

The purpose of this publication is to spread the truth, to sow God's good seed, the Word of God, and to confront religious error for the good of men's souls. Editor: Allen Dvorak

Published weekly by a group of God's people in the Monrovia community and meeting at:
461 Kelly Spring Road - Harvest, AL 35749 Telephone: (256) 325-8585

For additional information about us, visit our website
<http://spreadingtruth.org>

I quietly and very deliberately gathered up my extension cords, bladeless reciprocating saw, bladeless hacksaw and other tools and retreated to my truck, tail between my legs.



Having analyzed my efforts that morning, I have decided to tell you all of this, at great risk of ridicule, so that I could make a couple of observations about spiritual matters. People involve themselves in sinful behavior and everything seems to be going along fine... until suddenly the temporal consequences of sin kick in. One minute they think they are getting away with something and the next minute their world is falling apart. Sin is like that. Deceptive (Hebrews 3:13). Destructive. The pleasure of sin ("Look at the way that blade is cutting that pole!") draws them in, but it often doesn't last very long...and then

the cost of sin, in terms of its return in this world, makes them miserable (James 1:13-15; Hebrews 11:24-25; 2 Samuel 12). Ironically, some people never seem to realize that it is their sins that are causing them so much pain and heartache. Worse yet, sin has a long-term salary plan (Romans 6:23).

Perhaps we are also amazed that they would repeat the same sinful mistakes over and over again with similar results. One would think that they would at least learn from the consequences of past sins and repent. No way. Not a chance. This time it will be different. Regardless of warnings in the Scriptures about the consequences of sin, they always know better! Always assigning their past failures to irrelevant factors, they return to the same behavior and, oddly enough, seem to suffer the same results. Go figure.

Learn from my mistakes (never take a reciprocating saw to a pole fight!). Beware of sin – easy to get started, hard to escape the temporal consequences.

Don't worry about the metal blades. I know how to get them out...

Bible Challenge Question - Answer

Jacob, grandson of Abraham, had twelve sons...but lived to be 147 years old (Genesis 47:28). The answer to the question is Ishmael! He was Abraham's first son, whose mother was Hagar. Ishmael also had twelve sons, just like Jacob, but "only" lived to be 137 years old (Genesis 25:12-17).



Volume 10, Number 16

April 16, 2017

Don't Get Stuck!

By Allen Dvorak

The parking lot at the church's building has been a little dark recently because an errant motorist took out one of the 30' light poles, effectively disconnecting the light on the fourth pole as well. The pole that was hit by the car (according to the accident report, traveling a mere 25mph!) was severed near its base and bent about 18" up from the bottom. The pole, now injured and not reusable, currently resides along the edge of the parking lot.

A new pole has been ordered and will eventually be installed, bringing light and happiness to all. In the meantime, however, I spoke with David Weatherford, one of the deacons caring for all things building, to ask if I could take the old pole away and use it for my own purposes. He consented and I thought I would accomplish that task this past Monday.

I arrived at the building in my truck with a 12' trailer. I was armed with 150' of extension cord, a reciprocating saw, spare metal blades, a hacksaw and some miscellaneous other tools,

intending to cut off the bent portion and cut the remaining 27+ feet into two sections that I could haul off on the trailer. I thought I would make short work (get it?) of the job, but I was sadly mistaken.

Everything started out well. The reciprocating saw with a metal blade began cutting through the pole near the bend on one end, but I was not far into the pole when the blade was seized by the metal. It was odd; I could move the end of the blade up and down,

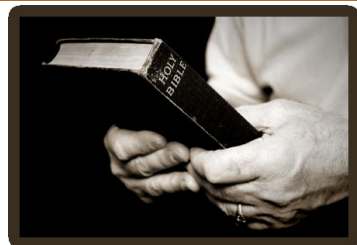


but I couldn't pull it out of the cut! I disconnected the saw from the blade and even tried gripping the blade with some heavy pliers – no luck! (See photo to left).

More handyman wisdom on page 3

O Thou Fount of Every Blessing

By Allen Dvorak



Text: _____

Worship must involve the _____ of man.

Songwriters sometimes employ _____ ; some-
times language that is _____ or _____.

Summary of the four verses:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Points to Ponder in the song:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, _____ and
a _____ one another in all wisdom, singing _____ and
h _____ and spiritual songs, with _____ in your hearts to
God.

-- Colossians ____; ESV

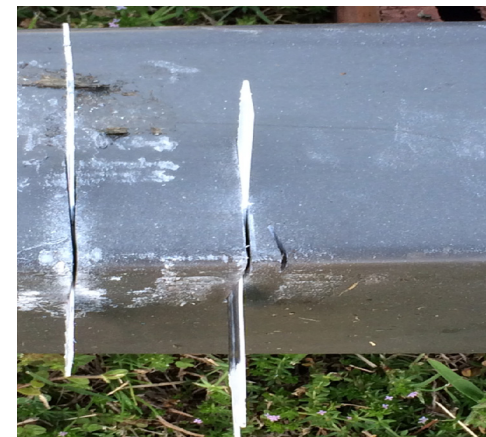
**“It is integrity, living in complete truth with yourself and others,
that most demonstrates the quality of your characer.”**

-- Brian Tracy

**“Do what you should do, when you should do it, whether you feel
like or not.”**

-- Thomas Huxley

Fortunately, I had the foresight to bring a second metal blade. I installed it in the saw and began cutting the pole again, a little farther from the bent part. “Gotta be more careful this time, so that I don’t get my blade stuck.” For good luck, I even cut from the opposite side of the pole! About the same depth into the pole, the blade jammed again. Same situation – same problem. I could rock the blade up and down, but I couldn’t withdraw it from the cut, no matter what I tried. (See photo to right).



Wow. I couldn’t believe that I had managed to get two blades stuck, although looking back on the moment, I had tried the exact same procedure twice, hoping for different results (which, by the way, is Einstein’s definition of insanity).

Not wanting to be defeated by an unintelligent object, I pulled out my other weapon – the

hacksaw. I began sawing with it and quickly realized that I might be retirement age before I could make two cuts completely through the pole. After sawing for what seemed to be half of eternity, I called Debbie to inform her that I would probably not be home for lunch.

“Careful now. Don’t want to get this hacksaw blade stuck,” I thought. I may have even said this out loud; by then I was talking to myself. Perhaps you have guessed where this story is headed (see photo on back page). In my efforts to free the hacksaw blade, first the blade came free from its frame and then, after I had replaced it in its frame a couple of times, one end of the blade snapped off. My penchant for symmetry kicked in and I snapped off the other end, as though I was “finishing the job.”

Bible Challenge Question

**He was a descendant of Abra-
ham and had twelve sons. He
lived to be 137 years old.
Who was he?**

The answer to this question is on the back page.

This sorry mess concluded on page 4