



# Calvary Christian Fellowship Mennonite Church

Welcome to our Worship Service!

September 16, 2018

Devotional:-----Norman Yoder

Message:-----Elmer Yoder

Offering:-----General

SS Lesson:-----Philippians 4

**Adult and Youth Verse:** I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Philippians 4:13

**Intermediate Verse:** And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. Daniel 12:3

**Junior Verse:** This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. Matthew 15:8

**Primary Verse:** The Lord taketh my part with them that help me. Psalm 118:7

**Preschool Verse:** The Lord knoweth them that are his. 2 Timothy 2:19

**SS Lesson for next week:** Colossians 1

**Adult and Youth Verse for next week:**  
And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. Col. 1:18

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### Kiboko

My name is Kiboko, and I am a hippopotamus, or a hippo for short. Hippos are the third heaviest land animal alive today—only elephants and rhinoceroses are heavier. We have been specially designed by God to spend most of our time in the water. Our eyes, nose, and ears are on top of our heads, which allows us to remain almost completely underwater but still smell, hear, and see. We are so big we can often walk along the bottom of the river.

#### Here are some neat facts about the hippo kind:

- Our skin is five inches thick, and we produce a pinkish fluid that covers our skin to protect our nearly hairless bodies from the hot African sun.
- Our lower teeth can grow to 20 inches (51 cm) long—that's 13 inches (33 cm) longer than a T Rex tooth!
- We usually spend 18 hours a day in the cool river water, coming out at night to eat.
- Crocodiles live in the same water as hippos, but if they try to eat baby hippos, our moms will protect the baby. A hippo's bite is so hard it can cut a crocodile in two!
- Little birds often sit on our backs and eat annoying insects like flies and ticks off our backs. They will even eat algae off our skin!

**Height:** 5 feet **Weight:** 3,000 pounds **Length:** 14–15 feet

**Diet:** Grasses, roots, large reeds, and aquatic plants  
<https://answersingenesis.org/kids/characters/kiboko/>

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## Announcements:

- ✓ This Evening: Free Evening
- ✓ Wednesday Evening: Prison Service (Annex) 4:15 PM.  
Those to go: Jonathan, Jason & Elmer-Devotions
- ✓ School devotions this week by: Jonathan Miller
- ✓ Out of State Correspondence this week by: Henry & Fannie

## ~BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES~

Happy Birthday! Today!! Sept. 16, Wilson Yoder 2010

Happy Birthday! Sept. 21, Henry Nissley 1968

Happy Birthday! Sept. 21, Chad Nissley 1995

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## Iron Sharpens Iron

In last week's devotion we discussed the importance of working with others and in forming win-win relationships. This week's devotion is similar in nature.

### As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17

This very short proverb, written by Solomon, has many applications. I believe it has physical, mental and spiritual relevance. We need the presence of others to reach our full potential.

**Physical:** Athletes need to be challenged by other athletes to hone their skills. They can work out and practice on their own, but real growth comes from practice with other athletes.

**Mental:** Our minds are similar to our bodies. We need to spend time in individual observation and study, but our minds and our thoughts will remain somewhat dull and unfocused until we have some intellectual interaction with others. Only then will we be able to truly sharpen our thoughts and our minds. I'm not referring to mindless discussion about the weather or last night's ball game. I'm referring to stimulating discussion of ideas and concepts.

**Spiritual:** We are all on a spiritual journey to wherever we are going to spend eternity. Compared to eternity, the life we are living is very temporary. Therefore, spiritual growth and understanding is far more important than physical and mental growth. One hundred years from now, your physical fitness and intellectual capacity won't have any significance because this life, for you, will be over. The only thing that will matter is where your spiritual journey ended.

Spiritual growth involves personal time in prayer and in the study of God's Word. Just like the athlete and the scholar, we need to have some personal desire and ambition. We need to be self-motivated before any real growth can take place in our spiritual life. We cannot afford to simply believe what someone else tells us the Bible says. That is the lazy man's approach and it will probably take us down the wrong

road.

Spiritual growth also requires that we meet with others who are on the same spiritual journey. We need them and they need us. Through sharing and discussion, we are able to put an edge on our spiritual lives. I am not referring to going to a church building where everyone sits in rows and stares at the back of someone else's head while someone up front delivers a prepared lecture. That is similar to a group of athletes sitting in the bleachers while their coach lectures to them. They may gain some insight and knowledge, but they will never be able to sharpen their skills simply by listening to the coach. I am referring to a one-on-one or small group study in which everyone participates. Christians have been meeting in small groups ever since Jesus established his church – for good reason. That is where genuine spiritual growth takes place. That is where the "iron sharpens iron" principle works. In a small group setting, everyone matters. In a small group setting, everyone receives the special attention that he or she might be needing. In a small group setting, everyone is accountable to and responsible for one another. In a small group setting, everyone becomes like a close-knit family – brothers and sisters in Christ. A word of caution. Don't allow your small group get-together to spend much time discussing trivial, non-spiritual matters – and don't let it turn into a neighborhood gossip session. God will bless your small group meetings, but only if you stay focused on Him and on spiritual matters.

Pray together. Pray for one another. Open God's word together. Discuss what God is saying to you and to the group. Discuss how you can apply God's word to your everyday lives. Encourage others to be all that God wants them to be and to have all that God wants them to have. Become involved in one another's lives.

**Don't just GO to church; BE the church**

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### **Mission & Vision Statement Of: Calvary Christian Fellowship**

**Mission:** To realize our need of Christ.

To help one another on life's journey.

**Vision:** To surrender to Christ our Head, to walk in the Spirit, to love as Jesus loves.

To be a place where it's safe to share failures, struggles, hopes, and dreams.

To encourage, and empower one another to find God's purpose as we walk with Christ on our journey to Heaven.

To help the hurting find healing, and the lost experience salvation, in Christ.

To assist in physical needs among, and around us.