

Insight...

“The fear of the Lord is hatred of evil.”

Proverbs 8:13

- **Claude recently bought a vintage couch at St. Vincent’s** with the intent of reupholstering it for resale. As he took off the old, worn out upholstery he found \$200 in twenties hidden in the lining of the old couch. Moved to tithe this windfall, the next day he wrapped one of the bills in a note he had written that said, *“Don’t Despair!”* and gave it to a man who looked as if he had fallen upon hard times sitting near the entrance of the resale store. Perplexed the man took the money and scurried off without even a thank you. Days went by and Claude once again found himself on his way into Vinnie’s when the man approached him, handing him an envelope. In the envelope Claude discovered several crisp, new \$100 bills. Confused, Claude asked, *“What’s this?”* *“Shhhh. Keep it down.”* said the man. *“It’s Your share. Don’t Despair paid 50 to 1!”*
- **On prayer...**“Morning prayers lead to evening praise.” “It may be hard to wait on the Lord, but it’s worse to wish you had.”
- **Churches and Idiots:** The Greek word “ecclesia” used biblically to designate “the church” was borrowed from the Greek culture. The ecclesia described “the gathering” of the people of Athens. It was a great privilege to be a citizen of Athens. However, with citizenship came responsibility. Those who were citizens but avoided responsibility were called “idiotes,” the Greek word from whence we derive the English word “idiot.” The idiotes were self-serving people who wanted privilege without responsibility. [Teaching from Stuart Briscoe, 2010 Pastors and Christian Workers Retreat, CFS]
- **Unity in the Body of Christ:** Christian don’t have to create the unity in the church through the bond of peace. Spiritual unity is already there. We cannot create something that we do not fully understand. We can remain in the unity...and that’s hard work. [Briscoe, CFS, 2010]
- **Paying for wedding cakes can be expensive...**but for an Oregon couple who, because of convictions rooted in their faith, politely declined to design, make and bake a wedding cake for two women (who claim emotional damage as a result of the refusal) not baking a cake may cost them \$135,000. Such was the recommended order of an Oregon judge this past week. Is this an isolated incident or a culture/political trend toward government subversion of religious freedoms? Perhaps the answer will depend upon how, and in whose spirit, Christians respond.
- **For the faithful God** - promises a safe landing, not a calm passage. What do your expectations reflect? John 16:33 ***“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”*** Jesus [Also: Psalm 70:20; I Peter 3:13-17]

- **Political Correctness Evolves**...through the development and use of a relatively new term: microaggression (note: click “add to dictionary”). The term was originally coined in 1970 by Harvard psychiatrist Chester M. Pierce. Pierce rightly used the term to identify small, even unintentional verbal slights which were racial in nature, but recently, the use of the term has been expanded to any group or individual that feels slighted by anything someone else says that may be interpreted as demeaning. In other words, terms of aggression are determined by how a person or group feels about what was said rather than what was meant by the perceived aggressor.
- **Walk right this way**...Train up a child in the way he/she should go – then go that way yourself.
- **Trivia Question: True or False:** The following statements both contain elements of microaggression: *“I just flew in from Europe.” “Did you see how short she cut her hair?”*

For Prayer...

- ...We mourn with Bobbie Moe and her family after the loss of her sister this past week.
- ...Mark Rabata’s father, Bernard, has been diagnosed with cancer that has spread extensively (lungs, liver, aorta). Please pray for the Rabata family as they face some difficult times.
- ...Please pray for Emma Foltz and her efforts to bring “Fight the New Drug” to area schools. The assemblies bring a practical and scientific perspective to issues of pornography and its influences.
- ...Deb Penzkover’s sister, Tracy Foschi, has been diagnosed with Acites (which causes swelling in the abdomen). The cause is unknown and tests are pending...praying for physical and spiritual healing.
- ...Continued prayer for Diane Deering’s father, Larry (and her mother as caregiver), who is being treated for autoimmune encephalopathy, which affects his brain. Pray also for their relationships with the Lord. They have purchased the house across the street from Tim and Diane and will be moving in soon.
- ...Dave Wayman (close friend of Dave Schwab) – suffered an 18’ fall leaving him with a serious neck injury. We are praying for healing after surgery with non-debilitating mobility.
- ...Jean Muehlfelt’s brother, Jeff Crooks has opted out of treatment for his cancer that would only hope to extend his life a few months. He is at peace with the Lord and his family is near. Please pray for their mother.
- ...Nominating Committee as they seek servants to care for our Walnut Hill church family.
- ...Space Planning & Church Growth Committee. Also sub-committee work. Meeting this evening.
- ...VBS Committee – praying for servants to sign up to help and make long term life investments in kids.
- ...Men’s Campout, 1st weekend in May, Mother’s Day is the 2nd weekend and the Women’s Campout is the 3rd. Much work to be done. God’s riches blessings for attentive humble hearts.
- ...U. S. Supreme Court will hear oral arguments this Tuesday for and against redefining marriage in America. Pray for the Lord’s will to be done and for the Spirit to move the hearts of the SCOTUS Justices – that they seek the Lord’s will on behalf of the people and gain an understanding of the gravity of their decisions.
- ...Sale of Homes: Reidle, Gradall, Greenwood, Brandel, Dunbar, Norman, Stock
- ...Couples fighting serious physical illness together:

Jeff & Laurie Wavrunek	Christy (Mike) Moura	Norm & Peg Miller
Cheryl (Deane) Fischer	Ken & Judy Boll	
- ...Our Expectant Mothers

Sarah (Kelly) B	Daisy (Aaron) W	Diana (Steven) U
Christy (Ben) H	Sarah (Beaner) B	
Terra (Ronnie) M	Kristin (Shawn) H	Chante (Brent) H
Jen (Cory) S	Britta (Jonah) M	

Getting Real...

"Christianity offers the attractions neither of optimism nor of pessimism. It represents the life of the universe as being very like the mortal life of men on this planet 'of a mingled yarn, good and ill together!'"

C. S. Lewis - *The Weight of Glory*

Trivia Answer: True...the first example targets those who are not fortunate enough to be able to travel to Europe and the second demonstrates assumptive disapproval of the rationale a woman used to cut her hair.