



Volume 1, Issue 28

August 11th, 2002

## "I" Sight Problems

Kevin Cauley

Our culture has been conditioned to say "we" when we should say "I." This is true in politics, business, and entertainment, but especially in religion. Many times when we say "we need to do . . ." what we really mean is someone else "needs to do . . ." How many times have we said, "We need to do . . ." and not thought about what "I" can do? There is no "we" without at least two "I"s. This means the more fundamental question that we need to ask is, "What can I do?" And the statement that we need to make is not "we need to do . . ." but "I need to do . . ."

This is especially true in the area of evangelism. Many times members will sit back and say "We need to do more evangelism." So the eldership puts a program together; the preacher draws together his greatest motivational skills to bear; the deacons move forward with their area of assignments, but the membership does not follow through. Evangelism is considered by many to be a "one man show." Introduce all of the prospects to the preacher and then he can reel them in. In turn, this puts a lot of emphasis upon the personality of the preacher. He must be a "people" man; he must win friends and influence people. He must be charming, suave, and debonair. And while these skills are not necessarily bad for a preacher to have, to exalt his role as "the evangelist," places requirements upon him such as are not found required by God. Paul exhorted Timothy, "I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all long-suffering and teaching" (2 Timothy 4:1,2).

Evangelism begins with me. To whom have I told the gospel today? With whom have I dis-

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## Kevin's Korner



What a good week it has been. This past week had a note of sadness in that Elsie Meadows was memorialized and placed in her temporary resting place until the Lord returns and raises her from the grave. While this is sad for those who loved her and will miss her it is joyous for those who have taken refuge in the high tower of God's protection. We read in Psalm 18:2 "The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower."

Rusty smoked me in racquetball this past week. I thought I would get that out of the way before Rusty was able to get to it himself. We had a great time. I also had the opportunity to play a little racquetball with Jack Gentry as well. It is GOOD exercise to play racquetball; I enjoy it very much.

I also enjoyed our great father/son night and the subsequent men's breakfast as well. We ate, played games, ate, watched movies, ate, slept, and did I mention that we ate? I was stuffed. My mother-in-law says that we misread the Bible. When it says that the early Christians "fasted and prayed" we read it "feasted and played." We certainly had a great time at this event. Larry gave a great devotional lesson at our men's breakfast that drove the point home. "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works!" (Hebrews 10:24).

Remember, remember, remember, to come next Sunday and participate in our back to school picnic lunch. We can make this an opportunity for evangelism. Matthew used a meal as an opportunity for evangelism (Matthew 9:9-13) and so can we! I have invited several. I am not sure how many will come, but we can spread the word! It promises to be a good day. Jerry Roller and I have already procured the necessary meat for the

meal and they will be smoked by the end of this week. We do need to offer a word of thanks to Jerry for this, by the way. It was his idea to do something like this and he has generously paid for a large portion of the meat that we will be eating. Thanks Jerry!

Let's get those hiking boots out and polished up because we are going to "Lost Valley" on August the 24<sup>th</sup>. Rusty says to meet here at the church building at 9:00 AM and bring a sack lunch (sandwich or something). Drinks and chips will be provided. I love to hike. It is one of my favorite activities. If I could get away with it, I would hike all the time. So I am very excited about going. I hope everyone will be making plans to be there and let's also use this as an opportunity for evangelism. If you know of someone who would like to come with us, let them know and bring them along. I am sure that they would enjoy this trip as well. As Philip said to Nathaniel, "Come and see" (John 1:46).

My parents, sister, niece and nephew are all with us this week. Mom has recovered enough from her broken leg to walk on it, but gingerly. My sister, Melissa, and her two children, Hayden and Madison have come to visit and "see the sights." We had a great day in Eureka Springs yesterday—saw the Hoe Down last night. We are planning on having a great day in Branson tomorrow. We are going to see the Duttons. Mom, Dad, Melissa, Madison and Hayden will be going home before Wednesday. Please pray for their safe travels.

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## "Unconditional Surrender"

Consider two countries at war. As the battles rage, it becomes obvious that one country is the superior power. The superpower OFFERS to end the war IF the altering opponent will ONLY surrender. The devastated enemy realizes that the ONLY viable option remaining is to **surrender or suffer total destruction.**

So the officials of the defeated country meet with the leaders of the dominant country and say, "We are prepared to surrender to you. **Here are OUR conditions...!**"

**Is that the way it works? NO!** The defeated enemy is not in ANY position to negotiate the terms of surrender. Only the triumphant victor has the power to establish those conditions. The posture of the defeated **MUST** be one of: **"Unconditional " surrender!** Many applications of this analogy may be made to our relationship

with God.

**In our sin, WE are enemies of God.** James says, "Do you not know that friendship with the world [i.e., the system that is opposed to God] is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God" (James 4:4). As sinners, we have allied with the enemies of God becoming enemies ourselves! But, we have been duped! **The ruler of this world – Satan himself – has portrayed God as an evil tyrant.** However, it is Satan who is the evil tyrant. He has promised freedom and happiness to all who would align themselves with him, BUT he delivers only bondage and misery, and in the end - **everlasting destruction** (2 Thessalonians 1:7-10).

**God is THE Supreme Power.** The war against **SIN** (rebellion or opposition to God's authority) has been fought and won by Him. Satan has been completely defeated, but is trying to bring ALL that he can down with him in the short time remaining before the final Judgment (Revelation 20:10-15).

**Satan, NOT God, is our true adversary!** He "walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8). Jesus said of him **"He was a murderer** from the beginning, and does NOT stand in the truth, because there is NO truth in him" (John 8:44). **The decisive battle of this war was fought on the CROSS of Jesus Christ.** Satan THOUGHT he was the victor when his "allies" were able to convince the authorities to put Jesus to death on the cross. **However, it was in this SAME act that God secured the victory!** Jesus, the Son of God, died "that He might destroy him who had the power of death" (Hebrews 2:14). Through His death on the cross, Jesus provided the means of reconciliation to God – having taken upon HIMSELF the wrath of God against . Paul wrote to Christians saying, "When we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son" (Romans 5:10). **The victory over Satan**

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**Deacons:** Ken Smith, Brent Stevens, Rusty Windle.

**Preacher:** Kevin Cauley 870-423-6707

## Times of Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:.....9:30 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship: ..... 10:30 AM  
Sunday Evening Worship: .....6:00 PM  
Ladies Bible Class: ..... 10:30 AM  
Wed. Evening Bible Class:.....7:00 PM

was sealed, God having provided a cure for **SIN** – Satan’s weapon of “**mass destruction**” – evidenced by the fact that He raised Jesus from the dead (Romans 4:25; 6:23).

**NOW...** what do you and I do about **OUR** sin that separates us from and makes us enemies of God? **WE** are **NOT** the ones to negotiate the terms of reconciliation. **We are the offenders; God is the offended One!** God, through His love, has provided the terms for reconciliation through His Son, **Jesus**. When one believes in Jesus (Acts 16:31), repents of his sin (Acts 17:30-31), confesses Jesus as the Victorious Son of God (Romans 10:9-10), and is baptized in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38), **THEN** his sins are forgiven – he has been reconciled to God! Then one must **continually surrender** his life in obedience to the will of God (Hebrews 5:9). **Through "Unconditional" surrender, God gives US the victory! Have you Obeyed the Gospel?**  
God bless you!

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## WHETHER THE WEATHER . . . !

I didn't get some outdoor things done yesterday due to the weather not being as nice as I had expected. Being my day off I was really hopeful about working in the yard, but it will get done. Today, the sun is shining beautifully and there are other tasks to take care of for now. What will it be like tomorrow? Will it be sunny? Will it be cloudy? Am I going to allow tomorrow's weather to affect me today?

Someone has said, "Worry pulls tomorrow's

### Sunday's Sermons

For August 11th

Morning .....The Froward Tongue  
Scripture.....Proverbs 10:31  
Evening ..... Questions and Answers  
Scripture..... NA

clouds over today's sunshine." [source: bulletin clipping.]

The days come and go with whatever weather happens. Is that not a fair description of life? Though we can have an idea of some things that are coming, as it is not always possible to predict the weather accurately, so stuff happens which is not expected. When a new day dawns, we dress appropriately or pull out the umbrella to provide some shelter as we go about the tasks. Whether the weather be sun or rain, we cannot change it, but we can change for it. And as we step into another day God has provided, we should aim to meet each moment as it comes with the appropriateness of the character God is helping us develop in life.

Jesus stated, "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore DO NOT WORRY ABOUT TOMORROW, FOR TOMORROW WILL WORRY ABOUT ITS OWN THINGS. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." (Matthew 6:33-34 NKJV).

We are to take care of the tasks of today and when tomorrow comes (if God gives us that gift) we will meet those tasks as well. WORRYING about tomorrow will not change a thing! So why waste the energy or time with such?

Let us remember the value we have to God. (Luke 12:7) And as we begin each new day, let us keep the things of the kingdom and God's righteousness in mind. This will aid our focus as we use the day the Lord has entrusted to us. May we seek to glorify Him with today and trust Him regarding tomorrow as we remember Who is ultimately in control.

Have a great day REMEMBERING THE SON REIGNS!

Carl Hanson

### Our Record

Week of August 4th

Sunday Class .....	69
Sunday A.M.....	79
Sunday P.M. ....	68
Wednesday .....	67
Contribution.....	\$1717.53

## News, Notes and Prayer List



- Please remember the following in your prayers: Geneva Atchley, Michael Collins, Opal Hull, Evelyn Johnson, Oleta Widener
- Lucille Wright is in room 504 of the Berryville nursing home.
- Jessica Lovelady is also in the nursing home in room 307.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Art Roberts and Mary Patterson remain confined to their homes.
- There will be an elders and deacons meeting next Sunday night after services.
- Questions and answers are tonight!
- This morning after worship, there will be a youth work time. The youth will be updating the pictorial directory in the hall. Please make plans to stay. Lunch will be provided.
- Our picnic lunch will be next Sunday in lieu of our normal potluck. Please make plans to attend.
- The annual youth excursion to Lost Valley will be August the 24th. Please meet at the building at 9:00 AM and bring a lunch. Drinks and chips will be provided.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Canned Tuna.



*(Continued from page 1)*

cussed Jesus this week? What can **I** do to evangelize?

There are plenty of works to be done in this area. Let's all resolve in our own minds that we are going to step forward to "fill the gap" (Ezekiel 22:30) and do what we can—what "I" can—to work toward more evangelistic efforts in this community for the sake of the salvations of men's souls and for the sake of our God and Savior Jesus Christ.

The "Berryville Bible Beacon" is published by the Berryville church of Christ. Please contact Kevin Cauley at work at (870) 423-3068 or at home at (870) 423-6707 or e-mail [bvcoc@alltel.net](mailto:bvcoc@alltel.net) to contribute information.

## Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Sunday Morning:</b>	<b>August 11th, 2002</b>	<b>August 18th, 2002</b>
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Larry Elliott	Brent Stevens
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Bruce Foster	Clay Bozarth
<b>Scripture:</b>	Ray Duncan	Brent Moore
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Bill Fort	Glenn Quigley
	Ken Smith	Larry Elliott
<b>(assist)</b>	Brandon Foster	Perry Foster
	Glenn Williams	Raymond Kimes
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	George Eddings	Rusty Windle
<b>Sunday Night:</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Bruce Foster	Glenn Williams
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Clyde Atchley
<b>Scripture:</b>	Leon Duncan	Dale Pinkley
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Rusty Windle	Leon Duncan
	Raymond Kimes	Brent Moore
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Perry Foster	Ray Duncan
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Hugh Atchley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Clay Bozarth	Bob Moore
<b>Invitation:</b>	Ken Smith	Brent Stevens
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Glenn Quigley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Monthly Assignments</b>		
<b>Announcements</b>	Kevin Cauley	
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	Larry Elliott	
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Neva Welch	Dena Williams
<b>Communion Carry</b>	Bruce Foster	John Gass

For questions or comments, please call (870) 423-3068 or write us at:

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