faith, but I do believe that there are facts about cicadas that can encourage it. First and foremost, cicadas reflect the hand of their Creator and ours. Please consider with me:

- Cicadas are intricately designed with bright colors and delicate body parts. They have been created with great care and flare.
- Cicadas feed off trees, taking the nutrients converted by the trees from sun and soil and making those nutrients accessible for all the organisms that eat them; and then in turn, those organisms that consume cicadas provide food for the next higher members of the food chain, and so on. The arrival of these cicadas represents a ripple effect of population growth at all levels.

- Cicadas serve to functionally prune trees: as they lay their eggs in weak and dying branches, eliminating sections of trees that would otherwise drain the tree of energy that could be better used in serving healthier and more fruitful parts of the tree.
- As cicadas die and decompose into the soil, they enrich the soil and boost the growth of trees and other plant life, again providing a broader foundation for the entire food chain.
- Humans are part of the food chain, and some cultures regard them as either a food staple or a delicacy. Cicadas have a place in history as providing food for a Native American tribe during a time of famine.
- Humans benefit indirectly from cicadas as members of the food chain. But beyond that, they remind us of time and seasons, of the rhythms of life given to us by the Lord. They can even add depth to our stories and histories as we have opportunity to remember graduations or weddings or other family events punctuated with the buzz of cicadas.

Without doubt, cicadas are a powerful reminder that there are no casual components of creation, no after thoughts. Cicadas are a glorious example of our Lord's infinitely complex creation, with each piece unique in appearance and role as part of an amazing whole.

This is where we are invited to deepen our appreciation of our Lord and expand our faith. Cicadas are uniquely created by God to play an important role in His creation. To borrow a phrase from the Apostle Paul, *how much more* significant are God's purposes for us! Each of us has been uniquely created to perform a particular, vital function within the body of Christ, and as we do so, to fulfill the Lord's eternal and glorious purposes for us.

This, then, leads me to one last purpose/use of cicadas: regardless of what we might think of them—as curiosities, as a source of wonder, or as an annoyance—they are reminders that we are an integral part of God's amazing and glorious creation. May we continually praise Him for that.

Please feel free to contact Cindy (609-275-8557 or cynthialbills@gmail.com to continue the dialogue...

Being Ready

By Janet Berrill

It frustrates me, but when I pack for a trip it takes me a long time. My husband, Larry, can pack his stuff in about fifteen minutes, but it seems to take me hours. It's not as simple as putting clothes in the luggage. I plan out outfits based on what we are going to do, or what we *might* do. I think about the weather, consider the location, and who else is going to be there. All this planning makes the whole process take a very long time. And try as I might to plan ahead, invariably I leave the packing to the day before so I am often stressed by the lengthy time it takes me.

One trick I have adopted which makes the packing process just a little bit easier is to replenish my toiletries when I come home from my previous trip. That way, when I go on my next trip, all my little travel sized bottles are full and ready to go. It is one less thing I need to think about doing as I get ready for my trip. All I need to do is throw my toothbrush in my toiletry bag and I am all set.

Restocking the toiletries after coming home from a trip is also helpful if an emergency were to happen and I needed to leave quickly. In that case, the bag would be all ready to go, and I could grab it along with a change of clothes and be on my way.

In 2 Peter 3:13-14 it says, *"But in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. So then, dear friends, since very every you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him."* Peter says that because we are looking forward to a new heaven and earth, we should make every effort *"to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him."* I call this holy living. How is living a holy life connected to looking forward to a new heaven and earth?

So we will be ready. By living a holy life here on earth we will be ready for a life of righteousness in the new heaven and earth. We want to prepare ourselves now as much as possible for our new life to come; a life with no sin and no evil. In heaven we will be holy, that is without sin. But that is not

something that just happens to us when we die, we begin the process of being made holy here on earth so that we will be ready for life in heaven.

I prepare my toiletries ahead of time so that I am ready. If I ever had to leave in a moment's notice, I could grab the bag and go. None of us knows when our life here on this earth is going to end. It could be when Jesus returns or when we individually pass from this earth. In either case, God wants us to be ready for living in righteousness. How do we make ourselves ready? By living holy and godly lives now. Not only will we be ready for life in heaven, but we will enjoy the benefits of holy living for the remainder of our life here on earth.



Thank you to George Harris for an inspiring sermon, *Identifying Success*, when he stepped in for Pastor Andy while he was on vacation in June. All Windsor Chapel sermons are live streamed on Sundays and are always available to watch again on our YouTube channel or via our website at www.windsorchapel.org.

Financial Update

(through May 31, 2021)

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want..."

	Actual	Budget
Income	\$103,650	\$91,665
Expense	\$ 96,198	\$91,672

Windsor Chapel has sent \$12,724 to our missionary partners this year. That is 12% of your giving!

If you have any items or information you would like to share in the newsletter, please e-mail:

Susan Seiboth at

susan@quiltingsquare.com

Dorothy Soi at

dsoi@windsorchapel.org

Chapel Office (609) 799-2559

www.windsorchapel.org

Contributing photographers:

Bob Seiboth & Kate Taylor