

## WHAT I MOST DESIRE

The Brethren have historically held to the conviction that the New Testament, based on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, is the moral and spiritual basis of our faith. Our standards, values, ideals, and guide for the basic decisions of life are guided by our understanding of Christ's life and teachings.

We view the Old Testament as prologue, as setting the stage for the main event: the arrival of Christ, who reminded his followers that "You have heard it said of old . . . but I say unto you. . . ." In other words, Christ gave us an updated, more accurate revelation of God's love and standards for daily life. Nevertheless, we can learn and benefit from the commendable standards and examples illustrated in the Old Testament.

King Solomon's reaction to an extraordinary offer from God is but one example of the Old Testament teachings (1 Kings 3:3-14). One night God appeared to Solomon in a dream and asked him what gift he would most like to have. Have you ever considered what your response to such an offer would be? Would it be riches, personal beauty, power, or some other trait or possession desired by so many people?

Solomon's famous response included none of these. He humbly recognized his inadequacy for the great responsibility thrust upon him when his father, King David, died. As king, Solomon asked God to give him the ability to govern with wisdom—the ability to recognize good from evil. Pleased with this answer, God granted this wish and also pledged to bless Solomon with the more popular gifts of riches, honor, and longevity.

**PRAYER:** Lord, grant us the courage, strength, and will to make the decisions you would have us make.

—J. Kenneth Kreider  
Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania

---

### Text for Today

**1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 (14)**

Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will **walk in my ways**, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN LIVING WORD BULLETIN 8306





Sheldon Church of the Brethren  
 Ministers - All Members  
 August 27, 2006  
 9:30 a.m. Worship



GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING/SHARING TIME/SPECIAL DAYS

PRELUDE/LIGHT CANDLES

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Ephesians 6:10-20 (see insert)

\* GATHERING HYMN #6 *Here in This Place*

\*UNISON INVOCATION (see insert)

READING Psalms 34:15-22

RESPONSIVE READING #809 Joshua 24:14-18

SPECIAL MUSIC

CHILDREN'S TIME (Gathering Song: *Jesus Loves the Little Children*)

HYMN # 311 The Church's One Foundation

OFFERTORY STATEMENT

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY #119

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN #504 *Have Thine Own Way*

PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE John 6:56-69

MESSAGE "Really Only One Choice"

\*CLOSING HYMN #366 God of Grace and God of Glory

\*BENEDICTION

\* - Please Stand, if you are able

**SERVING THE CONGREGATION TODAY:**

Message	Rev. Lucinda Douglas
Children's Message	Rev. Lucinda Douglas
Music	Jill Dykstra
Special Music	Alina and Carl Douglas
Ushers	Mark and Val
Greeter	Linda Adams
Children's Sunday School	Ann and Sandi

**SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, September 3:**

Message	Rev. David Loveall
Children's Message	Rev. David Loveall
Music	Donna Brinkman
Ushers	Mark and Alan
Greeter	
Children's Sunday School	Ann and Sandi

**PRAYER REMINDERS**

Our Congregation & Children	Reaching Out to Our Community
Arline English	Ann Evans
Linda Beal	Ruth King and Katie Dage
United Christians International	Jean Jean & Kristie
Those Serving in the Military	Phillip Riecks
Living Peace Church of the Brethren in Sioux City	

## **Anniversaries and Birthdays for August**

### *Anniversaries*

09 - Alan & Marcene Cox  
18 - Ron & Donna Brinkman  
29 - Doug & Nancy Osterbuhr

12 - Sandi Cox  
15 - Linda Adams  
Donna Brinkman  
23 - Nancy Diers  
24 - John Elder

### *Birthdays*

02 - Isaiah Elder  
04 - Darius Elder  
05 - Brody Van Roekel  
08 - Val Clover

Many happy returns of the day of thy birth. May sunshine and gladness be given and may the Dear Father prepare thee on earth for a beautiful birthday in heaven.

## **Church Events**

### **Welcome!**

Welcome to Rev. Lucinda Douglas this morning.

Welcome to all visitors and guests. May you receive God's blessing from today's service, and go out and witness for Him!

### **Ministerial Meeting**

Follwing the church service this morning, there will be a short ministerial committee meeting.

### **Guest Speakers**

Sept. 3 - Rev. David Loveall (Communion)  
Sept. 10 - Rev. David Loveall  
Sept. 17 - Pete Aberson  
Sept. 24 - Matt Morrison  
Oct. 1 - Rev. David Loveall (Communion)  
Oct. 8 - Don Adkins  
Oct. 15 - Rev. Connie Burkholder

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ephesians 6:10-20)

**One:** Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.

**Men:** Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

**Women:** For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

\*UNISON INVOCATION

Lord, too many of us have come this day believing the most important choice we will make is where we will eat lunch or what we will watch in the afternoon. Today and every day you call upon us to take a stand for you, against the powers of the world, for your kingdom and against the comforting lies that dull our passion for your good news.

Today, Lord, in word at least, and with your help and our hearts as well, we take a stand to serve you, to love you, to praise you, and to choose you. Amen.