

Letters in the Sand Washed Away

By Dan Jenkins

Pat Boone was not the only singer who recorded it, but he was the one whose version soared to the greatest heights in the late 50s. He sang about how he and his loved one wrote "Love Letters in the Sand" and how his heart was broken as the incoming tide washed those letters away. Think about this for a moment, and you can see there are many things in our life we need to have washed out.

Sometimes we need to wash away the anger in our lives. Anger itself is not sinful. It is a godly quality. The psalmist said, "God is a just judge, and God is angry with the wicked every day" (Psa. 7:11). However, he also said, "Be angry and do not sin. Meditate within your heart on your bed, and be still. Selah" (Psa. 2:12). Jesus is the One we long to be exactly as He was. "He looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their heart" (Mark 3:6). So, the next time you see evil, or when someone has wronged you, do not engrave their words in stone within your heart. We are commanded, "Be angry, and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your wrath" (Eph. 4:26). Let the waves of *agape* love wash away your anger.

Write your "list" of past accomplishments in the sand and let them be washed away. Human nature is to look at oneself and think about what he/she has personally accomplished. Paul did not keep a list of all those he had baptized so that he might tell others about it (1 Cor. 1:16-17). Serve Him every day but avoid the pitfall of pride of glorying about how brightly our lights have been shining. Paul had done so much, but when He looked inward, He said, "Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal..." (Phil. 3:13-14, ESV). Jesus said, "When you have done all those things commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do'" (Luke 17:10). Let the waves of humility wash away past accomplishments.

Finally, write the sins of the past in the sand. Far too many Christians, even knowing they are forgiven, carry the guilt of past sins and this discourages them. You can never forget past wrongs, but you can let them be overshadowed by the remembrance of that time when God forgave them. He forgives the ungodly when they are baptized, but He forgives the godly when they acknowledge their sins. We should be thankful that He has said, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Get rid of the burden of guilt, write those wrongs in the sand and let His blood wash them away.

Things you should know about...

We would like to send donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. If you want to contribute, mark it as "DRF" or give the money to Jason. The next donation will be sent after the end of June.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Matthew Wilson 7/21	Ed Kirchner 7/25	Jason Schaffer 7/30
Erica Schulze 7/22	Anna Wilson 7/30	Cole Durst 7/30
Michelle Buckingham 7/25	Stephanie Bang 7/30	

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Happy Anniversary!

Judah & Michelle Gasper 7/26

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VBS - Calming Mt. Frustration

Conquering Anger with Kindness

THIS Saturday, July 22nd, 9am - noon

Take postcards to hand out to your invite family and friends!

Please stick around for a brief volunteer meeting following morning service today. Also be praying for those involved and the kids attending!

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Ladies Bible Study - The God of All Comfort

Thursday 7/27 @ 6:45pm

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Serving AM & PM today and next Sunday AM:

Sunday Rotation	July 16, 2023 AM	July 16, 2023 PM	June 23, 2023 AM
Greeter	Dustin Desarro	Rick Ferris	Tom Muter
Announcements	Tom Muter	Tim Bang	
Song Leading	Owen Whittington	Jason Bang	Duane Kemp
Opening Prayer/Usher Left	Tim Bang	Tom Muter	Jerry Thompson
Lord's Supper Comments	Jason Bang	Jerry Thompson	Tim Bang
Scripture Reading	Rick Ferris	Duane Kemp	Seth Arrell
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer/Usher Right	Duane Kemp	Chris McGiffin	Jason Bang

This week's Bible Verse

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” Matthew 5:8

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**Lord's Supper Reflection**

*That We Might Die to Sin and Live to Righteousness*

“...who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.”  
1 Peter 2:24

**Offering Meditation**

*God gave us His Son. We can give back to Him a small portion of our earning to spread the Gospel.*

“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!” 2 Corinthians 9:15

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Remember in Prayer:

- *Our Country & leaders
- *Phyllis Caldwell - recovering from a fall
- *Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- *Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- *Larry Bey - dealing with Parkinson's
- *Orville Thompson (Jerry Thompson's dad) - having a pace maker/defibrillator put in on 7/14
- *Maxine Jones (Laura McGiffin's mom) - issues with her dementia, needs to move into the nursing home
- *Debby Braefield (Alena Brown's Aunt) - health
- *Caroline Stine - health
- *Tim Bang - health issues
- *Evelyn Lam - health/pain she's having in her joints
- *Pamela Illnick (Amie Allen's mom) - struggling with her health and faith
- *Terry McGiffin (John McGiffin's dad) - health & stability/balance issues
- *Jeanette Leugers (Carol Kemp's Sister-in-law) - recently diagnosed with cancer

- *John McGiffin - sick/cough/headache
- *Cindy Morgan (Rena Morgan's Daughter-in-law) and her family grieving the passing of Cindy's mother
- *Karen Oyler (friend of Stephanie Bang) - dealing with back pain
- *Bill Braun (Jason Bang's boss, Ken's, brother) - health concerns
- *Stephanie Bang - dealing with lower back pain
- *Nellie Hoff - having back & leg pain from a fall
- *Lynne (Jerry Thompson's sister) - health
- *Flo Lawson (sister at Tipp City Church of Christ) - Hospice has been called in for her care
- *Nathan (acquaintance of Seth Arell) - is 24yrs old and had a stroke last week

How can we be praying for YOU?

Please call or email John (jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com) with any prayer requests or announcements you have for the congregation.

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**Attendance and Contribution Record**

**Sunday, July 9**

Bible Classes 33  
AM Attendance 44  
PM Attendance 21

**Wednesday, July 12**

Bible Classes 28  
Contribution \$1,408.00

# Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



**July 16, 2023**

**Worship Times:**

Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am

Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

Minister, John McGiffin

4599 Children's Home Bradford Rd

Greenville, OH 45331

[www.greenvillecoc.org](http://www.greenvillecoc.org)

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us!  
If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor's card and let us get to know you.