

BETHEL MATTERS

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A Healthy Leadership Lesson Learned by a Famous Pastor in Crisis

Many years ago Pastor David Jeremiah faced a crisis in his family life. His adopted daughter as a teen became involved with drugs. When he found out, he discovered the root of it was from some issues related to the adoption that his daughter was struggling with that Pastor Jeremiah and his wife were unaware existed. Of course, this caused some real soul-searching for a pastor. Was this a failure as a father that disqualified him from the ministry because his daughter was involved in illegal activity? Did he no longer measure up to what the Lord expected of a pastor-elder because his daughter had gotten out of his control?

When Dr. Jeremiah went to 1 Timothy 3 and the qualifications for pastor-elders in the church, he observed something that had a big impact on his outlook. Verse 4 says, *He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive.* Pastor Jeremiah realized the text did not say that his kids could not have any sinful problems, but that he was to make sure that he managed those problems. In other words, Scripture is not saying a pastor's family will be perfect (what an unrealistic & unhealthy expectation), but that when serious issues of disobedience arise, the pastor-elder manages them bringing necessary correction to his children.

What David Jeremiah saw, which he hadn't seen before, is that the requirement is that the pastor-elder not neglect the management of his family and just let the problem continue unaddressed. This is the indictment that God had against Eli the priest in 1 Samuel. Rather than dealing with his sons who were abusing the priesthood, he let them continue and God said to Eli that you *"honor them above me,"* 1 Samuel 2:27-36. Dr. Jeremiah said the issue for him was not that his daughter had a serious problem, but that he needed to manage it, not just let it fester by neglect.

For the Jeremiahs it ultimately led to entering their daughter into a Christian-based drug treatment program for teens. The addiction was more than they could manage alone; they needed to get outside, professional help. By God's grace, they saw their daughter respond to the treatment, overcome her drug use, and begin to faithfully follow the Lord. It was a combination of parental management, the intervention of others, and God's ability to turn a life around. PTL!

What Pastor Jeremiah did, along with his wife's help for sure, highlights one aspect of healthy leadership that is essential for the healthy direction of a church. Remember from our last article that we saw in Titus 1 that pastor-elders must be spiritually healthy in three areas: 1) family life (1:6), 2) personal life (1:7-8), & 3) public ministry (1:9). Family life in v. 6 says *"the husband of one wife, & his children are faithful & not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination."*

When a father allows his children to become negatively like what v. 6 depicts, without taking the measures necessary for correction (while they are living under his roof as minors), it reveals inattention, passivity or weakness. The longer it goes on the more ingrained it becomes and difficult to change. It not only undercuts the pastor-elder's reputation making his ministry ineffective, but it sets the wrong example to other fathers about their priorities. Pastor Jeremiah set the example for every spiritual leader. Healthy doctrine means making our families a priority, and managing kids' problems with all diligence while living at home, so that correction and health can be regained. The church is blessed with elders who do this. Everyone learns.

Your friend, needing God's help,
Pastor Brian (:-)

From the Family Life Pastor:

A Bible lesson to share:

As I read through the Bible each year, there are some events recorded that really connect with me.

One of my favorite recorded events in the Bible is found in the account of Joseph found in the book of Genesis (chapters 37-50). I would like to share a few tidbits from some of the things that I learned and was reminded of from the life of this man of God.

When Joseph is introduced to us he is seventeen years old. He was the “favorite” son of his father Jacob, because he was born to Jacob’s “favorite” wife. Because his brothers knew he was a favorite and after Joseph told them of a couple of dreams that he had, they hated him and were planning on killing him. God intervened and protected Joseph – because the dream that Joseph had was regarding a future even that God knew would happen, but this family did not understand at the time.

Joseph was sold into slavery, falsely accused and put in prison for several years, but everywhere that Joseph went, the people around him were blessed – and they recognized that God was blessing them because of Joseph.

After being in prison for a period of time, Joseph interprets some dreams for fellow prisoners, and then eventually for Pharaoh has a dream and one of the prisoners tells Pharaoh about Joseph’s ability to interpret dreams and Pharaoh, who had not found anyone else who could interpret his dreams has Joseph brought to him. In Genesis 41:14-16 we read: *So Pharaoh sent for Joseph and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. Pharaoh said to him “I had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it.”* Here is one of the significant things that happened – notice Joseph’s response – *“I cannot do it, Joseph replied to Pharaoh, but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires”.* Joseph very humbly and graciously points out that he cannot give the interpretation, but God can. He is humble and gives God the glory. This is an important lesson for us and we need to do the same. Too many are so concerned with themselves that they will take the glory if there is any to be shared or given, and do not give the Glory to God who is the one who should receive it.

One other wonderful lesson from these verses that I’d like to share goes back to the beginning of our following of Joseph. In chapter 37, this seventeen year old had a dream that his brothers would come to him and bow down to him, and a second dream in which his father, mother and brothers (his whole family) would come to him

and bow down to him. He didn’t know what that meant, and they didn’t either, other than they were angry with him and talk about killing him but instead sell him into slavery. Then, after he interprets the dream of Pharaoh, his brothers do come to him to bow down, because Pharaoh had made him the second highest in all of Egypt. Later, his brothers and father and his whole family come and bow down to him because he was in control of all of Egypt.

Here is the next thing that is significant from these verses – Genesis 50:15-21 – *“When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said ‘what if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrong we did to him?’* (Remember they had sold him into slavery) So the brothers send a message saying that their father had asked them to say this to Joseph – *“I ask for you to forgive your brother’s sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly. Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father... His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him (bowed) – Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”* This humble, gracious man of God forgives these brothers and points out that he is not God.

In the incident with Pharaoh and here, Joseph points out that he is not God, he can’t do the things requested on his own, but God can do it through him. We can all learn from Joseph. Go and read about this man in the book Genesis.

In Christ’s love,
Pastor Hank

Youth Events & Activities

Junior High Youth Group

6th - 8th Graders

Sundays 5:30 - 7:00 PM

Questions: contact Dave Dahlstrom
or Brian Steede

Senior High Youth Group

9th - 12th Graders

Sundays 5:30 - 7:00 PM

Questions: contact Jon Motta

Chris Mauser, Director of Youth Ministries
330-550-0141

christopher.mauser@gmail.com

Prayer Chain & Official Notices

bethelemail@gmail.com

If you have a prayer request or information that you want shared, please send that to the email address above. If you are not receiving email prayer requests or notices, please contact Ann or Ellen in the church office at 228-7589.

**Items for the March Issue
of Bethel Matters
are due in the office
by, Sunday, February 19th.**

**Items for the Happenings
are due in the office
by Wednesday noon.**

Have you visited our Bethel Website?

Check it Out at:

www.bethelmarquette.com

Audio Sermons are posted weekly
along with items of interest,
Bethel Matters, Calendar,
and Happenings.

February Birthday/Anniversary to:

2. Effie Smaby
3. Sandy Petrovich
4. Bill Kosa
5. Stan & Judy Taylor (A)
8. Michelle Baumgartner
9. Marilyn Morrison
10. Ryan Salo
12. John Janofski
14. Nick & Effie Smaby (A)
15. Ed Deyo, Hilda Johnson (80 yrs)
18. Miles Jentoft, Evelyn Giroux
20. Dave Petrovich
21. Miranda Millin, Emily Nelson
24. Joe & Leanne Mackey (A)
25. Karen Helmila, Dan Freeborn, Pete & Julie Glover (A)
27. Montie Motta, Gwen White
28. Dave Michels, Samuel Saberniak (1 yr)

In Sympathy to:

Jeff & Jamie Marker following the recent death of Jamie's Grandpa, Clarence Russell (Coke) Thomas. The funeral was held in Negaunee.

Congratulations To:

Jim & Gwen Timmons on the December 16th birth of their first grandchild, Eleanor Ann Timmons born to their son Court and Megan. She weighed in at 6 lbs. 14 ozs.

Siena Lingle on a successful downhill ski racing season so far this year. She has won several ribbons.

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Ministry or Mission Moments

Thinking about requesting some time in our Sunday services for a ministry or mission moment? We have forms on the church website (www.bethelmarquette.com) to begin the process.

Once at the website:

* click on "about us"

* select "documents & request forms"

* fill out "Bethel's Ministry Moments Presentation Request"

* return the completed form to the church office.

This will begin the process of scheduling your Ministry or Missions Moment. Please try to plan ahead and give multiple dates as our services are full and fill up quickly.

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Meal Planning Program Begins

If you know of any family or individual that would benefit from the blessing of meals provided by the congregation (new baby, adoptive child, tragedy, illness, etc.) contact Brooke Loewen at blloewen@gmail.com or (906) 201-1083. An online meal schedule will be created. The link to the meal schedule will be sent out via the Bethel information and notices (bethelemail@gmail.com) and posted on our

Facebook page for anyone interested in providing a meal. Sign up for the meal involves: clicking on the link, entering your name, contact info and meal. You will be able to see already fulfilled days as well as days still needing a meal. All allergy, food aversion/preferences, and contact information for the meal recipient will be listed. If you do not have access to the Internet, contact Brooke to be added to the schedule. The Congregational Care Board is so appreciative of Brooke's willingness to oversee this new program for us. Our prayer is that you will all be willing to participate in providing a meal for one of our families as the need arises.



Family Movie Night

Friday, February 3rd, 6 PM

bring a blanket, pillow, sleeping bag chair or whatever you would like to watch the movie on.

Popcorn and drinks will be provided.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. We encourage our junior & senior high youth to attend as well.



Bible Studies

For Men

Tuesdays, 6:30 AM, Coachlight Restaurant
Questions: contact Pastor Hank 228-7589

For Women

Tuesdays, 6:15 PM at church
 "The Promised One - Seeing Jesus in Genesis"
 by Nancy Guthrie.
Questions: contact Sarah Goupil at 250-6130

Thursdays, 9:30 AM at church
 "The Best Yes" by Lysa Terkeurst
 Making wise decisions in the
 midst of endless demands.
Questions: contact Bethany Jentoft at 458-9310
 Childcare is provided on Thursday morning.

Adult Bible Fellowships

Sundays at 10 AM

Group #1 College - 29 years old
 Meets in the church library
 Topical Studies

Group #2 Ages 30-42
 Meets in Room #2 in Family Life Center
 Studying the Gospel of John

Group #3 Ages 43-55
 Meets in Room #6 in Family Life Center
 Studying "30 Life Principles"

Group #4 Ages 56-69
 Meets in Room #3 in Family Life Center
 Studying the book of Hebrews

Group #5 Ages 70+
 Meets in the Wheat Room
 Studying "Culture Shock"

Adult Bible Fellowships are a wonderful way to connect and get to know one another.

AWANA Information

Workers' Meal - Mondays at 5:30 PM

AWANA meets on Mondays from 6:30 - 8:05 PM through April for grades K-6

Monthly Schedule

- * February 6th - regular club night
- * February 13th - regular club night
- * February 20th - theme night  & 
wear a hat & mustache
and receive a candy treat
- * February 27th - AWANA Grand Prix
Racer Check-In at 5:30 PM
Design Judging at 6:15 PM
Race Begins at 6:30 PM
Cars must not exceed weight and size limits listed in your directions.
Cars will be on sale January 30th, February 5th, 12th, & 19th. Cost is \$4.

Questions: contact Josh Vissering at 360-0201

Snow Day Policy: If Marquette Public Schools are closed, we will not have AWANA. If the weather turns questionable after school is out, listen to radio station WHWL for cancellation notice and/or check our website www.bethelmarquette.com or our Bethel Facebook page for updates.

From the Mailbox:



Dear Friends at Bethel,
Here's wishing you a Happy New Year filled with many blessings, joy, and peace.

We are so thankful for our Bethel Family. Thank you for your friendship, love, and partnership with us as we reach college students. Thank you for your generous Christmas gift. You encourage us greatly. God Bless you in 2017.

Love,
Dave & Susan Michels
U.P. Cru

Dear Friends at Bethel,

Thank you so much for your special Christmas greetings and financial gift to us. We deeply appreciate it.

In addition to our work at Pinnacle, Gary is serving as the transitional (interim) pastor at our home church in Mosinee. We hope to call a new senior pastor sometime later this year.

Christmas was very busy; the elders had decided to just have a Christmas morning service, however we've traditionally had a candlelight Christmas Eve Service, and so many folks expressed disappointment at not having it, that we added it back in on fairly short notice. So, we did both services and each turned out to be meaningful & memorable.

God's blessings on you in 2017, and thank you again for your support to us.

In Jesus,
Gary & Marie Harrison
Pinnacle Ministries

Dear Bethel Family,

Thank you very much for the Christmas Gift Card and Prayers. All this really touched our hearts. May the Lord richly bless the Bethel Family.

In Christ,
Gwen & Jedidiah White

Dear Bethel Family,

Thank you so much for the gift card for Jeffrey's Restaurant for Christmas. Your generosity is such a blessing to my family. We're so glad to be a part of such a wonderful church family.

Judy Larson

NMU Students

You are invited for dinner and Bible study on Sundays at 6pm at Matthew & Laura

Songer's home, 2645 West Grove Street, MQT. The study is "The Truth Project". Invite another student for a great meal, great fellowship, and great study. Alternate location is at Cliff & Eleanor Maier's, 1903 Mildred, MQT.

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Primetimers' Activity

Watch for information about a new movie hopefully coming to Marquette. The title is, "The Resurrection of Gavin Stone". If you hear of a date that it is to arrive, please call Sandy Thomsen at 226-7232. Watch your email for plans to see it as an ABF. We will meet in the community room at Thomas Theater for supper and then the movie. (Bethel's Former Pastor Bob & Mary Donaldson's grandson plays young Gavin Stone in the movie, Julie Motta's nephew.)

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Everyday Evangelism (EE)

A Life Impacted by an

"As You Are Going" Encounter

Jesus' last command, translated literally, is "As you are going make disciples..." (Matthew 28:19). One of the benefits of EE is that it trains people how to be witnesses as "they are going." An example of this is the following: A few weeks ago an EE couple was blessed with this experience. They were in McDonalds and as they approached their booth a lady in the adjacent booth commented on the lady's boots. That lead into a further conversation of asking if she lived in Marquette and what brought her here, etc. She seemed ready for more conversation and opened right up. She told them that her husband died 30 years ago and about her car accident that left her partially handicapped. They asked what she did while she still was able to work. Then she asked them, "And what do you do?" They responded, "Interesting that you should ask. We spend a lot of time trying to help people know how they can be sure of going to heaven. Are you sure?" Well, as she answered the question initially, it seemed that she wasn't. The couple then carefully and briefly proceeded to share the Gospel with her. She revealed that she used to attend another evangelical church, but hadn't for many many years, but

also that she had accepted Jesus and was baptized. She said "I never heard it (the Gospel) put like that before." The short of the story is that they invited her to Bethel and the NewComers Class. The next Sunday she was there, and thoroughly enjoyed the class and the service. She was there the following Sunday as well. She later told someone, "I am glad they talked to me. It was the right time." It looks like she is going to keep on coming. We share this to help encourage us all to be open to opportunities that God gives us as "we are going." These opportunities are not always planned, except by God. Let us let Him lead us.

Perhaps you say, "I could never do that!" You'd be surprised! EE is here to help folks learn how to begin spiritual conversations, what to say then, how to answer objections, how to close, and how to do follow-up. If you feel you would like to become more confident and effective in your witnessing, join EE on Wednesday, February 1 at 6:00 p.m.

- Eleanor Maier

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Men & Boys Breakfast Saturday, February 11th

Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast prepared for you by Pastor Hank. There will be great table conversations and masculinely themed table decorations. A time of singing will be led by David Paul, a testimony relevant to you, and a chance to get to know other men & their boys. Please sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board so enough food can be prepared.



Nursery Worker Training
Sunday, February 26th
during the 8:30 and 11:15 AM services



Vacation Bible School 2017
Monday - Saturday
June 19th - 23rd

Exploring the coolest Book on the planet.

Lake Ellen Camp Information

February 10-12
Married Couples' Retreat

February 11th
Hymn Sing

February 17-19
Youth Chill Out Retreat
grades 6-12

February 24-26
Snow Kamp
grades 3-5

Go to their website (www.lakeellencamp.com)
for registration information.

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The following was written by Pastor Kevin Janofski, son of Kurt & Shelley Janofski and a former Bethel youth. Kevin pastors a church in Kentucky.

Not Another Sermon

It was cold as I drove to the church. The way the snowflakes were falling it seemed like God was throwing a late New Year's Eve bash – white confetti everywhere – colliding into cars and canvassing the streets. "Time for some chili." I thought.

As I drove, I turned up the radio. I listen to the radio every single day but on this day I had extra incentive. Exactly twenty years ago my Grandfather went to meet his Savior.

I was ten years old on that day and I remember walking around the sanctuary after the service. In the back of the sanctuary were two kids talking and playing with balloons, leftover from the service (since my grandpa was ready and was rejoicing – we thought we should too).

I heard one of the kids say: "Now we can't pop these balloons – because remember – these are Bob's balloons."

My grandpa fought courageously in World War II. He faithfully loved his wife for over 50 years. He taught his kids to believe in and love Jesus. He obeyed the Word by joining and submitting to a local church and served in that church humble and actively as long as he possibly could. But perhaps the most amazing about him is that he lived such a wondrous life that a couple of hyperactive kids wouldn't dare pop his balloons. That is reverence.

To remember my grandfather and honor his memory my parents sponsored a day dedicated to my grandfather on their local radio station, WHWL, in Marquette, Michigan. Hearing the music play and my grandpa being mentioned made me emotional. Perhaps people just thought I was an insane foodie who had never had Cincinnati Chili ... whatever...

I could be wrong but I don't imagine my grandfather sat around writing New Year's Resolutions. What I do know is that he had what it took to fulfill new year's resolutions: inspiration from the Bible and the Holy Spirit. So may the following quotes, jokes, and verses inspire you as they have me. Some are things we remember him saying or quoting. Some that were written in his study Bible preserved to this day.

Think wrong do wrong.

"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones". Prov. 17:22

There are two things I never loan out.

My wife. My chainsaw.

(As well as a full time follower of Christ,
he was a part time logger.)

Winston Churchill was once told by a woman that if she were his husband she would poison his tea.

Churchill responded, "If you were my wife
I would drink it."

(Yes, that was written in Grandpa's Bible)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not
on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight." Prov 3:5-6

(The verses my grandpa clung to in sickness and health.)

He who stands best kneels the most.

We cannot avoid growing older –
can avoid growing colder.

"Let others praise you, and not your own mouth;
a stranger, and not your own lips." Prov. 27:2

(He could have been a braggart...but he wasn't)

Only the Holy Spirit can move people.

(My grandfather was an influencer of people...
But not a controller or manipulator)

It is hard to express love with a clenched fist.

(My grandfather tough and tender!)

Don't beat people up with the Bible. – Grandpa

Only one life, 'twill soon be past,

Only what's done for Christ will last.

(From C.T. Studd's poem, Only One Life)

Thank you, Kevin for sharing your memories and words of wisdom of your Grandpa Bob Janofski with your church. Thank you Shelley Janofski for sharing this with us, your church family.

Grandma Steede's Jello Salad
(a must for our family at all holiday meals)

1 package orange jello
1 can mandarin oranges
2 cups vanilla ice cream for 3 oz package or
4 cups for 6 oz package

Drain mandarin oranges, saving the juice. Add enough water to make 1 cup of liquid for 3 oz package or 2 cups for the 6 oz package of jello. Bring to a boil. Open jello package and put in a good size bowl. Add boiling water/fruit juice, stir until dissolved. Add the ice cream (you will want to soften the ice cream some before using it or it will be difficult to melt with the jello, but do not over-soften.) Stir until melted. Add the oranges and put in refrigerator until set. DO NOT USE ANY COLD WATER.

– Pastor Hank