

CPC This Week

September 30, 2009

PASS THE SALT, PLEASE BY BOB CLARK

Have you been surprised by the lack of civility in our lives of late? It seems as though we've forgotten how to be nice when it comes to expressing our opinions. I remember, like many of you, the maternal proverb cited above. But where is it in our culture?

You've heard the verbal volleys – toward our President, a line judge at the US Open, even a music video winner. Open criticism, to put it mildly, has reached a new level (or is that a new "low" level) – and it should concern us as believers.

Recently, Pastor Tom preached a sermon addressing the potential problem of slander and judgment within the church. But what about dealing with those outside the church? How are we doing in that area? Paul had something to say to the Colossian believers about that:

"Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone" (Colossians 4:5-6).

This does not mean we can't hold and share our opinions about current events impacting our lives. But it does mean we need to be very careful with our thoughts and words – especially outside of the church. Although this passage may be speaking more directly to the defense of our faith, its principle is very clear. How you say, what you say, matters! We should do it in such a way that Christ is honored – in our family gatherings, across the lunch table at our workplaces, in our classroom discussions, evening walks in our neighborhoods.

As someone who has fallen off the wagon more than once when attempting to do this, I have a favor to ask of you – Pass the salt, please!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

MISSIONS FALL FEST: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

THANKSGIVING SERVICE/KIDS MUSICAL: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

**This Sunday's Sermon Text:
JAMES 4:13-17**

**OCTOBER VERSES TO
MEMORIZE: JAMES 1:2-5**

Praying For The Persecuted
Church: SOMALIA
Voice of the Martyrs reports
the murder, by Muslims, of a
man transporting Bibles.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 **Ryan Byrd**
- 1 **Sharon Foust**
- 2 **Sharon Baker**
- 4 **Melissa Owens**
- 8 **Barb Koditek**
- 8 **Bob Neideck**
- 9 **Alan Baker**
- 11 **Richard Anderson**
- 12 **Karissa Owens**
- 14 **Arbutus Fetzer**
- 15 **Jan Malandra**
- 16 **Tom Stein**
- 17 **Sam Steinfort**
- 18 **Jane Bumbalough**
- 18 **Myron Hunt**
- 20 **Joshua Bumbalough**
- 21 **Jonathan Golden**
- 22 **Luke Miller**
- 24 **Darrell Watt**
- 27 **Debbie Higgs**
- 28 **Jonathan Baker**
- 28 **Michael Campbel**
- 29 **Diana Kehlenbrink**
- 31 **Jane Arnold**