



The Caller

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

In this week's *Confidence Corner* we continue our study of the sacred Word of God. One thing that I would like to do soon is to take the family to Washington D.C. Kayleigh has had a strong desire to visit our nation's Capital; the only previous time she was there she was very young and we mainly drove past a few places of interest.

One place that I would love to visit is the rotunda of the National Archives. It is there that one of the greatest documents in American history (and arguably human history), the American *Declaration of Independence* is housed. As we probably remember from the movies, *The Declaration of Independence* rests under green-filtered glass in a bronze case filled with inert helium gas and is lowered every night into a climate-controlled vault some twenty-two feet below the floor.

As revered as *The Declaration of Independence* is to many, it pales in comparison to the document that is the basis for our spiritual freedom, the *Bible*. The *Bible* contains 66 individual books composed over 1,600 years written by humans of various occupations. It was written on three different continents and in three different languages. Yet, this document contains a unified theme that cannot be denied.

We do not have space to study each book of the Bible, but one is particularly illustrative, the Gospel of Luke. Luke possessed remarkable knowledge of the Greek language. He was an extremely accurate historian. He revealed that he investigated and traced out carefully all that he would record in his account of the Gospel. If you have never done so I encourage you to examine the writings of Sir William Ramsay regarding Luke the historian. William Ramsay traveled to the Middle East to disprove Luke's historical references and how, to his great surprise, he found the writings of Luke accurate in their most minute details. I promise it will be a faith building experience.

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What is my purpose in life? That is the question that humans ask themselves on a daily basis. What am I supposed to do in my life? What does God want me to be? Is my purpose and God's purpose for me the same? Maybe you find yourself wondering the same thing.

Maybe you have found your purpose in life, but maybe your trying to find your purpose in a relationship, in a workplace, or in another aspect of life. If you are having some difficulty finding your purpose in life have you tried involving God in your search? Have you asked "He who made you" for your purpose? I think the hardest part about finding our purpose is figuring out whether or not we have actually found it. Sometimes we find something that could be our purpose, but then we ask if it is really our purpose.

Here are some steps that can help us find our purpose: 1) Find out what drives you. If you have found your purpose it will lead you to being better. 2) Find out what energizes you. You will be rejuvenated and reenergized by getting to be involved in your purpose. 3) Find out what you are willing to sacrifice. If you find your purpose there are a lot of things you will give up simply because nothing is more important than your purpose 4) Find out *who* you want to help. Look for an organization or group in which you can see yourself making a difference. 5) Find out *how* you want to help. How do you get involved to make a difference? 6) Most importantly pray about it. This helps insure that you are living out the purpose that He has in place for you.

Mitchell's Weekly Manna Mitchell Lockhart

Sunday's Sermons:

**A.M. — What Can We Do?
1 Corinthians 3:1-9**

**P.M. — The Spiritual Mind
1 Corinthians 2:11-16**

How Great the Destruction

According to an article on line, Paradise California is not the only place that has suffered destruction due to wildfires. An article on MSN webpage notes,

"Destructive wildfires are regular events in Malibu, but last month's Woolsey fire could prove to be the worst ever to strike the upscale coastal community.

At least 670 structures were destroyed inside the Malibu city limits, including more than 400 single-family homes with an estimated market value of at least \$1.6 billion, according to an analysis of aerial imagery and property records conducted by the Los Angeles Times and Zillow, the real estate website.

"There's so much destruction," said Chris Cortazzo, a Malibu real estate agent, who lost his home on Mulholland Highway, just outside the city. "Everyone's a little shell-shocked." (<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/theres-so-much-destruction-malibu-homes-bumed-in-fire-worth-at-least-dollar16-billion/ar-BBQqpFT>).

It is very difficult to imagine the destruction these places have experienced unless we see them first hand. I believe it is also difficult for people to see the destruction sin brings to their souls because they do not physically see such destruction.

The fires of Malibu are estimated to have brought destruction in the \$1.6 billion dollar range. But consider this fact regarding your soul. Jesus once asked the following question, "What will it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Matt. 16:26)

Did you catch what Jesus implied? Jesus was teaching that there is nothing more valuable than your soul! The destruction that "unforgiven" sin brings to your soul is eternal. We must realize before it is too late just how serious sin can be.

Have you done what God requires of you to have your sins forgiven? Until you do your sin will continue to keep you separated from God. If you die in such a condition, you will be eternally separated from God. Please don't allow that to happen to your soul.

God loves us enough that He provides forgiveness through His Son Jesus. Jesus came to seek and save the lost. Are you among those who have responded to God's grace with a faith response? If not why not arise today and be baptized so that your sins may be washed away?

*John F. Board
Elizabethtown, KY*