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on behalf of Hood County Pastor Council <business@pastorcouncil.org>
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2016 1:00 AM
To: fred@orcuttfamily.net
Subject: One Nation Under God Devotional - October 31

ONE NATION UNDER GOD Devotional

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**IN LIFE, WHO ARE YOUR GREATEST ENEMIES?
DID YOU AT ONE TIME COUNT THEM AS FRIENDS?**

For our struggle is not against human opponents, but against rulers, authorities, cosmic powers in the darkness around us, and evil spiritual forces in the heavenly realm.

Ephesians 6:12 (ISV)

Reflection

I believe that too many of us fall victim to resentments that can develop into hatred but that our angered responses are more often than not directed at the wrong causes. The enemy of your soul and mine —the Devil himself — prefers that we focus on the enemies we can see. (i.e. friends, foes, even family) so that our focus is

Challenge

We must learn to set aside our grievances against all people

contrary to **Eternal Truth**, expressed above in the passage from Ephesians.

These are difficult times. Many people feel that their lives are filled with chaos and conflict. In earlier times, people would turn to their faith to get them through such times...but in this era of human history, most people have chosen to turn within themselves. They no longer naturally choose to turn to faith.

When the “best of plans” goes awry, we frequently look around to see whom we can find to blame the lack of success or abject failure on! Frequently that is a family member...or a close friend...or maybe someone with whom you’ve had interaction – whether positive or negative.

One of the best Biblical examples I find is in the 4th Psalm. This Psalm was written when David suffered the rebellion of his son, Absalom. His heart is broken in **two distinct ways**: 1) at the rebellion of his son taking the kingdom from him and forcing him to flee to save his life and 2) at the desertion of his people whom he had ruled with honor and love. David had his faith in God that did not waver in spite of the troubles he faced. I especially like the 4th verse from the *New Living Translation*: **“Don’t sin by letting anger control you. Think about it overnight and remain silent.”**

So often when trials come, we are quick to blame some person who may or may not have done anything — in truth. What we must come to realize is that we need to direct our anger at the real source of our trouble...the enemy of our soul. Remember what Paul said? **“...our struggle is not against human opponents, but against rulers, authorities, cosmic powers in the darkness and evil spiritual forces...”**

Prayer

forgive them and seek reconciliation.

For Discussion

Are you holding a grudge against someone?

Do you forgive quickly — or do you tend to want to make the person from whom you’ve suffered a hurt pay for it?



Pastor Larry Dickson is a native Texan, born in San Angelo [Tom Green County]. He is a 1967 graduate of Angelo State University with a Degree in Business. He is an Ordained Minister with the Assemblies of

Father, I ask that you help me come to understand that my problem people are not those I see...but the ones I cannot see — the enemy and his cohorts. Forgive me for holding offenses rather than letting them go and trusting you to deal with them.

God since 1968. He became the Pastor of Faith Assembly of God, Granbury, TX, in July 1989, after serving as pastor of a number of churches in Texas and Missouri. While in Granbury, Mr. Dickson has served as President of the Lake Granbury Ministerial Alliance, and completed his latest term as its President in 2015. He is the originator of the Annual Night of Lights Christmas Parade, now in its 25th year as a Granbury event. Currently he is serving on the Board of the Hood County Pastor Council. Pastor Dickson has been married to Sandy Rogers Dickson for the past fifty years and they have three children, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Website:

www.faithassemblygranbury.org



Join Us
Sunday, November 6 at 6:00 p.m.
ONE NATION UNDER GOD
Multi Congregation
Worship and Prayer Gathering
Shanley Park
Houston and Rucker Streets
Granbury

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