# Larry's Lines...

# how to face Your Enemies

Even when you are doing a good work you will encounter enemies from time to time. How will you face the situation? What will your game plan be? Nehemiah, of old, is a man worthy of our consideration. He effectively dealt with his adversaries.

No sooner had the work begun on the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem than an avalanche of ridicule and mockery fell upon Nehemiah and his workers. "What are these feeble Jews doing?" they asked. And Tobiah the Ammonite laughed, "Yes, what are they building? If a fox goes up on it, he will break down their stone wall." But Nehemiah went right on as though he didn't know they were there. As a medical doctor in the University of Vienna has said: "There is nothing in the world which helps a man surmount his difficulties, survive his disaster, keep him healthy and happy, as knowledge of a life task worthy of his devotion." Let the critics howl. The power of purpose will lift you above the common fear of criticism.

After the adversaries of Nehemiah discovered that they were being ignored "they were very angry; and they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it." What did Nehemiah do? He prayed to God and set up guards. The Samaritans had no taste for an actual conflict, and changed their tactics once they saw that their plans had been foiled.

Consultation with a view to compromise was the next ploy. "Come and let us meet together in one of the villages in the plain of Ono," they cried. But Nehemiah answered, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?" And even though the offer was made four times, it was answered in the same manner each time.

Finally, the vile art of slander was practiced. False letters were written and taken into the city by a prophet who had been bribed. It was stated that Nehemiah was fomenting a rebellion and was planning to make himself an independent king. Such lies where cooly calculated to remove a man's head from the rest of his body. Calmly Nehemiah answered, "No such things as you say has been done, for you are inventing them out of your own mind." "For," said Nehemiah, "they all wanted to frighten us, thinking,' Their hands will drop from the work, and it will not be done.' "Brother, were they fooled! This great prophet knew how to deal with his enemies and still accomplish his work.

The next time you face ridicule, slander, vilification, and the subtle temptation to compromise, remember those words of centuries past, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down."

Have a Great Week.

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# **Upcoming Events**

February 15, 2020 we will be having the **Johnson Iron Sharpening Iron Men's conference** here at the church. It will be from 9am-2 pm. There will be three guest speakers: Cody Bradford, Bruce Bradford, and Rod Leslie. There will also be a bbq lunch. The cost is \$10 and you can pay JP.

Jeremy is looking for mentors for the new kids moving up into the youth program. He needs 8 people willing to work with our youth.

Teachers are needed for the Spring Quarter which begins March 1, 2020.

## Welcome Brother

Please welcome Bob Dickard to the Johnson Family. He has made it known that he wants to be a part of our family and we are so pleased that he made that decision.

# **Poem By Larry**

# The Magic Of Love

The other day I found a penny While walking along the shore. I gave it to one who didn't have any, And it seemed like I had more.

Love is like that little penny. It's magic, so they say. The only time you keep any Is when you give it away.

It' true about that penny I tried it yesterday I had more than plenty when I gave love away.

# Happy Birthday February 2nd Bobby Hill February 3rd Terry Huffmaster February 4th Katie Phillips February 4th Brady Perry February 5th Matthew Goodpasture

Pantry Items
Chili and Crackers

LTC practice schedule.
Sunday, **February 2nd**4-5pm- Drama
5-6pm- Bible Quiz

# February 9th

3-4pm Song leading 4-5pm-Chorus (Will take place every other week (see board for details)

Wednesday Nights
5:30 Puppet Groups
Menu for February 5th
Chicken Strips and Mac&Cheese
February 12th
Lasagna

Convention 2 Events Deadline is February 17, 2020.

JAR Youth



Our next Refuel will be CiCi's Pizza. We will leave here at 5:30pm or you can meet us there.

Our next Teen Devo will be at Barbara Parsley's House, February 22, 2020 at 6:00-8:00pm. Please plan to be there as we continue our Devo theme, "In Focus."

# **Those Needing Our Prayers & Visits**

Those with recent health issues: Phillip Sanders will have surgery
February 18th on his knee, Shirley Hester will have surgery February
11th on her neck, Linda Allen, Kerry George, Abby Williams is having
health issues, Jeff Huffmaster awaiting a kidney transplant, Henry
Hickman is awaiting kidney transplant.

Those fighting Cancer: Van Simpson, Rachel Myers, Nathan Pirtle, Justin Williams (friend of Justin Cavanaugh), Oma Leta Smith, Elaine Nicklas, Eddie Thomas, Kim Williams (Megan Bassing's Aunt), and Carol Edwards (Laura Hughes's sister).

Those who have lost loved ones: The Ashely Martin Family, The Jessica Harriman Family, The Leisa McClelland Family, and The David Cherry Family.

Our Expectant Mothers: Megan Johnson, Rachel Ladymon is on bed rest and Holly McCoy.

Our New Mothers and babies: Amy/Chance, Whitney/Holden and Jordan/Georgie

Shut-Ins who need your continual prayer and consideration! Oma Leta Smith, Lenora Sutton, Emmett Windham, Shirley Bates, Roger and Shirley Gross, Norma Williams, Roy Howard, Betty Jordan, Genevra Montgomery, and Kendra Phillips.

**Remember in Prayer:** Our Military Service Men and Women deployed overseas and protecting our country abroad and at home. The leaders of our Church, our community, our state, and our country.

# **BIBLE CLASSES THIS QUARTER**

# **SUNDAY MORNING:**

Adult Auditorium Class: Matt Bassing. Romans
Adult Class #1: Beginning of Hall. Joe Harriman. 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus
20-30's. Downstairs. Justin Goforth & Darron Mitchell. The Identity of Jesus.
JAR YOUTH. Chesley Martin, Chris Witt, & Matt Johnson. Matthew/Joshua

# **WEDNESDAY NIGHT:**

Adult Auditorium Class: Terry Huffmaster. Daniel
Adult Class Downstairs: Mike Mitchell. In depth Bible Study
Adult Class #2:End of Hall. Doug Goodpasture. Song of Solomon
Ladies Class. Beginning of Hall. Leah Myers. One Word Study
JAR YOUTH. Chesley Martin, Chris Witt, & Matt Johnson. Matthew/Joshua

# THE LORD'S DAY ORDER OF WORSHIP

# **WELCOME Terry Huffmaster**

Song Leader Randall Harriman

I will Call Upon The Lord

Mansion Over the Hilltop

**OPENING PRAYER Chris Witt** 

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

# **COMMUNION SCRIPTURE**

I Peter 2:21-24

**Communion Prayer** 

**LORD'S SUPPER** 

**Hymn #PP Only** Light The Fire

SERMON SCRIPTURE Acts 2:42-47 Phillip Sanders

# Share The Table



**Listen To Our Hearts** 

**Announcements** 

Closing Hymn #959 Just a little Talk With Jesus

> **Closing Prayer** Jared Cobb



# **February Events**

# **February 8th**

Teen Hosted Honor Banquet

# February 22nd

Teen Devo @Barbara Parsley

# February 11th

Threads of Love

# February 13th

**Elders Meeting** 

# February 15th

Iron Sharpening Iron Men's Conference

## February 17th

Convention Registration Deadline

# February 18th

Threads of Love

# February 20th

**Elders Meeting** 

# February 23rd

4th Sunday Devo and Fellowship (Italian) 40's and 50's Hosting and Cleaning up

# **March Events**

# March 8th

Green Valley Sign Up is OPEN

## March 10th

Threads of Love

# March 12th

**Elders Meeting** 

# March 14th

Teen Devo @ The Nordin's

# March 15th

VBS Planning Meeting 5pm

# March 21-28

Honduras Spring Break Trip

## March 23rd

Threads of Love

# March 26th

Elders Meetina

# March 27-28

Ladies Retreat

# March 29th

Youth Led Services

# **April Events**

# April 5th

LTC Preview 4pm

# April 8th

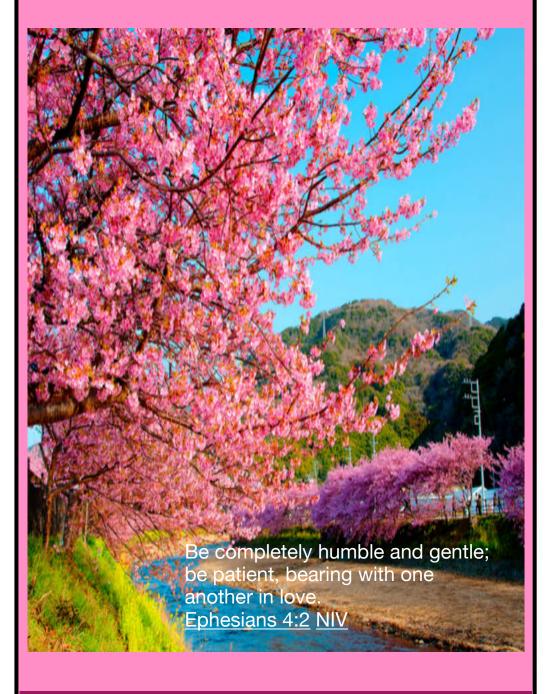
Youth Girls Led Ladies Class

# 10-11

LTC Conference

# Welcome

Johnson church of Christ



**February 2, 2020**