

# Munfordville Church of Christ

No 931

January 13, 2013

## Speak Clearly

While writing a sermon concerning the acts of worship, I inadvertently wrote the word “sinning” instead of “singing.” Changing but one letter of the alphabet made a radical difference.

We all know how we can easily alter the meaning of our sentences by a single letter, a word added or omitted, emphasis placed on a particular word, etc. With our language varying so much by such subtle changes, it is of utmost importance that we speak clearly and precisely. I am not referring to the tonal quality of our voices or enunciation of words, albeit such clarity can prevent confusion. I am referring to our ability to communicate by clearly stating what we are intending to say. Never is this so important as when we are discussing the Bible.

Often people have been offended, and no doubt prospects for salvation have been lost, because of a misunderstanding due to words carelessly spoken that were misinterpreted. Someone’s salvation could hinge upon the very words you choose to use and how you choose to say them.

Here are a few rules to help you better communicate whether you are speaking with someone one on one or in a public assembly:

1. Say what you mean. Do not hide the meaning of words with euphemisms. Granted, there may be gentler ways to express some ideas, but make sure that the choice of terminology is understood among your listeners.
2. Do not be afraid to ask if the listener misunderstood or if there are any questions. Often people would like to ask for additional information, but are waiting for an opening from you.
3. Do not try to speak above your audience. Anyone can look up large words in a dictionary and use them. Sometimes more detailed terms will be necessary, but to needlessly use them is offensive to the listeners and they often will not know what you are trying to say.
4. Do not talk too fast. If a listener stumbles on a point because you are speaking too rapidly, much of what is said after that point is lost as well.
5. Do not speak too softly. If your listener cannot hear you, then your words have done no good at all.
6. Do not assume that your listener knows something and omit it. When it comes to a subject as important as one’s salvation, do not assume. Make sure you know that they know.
7. If you think what you are about to say might be offensive, then do not say it. Is it really necessary to say?
8. Treat your words “mathematically.” You can always add to or multiply your words, but you can never subtract or divide them.
9. If you feel you absolutely must say something that you are in doubt of saying, sleep on it. You can still say it later, but you can never unsay it.
10. Speak the truth in love. Never talk to someone in an angry tone. Make your words genuine and sincere. —Marty Edwards❖

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Sunday 9 AM & 4 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

# News

—Continue to remember **Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Allen Terry, Vicki McDaniel, Jean Coffey, and Audrey Terry.**

—Week before last **Jean Coffey** had a nephew pass away with cancer. This past week, her son-in-law passed away, and during the funeral, his sister passed away. Let's remember this family in prayer.

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## Watch Your Step

A man was walking down a hill in the woods when he stepped on a small twig. The twig rolled and he fell down. As he picked himself up and went on his way, he thought, "If that had been a big log, I would have seen it and climbed over it. There would have been less danger of falling, for I would have been aware of the danger." The fact that the twig was small was what made it dangerous.



In our spiritual pathway, the devil places "little" temptations to defeat us. His little traps or obstructions are often more effective than the big ones, partly because if people do notice them they may think they are too small to make a difference. "*Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.*" I Corinthians 10:12

—adapted from the Bellview Beacon  
Pensacola, FL

Sunday, January 6, 2013		
Classes	19	John 13:21-38
Preaching	26	Ephesians 4:22-32
Contribution	\$480.00	
Evening	18	Singing
Wednesday, January 9, 2013		
Classes	20	Judges 6:1-40

Visitors— Jan 6 (AM) Cressy Jones (Bonnieville, KY)  
Jan 9 (Wed) George Stinson (Munfordville)

## Bible Quiz

The children of Israel made what in the caves, mountains, and strong holds?

Last Week's Answer— The highways (Judges 5:6)

—Tonight we will begin a study of the book of Nehemiah.

—If you have any news items for the bulletin, you can call me or email them to me. I generally do not print the bulletin before Saturday night. —Marty

## —God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)