



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
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**Confidence
Comer
John F. Board**

In this week's *Confidence Comer* we want to examine the holiness of God. This concept, if understood in some small degree, will bless our lives im-

mensely. Let us consider a few thoughts together.

In Leviticus 19:1-2 Israel was enjoined to "be ye holy for I the LORD your God am holy." Holy living, as well as all basis for Christian ethics, is based in the holiness of God. It is God Who is holy. He is so holy, He is referred to by some scholars as the "wholly other." The only way Israel or we can be holy is because God has made it possible for us to have a connection to Him.

God's connection to us enables our holiness. It was God's presence that made the ground holy upon which Moses stood. It was the presence of God above the mercy seat that made the Most Holy Place, holy.

Comparing God to deities worshipped by Israel's contemporaries, He stands alone. Often referred to as merely "the Holy One" YHWH was unlike the false gods worshipped by other nations. Those deities, rather than being viewed as holy, were often more debase and sensual than the people who praised them.

If you indeed want to study the holiness of God, examine almost anywhere in Scripture. A few places I might suggest for further study would be Psalm 99 (see especially vs. 3, 5, 9) and Isaiah 6:1ff. Our God is indeed Holy; I pray the thought impacts your life.

jfb

Some of you may know that baseball season is just around the corner. As I was thinking about opening day I began to chase a thought. There are 43 days until the baseball season starts, 192 days until col-

lege football begins this fall, and 203 days until the NFL season begins again. It is only 315 days until Christmas. We spend a lot of time thinking about how many days until this or that. Seniors in high school or college count down the days to graduation, an engaged couple counts down the days until their wedding, Halloween enthusiasts count down the days to Halloween. We count down days to many different things, and we even dedicate a lot of time in preparation for a particular day. We get our homes ready for the holidays. We get our minds and fandom attitude ready for our team's first game of the season.

What else are you counting down? What are you not so excited about? Are there things you're not as excited about that you don't count down the days til? We know how many days there are until a particular holiday or opening day and can even have it narrowed down to the minutes and seconds. How often do we count down to the next worship service or even the next Wednesday night Bible study for that matter? Though we don't know when that day will be are you looking forward to when you get to be in eternity? Are you looking forward to when you get to serve someone again? The fact of the matter is, we don't know when Jesus is coming again, but we do know He is coming back. What are we doing to prepare for that day? Why do we prepare for something that happens every year, when we should be making ourselves ready for HIS return?

**Mitchell's
Weekly
Manna
Mitchell Lockhart**

Sunday's Sermons:

**A.M. — Worship In Spirit and Truth
John 4:23-24**

**P.M. — If You Love Me
John 15:12-15**

What's Your Plan?

I suppose it is fair to say that most anything we want to accomplish in life can be better achieved if we set up a plan of attack. I've watched others prepare for all the tasks they must meet by making a plan or keeping a detailed journal. I had an elder years ago, before cell phones, who would purchase me a complete Franklin Planner! It was a fantastic system to enable productivity.

I would venture to guess that Nick Saban and Dabo Swinney have a daily plan of attack. The success they have experienced in their field is quite remarkable. An Olympian does not haphazardly go about their life; they have specific plans to meet specific goals at particular times.

While we recognize this in so many other areas, I wonder if our Christian walk is not as good as it could be because we do not plan for success in this most crucial area. If we fail to plan, we plan to fail. Consider some plans you could make to ensure a more celebrated Christian walk.

Plan to spend time with God every day.

Each day God allows us 1440 minutes every day of our life. How many of those minutes do you spend with God? There are several ways you can spend time with God each day. First, as you awake, pray to the God who has given you another day of life. Next, spend time in His Word. Our faith grows in direct proportion to the amount of time we spend reading His Word (Romans 10:17). Even when you are driving or walking, you can meditate upon the Word you have hidden in your heart.

Plan to be present at every opportunity to worship God.

If meeting each time the doors are open is not a regular practice for you, why don't you try giving it a chance for two months? I am willing to say your life will be blessed for doing so. Remember, not only are worship assemblies a chance to worship God, they can also be opportunities to spur others on to love and good works (Heb. 10:24). I wonder who came to services to worship God and then hoped also to see you because they had something they wanted to share or ask?

Plan to seek opportunities to share your faith.

Honestly, unless we make mindful efforts to reach others with the gospel, this will be one of those things we also are fully intending to do but never really get done. It is too easy to think I will teach someone someday. Someone is too vague and someday is nowhere specific enough. Start by praying to God for some soul seeking help and hope in their life. When you find them, become their friend, As opportunity presents itself, teach them the Gospel.

In all that we do, if we seek to succeed, we must make plans. I hope you will consider making plans to aid you in achieving in the most crucial area of your life—your Christian walk!

*John F. Board
Elizabethtown, KY*