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

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 Sunday Worship 10 AM 6 PM Wednesday 6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class

11 AM Tuesdays **Prayer Meeting**

10 AM Tuesdays

Joyful Generation

Joyful Generation (Youth Devotional & fellowship) 7 PM

POLISHING THE PULPIT

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COMPAS

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

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August 12, 2018

Wednesday Night Summer Series (2018)

OH I WANT TO SEE HIM!

Join us each Wednesday from 6:00-7:00 p.m. July-September

IULY

July 4: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Created Me" Wayne Lankford, Murfreesboro, TN July 11: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Provides for Me" Steve Higginbotham, Knoxville, TN July 18: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Comforts Me" Glenn Randolph, Fairfield Glade, TN. July 25: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Teaches Me" Jason Gann, McMinnville, TN

AUGUST

August 1: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Came For Me" Justin Morton, Knoxville, TN August 8: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Lived For Me" Alan Judd, Crossville, TN August 15: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Died For Me" Clarence DeLoach, Cookeville, TN August 22: "Oh I Want To See the One Who Rose For Me" David Lipe, Cookeville, TN August 29: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Mediates for Me" Dale Barger, Wheeler Hill, TN

SEPTEMBER

September 5: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Forgives Me" Ben Bailey, McMinnville, TN September 12: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Encourages Me" Jeff Archey, Cleveland, TN September 19: "Oh I Want to See the One Who Loves Me" Derrick Coble, Sparta, TN

Page 2 COMPASS

WHAT TO TAKE BACK TO SCHOOL

Alan Judd

It is back to school time! Some rejoice and some resign themselves to this annual occurrence. I was one of those weird kids who enjoyed going back to school and it was probably due to some of the experiences preceding the actual beginning of classes.

My parents, and probably your parents too, would take my sister and I to Wal-Mart or some equivalent business to shop for new school supplies. The store smelled fresher and excitement was in the air as we navigated through aisles and aisles of pencils, crayons, glue sticks, notebooks, lunch-boxes, backpacks, and a myriad of other needed supplies. I was thrilled at the opportunity to select new items to use in the pursuit of learning. After these essentials were selected we continued to shop and picked out some new outfits of clothing to wear and a new pair of athletic, or as we called them "tenny" shoes to use during P.E. class. Yes, I recall those days with fondness. In fact, my mother still has some of these items in her basement including some of my old Trapper Keepers. (If you were not a child of the 80's and 90's you likely will not know what an essential item we believed this was.)

In this article, I would like to suggest three things you need to take back to school with you, whether you are a student or teacher/administrator/staff. Likewise these items are indispensable and should accompany you to the office, factory, or wherever it is that you go day by day.

Take your **FAITH!** I do not have space to provide a full discussion on what faith includes, but I trust you can understand how important it is. Sometimes it is affirmed that faith is a substitute for knowledge, but this is not accurate. Faith is an indispensable aspect of all true knowledge. Some may insist faith is simply belief, but it is much more than this. Many might claim to believe God exists, but this fact does nothing to impact their thinking or shape their behavior. This is not true faith as the Bible defines and uses the term. Faith comes from a knowledge of God's Word and as we grow in knowledge we should have an accompanying growth of faith. Some think knowledge is an enemy of faith, but real knowledge that is based on truth is not to be feared in any way. Furthermore, faith is to accompany our knowledge as is really the correct response to what we know. Think about it this way: our knowledge of a hammer or pen comes from our response to them; how we propose to use them. In the same way, faith is essential because it will properly govern both our acquisition and utilization of knowledge. Christians have nothing to fear from science or history or any other branch of study when they use faith to understand true knowledge. If you do not know this, then you need to investigate. We will gladly help you and provide resources to assist. Compare everything you are expected to learn with faith and you will be able to determine what is right and true and good.

Take your **HOPE!** God expects His people to be filled with joy. This joy should be seen in our attitudes and actions. Many today are living without hope and joy due to an ignorance of the purpose of life and plan of our Creator. When we demonstrate joy, especially in adverse circumstances, we provide a beacon of light in darkness others will see and many times ask about. It is in those times we can introduce them to Jesus our Savior and the hope and joy He gives to all who obey Him!

Take your **LOVE!** We do not love the things God does not love. We do treat everyone with love and kindness as we would like to be treated according to Matthew 7:12. We need to show others we care and by so doing they can see Jesus in us. There are many essential items you need as you go back to school, but take these three with you everywhere every day! We pray everyone has a great school year!

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THE BREVITY OF LIFE B. J. CLARKE

They didn't even know what hit them. Some years ago three professional baseball players, out for an evening of enjoyment and relaxation, smashed into a boat dock at a high rate of speed. Steven Olin died instantly. Tim Crews died hours later at the hospital. Both left behind young wives and young children. In a split second the youthful exuberance, earthly hopes, dreams and goals of these two men were snuffed out of existence. The high priced contracts they had signed were suddenly meaningless. They didn't expect to die that night, but they did.

He didn't even know what hit him. He was sitting in his house in California when a large boulder came tumbling down the mountain adjacent to his home. It smashed through the roof of his house and landed on top of him as he was reclining on the couch. He didn't expect to die that day, but he did.

They didn't even know what hit them. Their names are recorded on the pages of Sacred Scripture for all to behold. Their lives were put out like a candle in an instant. Who can forget about Nadab and Abihu (Lev. 10), the 250 men who offered incense (Num. 16:35), the thousands in the congregation of Israel whose lives were taken by the Lord "as in a moment" (Num. 16:45ff.), the Philistines slain at Samson's death (Judg. 16:29-30), Goliath (I Sam. 17), Uzzah (2 Sam. 6:6ff.), Job's children (Job 1:18-19), 185,000 Assyrian soldiers (Isa. 37:36), the men who threw Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego into the fiery furnace (Dan. 3:22), Belshazzar (Dan. 5:30), the 18 upon whom the tower of Siloam fell (Luke 13:4), the rich fool (Luke 12:13-21), and Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-10)?

The aforementioned examples remind us of the need to heed the inspired words of Proverbs 27:1, "Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day nay bring forth." Truly, there is but a step between us and death (I Sam. 20:3). We are just a heartbeat away from

eternity. We know not the day of our death (Gen. 27:2).

While it is true that God does not miraculously extinguish life today, and whereas we may never die suddenly and without warning, life is still very, very brief. James wrote, "Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away" (Jas. 4:13-14). The Psalmist declared that we spend our years as a tale that is told. "The days of your years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away" (Psm. 90:9-10). Man is of few days and full of trouble. He comes forth like a flower and is cut down. He flees like a shadow and does not continue (Job 14:102).

I do not expect to die today, but I might. So might you. That being the case, we must number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom (Psm. 90:12). We must redeem the time by being prepared at all times for the day of our death (Eph. 5:16). You are not ready to live until you are ready to die!

Are you ready?

