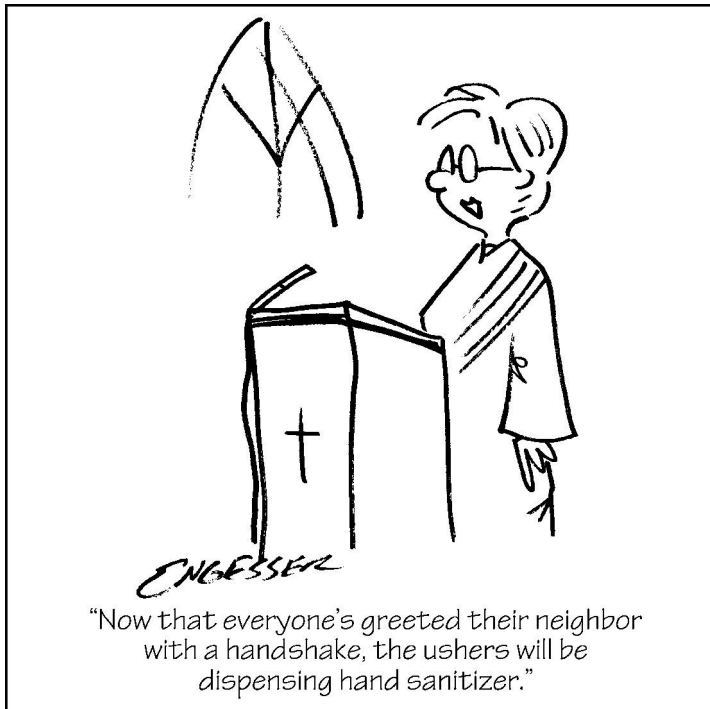


Sunday November 4 through Sunday November 11

- Pastor Robert's sermon will concentrate on loving our neighbor.
- Pastor Appreciation Dinner Potluck immediately following service in the Fellowship Hall.
- Monday evening, group study will continue at the parsonage.
- The first Tuesday morning study group at the Ugly Mug begins at 11 am.
- NOW Team will be meeting Tuesday evening at 7 pm.
- Prayer Team and Choir Practice on Wednesday.
- Wednesday evening is also the Fellowship Dinner. Come enjoy yourself with good food and good people.
- The Administrative Board will meet next Sunday at 7 pm.



This WEEK at Trinity

OFFICE: (276) 523-0789
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Sunday November 4

10:00 am—10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am—12:00 pm Morning Worship
12:00 pm—Pastor Appreciation Potluck

Monday November 5

10:00 pm—AARP
6:30 pm—The Joys of Intercession at the Parsonage
7:00 pm—Boy Scouts

Tuesday November 6

11:00 am—Study Group at Ugly Mug
7:00 pm—Girl Scouts
7:00 pm—NOW Team

Wednesday November 7

6:00 pm—Prayer Team
6:30 pm—Fellowship Dinner
7:00 pm—Choir Practice

Thursday November 8

No Scheduled Activities

Friday November 9

9:00 am—MEOC in Fellowship Hall

Saturday November 10

No Scheduled Activities

Sunday November 11

10:00 am—10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am—12:00 pm Morning Worship
7:00 pm—Administrative Board Meeting

Abram, Sarai, and Lot lived lives very similar to ours. Like Abram, Christian persons feel called to bless their neighbors. Like Abram, God's call to bless our neighbors too often gets drowned out by our need to nurture and care for our possessions.

You will recall there was a famine in "the day place," Negeb. Abram feared he and his family would starve. Please do not miss the relationship we have with the world around us. Our feelings and thoughts synchronize with our view of reality. Abram saw a lack of food and water. He felt, "I will starve." He thought, "I must leave this place." Reason dictates that fighting famine will not produce food. Freezing, which means to sit patiently and wait for the famine to pass, would not work due to the threat of starving to death. Therefore, Abram responded to his view of reality by going to Egypt. As Jesus says, "The measure Abram gave was the measure he received." He gave fear and as we shall see he got more fear.

As Abram looks from the Promised Land into Egypt his feelings and thoughts are in sync with his fear of starving to death. He sees himself as fear, not as the one God called to be a blessing to all the families of the earth. Looking into Egypt he sees the people God called him to bless as people who will kill him.

To protect his life, he insist that Sarai tell Pharaoh that she is Abram's sister. It works! He has plenty to eat. Pharaoh gives him cattle and servants to help him with his possessions. But what about Sarai? What about God's Promise? How will Abram become a "Great Nation" without Sarai? Where do you find yourself in a similar situation?

God created the earth and everything therein. We call the things we gather from God's Creation possessions. When the possessions become more important than a spouse, child, friend, or neighbor they indeed Possess us.

In today's story, Abram and Lot are back in the Promised Land. Now, they are wealthy. They each have enormous herds and servants who must be housed and fed. Abram and Lot have become two clans. The clans are feuding. Their many possessions threaten their relationships.

Does this all sound familiar? Does this sound like our nation? Has globalization of manufacturing and resources blessed us or possessed us? Where is God when Synagogues, Public Schools, Night Clubs, Shopping Malls, or Marathons turn into hate-driven, fear filled killing-fields? Did God ask Abram to be a blessing to all of the families of the earth? Did Jesus Christ suffer and die for all people?

So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herders and mine, for we are close relatives. Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

See, Abram remembered his calling. He blessed Lot. Lot was more important than their possessions. Friends, forgiveness never means we forget. It means we remember... God's calling and Promise! Look closely at Abram's words, close your eyes, and listen: Do you not hear Jesus teaching us to pray, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Open your eyes and look at your spouse, child, friend, or neighbor...and remember!

1. God chose to put His Holy Spirit in you, not your _____
2. To Bless means to remember that our _____ is of more value than possessions.
3. Our _____ and _____ synchronize with our five senses to created our current _____.
4. We Trespass when we _____ people like a possession.

Answers: Possessions; Neighbor; feelings and thoughts; reality; treat