

MOVING UP HIGHER

with *Joyce Meyer*



What you must do to be right with God

I've discovered that nothing in life is right – nothing feels right, nothing works right – until you know you are right with God. When you really know God loves you and accepts you, then you can overcome sin, the rejection and judgment of others and any other opposition that comes against you in this life. This is the inheritance God promises His children in His Word.

We see this truth in Isaiah 54:17, which says, "No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue that shall rise against you in judgment you shall show to be in the wrong. This [peace, righteousness, security, triumph over opposition] is the heritage of the servants of the Lord [those in whom the ideal Servant of the Lord is reproduced]..." (AMPC).

Our inheritance in Christ is peace, righteousness, security and triumph over opposition. Another way to say it is we get everything Jesus worked and died for when He took the sins of the world upon Himself. And when we accept His sacrifice and believe God has forgiven our sins, we no longer have to bear the reproach – the shame, guilt and blame – for our sin.

We can have a personal, intimate relationship with God, through our faith in Christ, and have real peace, security and confidence that we are right with Him. We can begin to see ourselves the way God sees us, and trust that He has given us everything we need to be who He has created us be.

Reproducing what's downloaded in you

It's important to notice here that this inheritance is promised to "the servants of the Lord [those in whom the ideal Servant of the Lord is reproduced]." This means they are people who are committed to God and serious about having an ongoing relationship with Him.

While our salvation is a gift Jesus freely gives us, we do have to put effort into our walk with God, developing our faith in Him. That means we have to cooperate with the Holy Spirit as He works in us, so that everything God is – everything that was downloaded in our spirit when we accepted Christ – can be worked out through us and the world can see what He is really like.

First John 3:9 explains what it means to have "everything God is" downloaded in our spirit: "No one born (begotten) of God [deliberately, knowingly, and habitually] practices sin, for God's nature abides in him [His principle of life, the divine sperm, remains permanently within him]; and he cannot practice sinning because he is born (begotten) of God" (AMPC).

This scripture says the seed of Almighty God is planted in us through salvation. God's nature abides in us, and we cannot continue to practice sinning and

be satisfied to stay the way we are. It's not saying that we will suddenly do everything right, but our attitudes and behavior will change little by little as we learn to hear God's voice through His Word and we are obedient to Him. Over time, as we persist in spending time with God in prayer and studying His Word, we will develop more of the character and qualities of Christ.

God would never expect us to become like Him if He didn't equip us with everything we need to do it. With the seed of everything God is planted in your spirit, you have everything you need to become what He has created you to be and do what He's created you to do.

As we water the seed with the Word of God, spending time with Jesus in prayer, all of the things He has invested in us through salvation grow and we eventually give birth to them – we see them produced in our thoughts, attitudes and behavior. Now, giving birth is not comfortable, and sometimes as we let God change us, we go through pain in the process. You may even have times when you feel that it's too hard and want to give up. But don't give up! Because once the "baby" is born, you'll know it was worth it.

I know what this is like. I was so messed up after going through years of abuse in my childhood. I was hard to get along with, angry most of the time, controlling and thought I couldn't be happy unless everything went the way I wanted it to. I can honestly say that I'm not remotely like the person I used to be today because of the amazing healing and restoration God has done in my life. It wasn't easy to get from there to where I am today – enjoying my life and having God's peace – but it was worth it!

If you're struggling to believe that God will use you because you haven't "arrived" yet, I want to encourage you. God has a good plan for your life, and He will take you right where you are and get you where you need to be if you are willing to take the journey with Him. Choose to believe God's Word and receive His righteousness by faith. Know that because of what Jesus has done for you, you are right with God.

Pupkes celebrate 68 years

Ron and Glade-Rus "Sim" Pupke of Cottage Grove will be celebrating their 68th wedding anniversary on June 5, 2016. The couple was married in 1948 in Portland.

Their children are Shauna, Renn, Vonn, and Camee. A daughter, Starly, is deceased. The couple's one granddaughter is Mariah.

They met while attaining their teaching degrees from the University of Oregon. Ron served in the Marine Corps during WW II and the Korean War, reaching the rank of captain. He was a teacher, coach and athletic director for 35 years. Sim was a teacher and coach in the Estacada and Springfield Districts. She substituted for the South Lane School District and worked in the Latham Elementary School Library for a total of 29 years. Sim volunteered for the American Cancer Society for 30 years. They both retired in 1984.

They attended Dixieland jazz festivals for more than 35 years. They traveled in the U.S. and Canada and enjoyed Dixieland cruises. Both are members of First Presbyterian Church.



BIRTHS

May 12, 2016

To Antonia Sierra of Creswell, a son.

May 16, 2016

To Sharla Cole and Cody Stutzman of Cottage Grove, a son.

IN MEMORIAM

Death/Memorial Notices

Robin Dale Radonski, 59, of Eugene died May 19, 2016. A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 4 at the Quality Inn Convention Center in Cottage Grove. Arrangements under the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove.

Lester Dean Stewart, 53, of Cottage Grove died May 21, 2016. Arrangements under the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove.

Robert Victor Steinhilber, 90, of Cottage Grove died May 25, 2016. Arrangements under the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove.

County Animal Services Committee seeks members

The Lane County Board of Commissioners is seeking applications from citizens interested in serving on the Lane County Animal Services Advisory Committee which advises the Parks Manager and the Board of County Commissioners on matters of animal service operations, program improvements, model and state of the art animal welfare, care control programs and facilities.

The application deadline is Friday, June 17 at 5 p.m.

Applications are available in the Board of Commissioners' Office located on the Plaza Level of the Public Service Building located at 125 East 8th Avenue in Eugene. To request an application by mail, please call 541-682-4203.

Grant Gording, BC-HIS
Board Certified Hearing Instrument Specialist

Jenna Buetow
Hearing Counselor

FREE Hearing Screenings
FREE Hearing Aid Checks & Cleanings
Just call to schedule an appointment!

Grant's Hearing Centers
1498 E. Main St., CG
541-942-8444

www.grantshearing.com

Smith-Lund-Mills
FUNERAL CHAPEL • CREMATORIUM
People you know, people you trust.™

Funeral & Memorial Planning
Cremation Options
Monuments & Memorials
Cemetery Options

123 South 7th, Cottage Grove, Oregon
541-942-0185 • www.smithlundmills.com

COMMISSIONING
UNITED STATES NAVY

This is the formal announcement of the Graduation and Commissioning of **Kyle E. Fringer** as an Ensign in the United States Navy on Friday, May 27, 2016 in Annapolis, Maryland. He will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Oceanography. Kyle has chosen NFO and will attend flight school in Pensacola, FL in September.

Andreason's
CREMATION
"the affordable alternative."

\$693

Jeff & Andy Andreason
320 N 6th Street, Springfield

24-HOUR PHONE 485-6659
www.andreasons.com

The News & So Much More

Find Local Garage & Estate Sales
In Print & Online Today!

Get the in-depth local news coverage you need, plus more of what you want, right here in your local newspaper.

Cottage Grove Sentinel
In Print & Online | Subscribe | Renew | Gift

541.942.3325 • www.cgsentinel.com



Great Care in a Great Place.
Right here in Cottage Grove.

At PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center, we care for every body, every day, in every way that we can.

personalized primary care ▪ digital imaging
physical therapy ▪ laboratory services ▪ outpatient services
emergency department open 24/7

1515 Village Drive, Cottage Grove
PeaceHealth Medical Group ▪ 541-767-5200
PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center
541-767-5500

PeaceHealth
Cottage Grove Community Medical Center
peacehealth.org/cottage-grove