

FBC News

BY BRO. BRAD BANKS

Our new series, "Going Places with God," will focus on the book of Exodus with a focus on spiritual growth. Sunday's message from Exodus 14 entitled, "The Place of Starting," dealt with a place of complete dependence, practical obedience, and purposeful experience. Sunday evenings will be devoted to a study of Hebrews.

Our annual Family Fun Fellowship will be this Sunday starting at 5:30pm. A night of fun

activities in the Family Life Center and Fellowship Hall and a soup, sandwich, and dessert fellowship.

The Church League Volleyball kicks off on Monday, January 19. Our annual Lay-Led service will be Sunday, January 25 at both morning services at 9:00 and 11:00am. Danny O'Toole and Jaden Treichel will be our speakers.

All Hunters, mark your calendar for Friday, February 27. We will host a "Wild Game Supper" that will include several door prizes and giving away

8-10 guns. Our speaker will be Chuck McAlister, founder and host of AdventureBound Outdoors. More information to come!

Our students and children meet each Wednesday at 6:30pm. Our Children's Church Ministry is offered during the 11:00am worship service. Come check out our new children's ministry room.

The FLC is open Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 1:00pm, Saturday from 9:00am - 1:00pm, and Monday/Tuesday/Thursday from 4:00-8:00pm.

Our weekly service

times are Sunday at 9:00am, 11:00am, and 6:30pm. The Sunday School gatherings start at 10:00am. Our Wednesday service begins at 6:30pm.

Our church would like to remind you that you can connect with us through our website at owentonfbc.com, Face Book at FBC Owenton, download our church app, join us on twitter or Instagram. You can also call the church office or email us at office@owentonfbc.com.

God bless you, your family, and our community. See you Sunday!

Toothbrush works great on dirty sneakers

I got such a laugh out of the lady who said her husband, after 40 years of marriage, still gets upset when she uses his toothbrush.

"So," she said, "if anyone knows a better way to get dog doo out of the soles of my sneakers, I'm all ears."

Sometimes we step into messes because we don't pay close enough attention to what may lie ahead. That's true of dog doo, but it's also true of other kinds of messes we can find ourselves in.

The Bible tells us, "Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be estab-

lished" (Proverbs 4:25-26).

If I had strictly adhered to that proverb throughout my life, I would have been able to avoid stepping in everything from chewing gum to cow manure. I would also have been able to avoid other kinds of messes in life.

Even our Bible heroes weren't immune to getting into messes. The Bible tells us so.

Abraham was a liar. Moses was a murderer. Gideon was a coward. Sampson was a womanizer. David was an adulterer. The Apostle Peter denied Christ three times in one night. The list goes on.

They were all imperfect people, just like us. They all had a knack for stepping into messes, just like us. They sinned, just like us. But, through God's grace, all made it to heaven.

Here's the good news for all of us: God loves us so much that he sent his only begotten son, Jesus, down to earth to live among us, to teach us important lessons, and ultimately to die for us on the cross. You see, the Bible tells us the wages of sin is death. Jesus took our sin upon himself and died in our place, paying our sin debt. In doing so, he showed us such amazing grace. He showed us saving grace.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of

works, lest any man should boast (Ephesians 2:8-9).

You can't do enough good deeds to be saved. You can't donate enough money to be saved. You can't be kind enough to be saved. You're saved by God's grace. It is a free gift.

The messes you've gotten into in life have sure enough soiled you, but the blood shed by Jesus at Calvary cleanses you from all unrighteousness.

Your husband's toothbrush, no doubt, works well cleaning your shoes but only the blood of Christ will wash away your sins.

Reach Roger Alford at 502-514-6857 or rogeralford1@gmail.com.



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Grace for runaways

As a kid, I occasionally ran away. I didn't go far—usually just to the end of the block.

I'd sit next to Rusty Smith's house on the corner, where I was hidden—sort of. Because I mostly wanted someone to miss me enough to come and find me.

As I recall—probably incorrectly—nobody came looking for me, and I ended up walking back home after a half hour or so.

I'd walk through the front door as only a 12-year-old drama queen could, hoping to find family members mourning my disappearance.

I don't remember that ever happening. Sigh.

Although I've long outgrown the need to run away from home, I haven't outgrown the need to be missed—or the need to feel secure in knowing that someone will come looking for me.

One of my favorite children's books is "The Runaway Bunny," written in 1942 by Margaret Wise Brown.

A little bunny tells his mother he's going to run away, and she replies, "If you run away, I will run after you. For you are my little bunny."

The little bunny goes through a litany of what he'll do if she runs after him: He'll become a fish in a trout stream and swim away from her. A rock on a high mountain she can't reach. A bird and fly away from her.

For each threat, the mother bunny has an answer. "If you become a fish in a trout stream, I will become a fisherman, and I will fish for you... If you become a rock on the mountain high above me, I will be a mountain climber, and I will climb up to where you are."

My favorite—the one that always makes me tear up—is when the little bunny says he'll become a bird and fly away, and his mother says, "If you become a bird and fly

away from me, I will be a tree that you come home to."

The book shows a little white bunny with pink wings and a mother-bunny-shaped tree holding out her arms.

It reminds me of Jesus' welcoming arms.

In His parables, Jesus talked about lost and wayward lambs. He described Himself as the Good Shepherd who leaves the 99 sheep in the pasture to go after the one who wandered away.

"And when the shepherd finds his lost sheep, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home," Jesus said. "Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep!'" (Luke 15:4-6)

Jesus never says, "I've had it with you. That's it. You're not Mine anymore."

He won't ever stop going after the one.

Every single time, Jesus goes after the one. Every. Time.

That gives me great comfort. It means that even as I struggle to stay faithful to Him, He remains faithful to me.

in front of me, behind me, beside me.

Even as I run away, I want to be found. And He finds me.

"The Runaway Bunny" ends with the little bunny saying he'll become a little boy and run into a house. His mother replies, "...I will become your mother and catch you in my arms and hug you."

"Shucks," the little bunny says. "I might just as well stay where I am and be your little bunny."

So he did.

"Have a carrot," his mother says.

That's grace.

Contact Nancy Kennedy at 352-564-2927 (leave a message) or email at nkennedy@chronicleonline.com.

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6 PROPERTIES IN SHELBY, HENRY COUNTIES

DUPLEXES, SINGLE FAMILY HOMES

BIDDING WILL START TO END ON JANUARY 16TH 2:00PM EST

REAL ESTATE: 4663-4665 JACKSON ROAD, EMINENCE, KY

40019. NICE DUPLEX WITH EACH UNIT HAVING TWO BEDROOMS, TWO BATHS, LARGE UTILITY ROOM, KITCHEN, AND LIVING ROOM. ONE UNIT IS IN GOOD CONDITION; THE OTHER UNIT WILL NEED SOME WORK. TOTAL THEY BRING IN \$1,300 A MONTH (\$650 EACH) AND TENANTS PAY UTILITIES.

4669-4671 JACKSON ROAD, EMINENCE, KY 40019. NICE DUPLEX AND EACH UNIT IS TWO BEDROOMS, 2 BATHS, LARGE UTILITY ROOM, KITCHEN, AND LIVING ROOM. THE RENT IS \$500/\$550 AND TENANT PAYS UTILITIES.

316-318 SULPHUR AVENUE, EMINENCE, KY 40019. DUPLEX AND EACH UNIT IS TWO BEDROOMS, ONE BATH, KITCHEN, LIVING ROOM, AND UTILITY ROOM. THE FRONT UNIT RENT IS \$600 AND THE REAR UNIT IS \$500. THERE IS ONLY ONE WATER METER, SO WATER IS INCLUDED WITH THE RENT. WATER INCLUDES SEWER AND SOLID WASTE REMOVAL.

248 MERRIWEATHER AVENUE, EMINENCE, KY 40019. SINGLE FAMILY HOME WITH THREE BEDROOMS, TWO BATHS, IN NEED OF SOME REPAIR. GOOD LOCATION AND GOOD RENTERS IN PLACE THAT PAY \$600 PER MONTH AND TENANT PAYS ALL UTILITIES.

2230 CHRISTIANBURG ROAD, SHELBYVILLE, KY 40065. SINGLE-FAMILY HOME IN GOOD CONDITION, SITTING ON 1 ACRE. THE HOME HAS THREE BEDROOMS, 1.5 BATHS, 1,100 SF, LIVING ROOM, KITCHEN AND UTILITY ROOM. THE PROPERTY ALSO HAS A METAL

BUILDING ON IT FOR A SHOP AREA OR EQUIPMENT STORAGE.

8644 CROPPER ROAD, SHELBYVILLE, KY 40065. SINGLE FAMILY HOME ON A LARGE LOT. ONE BEDROOM AND ONE BATH. THIS HOME NEEDS SOME REPAIR.

PUBLIC INSPECTION WILL ONLY BE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 11TH 2-4PM

TERMS: A 10% BUYERS PREMIUM WILL BE ADDED TO THE FINAL BID TO DETERMINE THE FINAL SALES PRICE OF EACH PROPERTY. THE WINNING BIDDER SHALL PUT DOWN 10% OF THE TOTAL SALES PRICE AS A DEPOSIT AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE AUCTION, WITH THE BALANCE DUE ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 16TH, 2026.

WILLARD AUCTIONS

H. BARRY SMITH, REALTORS AND AUCTIONEERS

88 BRUNERSTOWN ROAD, SHELBYVILLE, KY

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AUCTIONEERS: H. BARRY SMITH (CAI), JIMMY WILLARD (CAI), SHAWN WILLARD (CAI), JEFF RIGGLE (CAI), PATRICK HARGADON, TODD BARLOW, ROB WINLOCK, DEAN BURK, COURTNEY ROBERTS

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