

St John Church of Christ

November 29, 2020

Now meeting Online Only

ONLINE



Busyness Isn't Godliness

Our new online Adult Bible Study continues this morning at 10:30. It's based on John McKeel's recent book, *Peter the Friend of Jesus Speaks*. Our programs are available over the internet starting Sundays at 10:30 for Adult Class and 11:00 for Worship. Just visit

www.StJohnChurchOfChrist.org

and select "Sermons" from the menubar at the top, or click this link to visit our page on YouTube:

[St. John Church of Christ](http://St.John Church of Christ)



This story is probably apocryphal since the evidence for it is late, but it has a beautiful lesson, and so I share it with you today in my own words.

This we know: The Church in Ephesus was extremely busy! Priscilla and Aquila prepared the way for the Apostle Paul. Apollos preached there as did Timothy. The first Christian school was in Ephesus (Acts 19:9). From this busy congregation, missionaries established churches all over Asia. It was a busy place, and the Apostle John was worried about them.

How would we feel if the last surviving apostle was a member of our congregation? Likewise, we probably would have certain expectations of how an apostle should act and dress, wouldn't we? But what if it seemed like the apostle was losing his mind in his old age? A report was circulating John had a pet partridge, a bird much like a chicken. This wasn't dig-

nified! Something had to be done. Something had to be said, and so a delegation was appointed to speak to the old man.

They arrived at John's house about dinner time and saw with their own eyes: the story was true. John was not only holding the bird; he was feeding it scraps from his plate! The men began to chide John gently and explained how he must maintain a certain dignity as the last surviving apostle. It was unseemly for him to act like a little child!

The Apostle John looked up, smiled, and fixed his gaze on each one of the busy men. He chuckled and made his point: "You can't keep the bow strung all the time." Then he returned to his little bird.

The point was made. Archers know if you keep the bow strung all the time, it will lose its power. God

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created the Sabbath - a day of rest, and, as necessary as it is to be busy for the Lord, God also expects us to relax and consider life. Busyness isn't godliness!

How about you? Is it time to unstring your bow? I'm going to go find a partridge!



Golden Rules for Living

Miriam Hamilton Keare

- If you open it, close it.
- If you turn it on, turn it off.
- If you unlock it, lock it up.
- If you break it, admit it.
- If you can't fix it, call in someone who can.
- If you borrow it, return it.
- If you value it, take care of it.
- If you make a mess, clean it up.
- If you move it, put it back.
- If it belongs to someone else, get permission to use it.
- If you don't know how to operate it, leave it alone.
- If it's none of your business, don't ask questions.

**Forgiven People
go to
HEAVEN**



News & Prayer Requests

We've been praying constantly for the Turner family in Great Bend. John Turner writes:

Church family,

Maren's doctor's appointments this week went well. Although her counts have fallen significantly this week, doctors are not overly concerned and expect to see a roller coaster pattern. She is still feeling well and she is eating much better this week than last.

Doctors are happy enough with Maren's progress that they are moving her doctor's appointments down to just one per week. This means they are also okay with us living four hours away. Meaning . . . we can all go back to Great Bend next week - on Tuesday!

Maren will have doctor's appointments every Monday so Alicia or myself will take Maren back to KC every Sunday afternoon and return to GB on Tuesdays.

God is good!

John Turner

John and Jan McKeel return from visiting their friend Paul in Washington State this week. Please continue to pray for Paul as he wrestles with stage four cancer.

NOTE: There is no printed bulletin this week while the McKeel's are away.

A Time to Laugh

"What's wrong, Bubba?" asked the preacher.

"I need you to pray for my hearing."

The preacher put his hands on Bubba's ears and prayed. When he was done, he asked, "So how's your hearing?"

"I don't know," said Bubba. "It isn't until next Tuesday."

Wise Words

Lewis Smedes puts it this way: "To miss out on joy is to miss out on the reason for your existence."

Walker Percy describes boredom as "the self stuffed with the self."

"When we die, we leave behind us all we have, and we take with us all we are."

- Author Unknown

