

preaching has harmed the church. They want substance over style and flair. They want truth over entertainment. They want biblical authority over pragmatism. And they would rather have the sometimes bitter truth over a watered-down gospel. To put it in the words of John MacArthur, they realize that the weakness of the pulpit today does not stem from frantic cranks who harangue about hell; it is the result of men who compromise and who fear to speak God's Word powerfully, with conviction.

There are many challenges that face the church today. If we are to rise up to the occasion and defeat our adversary, we must have a strong pulpit; Pulpits that will speak the truth in season and out of season, with all the love it can muster; Pulpits that will not compromise the truth; Pulpits that do more than just squeak!

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South Green Street Church of Christ

Email from Nigeria (rec'd February 13, 2007)

Hello brother Holloway,

Greetings to you. Hope our Good Lord is seeing you and the Church through every trying moment even as He does to us. My family and I are doing fine. I was at Foron last week again, still in our bid to settle some of the problems that rock the unity of the small congregation. By the grace of God things will be alright. Please, keep praying for us. This coming Saturday and next week is a crucial moment in Jos here. The peace of the Jos and Plateau for the next three years will depend on what happens on the county election this weekend. There are rumors that the Muslims want to rule or they fight. But everyone is under tension of were we will run to when the commotion happens. But we trust in the Lord that He can abort what seems evil, and He can turn what seem evil into everlasting joy of His children. Please, keep us in prayers that God's will will prevail in Jos and in Plateau State and in Nigeria as a whole.

Abasiama called me telling me of the need for Lami, his wife to have resident permit. I was surprise that she never got it till now. I asked him where he never told you till now. He mentioned that he was afraid of the financial implication. He told me that it will require about \$280 to get that done. I told him to get to you. I don't know whether he has done that. We are so sorry to make such request at this time. But it is a need that if she must move freely, she needs the

resident permit. How are mom and dad doing? What about the Ellabell family? Please, our love to them all. May God bless you all. Grace and Peace,

Tom

Propping Up!!

Every time I am asked to pray, I think of the old deacon who always prayed, Lord, prop us up on our leanin' side.

After hearing him pray that prayer many times, someone asked him why he prayed that prayer so fervently.

He answered, 'Well sir, you see, it's like this...I got an old barn out back. It's been there a long time, it's withstood a lot of weather, it's gone through a lot of storms, and it's stood for many years. It's still standing. But one day I noticed it was leaning to one side a bit. So I went and got some pine poles and propped it up on its leaning side so it wouldn't fall.

Then I got to thinking about that and how much I was like that old barn.

I've been around a long time. I've withstood a lot of life's storms. I've

withstood a lot of bad weather in life, I've withstood a lot of hard times, and I'm still standing too. But I find myself leaning to one side from time to time, so I like to ask the Lord to prop us up on our leaning side, cause I figure a lot of us get to leaning, at times.

Sometime we get to leaning toward anger, leaning toward bitterness, leaning toward hatred, leaning toward cussing, leaning toward a lot of things that we shouldn't. So we need to pray, 'Lord, prop us up on our leaning side, so we will stand straight and tall again, to glorify the Lord.

From the bulletin of the

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Booker, Texas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cans-save cans – we are trying to buy bicycles for the missionaries in India

Medicine Bottles-Remember to save prescription bottles for African Christian Hospitals.

Meetings-our business and Ladies' meetings will be next Sunday after evening services

Social – Next Sunday, the 24th

Labels-Remember the labels we are saving

Food Pantry-Remember the Pantry as you shop

Change Jar-proceeds go to the Mothers' Day Appeal for Raintree Village