

# THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

October 10

2021

## IT ONLY HAPPENS TO OTHERS

Have you ever said, "That could never happen to me" or "I don't know what I'd do if that happened to me"? Those type things do happen to people like you, and not just to "others."

On Sunday, March 27, for example, it happened again. Yes, again, it was to someone else. An 18 year old son of a friend of ours in W.V. was electrocuted under his folk's house as he did some work for his father. They, his father, mother and older brother, could not see him, but they could hear the trauma that was going on and they were helpless as they listened. You might be thinking;

### "WHAT COULD BE WORSE THAN THAT?"

Well, there is something worse, much worse. Joey, the 18 year old, wasn't faithful to the Lord. His father and mother, once faithful members, had left the church. Now, not only do they have to live with the loss of their son, but also knowing his soul was lost for an eternity to a devil's hell of weeping and gnashing of teeth. "The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" – Matt.13:41-42.

### "MY MIND WON'T LET ME GO THERE!"

"NO! That just couldn't happen to my son/daughter" Really? Do you think Randy and Tammy thought it could happen to their sweet Joey? Not on your life, but it did, didn't it? It would be hard enough to bury a child, let alone knowing that he was lost too. My first funeral was at Danville. I was 26. He was a 25 year old soldier that committed suicide. I remember driving to the funeral home wanting so badly to turn around and go home and pretend it hadn't happened, but it had. I can't imagine the pain of his father a member of the Lord's church.

### PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS ARE WE DOING OUR "HOMEWORK"?

Let your sweethearts know how much you love them and their souls. Talk to them daily, and tell them, "I love you." Can you do that? Can you keep God's word ever before them as Israel was commanded in Dt.6:4-9, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." Put God's word in your heart, Psm.119:11, and teach it to your children.

### CAN'T TEACH WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW

Read Dt.6:6 again, "These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts." Before you share God's word with your children you must know it. Remember the genuine faith of Eunice and Lois of 2Tim.1:5 and 3:15. They taught Timothy from his youth. If you don't know these things you won't teach them to your children. Can children detect hypocrisy? If we are just religious on Sunday, but the rest of the week is the devils? Will your children remember your Bible study periods? Will they see you studying your Bible and remember when you studied and prayed with them? Many songs and poems have been written about those precious days of youth, including Willie Nelson, who wrote,

### "The Family Bible"

There's a family Bible on the table  
Its pages worn and hard to read  
But the family Bible on the table  
Will ever be my key to memories

At the end of day when work was over  
And when the evening meal was done  
Dad would read to us from the family Bible  
And we'd count our many blessings one by one

I can see us sittin' round the table  
When from the family Bible dad would read  
And I can hear my mother softly singing  
Rock of ages, rock of ages cleft for me

Now this old world of ours is filled with trouble  
This old world would also better be  
If we'd found more Bibles on the tables

And mothers singing, rock of ages cleft for me  
 I can see us sittin' round the table  
 When from the family Bible dad would read  
 And I can hear my mother softly singing  
 Rock of ages, rock of ages cleft for me  
 Rock of ages, rock of ages cleft for me

**IF IT SHOULD HAPPEN TO YOU**

I pray you never have to endure the double tragedy of a lost child and a lost soul as this couple has, and as David did. Remember after Absalom's death the mournful cry of the king? "O my son, Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died for you, O Absalom, my son, my son!" (2 Samuel 18:33). You may not be able to prevent the death of their body, but you can aid in the salvation of their soul, and relieve yourself of a lifetime of misery and heartache, and saying, "If only I..." You know how, now, do it.

✍️ Morris Hafley

**The Called Out**

Members of the Lord's church are those who have been "called out" due to their obedience to the gospel. In 2 Thessalonians 2:13-15 the apostle Paul penned, *"But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle."*

Here is a brief grammar lesson in Greek. The word translated "out" is "ek" and the word translated "called" is the word "kalesantos." The Greeks put these words together to form another word, "ekklisia" which means "called out" and refers to an assembly or gathering of people that has been called together. In the vast majority of its New Testament occurrences, the word "ekklisia" is translated "church" and it is in reference to a gathering of people. Now, those who obey the gospel are added by the Lord to His church (Acts 2:47), and are...

**Called From Darkness To Light.**

Peter inspired by the Holy Spirit wrote to the called out, *"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy"* (1 Peter 2:9-10).

**Called In Holiness.**

Paul an apostle of Jesus Christ told the called out, *"For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness"* (1 Thessalonians 4:7).

**Called To Liberty.**

The inspired apostle Paul also said to the called out, *"For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another"* (Galatians 5:13).

**Called Into The Fellowship of Jesus Christ.**

Paul in writing to the called out in Corinth penned, *"God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord"* (1 Corinthians 1:9).

**Called To Receive The Promise of The Eternal Inheritance.**

The inspired writer of the book of Hebrews wrote, *"And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance"* (Hebrews 9:15).

Now the question is, are you one of the "called out?" If not, you are encouraged to obey the gospel call today!

✍️ Brad Phillips

**Belleville church of Christ**  
 5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258  
[www.bellevillechurch.net](http://www.bellevillechurch.net)

**Schedule of Services**

Sunday Bible Study .....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship .....	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship .....	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study .....	7:00 p.m.

**Evangelist**

Brad Phillips.. . . . . (765) 720-2816