

Calvary Christian Fellowship Mennonite Church

June 2, 2013

✠ ✠ ✠ Welcome to our Worship Service! ✠ ✠ ✠

Devotional:----- Justin Miller
Message:----- Norman Yoder
Offering:----- Missions
SS Lesson:----- 2 Corinthians 9

Adult and Youth Verse: Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 2 Cor. 9:7

Intermediate Verse: And it came to pass in the morning, when the meat offering was offered, that, behold, there came water by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water. 2 Kings 3:20

Junior Verse: Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Matt. 5:9

Today's Host Family: Jay & Luann Ahmed

Primary Verse: 'O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!' Rom. 11:33

Preschool Verse: "The Lord giveth wisdom" Prov. 2:6

SS Lesson for next week:
2 Corinthians 10

Adult and Youth Verse for next week:
Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 2 Cor. 10:5

Next Sunday Hosts: James & Elsie Yoder

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The Armor of God, May 31, 2013
Have your parents ever told you that it's important to wear a seatbelt in the car? Have you noticed people using special safety equipment when doing their jobs, such as a scientist wearing safety goggles or a firefighter wearing protective clothing? If you ride a bus to school, maybe you have noticed special lights and a stop sign on your bus that are used to keep you safe. We use safety equipment just about every day to help protect us. What would happen if we forgot to use safety equipment? Probably many accidents would occur that could have easily been prevented.
If you are a Christian, the Lord has given you special safety equipment to use—the armor of God! Just as physical armor and

equipment is important to soldiers in the military, spiritual armor is very important to followers of Jesus Christ.
Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. (Ephesians 6:10–11, ESV)
Why do we need armor? Because we are fighting in a spiritual battle! There is an ongoing battle against good and evil—against God's kingdom and the kingdom of the devil.
We can avoid many accidents and injuries if we remember to wear our spiritual armor. You might be wondering how to put it on. Read the articles listed below to learn about spiritual armor and how to use it.
-Kids Answers, <http://goo.gl/OTGa5>

Announcements:

- ✓ This Evening: Free Evening
- ✓ Wednesday Evening: Prison Service (Northwest) 5:30 PM. To go: Ervin, Everett, Robert, James, Nevin- devotions.

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Going Soft Against Wrath
-by Ray Ortlund | May 28, 2013,
A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.
What is the wise response to an angry person who says something cruel, false or demanding? Proverbs 15:1 helps us in those awkward moments at home, at work, in our churches.
The key is "a soft answer."
So, you're standing there, stunned by those words that have just exploded in your face. In that instant of decision, as your mind is forming a response, "a soft answer" is the category you need. What is that?
Maybe, for Sure
The word "soft" means tender, delicate, gentle, even weak. We don't like being weak, especially when we find ourselves in the crosshairs of anger. We would rather justify ourselves. It is hard to be wronged. It is doubly hard to be wronged and not fight back but respond softly.
Of course, if the angry person is a heretic, bent on wrecking your church, he or she must be confronted strongly. But if that person is not a danger but only immature, then a tender, delicate, soft, weak answer might help that person see things in a new way. Maybe not. Maybe nothing will help. When God himself answered Jonah's anger softly, Jonah wasn't satisfied (Jonah 4:1–11). But with the wisdom of Proverbs 15:1, the tension in the air might not escalate. The awkward moment might even be turned into something positive.
But dishing out anger in response to anger will surely go badly. Here is what we can always expect: ". . . a harsh word stirs up [more] anger." A harsh – literally, "painful" – response can include words with sharp

edges, a tone of sarcasm, implied threats of retaliation. There are many ways for the encounter to escalate quickly.
God Gets the Last Word
The Bible gives us many encouragements to restrain ourselves when people are unkind. For example, "You shall reason frankly with your neighbor" (Leviticus 19:17). "Let your reasonableness be known to all" (Philippians 4:4). "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts" (Colossians 3:15).
Most wonderfully, we have in our Savior the perfect example of wisdom: "When Christ was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly" (1 Peter 2:23).
That helps, doesn't it? It helps to remember that God sees, and God judges justly. Sometimes people judge unjustly. They don't mean to. They just do. But God always judges justly. So, we don't have to get in the last word. On that great and final day, God will finish every conversation in this life that didn't go well. He will do so with perfect justice, fully satisfying to every redeemed heart. Let's trust him for that now, whenever we are under this kind of pressure.
Venting is the world's foolish way, intensifying conflict. Restraint is the Lord's wise way, spreading shalom. And the Lord's way succeeds. It might satisfy our aggressor, and it will surely safeguard us.
Topic: Wisdom
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-Desiring God, <http://goo.gl/qgtBb>