

GOODNEWS LETTER

Number 324 June 16, 2010

ONENESS

"For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the office: so we being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members of one another,"
Romans 12:4-5.

Most remember the song, "**You Were Always On My Mind**" by Willie Nelson. Its words - with some adaptation - could be a hymn sung by every church member. Perhaps, we should sing it.

"Maybe I didn't treat you, quite as nice as I could have, but you were always on my mind, you were always on my mind.

"Maybe I didn't love you as closely as a brother should. Maybe I didn't hold you before the Lord as often as I could. But you were always on my mind, you were always on my mind.

"I know that as long as Jesus lives, our sweet love shall never die. I pray that we'll rest in Him and let His hope satisfy. Cause, You are always on my mind. You are always on my mind."

Is there another unit or, any group closer than the Lord's people? Yet, it seems that the time of being with one another, seeing one another and visiting with one another is short and far between.

Paul thought this way, too. It took three years for him to go to Jerusalem (Gal. 1:18). And, fourteen years passed before Paul went back.

Paul traveled all the time. He was always on the go, especially to see the Corinthian brethren. "**This is the third time I am coming to you,**" Ist Cor. 13:1.

Then, on his second journey, Paul and Barnabas had a difference of opinion. Should Mark go or, should Mark stay? It was a tough decision, but they parted ways. Over the journeys, I am sure that Barnabas was "**Always on Paul's mind**" and, vice versa..

That's how the Spirit's love works. Maybe there's a problem but God's people keep on going. From Paul to the present, the Holy Spirit continues to assemble sinful men and bring them into an unexplainable fellowship. And, within the heart of each member, the need to tell others of God's love is so strong that they "**Go into all the world**" Matthew 28:19-20.

I think of our missionaries, of course. And, when I pray for them, their wives are always there - who are missionaries, as well. Just imagine, when the goods are loaded up, the wife is right there. When they head across the ocean or go through a foreign land to preach the gospel of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, their faithful wives are there for support.

That's what missionaries do! They honor their Lord. And, it doesn't matter if its a foreign land or within the continental USA, the force within the hearts of men is also in the heart of the wives. Together, they leave the safety of family and home and "Go."

It's amazing! Whether, one is a foreign or stateside missionary, a pastor of a local church; or, a preacher within the church, we love you and pray for you. We may fail to do many things, Brethren, but, you are always on our minds.

Fellowship brings some sad times, of course. Church work is like that; but, its so sweet. When Paul met with the church at Ephesians for one final time, "...they all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him, sorrowing most of all for the words...that they should see his face no more" (Acts 20:37).

The brethren at Ephesians had to rely on the words spoken by Paul. earlier. "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified," verse 32.

Without question, many brethren, in many places, were always on Paul's mind. This is how the Lord operates within the New Covenant. He sends His power of the Holy Spirit on the heart of every member.

Thus, whether, it's Paul or another Missionary Baptist, God declared that: "...I will put my laws into their mind and write them in their hearts," Hebrews 8:10.

And, when one is on one's mind, we "speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members of one another," Ephesians 4:25.