

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

October 23 in the year of our Lord 2019 - #810

Shhh! Don't Tell Don!

This week has been another great week at Bermudian as we have been so blessed in REVIVAL 2019. The church has been full for each service; the music has been wonderful – Bermudian Men's Vocal Group, Generations Quartet, Beth Marshall, and last night's hymn sing with Bob Long & Martha Adams; the giving generous towards Brethren Disaster Ministries Clean-Up Buckets- 23 \$100 bills last night with a total thus far of \$3626. And our Evangelist, Brother Don Hubbell, has shared a fascinating, helpful study on "The Full Armor of God" from Ephesians 6. What a great week! Thanks to ALL who have been helping make the week a true blessing: Witness Commission, Donna Shive on piano, audio/visual team, ushers, greeters, nursery workers ... thank you!!!

I had a little fun with the children in having them guess what Pastor Don's hobby was. They guessed football, hockey & basketball. Those who know Don well know that he is an avid "Rock Hound." His collection fills his house & garage. Rocks, minerals, crystals. Get Don talking rocks and his face lights up! He carries one of his favorite 'rocks' in his pocket every day. It's actually a piece of petrified wood. Black & brown ... beautiful ... tumbled until it is shiny smooth. He carries it to remind himself every day that Jesus is the Rock!

On Sunday morning he had prepared a bag of tumbled stones to share with the children. He forgot to bring the bag along. One of our boys, I'll call him 'Bobby' (not his real name), came up to Don after service and gave him a prayer card and asked him to pray for his Momma. Bobby comes from a troubled home and he wanted Don to pray especially for his Momma. Don asked him if he'd be back during the week. He would bring his bag of tumbled stones and wanted Bobby to have one. Bobby said that he didn't think they would be coming during the week. Pastor Don put his hand in his pocket. His fingers felt his favorite stone ... this piece of petrified wood he always carried ... part of him for many years ... and he knew what the Lord would have him do. He took the beautiful rock from his pocket and placed it in Bobby's hand as the boy's eyes grew wide at the smooth, beautiful stone. Jesus is our Rock ... always with us ... in good times & bad.

Now my Brother Don would be very upset with me if he knew I was telling you this story. So please ... let's just keep it between you & me! Don't embarrass Don by telling him you know about his sacrifice. Shhhhhh! He'll never know I told you this!

But what a beautiful example of Christian love & sacrifice. What a testimony of Christian service. With apologies to "Capital One," may I ask you today, "What's in your 'pocket'?" What do you have that you might share? Love? Friendship? Encouragement? A kind word? A letter of appreciation? A text message of support? A visit to fill a lonely void? Something good from your kitchen? Some treasure from your craft table? Something from your wood shop?

What is it that is in your 'pocket' that might be a true blessing to another person as a witness for Jesus?

All our worldly treasures are temporary. What is done in Jesus name is eternal. As the missionary to Africa in the 19th century, C.T. Studd, wrote in his famous poem,

"Only one life, 'Twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last."

Remember ... don't tell Don I told you this story!

Humbled & inspired by my brother's heart, Pastor Larry <><

"There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God." 1 Samuel 2:2 NIV

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21 NIV