#### **Church Growth**



**Publishina** Contributor

Sin! It creeps into our lives like a slithering serpent from whom it comes. Oh, how we need to be forgiven! How we want to be forgiven. God is good, and wants to have a relationship with all His creatures. However, our sins and iniquities stand between us and our creator. Knowing this to be the real problem of all mankind, God sent His Son Jesus as an offering for the sins of the world.

We now have two choices: to accept the free gift of forgiveness from our sins, or accept the penalty of condemnation that

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Jobe Publishing

Contributor

we deserve.

Thank God for the grace that He offers to each of us through Jesus! There is no other way to God except through Christ, and we have to follow His way, and accept His truth in order to receive His gift of eternal life with the Father.

There is one thing that must be remembered however, and that is that we will not receive any more forgiveness than we are willing to extend to those who have wronged us. must understand that we don't forgive others for God's sake. We don't forgive another for the sake of the one who has wronged us. We forgive for our sake, for without forgiving them, we cannot see God.



#### A visit to Dr. Quackly

today to see if he could do somethin' fer my bad cough. Th' doc checked my chest and throat and allowed I'd have to have a shot. Now doctors don't mess with givin' shots. They got a sadistic lab technician to do th' dirty

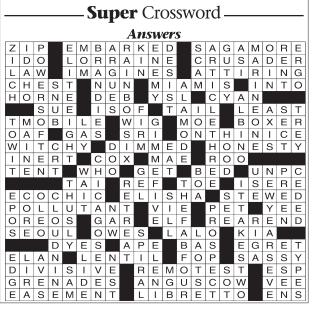
I thought I'd be ready and I rolled my sleeve up. When she came in and noticed my sleeve rolled up she smiled and evil

I went to see Dr. Quackly smile and said, "Buster we ain't givin' no shots in th' arm today!"

Why do they give shots so fer from where th' trouble is? Shucks, I had a bad throat and that's not near where I got th'

Ain't it funny how the doctors will say, "I'm gonna 'give' you somethin' for your cold?" Their 'gives' usually winds up costin' a week's pay!

### Thank you to our readers for all of your continued support of the **Monroe County Citizen**





Celebrating Christmas

# ABOUT

By CAROL PERKINS

Jobe Publishing Contributor

#### Christmas after **Christmas**

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at the Perkins' house happens the week after Christmas, so we have just completed our "Merry Christmas" and "Happy New Year" with Jon and his family and Carla and hers. Not being accustomed to having anyone in the house except the two of us, the sounds of youth coming from every room and the long discussions among adults were blessings. The kitchen was always bustling with activity because each has special dishes from Frito pie (Noah) to spaghetti (J.C.) to mashed potatoes (Luke) to creamed corn (Eme).

The most exciting gift could have been the crossbow for J.C. When his family moved from Brentwood to Chapel Hill, TN (which is much like Edmonton), J.C. came home one day from middle school and announced that it was bow season. (He has never been hunting.) That prompted the new bow. He can now take out an elephant. After hours of his dad putting it together, everyone went outside to watch the "shooting." There are two arrows that will forever remain in a tree in our yard!

My tradition, when the kids are all together, is to take them to a movie. After arguing over what to see, we settled on "CATS." Luke (16) read the horrible reviews, so I thought it would be fun to see for ourselves. J.C. had just seen the play at TPAC and I had slept through most of it years ago at the KCPA in Louisville, so I was game to see how the movie version might compare. Eme and Noah hated it; J.C. loved it, I didn't mind it, and Luke thought it was weird!

On the day before they left, we made a trek to Bowling Green for lunch, and then Eme and I went shopping while everyone else went to the Corvette plant. This was a special day because it was Guy's birthday and taking him out to lunch was the plan. I must confess that when I got up the morning, I forgot. I had the card ready but did I think of it? No. How embarrassing when the following conversation occurred.

Jon had planned to leave at ten, have lunch in Bowling Green, get to the Corvette plant by one, and then after the tour, go to Haywood to visit Aunt Carolyn (Berry). Getting everyone out the door that early seemed impossible so Jon suggested switching the plan to going to the plant at eleven and eating last. Guy's radar went off. "Son, you surely know that I am not going to wait until one to eat." Jon assured him he would not starve. We have a saying between us that goes like this: "It's not all about you!" So, I pulled that one out of my hat. "Guy, you do realize it's not all about you!"

Jon looked at me and said, "This time, I believe it is about him since it's his birthday!" Talk about mortified, I could

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#### Judgment within the Church



Jason Abston Jobe Publishing

Contributor

1st Corinthians 5:1-2, "It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away

It is easy today to find virtually any doctrine being taught among groups that call themselves Christian. The reality is that even among the truly faithful today there is a serious issue with discipline, both individual and within the church body.

from among you.'

There are many who falsely believe and teach that we shouldn't judge issues that arise within the church. Using the Bible as the final authority on this we can clearly see that there are times that the church does need to deal with things.

Within the Corinthian church, there was an individual who was having an affair with his stepmother. The Apostle Paul was heavily

critical of the church for not dealing with it. The church felt they were doing well by bringing in the multitudes by not criticizing the lifestyle many of them brought with them.

In verse six Paul sets the record straight on this issue: "Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?" His concern was that if sin wasn't dealt with by the church, it would grow. Paul told the church that if the individual didn't repent and change his lifestyle that he needed to be removed from the church.

1st Corinthians 5:11, "But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such a one no not to eat."

This topic is one that isn't popular and one that some might find offensive but the reality is dealing with sin within the church is very important. If the Apostle Paul was pastoring a local church today, he wouldn't be very popular among many members because of this. In 2nd Corinthians,

See JUDGMENT, Page 5



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#### Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle 8 6 9 1 3 4 2 1 7 8 3 4 2 6 5 6 1 4 1 9 5 7 6 ace a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆ ◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY! © 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down, and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Weekly SUDOKU -Answer

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# **HOCUS-FOCUS HENRY BOLTINOFF**

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Button is missing. 2. Skirt is different. 3. Food splat is missing. 4. Chair back is lower. 5. Nose is smaller. 6. Hair is different.