

## Cornerstone Connection

Thinking Biblically by Bill Moore

### Is Life Worth Living? Seriously

Evidently not, for a Yorktown, Virginia, 46-year-old man who decapitated himself. The man was apparently enraged or depressed after what has been characterized as a domestic dispute. According to WTKR, the Norfolk, Virginia, CBS television affiliate, "Yorktown sheriff deputies initially responded to reports of a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of Nathan Place around 10am this morning and learned the man had left before they had arrived. A few minutes later a utility trailer was reported on fire nearby at the intersection of Holmes Blvd and Wolftrap Rd.

"When deputies and firefighters arrived they found the man inside the white Ford Explorer that had been towing the trailer. The man had apparently set the trailer on fire and refused to leave the SUV.

"A Fire Dept. officer noticed a cable attached to a nearby tree and wrapped around the neck of the driver. When deputies tried to get the man to leave the Explorer, he rapidly accelerated the SUV and was pulled from the vehicle and decapitated. The Explorer came to rest approximately 150 yards further down Holmes Blvd" (<http://www.wtkr.com/news/wtkr-man-decapitates-himself-in-front-of-deputies-firefighters-after-domestic-dispute-in-yorktown-20110830,0,5558436.story>).

Unfortunately, countless persons go through life with no more hope than this man. They may end their earthly existence with suicide, they may turn to drugs or alcohol or sex, they may try to find satisfaction in consumerism or even in things as innocuous as hunting and fishing. They all, though, have lives that just don't seem worth living.

What is equally disconcerting is coming to the latter days of one's life and asking the questions, "What have I done with my life? What purpose has my life served? Are my work and my pleasures and my comforts what life is all about?" Too late do many realize

that they've led a life built upon a lie. They bought into the world's measure of success and satisfaction and ultimately find nothing but emptiness. Or they die in delusion, having bought into the world's standard, they smugly assume that Deity will reward them for a life well lived.

George Swinnock [1627-1673] wrote of the despair that resides in the hearts of those who look to this world as their hope for satisfaction: "Men that are in the valley think, if they were at the top of such a hill, they should touch the heavens. Men that are in the bottom of poverty, or disgrace, or pain, think if they could get up to such a mountain, such a measure of riches, and honours, and delights, they could reach happiness. Now Solomon had got to the top of this hill, and seeing so many scrambling and laboring so hard, nay, riding on one another's necks, and pressing one another to death to get foremost, doth seem thus to bespeak them: 'Sirs, ye are all deceived in your expectations! I see the pains ye take to get up to this place, thinking that when you come hither, ye shall touch the heavens, and reach happiness: but I am before you at the top of the hill—I have treasures, and honours, and pleasures in variety and abundance (Eccl. 2:11–12), and I find the hill full of quagmires instead of delights, and so far from giving me satisfaction, that it causeth much vexation; therefore be advised to spare your pains, and spend your strength for that which will turn to more profit, for, believe it, you do but work at the labour in vain.' 'Vanity of vanities, all is vanity,' saith the Preacher."

The words of Jesus are haunting, as well as convicting: "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26). James asks, "What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes" (James 4:14b).

## Monthly projects

**United Ministries** continues to distribute food to needy families in our community. Cornerstone is asked to provide flour, sugar and peanut butter.

Remember to pick-up one or more of these items the next time you are in the grocery store.

Don't forget to save empty inkjet printer cartridges, old cell phones, Campbell Soup and Tyson Chicken labels, and Box Tops for Education found on General Mills products for **Laurens Academy**.

**The Laurens Baptist Association** helps families in need and in crisis situations. We can help by donating the requested items each month.

Crisis Center needs for September are:  
flour, cornmeal, baking mix, Jiffy mix

Baskets are outside the church office for collection of monthly project items.

### *Memorials*

Given in memory of:

*Mrs. Betty A. Meadors (mother of Karen Windsor)*

by: Redeemer Class

### **Wednesday Night Suppers begin September 7.**

The price of an adult meal will now be \$5.00 per plate.  
Children ages 4-14 will remain at \$4.00 and children under 4 are free.

**Children's choir** for 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> graders will resume on Wednesday, September 7, at 5:30 PM.

**The G.L.O.R.Y. Group** will meet for dinner on Thursday, September 8, at 6:00 PM at the House of Pizza (120 Musgrove Street, Clinton).

### *September Birthdays*

Lisa Kirk	6
Donna Summers	8
George Layne	11
Tony Campbell	11
Carl Snyder	14
Kari Young	16
James Sears	17
Sarah Dailey	24
Kynette Moore	25



Don't forget that the monthly financial reports will be on the table in the narthex on Wednesdays after the first of each month. The reports are also available in the church office at any time.

**Upcoming events:**

September 4	6:00 PM	Deacon Ordination
September 11	10:45AM	Baptism
		Lunch for college students in church fellowship hall
September 17-18		Trip to Murfreesboro
September 18	10:45 AM	Gary French
	6:00 PM	No service
October 22-23		Fall Bible Conference

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(Carolina Commentary)