

Neighborly News

Brought to you by your friends at the Mt. Hebron Church of Christ.

What Howard learned in Heartbreak

Howard Rutledge, a United States Air Force pilot, was shot down over North Vietnam during the early stages of the war.

He spent several miserable years in the hands of his captors before being released at the war's conclusion. In his book *In the Presence of Mine Enemies*, he reflects upon the resources from which he drew in those arduous days when life seemed so intolerable:

“During those longer periods of enforced reflection, it became so much easier to separate the important from the trivial, the worthwhile from the waste. For example, in the past, I usually worked or played hard on Sundays and had no time for church. For years Phyllis [his wife] had encouraged me to join the family at church. She never nagged or scolded—she

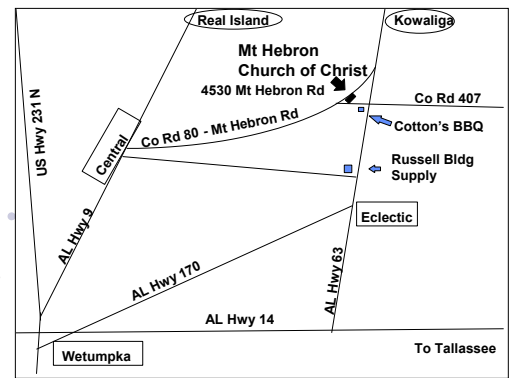
just kept hoping. But I was too busy, too preoccupied, to spend one or two short hours a week thinking about the really important things. Now the sights and sounds and smells of death were all around me. My hunger for spiritual food soon outdid my hunger for a steak. Now I wanted to talk about God and Christ and the church. But in Heartbreak's [the name POWs gave their prison camp] solitary confinement, there was no preacher, no Sunday School teacher, no Bible, no hymnbook, no community of believers to guide and sustain me. I had completely neglected the spiritual dimension of my life. It took prison to show me how empty life is without God.”

It took the presence of a POW camp to show Rutledge that there was a center to his private world that he had been neglecting all of his life. — Gordon MacDonald

The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. (Ecclesiastes 12:13)



“A child brought up in Sunday School is seldom brought up before a judge.”



Mt. Hebron Church of Christ

**P.O. Box 240159
4530 Mt. Hebron Rd.
Eclectic, Ala. 36024**

Come and visit us

**Sunday
Bible Classes 10:00 AM
Worship Services
11:00 AM & 6:00 PM**

**Wednesday
Bible Classes 7:00 PM**

*A joyful heart is good
medicine—Proverbs
17:22*

A little boy and his daddy were looking at a litter of puppies, planning to buy one, and the daddy asked the boy which one he wanted.

The lad pointed to a pup whose tail was wagging furiously and said, “That one with the happy ending!”



And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first. (Matthew 19:29-30)

How to settle it:

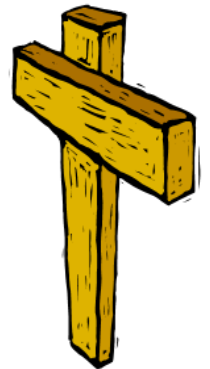
When people



disagree about how many ounces or pounds a thing weighs, they can settle the matter by using SCALES... the standard of authority. When people disagree about the length of an object, they can resolve the disagreement by using a MEASURING TAPE ... the standard of authority. When people disagree about what is right and wrong in religious matters, they should settle the matter by using the BIBLE... the standard of authority. *Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. (John 17:17)*

GOD'S PLAN FOR SAVING MAN

God's Grace	- Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	- Romans 5:9
The Spirit's Gospel	- Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	- Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	- Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	- Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	- 1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	- James 2:24
Christian's Hope	- Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	- Revelation 2:10



Professor's lesson in a cup of coffee

A group of alumni, the kitchen and returned highly established in their careers, groups their old professor.

Conve turned into complaints about stress in work and life.

He off his guests coffee. The professor



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coffee in hand. The professor said, "If you noticed, all the nice looking expensive cups were taken up, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is but normal for you to want only the best for yourselves: that

eying each other's cups.

Now consider this: Life is the coffee, and the jobs, money and position in society are the cups. They are just tools to hold and contain Life, and the type of

is the problem. Be assured the cup adds no quality to the coffee. Most of the coffee is just experienced in some event we do



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wanted was coffee, not the cup; but you consciously went for the best cups... and then began

Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. (Philippians 4:11)

Why I go to church

1. I want to go, and I am wanted.
2. I need to go, and I am needed.
3. I had rather be there than anywhere else.
4. People are watching me and will follow my example.
5. My soul is strengthened by the teaching.
6. My heart is warmed by the spiritual songs as I praise God.
7. I am better prepared to meet in discussion those who do not understand the truth.
8. I hunger and thirst after righteousness.

