

Bermudian Church of the Brethren

WEDNESDAY'S WORD – a midweek thought from Pastor Larry M. Dentler

to share a word of inspiration ... encouragement ... challenge ... a smile ... in the middle of your week

June 13 in the year of our Lord 2018 - #745

Are You Listening?

It was a morning like a thousand others. Routine. Morning walk with our puppy Bella. Then into the shower. Everything just like normal. Just like every other day. But then. I noticed the water in the shower was up to my ankles. Hmmm? Something isn't right here! I vaguely remembered Cathy saying something about the toilet not flushing right. You know how we husbands can have "selective hearing?" Well ... maybe ... I had just ignored her comment ... or was that comments?

I took the trusty plunger to the shower drain and the water in the toilet bubbled up. Not good! I tried to flush the toilet and more water and "brown stuff" bubbled up in the shower. Really not good! I knew now that I had a serious problem. I had a wife who was just a few days post-abdominal surgery and needed to be near a bathroom. I called to Jessie to make sure that the bathroom in the back of the house was ready if Mom needed to use it. She came running out with alarm on her face saying that the toilet back there was also clogged. Really, really, really not good!

The next hours were a whirlwind. Should I take Cathy to the church? What plumber should I call? Maybe someone has a bedside potty chair? In the end ... "the really, really, really not good" problem got worked out (*pun intended*). Thank you to Kathleen Eisenhart who had a portable toilet and actually delivered it to our house. And many thanks to Troy and Cory Grim who came and with the help of a really cool big monster roto-rooter machine, and thanks to clean-out plugs in the house's plumbing, got the massive nasty clog unplugged. Brother Troy had the satisfaction of another job well done. And Cory had reinforced his decision to go to college for HVAC controls so as not to be unplugging sewer lines on a daily basis!!! If you need plumbing/HVAC work in the East Berlin area ... Troy Grim's your man!

But later that night ... with the dust settled and the lines flowing ... if you understand what I'm saying ... I had to "man-up" and admit that I had ignored Cathy's warnings that we had a plumbing problem.

I often hear folks say that they wish God would speak to them. That they have a problem and really wish God would tell them what to do. Here's the reality though friends, God **has** spoken and **is** speaking loudly and clearly ... but most often we simply aren't listening! Or we do "hear" but don't like what we hear and ignore it!

"Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us."

2 Timothy 3:16 Message

“If you hear God’s voice today, don’t be stubborn as in the past when you turned against God.” Hebrews 3:15 ERV

“God’s word is alive and working....” Hebrews 4:12 ERV

Friends in Jesus, when you turn the pages of your Bible they are warm with God’s breath. Alive! They are not dusty old out-of-date words ... they are living, active, fresh. For every problem, every question, every dilemma, every concern ... your Loving Lord is addressing, speaking to you. Listen! With your heart & mind. And be committed to obey His voice. For if we are seeking His voice and then ignore it when He speaks to us ... well ... what good is that!?

Speak Lord ... Your servant is listening! (And oh dear Cathy ... I’m listening to you too!)
Pastor Larry <><