

**Crossville Church
of Christ**
P.O. Box 211
Crossville, TN 38557
Phone:
484-5297 or 484-2960
Live audio streaming
866-883-9291

COMPASS

**Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation**

For live video streaming see Website
www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org
Email: Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org
Elders@crossvillechurchofchrist.org



Elders:

Frank Bohannon
Jonathan Loveday
Larry McDuffee
Brian McLaughlin
Jon Tatum

Deacons:

Jim Bell
Charles Evans
Kyle Fairman
Dale Hennessee
Mike Isaacson
Doug Loveday
Don Napier
Tom Parham
Mark Roberts
Jason Wyatt
Jerry Wood

Ministers:

Alan Judd
Ken Mears

Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson
Jim Waldron

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9
AM	
Sunday Worship	10 AM 6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class	
Tuesdays	11 AM
Prayer Meeting	
Tuesdays	10 AM
Joyful Generation (Youth Devotional & fellowship)	
1st Sunday	7 PM

POLISHING THE PULPIT

(PTP) 365 Audio/Visual Library
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Username:
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crossvilleptp2018

November 25, 2018

*"Fear not, for I am with you;
Be not dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you,
Yes, I will help you,
I will uphold you with My righteous
right hand."
Isaiah 41:10 NKJV*



WHAT IS FLUFFY THINKING?

Alan Judd

I scan news websites from around the country and the world in an attempt to stay up to date on current events. The internet makes this immensely easy, but it has the potential to discourage by providing immediate coverage of tragedies in all corners of the globe. Conversely, if you look hard enough you can find positive reports that bring a smile and help bolster your outlook on the human condition. Frequently, my perusal of the news leaves me perplexed at the utter stupidity some people show and the predictable results that follow. Occasionally, I am driven to the point of laughter at the exposure some new idea gets and this reaction is the one I had to the story that led me to give this article the above title.

According to an article posted on theguardian.com (A British newspaper that now has an online presence and covers news in the U.S. as well as Great Britain and around the world.), Shira Plotzker is now a pet psychic. Plotzker, based out of New York, charges \$100 for a 30-minute session with your favorite furry friend. While dogs and cats are her “specialty” she also has communicated with snakes, horses, wolves, and elephants. Lest you bemoan that your favorite pet has already departed, Plotzker can also communicate with dead dogs, catatonic cats, lamented lizards, and other passed pets for an additional fee.

Lest you think these prices seem exorbitant, the article suggests that Plotzker is in the bottom tier of pet psychic providers. For instance, Laura Stinchfield, a California-based pet psychic, charges \$150 for a 30-minute phone session – and \$200 if it’s an “emergency session”. Lisa Greene, in Houston, charges \$260 an hour for an in-home reading. I am thinking about getting some slick pictures of me holding and cuddling various animals, throw together a website, and undercut all of them by just charging \$75 an hour—that should help offset the boy’s college costs.

You may be wondering why I am telling you about all of this silliness. Yes, I do think it is silliness and people who claim to read the mind of your pet are full of bologna. The people that assert they can read the mind of another are likewise in error as 1 Corinthians 2:11 declares: *“For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.”* I guess I have detailed all of this not to make you laugh, but to provide another reminder at just how far some people go from the realm of reality and what is true. I mention that because of a quote found near the end of the article by Sonya Fitzpatrick, who is considered to be the pioneer in the pet psychic world. She was asked by the author of the article on how to get started in the field and her reply was straightforward: “You just have to trust your imagination.” Well, there you have it! Just trust your imagination and hopefully find some who are more gullible than you who will also trust your imagination and pay you an extravagant sum of money for your imaginative contrivances of their pet’s innermost thoughts.

Sadly, many use their imagination too freely when it comes to knowing the mind of God. They claim that God told them to do this or that when such instruction clearly violates His Word. How do we know the mind of God? We cannot read it unless He tells us and as we noted above Paul told us that He has. Where? In His Word, the Bible! We dare not use our imaginations to suggest or believe that God will do anything other than what His Word plainly declares. I don’t know what Fluffy is thinking, but I know what God is thinking because His Word tells me!

YOURS TODAY, BUT WHAT ABOUT TOMORROW?

Steve Higginbotham

A couple of years ago, a brother in Florida gave me this coin that he had uncovered in Europe more than 50 years earlier. The coin is a Sestertius with the image of the Roman Emperor, Hadrian engraved on it. That places the date of this coin from 118-132 A.D.

My friend who gave me this coin happened to uncover 150 other coins in the same spot. Apparently, 1900 years ago, someone buried some money in the ground for safe-keeping, and for whatever reason, never recovered his treasure.

As I have held this coin in my hand, I have examined it closely and have mused about the person who buried it. What was the person like who once owned this coin? Was this all he had, or did he have money buried in several “stash?” What did he have to do to earn this coin? etc. But the thought that impacts me the most is that this coin once belonged to another person who lived nearly 2000 years ago, and now what was once his is now mine.

When I consider this thought, it seems to help put life into perspective for me. What’s “mine” is only “mine” temporarily. Things for which we work so hard, and value so much, in a few short years will either be trashed or held in the hands of another person. What’s yours today will belong to someone else tomorrow.

In light of this truth, why would I spend my life in a pursuit of that which I cannot keep? Consider the futility of grasping for that which remains mine only for a short time. All the thought, expense, and work expended to own something that someone else will take from me is vanity! Would it not be a much wiser course of action to pursue treasure that will survive the grave, and be mine forever?

Friends, don’t fall in love with money, fall in love with the Lord. Don’t allow your life to be characterized by your pursuit of money, but rather let it be summarized by your pursuit of God. Someday, probably sooner than you realize, all the money that is yours will belong to someone else. When that day comes, it won’t matter what’s in your hands, for your hands will be empty. What will matter is whether the Lord is in your heart, for he is your only hope of glory (Colossians 1:27).

Remember, a million dollars and a bale of hay will be worth the same on judgment day!

