

## KISS THE MIRROR

A Christian middle school for girls was faced with a unique problem. A number of girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the bathroom. That was fine, but after they put on their lipstick they would press their lips to the mirrors leaving dozens of little lip prints.



Finally, the principal decided that something had to be done. She called several of the girls to the bathroom and met them there with the custodian. She explained that all these lip prints were causing a major problem for the custodian who had to clean the mirrors every day. To demonstrate how much work they made for the custodian, she asked him to clean one of the mirrors while the girls watched. The custodian took a long-handled brush, dipped it into the nearest toilet, and proceeded to scrub the mirror. From that day on, the problem of lip prints on the mirrors was completely eliminated.

## TOUGH TEACHER

A school teacher injured his back and had to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. It fit under his shirt and was not noticeable at all. On the first day of school, still with the cast under his shirt, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in school. Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, he opened the window as wide as possible and then busied himself with desk work. When a strong breeze made his tie flap, he took the desk stapler and stapled the tie to his chest. He had no trouble with discipline that year.



## KID'S LOGIC

The teacher asked the new student, "How old were you on your last birthday?"

The student quickly replied, "Seven". The teacher then asked, "How old will you be on your next birthday?" She responded, "Nine".

The teacher shook her head. Exasperated, she told the child, "That's impossible".

The little girl quickly explained, "No, it isn't, Teacher. I'm eight today."



**First Baptist Church Strathroy**

**Where Christ is cherished, family is loved and everyone is family!**



# GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

**First Baptist Church Strathroy**

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"I know the plans I have for you...plans for welfare...to give you a future and a hope"

(from Jeremiah 29:11)

## What's inside...

- Hot Stuff?
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- Essay on Summer Vacation



Where Christ is cherished, family is loved & everyone is family!



**Sunday, 11 a.m. Services**

Starting Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Labour Day at 10:30 a.m.

**20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario**

**Thot:** "What you do in your house is worth as much as if you did it up in heaven for our Lord God. We should accustom ourselves to think of our position and work as sacred and well-pleasing to God, not on account of the position and work, but on account of the word and faith from which the obedience and the work flow." ~ Martin Luther

**"So we built the wall...for the people had a mind to work" ~ Nehemiah 4:6.**

## The People had a Mind to Work

We are labourers together with God.

The Bible tells us this is true.

Those who are truly born again  
Should also serve the Saviour too.

We see in the Book of Nehemiah,  
When they rebuilt Jerusalem's wall,  
In fifty-two days, they finished  
Because the workers gave their all.

"The people had a mind to work,"

We're told in Nehemiah, chapter four.

In the face of much opposition,  
Their faith began to really soar.

Do we work to please our pastor,  
Or to please another dear member?  
We need to have one goal in mind –  
It's serving God, we must remember!

~ by Margaret Cagle

## HOT STUFF?

A local blacksmith working at his open forge, hammering a white-hot horseshoe had just finished the shoe and thrown it to the ground to cool.

The local wise guy walked in at that moment. He picked up the horseshoe, but dropped it with a howl of pain.

“Pretty hot stuff, eh” asked the blacksmith.

“Nah,” said the wise guy. “It doesn’t take me long to look over a horseshoe.”



## Something to Think About...

*“In all the work you are doing, work the best you can. Work as if you were doing it for the Lord, not for people” ~ Colossians 3:23.*

As we put our summer vacations behind us, look at returning to work and the routines of autumn, and see our children and youth back to school, it seems like the right time to talk about our work ethic. Some years ago, we put together an acronym for **W.O.R.K.** since our society seems enamored by such things.

There are certainly many acronyms out there to define W.O.R.K. Some of them are thought provoking while others leave me pondering what it even means. For instance, take a look at these...

- **W**orkly **O**verload **R**ecreational **K**iller
- **W**hat **O**ur **R**ecovery **K**nows
- **W**ork **O**pportunity & **R**esponsibility to **K**ids

The good news is that our heavenly Father never leaves us in a state of confusion or uncertainty. And He never loses sight of our needs or the toil we excerpt to provide for our families. Our Lord Jesus sets the tone for what our work ethic should be in all circumstances saying, *“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven”* (Matthew 5:16). If we would let our light of faith shine out from us in the workplace today, never being frightened of standing up for truth and righteousness, being willing to trust in the Lord at all times and do what is right, it may, at times, seem a lonely road. We are challenged today, perhaps like never before, to remain silent, to fit in, to not rock the boat. But at what cost? Jesus also said that *“If you deny me before man, I will deny you before my Father in heaven”* (Matthew 10:33). My friends, I confess I’m much more fearful of disappointing Jesus than I am of what man can do to me. Through years of working in secular positions, I found that being known for my faith, and taking a stand, wasn’t easy, but the reward was in having the opportunity to share the Gospel and see lives changed as Jesus entered their lives. I know of others who have stood up in the workplace and witnessed the same blessings. I remember the story of a businessman at a meeting



where the guest speaker continuously spoke crudely and put down Christianity. The businessman not only stood up, but stood on the table and told the man to cease. Following the meeting there were more gathered to shake his hand and thank him than those who shook the hand of the guest speaker. Our God goes before us, so let us put our trust in Him. If we will, then I believe that our W.O.R.K. will be...

**Worthy** – The Apostle Paul wrote to the Philippians, *“Brothers and sisters, think about the things that are good and worthy of praise. Think about the things that are true and honourable and right and pure and beautiful and respected”* (Philippians 4:8). Not only are we what we eat, we’re what we think, what we let our minds dwell on. Being *“True, Noble, Right, Pure, Beautiful, and Respectful”* may not be how we consider our workplace, but if we’re serving Jesus, doesn’t it make sense?

**Opportunities** – What do we do when opportunities come our way. The saying goes, we should make the best of our opportunities. But did you know that has its roots in scripture? *“Make the most of every opportunity”* (Ephesians 5:16 [NIRV]); and *“When we have the opportunity to help anyone, we should do it.”* (Galatians 6:10[NCV]).

**Revealing** – the Father, our Lord God to a world in desperate need today. The world hungers for something lasting, good, and life-saving. *“For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last”* (Romans 1:17); *“For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed”* (Romans 8:19).

**Kingdom** – The Kingdom of God is the only lasting hope, the only eternal solution to sin that corrupts our human nature. Being born again, as Jesus reminds us, *“I tell you the truth, unless you are born from water and the Spirit, you cannot enter God’s kingdom”* (John 3:5), is the gift we can share in the work place that will satisfy the longing of hearts wearied by the daily toil of work and life.

O, that they may hear those words, *‘Come, my Father has given you His blessing. Receive the kingdom God has prepared for you since the world was made’* (Matthew 25:34).

Today, are you ready to get to **W.O.R.K.**? Will you be found on His return pursuing *“Worthy Opportunities for Revealing the Kingdom of God* as you put in your daily work duties? Think of the eternal blessings!

### Mark Your Calendar!

Sep 3<sup>rd</sup> – Communion

Sep 10<sup>th</sup> – Service at 11 a.m.

Sep 10<sup>th</sup> – The Chapelaires 2:30 p.m.

**Fall Hymn Sing at Knottingwood**

**Wednesdays 1:30pm**

Weekly Prayer (FBCS Godwinks’ Café)

**Message Series**

**Experiencing God Through  
Thankful Hearts**

**All Welcome!**