



“The Del-Haven Vision”

“Without vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18)

Newsletter of Camp Del-Haven

Turning Kids from Crime to Christ

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“For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name in that you have ministered to the saints and do minister.” He.6:10

This wonderful statement of inspired scripture declares an eternal truth about the Lord God and the labor of love that is lived out and performed by His saved ones. It seems, however, like such an understatement -- does it not? For how could God’s omniscience ever forget anything? That just doesn’t seem possible! And yet, we do know from other statements of scripture that through the eternal person and work of Jesus Christ, God does not remember our sins and iniquities (He.8:12; 10:17).

But, what is really being said here in this text when it says that “*God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love...to the saints*”? Or, maybe we should be asking why would it be unrighteous, or unjust, for God to forget our “*labor of love*” “*to the saints*”?

It is even because the love that is being described in action here is itself a great gift of grace from God (1Co.13:13). And, its active presence in and through us proves, indeed, to be the presence of God’s own great power in the work and the labor that is being referenced in the above text.

Let us consider some more of the truth of this matter. Where our labor for Christ and His church in this world is concerned, it is love that distinguishes from among ourselves that which is hypocritical, and that which is genuine: “*let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth*”. Also, it is the real presence of God’s love that lends itself to identify the spiritual realities of Holy Spirit fostered regeneration, revelation, redemption and reconciliation.

1Jn.4:7-10 teaches these things: “*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God*” (regeneration). “*He who does not love, does not know God, for God is love. In this the love of God was manifested toward us...*” (revelation) “*...that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him*” (redemption) “*In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins*” (reconciliation).

Furthermore, 1Jn.4:11-12 goes on to teach us that it is God’s love that is identified as being the bond that is the union that He has entered into with us, and that we, in turn, have with each other: “*Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another...If we love one another, God abides in us...*”

There’s no way that God could ever forget the labor of His own righteous love at work compelling His children to display their having been saved by His beloved Son.

For Christ's glory only!
A. Carpenter

Upcoming Events

Staff Training Weekend and Work Day

The staff preparation retreat that was cancelled by bad weather in March is once again planned for the last weekend in May. Please pray with us for a great turn out and wonderful time in the Lord, and His word, for that event. A group from Heritage Baptist Church out of Lee's Summit, MO are also planning to come out and help us tackle the remainder of the tasks that need to be done. Thank you Lord for such good and loyal friends and supporters as these!

Glory of Christ Bible Conference

One final reminder for your planned attendance and earnest prayerful support of our up and coming **Glory of Christ Bible Conference**. It will take place at **Sovereign Grace Baptist Church** located at **6820 E. Truman Rd. in Kansas City, MO** on **June 4-6**. We will be ministered to from the pulpit by Pastor **Don Fortner** of Grace Baptist Church of Danville, KY; **Steve Carpenter**, who is the Director of Word and Spirit Ministries based right here in our area; Del-Haven board member and Pastor **Vince Stigall** of the newly formed Bel-Ray Community Church of South Kansas City; and Pastor **Bob Ganote**, whose church is allowing us the place where we can hold the conference. Details can be obtained from our website, www.campdelhaven.org from where one may also print out flyer and/or bulletin inserts to help us promote the conference. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call us at **816-690-3497**.

Camp Season Begins

The week of June 15 kicks off the first camp of the 2009 Del-Haven Camp season. Toward this end we are praying and laboring to prepare ourselves and the facilities and grounds for the campers and staff that God will provide us with this summer. Your prayers and help are very much welcomed and appreciated. We continually -- with much love and affection -- thank and praise our Lord for you all!

Work Day Report

The last weekend in April we had a terrific work day. A faithful group of our friends from Cedar Ridge Evangelical Free Church of Harrisonville, MO came out and, together, we were able to complete several items off the long list of things that need to be done. Our dear brother, Dean Cline from Oak Grove supervised our cleaning and polishing the Dining Hall floor. Now it literally sparkles like new! Another of our allies for the truth of the gospel that also regularly worships with us here on Sundays took our dilapidated flat bottomed boats and mended the holes so they can be used for yet another season for the glory of Christ. In short, by the grace of our great provider God, things just keep coming together for this 2009 camp season.

Praise and Prayer Request

Another "Praise the Lord" is definitely in order since we have been granted one final extension to pay off our **\$74,128.00** total debt to the bank for the new water lines and the new lake. Please do not forget to pray for us in this regards. To walk this world by faith and not by flesh is indeed an exciting adventure! Lord deliver us! **And He will!** Let us trust Him together to meet all of our needs. We love you all.

"Be imitators of God as dear children, and walk in love as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God..."