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sinful path myself but encouraging others to walk the same trail.

The good news is what came after the recognition of sin on our parts. Our mutual agreement that we wanted it to improve helped us to collectively hold each other to a better standard. We became intentional encouragers, noting things that were positive, rather than being amused or confounded by someone else's struggle.

The remaining 20 minutes of the phone call took on a different flavor. It ended on a much better note. Neither of us had to berate or demean the other for the earlier error, we just agreed to move forward in a better way.

I wish it could be this way in all of our conversations, not just with my phone friend, but with everyone. I want to begin to refuse to take the bait when the conversations turn to Obama, or Trump, or who ever is being criticized. I want to watch my language as I mention the poor, or the rich, those on this side of the borders or those on the other side of the borders.

Seeing each person in this world as another person made in the image of God, struggling through life just as I am. There will be places when I do better in some things than those with whom I compare myself. In other places, they may do much better than I. The point is, they are image bearers and deserve my blessing.

*Grace and Peace,
Carl*

St John Church of Christ
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St John, KS 67576
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His Faithfulness Reaches to the Clouds

St John Church of Christ

February 3, 2019

Recently in a phone conversation, we shifted to discussing a mutual friend who had not been overly successful at his chosen vocation. After 2-3 minutes I stopped the conversation, saying I needed to change the topic as a personal discipline for myself. I said that I felt I had moved into gossip and I wanted to do better. My friend, of course, immediately agreed and we shifted our words to describing areas where the mutual friend had done well, better than either of us.

Afterwards we talked about how easy it is to move into areas where we sin verbally, begin to discourage, dismiss, or defeat others. While neither of us would have focused on agreeing to attack our friend, we had begun to be destructive in our language.

Recognizing sin in ourselves, re-evaluating, and turning ourselves 180° to begin to do better is a healthy way to repent. It is the understanding that Satan can utilize the innocence of a phone call to become an opportunity for not only personal sin, but to re-enforce that sin in others. I wanted to make an intentional decision to be a better man of God.

How many times have I forgotten or ignored such behaviors in myself? Not only travelling down a

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SUNDAY: Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am
Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am
Worship Service—10:45 am
WEDNESDAY: Varies by Time of Year (*refer to Bulletin News*)
ELDERS: Richard Breensing, Teddy Gingrich, Terry Sallee,
George Shelton, Tom Turner
DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Chris Mansel, Orrin Feril
TREASURER: Richard Breensing

WORSHIP ORDER FOR FEBRUARY 3, 2019

SONG LEADER: Richard Breensing
GATHERING SONG: No. 155—Highest Place
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Micah 6:8 (Jayce Feril)
SONGS: No. 578—We Will Glorify
No. 266—Majesty
No. 96—I Stand in Awe
No. 800—What a Friend We Have in Jesus
PRAYER: Stan Aldrich
SONG: No. 367—The Scars in the Hands of Jesus
COMMUNION: Tom Turner
Orrin Feril
Chris Mansel
Gary Hornbaker
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril (Psalm 108:3-5)
SONG: No. 853—When We All Get to Heaven
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 915—Trust and Obey (vs 1)
PRAYER: Jerry Kinnamon

(CCLI #2440129)

WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship; please come again!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASS

A parenting class is being offered Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm at Carl & Janet's home. Childcare & a children's Bible Class are offered here at the church building. Parents can drop their kids off at church at 7:00 pm and pick them up at 7:45 pm. Extra help is needed with the childcare/Bible Class—please see Tom if you have any questions.

SYMPATHY

We are saddened to learn of the passing of Tony Diaz, who was involved in a city bus/bicycle accident in Austin, Texas, on Thursday. We extend our sympathy to the Larry Hamm family.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

If you did not get one of the new directories, please see Janet to get a copy!

CONGRATULATIONS!

We wish Chet Lyons the best after his retirement last week!

WOMEN WALKING WITH GOD CONFERENCE

Friday, April 13 (5p-9p); Saturday April 14 (8a-4p)

Registration fee is \$68.

Save your place now to attend this great event!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Anissa Potter—Feb 3
Garland Mansel—Feb 6

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

Gayle Byer—scheduled for cataract surgery in Great Bend this Wednesday, Feb 6th
Glennys Sallabedra (Tom's mother) - in the hospital last week
Stan Aldrich—medical tests last week
Orvalee Aldrich—ongoing health concerns
Alan—Aldrich's neighbor—health concerns
Carol Gingrich—health concerns
Jesse & Justeen Mayer—high risk pregnancy
Beth Wilson—torn meniscus; waiting for surgery
Brent—Marilyn Thornburg's great grandson—(10 yrs old) to have surgery Feb 13th in Dallas
Easton Neidig (Teddy & Carol's great-grandson) - recovering from a broken wrist
Greg Lewis—diagnosed with a brain tumor; Stage 4 cancer
Jill Morphew (Janet's sister-in-law in Lubbock, TX)—ovarian cancer—on hospice care
Caylee Welch—as she goes through drug rehabilitation
Dena Mansel—health concerns
Barbara Schuette (Marla's sister) - improving
Rick Toland (Marla's cousin in Topeka) - cancer
Vince, Teddy's brother-in-law—heart problems
Gayle Sears (Marla's friend) breast cancer; chemo
Kim Staub—Parkinson's
Diane Campbell—MS
Katherine Suiter—cancer
Crystal Easley (Terry/Linda Welch's daughter) - cancer
David Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - Emphysema
Jenny Walker (Carol's sister)
Roger Dick—ongoing cancer treatments
Theo Birkett (Tara's mother)
Jim Soukup (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])
June Cornwell—Kenwood Plaza