

BITS & PIECES

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

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WRONG PRIORITIES

Some years ago now, among the classified ads in a local newspaper was the following: "Farmer with 160 irrigated acres wants to meet a marriage-minded woman with tractor. When replying, please show picture of tractor." It is easy to see that this poor man had his priorities messed up. We are always talking about this for many Christians clearly have their priorities all mixed up. The Bible is very clear, it says put God first! **"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things (things of this life) shall be added unto you."** ~*Matthew 6:33*. When believers put other persons or things before God, they will always have problems. Let's get our priorities straight!

WHERE DO YOU BELONG?

A pastor once said to a member of the Church, "Now, I hope to see you at the Prayer Meeting." "No," was the reply, "you see I belong to the lodge and that is lodge night." "Yes," returned the preacher, "I notice that you belong to the lodge. You are a member of the Church but you *belong* to the Lodge." It is well for us all to consider to whom we belong. Some people are Church members but they belong to the world. Others are Church members but they belong to the devil. Every true child of God should belong to the Lord. The Bible says, **"What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."** ~*I Corinthians 6:19,20*

THE HEATING APPARATUS

Many year ago five young college students spent a Sunday in London. They were eager to hear some well-known preachers in churches other than their own. They found their way on a hot Sunday to Spurgeon's Metropolitan Tabernacle. While they were waiting for the doors to open, a stranger came up to them and said: "Gentlemen, would you like to see the heating apparatus of the church?" They were not particularly interested to do so on broiling day in July, but consented out of politeness. They were taken down some steps where a door was opened. The guide whispered, "There, Sirs, is our heating apparatus." They saw before them 700 souls bowed in prayer seeking a blessing on the service about to be held in the tabernacle above. Their unknown guide was Spurgeon himself. No wonder Spurgeon's sermons had such power. I would say that the weakest work of Fundamental churches today is earnest, believing prayer!

FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS IMPLICITLY

Several years ago, an aviation cadet on a routine practice flight suddenly was stricken blind. In a panic, he radioed the situation to the control manager. The officer radioed back: "Follow my instructions implicitly." After keeping the blinded cadet circling the field until the whole field was cleared, and an ambulance had arrived the control officer radioed: "Now lose altitude... Now bank sharply... You're coming onto the field now..." The cadet brought his plane to a perfect landing, was saved, and later had his eyesight restored. He was saved because he implicitly followed instructions. What a lesson for believers? That is just what God wants of us – implicit obedience. Jesus said, **"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."** ~*John 10:27*. The hymnwriter wrote: "Trust and obey, for there's no other way..."