

## **MEDITATIONS FROM FEBRUARY 2012 SUNDAY BULLETINS**

### **SMALL BLESSINGS**

February 3, 2019

Rev. Donna Gatewood

Have you ever felt you have small blessings, small faith, small effort to give and small resources? This world places so much emphasis on the largest and the most startling that it's no wonder that we forget to count our everyday blessings.

In His beautiful Sermon on the Mount Jesus reminds us: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, the meek, they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; blessed are the merciful and the pure of heart. Also blessed are the peacemakers and they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake; and blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.'

The act of blessing is to invoke good upon someone or something. It is a calling forth of the action of God. It is conferring God's Good. A blessing imparts the quickening spiritual power that produces growth and increase. A blessing is the power of multiplication.

As we take a serious look at our lives we will see that the blessings we saw as small were not small at all. We know that God blesses our every activity with the power and the strength to do and be more. Let us live in the perfect present moment, remembering the truth: God is blessing you now.

### **BEHIND THE APPEARANCE**

February 10, 2019

Rev. Janet Friedline

There are various traits and characteristics assigned to the individual. We have the ability to ponder and reflect, and we do so, forming opinions and reaching conclusions. And then we judge what we have learned. We have also noticed that things do not stay the same, meaning our judgment is based on what we observe at the moment, on what seems to be true at that point in time. And that is the point; what appears to be so, shifts and moves around. There is no lasting value in what shifts and moves around.

We find the reality of something by looking behind the appearance. There is a source of all life that gives it identity, uniqueness and distinction. When we discover the origin of something, we have discovered its truth and precision. God is the origin of all life, and when we look behind our appearance, we discover eternal life, one not confined to a particular body or place in time. This identity does not shift or move around; it is the eternal Being, it is who we are. Be still and know that this is so.

### **YOUR LIFE CIRCUMSTANCES**

February 17, 2019

Mr. Wayne Gatewood We all know people that are usually happy, seem to be very satisfied with their lives, have positive attitudes, are full of joy and gratitude, are of service to others and their communities, and do not complain about this or that. On the other hand, we all know certain other people that constantly show forth a negative attitude, routinely complain about this or that, gossip endlessly, and blame others for their state of affairs in this world.

These people experience poor and sour personal relationships with family and others, and seem to be constantly unhappy with life. It has been said that “your attitude determines your altitude in life.” Of course, there is also Bible Scripture that reminds us how we can live in a sense of completeness, joy, abundance, gratitude, and a sense of health. Our life circumstances are the result of how we think and how we act. It’s up to us and it is that simple.

*“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. Philippians 2:5”*

**KEEP A SECRET**

February 24, 2019

Rev. Janet Friedline

We are intrigued with the mysterious and the unknown. We call what we don’t understand a mystery, something beyond our usual logic and reason. We consider it a puzzle to be solved, looking for clues that give clarity and meaning. But some things are meant to remain secret, waiting for the open attitude and receptive ear capable of receiving the message. Many individuals live life on the surface, testing this and trying that, not going deep enough for significant pondering and contemplation.

In our time of meditation, we receive knowledge that goes beyond human understanding, and we are asked to keep it “secret.” Some things are meant just for us – not to be shared with the unenlightened among us. There will be a time when “all are ready,” and then, what is hidden shall be revealed. What is given will be shouted from the rooftops, no longer mysterious or unknown. In the meantime, let us keep things in our heart, pondering and reflecting what belongs to us. Each will find his own way and it will be good and very good.