

The Plainfield Independent

Newsletter

Number 164

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OUR THOUGHT FOR EACH DAY

By Mary Baker Eddy

“Every day, every hour, our work increases in effectiveness and power.”

THINK UPON THIS

Every trial of our faith in God makes us stronger. The more difficult seems the material condition to be overcome by Spirit, the stronger should be our faith and the purer our love. (S&H 410:14-17)

PROTECTION

I use the following Bible verse before I leave home each day, and I thought others might find it helpful.

"Behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest." Gen. 28:15

Submitted by Chardie

JIM'S CORNER

What Bible character had no parents? Joshua was the son of Nun. “Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, ...” Joshua 1:1.

And this, submitted by Betty from California:

I saw a cartoon recently where a minister stood in front of his church on a Sunday morning giving his sermon and exhorting his flock to contribute more to the church because the “wages of sin” had gone up!

A QUOTE FROM THE PAST

Ben Franklin

Those who surrender freedom for security will not have, nor do they deserve, either one.

FREEDOM

[New York World, December, 1900]

INSUFFICIENT FREEDOM

To my sense, the most imminent dangers confronting the coming century are: the robbing of people of life and liberty under the warrant of the Scriptures; the claims of politics and of human power, industrial slavery, and insufficient freedom of honest competition; and ritual, creed, and trusts in place of the Golden Rule, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

Miscellany, by Mary Baker Eddy, p. 266

DAILY

In our last two Newsletters a topic was started, “DAILY,” in which a number of Mrs. Eddy’s many topics to consider for daily use was introduced, and this topic will be again expanded. Each quote will be followed by the position on the page from which it is copied from *Course in Divinity*.

WATCH — Don’t see *things*.

Page 35.3

WATCH — More mental work for the field must be done. Page 35.5

WATCH — Impersonal evil cannot use me as an avenue through which to express any discord; there is no evil. This hourly declaration will keep me invulnerable from error. Page 35.7

WATCH — No fear of mortal mind. It has no power over us. We have full confidence in divine Mind, for it is All; there in none other. Page 36.4

WATCH — Truth reverses every argument of error and brings out just the opposite results. Page 36.5

WATCH — I am the image and likeness of God. No mortal or mortal opposer of Truth can confine this image in any mortal body to mar or molest it, for divine Mind holds it intact, forever free from mortal touch. Page 36.9

WATCH —
Love controls the weather.
No electricity of mortal mind.
No thunder; no high winds to blow.
Divine Mind governs all. Page 37.3

WATCH — Animal magnetism, you cannot produce in me any new beliefs, neither can you bring back any old beliefs, for in divine Mind there are no beliefs. *You* cannot harm me – neither can you make me harm others, nor can you harm those on whom my thought may rest. See I Cor. 14:33. Page 44.6

WATCH — It is my right to exercise dominion; next, I can exercise that right and do exercise it; the right to cast out fear. Page 46.3

THE SONG OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Chardie Hull has lovingly suggested the following from *Spiritual Footsteps* by Gilbert Carpenter (pages 21-22) to be included in our Newsletter:

“There is a certain jealous thought that would attempt to show that Mrs. Eddy’s object in giving Christian Science to the world was to gain money. No-one could accuse Mrs. Eddy of the love of money, or of being a miser, after he learns how freely she bestowed her fortune on charity, and above all, to the building up of the Cause of Christian Science. Those who knew Mrs. Eddy intimately, can testify that the amount of money she spent on herself was very small. For years she enjoyed no other form of recreation or pleasure than her daily drive. When she was at an age when most people retire from active effort, the song of her life was that which she said was the song of Christian Science, in her Message for 1900, “Work-work-work-watch and pray.” She cared only to give to the world more clearly the principles which she felt confident would increase man’s faith in God, and would teach him the availability and value of the divine Mind as being adequate for every human need, not only to relieve man from the depression, despair, and fear which so-called disease brings to man, but also to furnish him with that unerring wisdom which alone can guide the individual and the nation aright, into the true harbor of perpetual peace, spiritual Truth, and divine Love.”

SOME REPORTS FROM THE JANUARY 2016 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Website Committee

A lot has changed in the look and the usability of the website over the past month. It’s clean, simple, open, and easier to use. And it can now be read

easily on any device. God is directing people here, and they should find a website that is welcoming and easy to use.

How grateful I am to all who have ever spent time adding to or working on the website. It is because of all that wonderful material to draw upon that we have this website now, and I always feel it is important to thank God for every part of it.

We are still adding more to the website, and I thank you all for your patience and proofing help along the way.

In 2015 our website was visited 309,333 times by 78,948 users, looking at 761,981 pages. There were 8,381 hits to our live service page, 11,252 hits to the weekly Lesson page, and 14,085 hits to the Forum.

We now have 1,220 YouTube videos that have been viewed 201,534 times, by people from 212 countries. SoundCloud has 9,228 plays from over 50 countries. The iTunes Podcast was viewed 270,494 times.

I am very grateful for all this wonderful activity!

Jeremy Palmer, Chairman

Grounds Committee

Thank God we have our property and building, a gift from God, and a place to work for Him. Alex does a beautiful job taking care of our lawn, and at times has even done additional work like trimming shrubs and picking up litter, at no additional charge. And he and his mother and little brother occasionally come to our services.

We also replaced the old concrete steps and walks at the front of the church, which were badly breaking up and needed to be replaced. The mason who did the work commented several times on how good the property looks and the great location. He also came to one of our services.

Earlier this year we changed insurance carriers to a company that offered the same coverage for a lower premium. The representative remarked how well kept the building is, and even speculated that our organ is worth about \$900,000.

God has given us this church, and we are very grateful for it, and are grateful for everyone who takes good care of it.

Bruce Singleterry, Chairman

Roundtable Committee

Our Roundtables are growing. We now have an average of 55 attendants live, and many more people listen to the recordings of the classes. Joseph from Barcelona now sometimes joins the classes, along with our faithful Zari and Ute from Germany, and Melissa from Australia also joins occasionally, even though the class begins at 2:00 a.m. in Australia!

Sharon Welsh, Chairman

Publishing Committee

We are very grateful for everyone who submits articles and testimonies for our “Love Is The Liberator” magazine, statements for our church calendar, and submissions and ideas for the Newsletter — and for the proofreaders who do such a great job making sure *everything* we send out is perfect. And also for our Plainfield team who does all the printing, mailing, and keeping track of subscriptions.

This year we published our church magazine on a variety of topics including: “Body,” “Christian Science and the Bible,” “The Joy of the Lord,” “Church: the Structure of Truth and Love,” “Gratitude,” and “The Importance of Watching.” This most recent issue contains a list of topics to be handled, compiled by Florence, along with some

quotes and ideas that can be used in handling these false claims. It's a very helpful list, and can be referred to often as a starting point in our own individual watching. Florence really did a beautiful job on it—make sure not to miss this!!

Carol Conroy, Chairman

Mailing Committee

Our publications were mailed to people all across the United States and around the world, including Germany, Taiwan, England, Canada, South Africa, and Australia. Each mailing is supported, through prayer that it will reach its destination safely and quickly, and bring a blessing to all who come in contact with it.

We thank God for the opportunity to feed His children with this healing Truth.

Lillian Linnell, Chairman

From Bible Study February 6, 2016

“Those who build walls have neither the wisdom to yield nor the courage to fight.”

Quoted from Matthew Henry

How to Think About Your Body

We certainly have a lot to be grateful for in this church, and so much active participation. In this active participation you learn to demonstrate, to get yourself out of the way and let God use you in His way. This is the real answer for the healing of us all, and for the healing of the nation. It is “God’s will be done,” not our own personal striving, but the will of God.

In I Corinthians it says, “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?”

Often I am asked, “How should I think about my body?” This tells us that our body is the temple of the living God. That is an awesome thought! So, if this body really is the temple of the living God, it is something to respect and to take care of. Mrs. Eddy has said our body is the embodiment of right thinking, and that is certainly one way to take care of our body — to think rightly, to think unselfed, happy, joyous, grateful thoughts rather than selfish or negative thoughts, and also to know that we belong to God — including our bodies. It all belongs to God. That is so liberating.

The Bible also says that “in Him we live and move and have our being.” This is a great way to think of your body, and to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. The less we think of our bodies, the better off we are.

In Martha Wilcox’s *Addresses*, there is a statement in her first article on Body where she states, “Do not fear anything that your present body seems to be doing. Every cell, fiber, tissue, gland, organ, or muscle of the human body exists right now in the one Mind as Idea, and each idea is proclaiming ‘I am reflecting God, I am expressing God.’ Every cell and fiber of my being is expressing the sovereignty of God, or proclaiming, ‘I AM.’”

So, that is how you think of your body; it belongs to God and it is perfect in Him.

Mary Beth Singleterry

Editors Jim Dible
and Carol Conroy

This is an informational newsletter for members of the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, intended to be a means for communication with each other, and is supported and provided by the efforts of the membership at large. Each member shall do his part to ensure the continuing success of Independent Christian Science as a worldwide activity.

Let us begin with our Newsletter