

BITS & PIECES

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

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THE "ME FIRST" MENTALITY

"Me first", or self will, is the essence of human nature. In the summer of 1986, two ships collided in the Black Sea, causing the tragic loss of life. An investigation revealed the cause of the accident which hurled hundreds of passengers into the icy waters. The tragedy was not traced to some major problem like a breakdown in radar or a thick fog. The blame was attributed to human stubbornness. Each captain was aware of the other's presence, Both could have taken evasive action to avert the collision. But according to the news reports, neither wanted to give way to the other. It seems that each was too proud to yield and make the first move. This is often the problem when members of the church "collide." How often church squabbles could be avoided if one of the parties would just humble himself. In Philippians 4:5 it says, **"Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand."** Moderation means *reasonableness or the ability to yield.*

BE THOU FAITHFUL

The story is told of a Christian who every Saturday evening for over 40 years stood on a busy street corner and passed out Gospel tracts. Being discouraged because he saw so little fruit, he stopped. A few years later, he happened to pass that spot on a Saturday evening and saw a young man passing out tracts. He said to the young man, "How is it you are here doing this tonight?" "Well, it's like this. An old man occupied this corner for years. I was saved through reading a tract he gave me. I suppose he is in Heaven now, so I have come to take his place." Tears streamed down the old man's face as he said, "I am the man who gave you that tract, and by God's grace, I mean to stand in my place till Jesus comes." **"Be thou faithful unto death."**
~Revelation 2:10

ONE THING WORTH KNOWING

J.C. Masee told of a friend who traveled a great distance for an interview with a distinguished scholar. When given the interview, the man said: "Doctor, I noticed the walls of your study are lined with books from the ceiling to the floor. No doubt you have read them all. I know you have written many yourself. What I would like to know is, what is the one thing above all else that is worth knowing?" Putting his hand on the guest's shoulder, he said with great emotion: "My dear Friend, of all the things that I have learned, only two are really worth knowing. The first is that I am a great sinner. The second is that Jesus Christ is a great Savior." That man knew what many of us need to learn. **"To me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

A GOOD TESTIMONY

D.L. Moody told of an incident concerning one of the students in their Bible Institute. This young man was riding the street car and when it stopped near the Institute he jumped off without paying the fare. But shortly afterwards, his conscience bothered him. So after school he went down to the car barn and found the conductor and told him the story and gave him the fare. The conductor said that he was a fool not to keep it. After all, the man said, "It was my job to catch you." The young man said, "No, I got my ride and I need to pay the fare." The conductor said, "You must be from that Bible Institute." If we claim to be Christians and believe the Bible, we need to do right. You never know what effect your testimony might have on someone. We need to remember that we not only represent the Lord Jesus Christ at all times, but we also represent His Church. **"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."** ~Matthew 5:16.