

When WWJD isn't enough

Years ago, a woman called me with an idea for my column. She was discouraged by all the turmoil in the nation — things haven't changed much, have they? — and suggested we should all start wearing WWJD bracelets again.

Back in the 1990s, WWJD ("What Would Jesus Do?") was trendy among Christians. There were bracelets, bumper stickers, coffee mugs — the whole thing. The slogan came from a resurgence of the 1896 book *In His Steps* by Charles Sheldon, a fictional story about a pastor who challenges his congregation to ask, "What would Jesus do?" before every action for a year.

"Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone read the book and we all did what Jesus would do?" the woman said.

The world probably would be a better place — although Jesus managed to tick off plenty of people by what he did and said.

He told religious leaders they were "whitewashed tombs full of dead men's bones" and that their father was the devil. He flipped over the tables of the money-changers in the temple and took a whip to them, disrupting their thieving business practices. He ate with sinners and earned a reputation as a drunk and a glutton, although he was neither.

Mostly, though, Jesus did things like heal the sick, raise the dead, walk on water and multiply loaves and fish to feed thousands.

Jesus could do those things because he's God. Even if we could turn



NANCY

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water into wine or make blind men see, even if every person in the world committed to living by "WWJD?" and tried their hardest and did their best, it still wouldn't work.

We might be able to change behavior. Maybe even stop wars, crime and family feuds. We might achieve a kind of peaceful coexistence, possibly even reduce poverty and hunger.

But it wouldn't change us inwardly.

We can polish the outside, but we can't fix our rebellious nature. There's always going to be someone who asks, "WWJD?" and then decides that flipping tables and cracking whips is the faithful response of WWJD. It offers a do-it-yourself approach to God. True Christianity, however, is not about doing what Jesus would do. It's about trusting and resting in what Jesus has already done. WWJD isn't the gospel. But WDJD is — What Did Jesus Do? On the cross, Jesus' final words were, "It is finished." That's not a challenge. It's a promise.

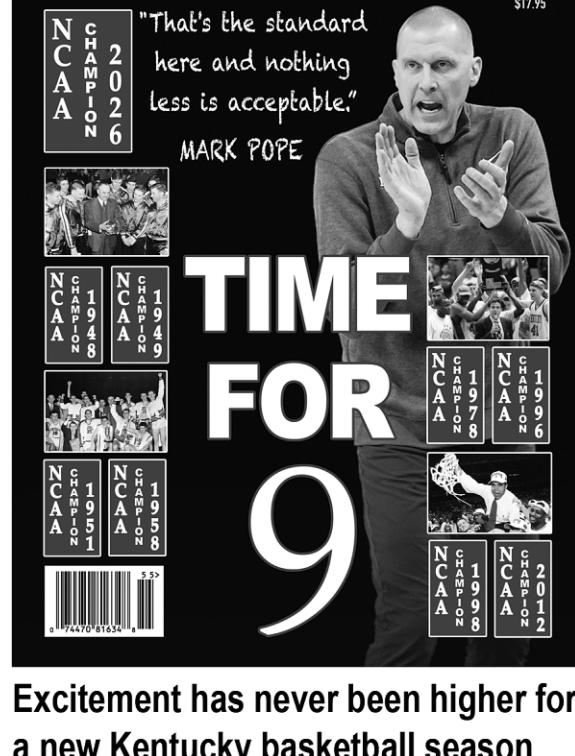
One of my favorite hymns, "Before the Throne," puts it this way: "Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free; for God the just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me."

When that truth comes first, something changes. Obedience stops being fueled by fear or grit and starts being shaped by gratitude. Mercy follows mercy received. Grace begets grace.

I don't need a bracelet to remind me. Years ago, two women approached a pastor after church, both

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Over 100 years old and still using a chainsaw

My friend Bill Gori passed along a joke the other day about the reporter who was sent to interview the oldest man in his community.

That reporter rang the doorbell and an elderly gentleman invited him in and showed him to the living room.

When they got settled in, the reporter, assuming he had found his man, asked, "How old are you?"

"I'm 97."

"And to what do you attribute your longevity?" the reporter asked.

"Well, I eat right. I exercise. And I take vita-

mins every day."

Right about then, the reporter heard a commotion outside, and asked, "What in the world is that?"

"Oh, that's just my dad. He's out there with a chainsaw pruning the apple trees."

I was reading here while back that the world's oldest living person, Ethel Caterham, has turned 116. She was born Aug. 21, 1909. But she's a mere child compared to some of the people in the biblical record. Methuselah lived to 969. Noah was 950. Adam was 930. Lamech was 777. And



ROGER

ALFORD

Enoch was 365. There were of course many others who lived into the hundreds.

People of our day aren't given such long lifespans. The Bible tells us, "The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years."

That's 70 to 80 years for people who aren't familiar with the term "score." The Centers for Disease Control bear that out, telling us the average life expectancy of men in the U.S. is now 75.8 years while women is 81.1 years.

Of course, we know some people don't live that long and others live

much longer.

The truth is, no matter how long we live, it's still a short time in light of eternity.

"What is your life? It is even a vapor that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away" (James 4:14).

That's why we're compelled to make the most of every day, because, sooner than we think, we'll breathe our last on this side of eternity.

With that in mind, we should live our lives in a way that honors Christ, whether we make 70, or 80 or 100-plus years.

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

FBC News

BY BRO. BRAD BANKS

Due to the winter storm our in-person services were cancelled, and we

premiered a service from January 31, 2021. If you have a family member or friend that is unsaved or has drifted from the Lord and their church, encourage them to go to our website and hear this message on the transforming power of God and His grace.

Our Lay-led service will be held this Sunday with Danny O'Toole and Jaden Treichel sharing their story of becoming followers of Jesus. The Lord's Supper will be observed during the evening service.

The Church League Volleyball will be on the court Monday evening from 6:30 till closing.

The church valentine banquet is scheduled for Sunday, February 15, after the 11:00am worship service.

All Hunters, mark your calendar for Friday, February 27, starting at 6:00pm. We will host a "Wild Game Supper" that will include several door prizes and giving away 8 guns. Our speaker will be Chuck McAlister, founder and host of AdventureBound Outdoors. You can purchase a ticket by dropping by our church office Monday-Wednesday and Friday between 8:00am-4:00pm or

the Family Life Center Monday-Friday 8:00am-1:00pm or Monday, Tuesday, Thursday between 4:00-8:00pm.

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!

LEGAL NOTICE



LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
UNIFIED COURT OF JUSTICE
OWEN CIRCUIT COURT
CIVIL ACTION # 22-CI-00071

NEWREZ LLC, d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing

PLAINTIFF

VS. NOTICE OF SALE

GARY ROWE, JR., ETAL.

DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale rendered in the Owen Circuit Court on the 13th day of January, 2026, I will sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder on the front steps of the Owen County Courthouse, 100 North Thomas Street, Owenton, Kentucky at the hour of 10:00, a.m. on Saturday, February 7, 2026, the following described property:

Lots 1 and 2 in Leaning Oaks Estates, Section One, as shown on the plat of said subdivision of record in Plat Cabinet 1, Slide 210, and being conveyed in Deed Book 256, page 460 in the Owen County Clerk's Office. Reference to said plat is made in aid of this description.

Included in this sale is a 2000 Fleetwood, Stoneridge manufactured home, Title No. 182180940015, Serial No. TNFLX27AB20767SRI which is located on and affixed to the real property, the title to which has been converted to real estate by affidavit of record in Misc. Book 5, page 326 in the Owen County Clerk's Office.

Being the same property conveyed to Gary Rowe, Jr., unmarried, by virtue of a deed from Mary F. House, widowed and unmarried, dated May 28, 2019, recorded June 3, 2019 in Deed Book 256, page 460 in the Owen County, Kentucky records.

Address: 3084 Leaning Oak Road, Corinth, Kentucky 41010
Parcel ID: 106-00-00-023.00

The amount of money to be raised and for which this sale is being made is the sum of \$10,266.88 adjudged due to plaintiff on their first lien on the property, together with interest thereon at the rate of 12% per annum, from November 2, 2025 until paid.

The real estate shall be sold on the terms of 10% cash at the time of the sale, with the balance payable within 30 days, except that the deposit shall be waived if plaintiff is the successful bidder. Any purchaser, other than the plaintiff shall be required to execute bond, with surety thereon acceptable to the Master Commissioner, to secure the unpaid balance of the purchase price, and said bond shall bear interest at the rate of 12% per annum from the date of the sale until paid, and shall have the same force and effect as a judgment and shall remain and be a lien on the property until paid. The purchaser shall have the privilege of paying all or part of the balance of the purchase price prior to the 30 day period.

It is further provided that the property sold contains insurable improvements and the successful bidder at said sale shall, at bidder's expense, procure a policy of fire and extended insurance coverage on said improvements in the amount of the appraised value, or the unpaid balance of the purchase price, whichever is less, as a minimum, with a loss payable clause to the Commissioner of the Owen Circuit Court or the plaintiff herein. Failure of the purchaser to effect such insurance shall not affect the validity of the sale or the purchaser's liability thereunder, but shall entitle, but not require the plaintiff to effect said insurance and furnish the policy, or evidence thereof to the Commissioner if it so desires.

Commissioner if it so desires, and the premium thereon or a proper portion thereof shall be charged to the purchaser as purchaser's cost.

When the purchase price is paid in full, title will be conveyed to the purchaser by commissioner's deed.

The aforesaid real property shall be sold free and clear of any and all liens and claims except the following:

a. All State and County real estate taxes payable on the property for 2026 and thereafter;
b. Easements, restrictions and stipulations of record;
c. Assessments for public improvements levied against the property;
d. Any facts which an inspection and accurate survey of the property may disclose.

For further information, see the Judgment, Order and pleadings of record in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Owen County.

/s/ Mark R. Cobb

MARK R. COBB

MASTER COMMISSIONER

OWEN CIRCUIT COURT

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