

Noteworthy

Prayer Requests: Joe Brown (*ongoing medical*), Linda James (*ongoing medical*), Sylvester Johnson (*upcoming treatments & bone marrow transplant*), Leon Miller (*effects & complications caused by brain tumor & treatments continue*), Neil & Ahreah Miller (*He with his blindness and she with her broken leg & rehabilitation*), Butch Morgan (*ongoing medical*), Steve Parker (*recovering from heart surgery and fall*), Moses and Mary Stevens (*with their health*).

Family and friends: Vivian Dillman, Ned Hicks (*Larry Hicks' father*), Brian James (*cancer*), Greg Lincoln (*Jill Boyette's bother; member of the church, resides in Kentucky and a doctor in the US Army; sent to NY to help with COVID-19 crisis*), John Marschall (*Bob Marschall's father*), Keith & Becca Marschall (*as they adjust to parenthood*), Kirk Marschall (*doing WELL with long-term rehab*), Ricky Ross (*Robyn Day's father*) and Dorothy Trice (*Carla Moore's mother*).

Worship Services: An abbreviated Sunday morning service at the begins at 9:50am for those able to attend. On Sunday (6PM) and Wednesday evenings (7PM) we have a virtual study through Zoom. Bob Marschall is facilitating the meetings and can provide you with necessary link and password (if needed). Please let Bob know if/how we can assist you in getting started.

Ladies' Bible Class: Was scheduled for April 13th. Be sure to study lesson number 8 on page 43, "Trouble Over Divorce" in the book "Troubled Over Many Things," by Connie Adams.

Difficult Time: This is a difficult and unprecedented time for our generation. Let us trust in God while being prudent and do the best we can in serving Him, maintaining purity and unity. May God bless you and all who are striving unto faithfulness.

Remember and encourage those who are struggling physically and spiritually.

Psalm 27:4-9

4 One thing I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord, And to inquire in His temple.

5 For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.

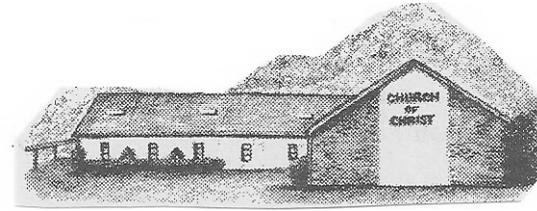
6 And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.

7 Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

8 When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, Lord, I will seek."

9 Do not hide Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.

~ New King James Version



**Lakeland Hills
Leader**

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SERVICES

Sunday
Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
Morning Services 9:50 A.M.
Evening Services 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday
Bible Study 7:00 P.M.

DEACONS:

Robert Marschall
Michael Sadler
Moses Stevens
David Williams

"One Thing"

There are various passages in the Bible that reference the "one thing" in a person's life that was of great significance to them in the moment. Within those contexts are some valuable principles we can apply to our lives. Consider several applications from the following passages and how even "one thing" done properly can benefit your soul.

But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her. (Luke 10:42) These are the words of Jesus on the occasion that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman name Martha welcomed Him into her house. She had a sister named Mary who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and therefore approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore, tell her to help me." Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things..." Then telling Martha the "one thing" her sister had chosen was "needed;" was "that good part,"

and would “not be taken away from her.” The ONE THING here is understood to be that Mary sat at the feet of Jesus and listened to His teaching. Now, can you imagine having Jesus into your home? Certainly, you’d want to be a good houseguest, extending hospitality to the Lord. I’m certain that doing so would be a “good” thing. And in life, there are many good things that we can do, but the most important thing we can ever do is listen and heed the words of the Lord! Above all else we must make learning and applying His instruction the number one priority.

So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” (Luke 18:22)

These are the words of Jesus when a certain ruler asked Him, saying, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus spoke of five commandments the ruler had kept from his youth (Lk. 18:20-21) ... Yet also told him of “one thing” that he needed. By all accounts, the rich young ruler seemed like a pretty good fellow, but there was ONE THING that needed addressing in his life... That ONE THING needed to be corrected! Now, I do not believe this passage teaches that God requires all who are rich in material things to sell their possessions and give to the poor. However, that *was the requirement for this* man! Jesus

knew *his* heart, and therefore addressed *his personal* need. For us, we need to examine ourselves and see if there is “one thing” we “still lack.” ONE THING may be what’s holding us back from eternal life, or at least inhibiting us from serving God and/or influencing others more effectively. We can pray for wisdom in recognizing what area (s) we lack (Jas. 1:2-5). We can seek the Lord’s direction through reading & meditation of His word and making correction where necessary (Jas. 1:21-26). We may just need to get that ONE THING under control!

He answered and said, “Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.” (John 9:25) In this context we learn of Jesus healing a man who was born blind. Upon that man receiving his sight, neighbors wondered if he was even the same guy. The man settled their dispute, so then they asked *how* his eyes were opened. When he told them of what Jesus did, the people then took the man before the Pharisees. Those indignant Pharisees overlooked the miracle that was right in front of them, even ridiculed the deity of our Lord and pressured the healed man to state what he believed. Speaking of Christ, the man said, “He is a Prophet.” The Jews were deadlocked... If the man had REALLY been healed, his answer was the only logical explanation. But they did not want to accept this, so the Jews ques-

tioned the man’s parents, whether the man was really their son. After conferring with the parents, the Jews came BACK to the man himself and continued slandering Jesus, even declaring Him “a sinner.” The healed man acknowledged that he didn’t have ALL the answers to their questions... But ONE THING he DID KNOW is what Jesus had done for him, personally. His eyes were opened, and he could see!! Upon further reading, this miracle proves Jesus came into the world to provide mankind spiritual enlightenment (Jn. 9:35-41)!! You (who were once blind, but now can see) may not know all there is to know about every question posed when you are challenged, but you CAN BE AFFIRMED in what the Lord has done for you personally. When others try you and challenge your faith, be convinced of the good that God has done for you, and of what God has revealed to you in HIS WORD.

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead. 14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:13-14) This passage deals with how Paul had been reflecting on his past, contrasting his looking toward the future. Referring to his past, Paul warned the Philippians to beware of having confidence in the flesh (Phil. 3:2-3). He used himself as an example, because if anyone could be confident in the flesh, Paul certain-

ly had the credentials (Phil. 3:4-6). But he gave up those things, and Paul even spoke of his present state (as he wrote); that he could not rely on his past to obtain the prize of God. One today might be tempted to rely on past achievements, or even their lineage, thinking I’ve somehow “earned” a good standing with God... That’s just rubbish (Phil. 3:8)! Or perhaps one gets down while reflecting on past failures to the extent that we are paralyzed by grief and self-disappointment. One can even cease to pray or read God’s word amid self-loathing. Now, there may be some correction that we need to accept in our life... If so, deal with that according to God’s way. Then consider the ONE THING Paul did was to FORGET the things which were behind— and reach forward to those things which are ahead. We cannot change the past, but we *can* do the right thing *now* and determine to keep doing right *while* moving forward.

There are various passages in the Bible that reference the “one thing” in a person’s life that was of great significance. Within those contexts are valuable principles to apply within our lives. Yes, even “one thing,” done properly, may benefit your soul immensely. What ONE THING will you focus on today?

~ Ian Rice