

is about our effort to be heard, to connect.

There are plenty of folks who don't understand it very well. "I have xxxxx followers." Or, "I have xxxxx many Facebook friends." It isn't about volume, it is about connection.

If you read your Bible every day, but fail to implement it, that isn't hearing God. If you pray and meditate, buy religious t-shirts, use "church language" when someone dies, and always check "Christian" when filling out forms, but live by your own rules in day to day life... guess who isn't listening.

We have to be attentive to, focused on, and trusting of the voice of God. When called to "turn the other cheek", we hear him. We choose to put aside our hurt feelings, anger, frustration and rage because we "hear" Him. We "suffer the wrong" rather than whine about fairness. We count it a blessing to suffer for the name of Jesus. We seek the wellbeing of our enemy, actively exchanging their curse for our blessing. We do these things not because they are easy, but because we hear Him.

Reading the Bible because it has interesting stories, or because Grandma told you to, or because you committed to read it through this year may have some value on some scale, but it isn't hearing God.

You will never have a relationship if you don't hear Him. You will never trust the relationship until you believe he hears you.

When you boil it all down, that is the real point. It isn't about the Bible, it is about relating with God.

Grace and Peace,

Carl

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

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St John Church of Christ
A Family of God

July 26, 2015

When reading this past week I ran across this statement, "The biggest complaint of Scripture is that people don't listen to God. Theirs is a freely chosen deafness." Klyne Snodgrass, author of the quote, suggests that the Bible asks us to listen or hear over 1500 times. It sounds like a significant interest on God's part, that we listen.

You see, you can't have a relationship with someone to whom you are not attentive. It is this singular component that signals the death blow of a relationship. If I see a couple where one speaks over the other, ignoring requests, disrespecting choices and refusing to "hear" the partner, I recognize that the relationship is "done".

God doesn't leave us a Bible so we read it. He leaves us a Bible so we connect. You can't have a relationship with someone you don't hear. Look at any new folks who meet. One of the very first things that happens, after an initial spark of interest is established, is the effort to "get their number."

"Text me." "What's your Instagram?" "Are you on Facebook?" All social media

SUNDAY: Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am
Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am
Worship Service—10:45 am
Afternoon Service—1:15 pm
WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible Study—7:30 pm
Youth Group—7:30 pm (@ Carl's)
ELDERS: Richard Breensing, Teddy Gingrich, Loyd Ratts,
Terry Sallee, George Shelton
DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel
TREASURER: Richard Breensing

WORSHIP ORDER FOR JULY 26, 2015

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker
GATHERING SONG: No. 230—Worthy Art Thou (vs 1)
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 27 (Ned Marks)
SONGS: No. 764—Teach Me, Lord, to Wait
No. 480—Blessed Assurance
No. 490—It Is Well With My Soul
No. 801—Where No One Stands Alone
PRAYER: Richard Breensing
SONG: No. 366—By Christ Redeemed
COMMUNION: Teddy Gingrich
Chris Mansel
Fred Johnson
Orrin Feril
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 853—When We All Get To Heaven
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 922—Jesus Paid It All (vs 1)
PRAYER: Jerry Kinnamon

(CCLI #2440129)

WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship today and hope that you will come again! We invite you to stay and enjoy lunch with us, right after worship services.

SPECIAL FOCUS

Carl is starting a new series of lessons from 1 Peter, with a special focus during the Sunday morning adult class in the auditorium, as well as for everyone during the worship service. Reading this book each week will help you prepare for these lessons.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Phyllis Staub 7/28

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Darrell & Shannon Bauer 7/31

SUMMER SERIES IN HUTCHINSON

The Eastwood Church of Christ in Hutchinson has invited several area ministers to come and speak on Wednesday evenings (at 7:00 pm) through the month of July and August. If you have a chance to get away for an evening, here is the remaining schedule:

July 29—Steve Tandy

August 5—Kenny Graham

August 12—Buddy Aldridge

August 19—Rob Kruckenberg

August 26—Toby Levering

2015 SILVER MAPLE CAMP EVENT

September 24-26:

Adult Seminar with Jerry & Lynn Jones



PRAYER REQUESTS

Maggie Harris—knee replacement scheduled for Aug 18
Anissa Potter—surgery last week
Lisa Cornwell—knee surgery scheduled for Monday, July 27 in Texas
Janie Nagel (Fred Johnson's sister) - recent stroke
Donna Laudick (Marla's sister) - cancer; continued chemotherapy
Sonny Langford (Baylee Sizemore's father) - cancer
Dan Hampton—health concerns
Lupe Hudson—recent knee replacement surgery
Joe Rosenberg—recovering from accident
Gladys Hornbaker—health concerns
Mike Bookstore—health concerns
Charlene Jimerson (Chet's youngest sister) - health concerns
Sherri Holguin & baby (coworker of Joy)
Marion Alpers—stroke
Dixie Hornbaker—health concerns
Millie Whitlow – at Clearwater; cancer
Darla Chapman (in Faith, SD) – thyroid cancer
Olen Munz – in assisting living in Great Bend
Jessica Keeton (one of Clint's former BB players) - cancer
Joy (Marilyn's daughter) –health concerns
Dena Mansel – health concerns
Cody Dick – cancer; undergoing treatments
Roger Dick - cancer
Jonathan Batten – chemotherapy
Theo Birkett (Tara's mother)
Jim Sorensen (Tara's brother-in-law) chemo for brain tumor
Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) – health concerns
Jim Soukup (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])
Myron Breensing (Richard's father) – Leisure Homestead in Stafford
Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) – Leisure Homestead in Stafford
Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza
Vic & Phyllis Staub – Kenwood Plaza