

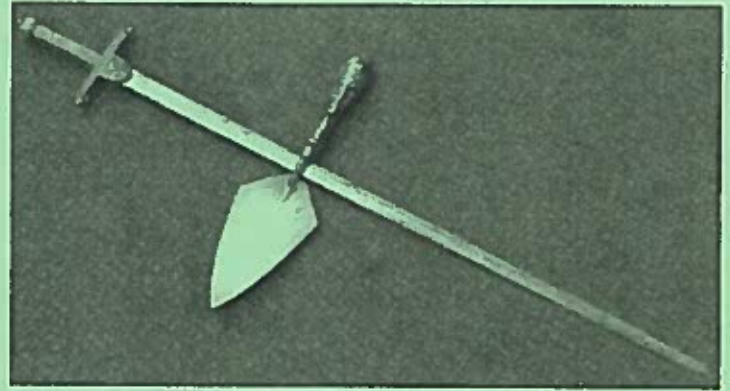
# The Sword and Trowel

Church of Christ at Grissom  
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August 20, 2018



We intend to build and defend: *"As for the builders, everyone had his sword girded by his side and so builded."* Nehemiah 4:18

## Forgiveness and Consequences

Over the past few months I've been building a gazebo in my backyard. It's taking a long time for several reasons. To get any work done on it three things have to come together at the same time. First, I must have the free time. Second, I have to have the ambition. Third, the weather has to co-operate. A couple of times these three things have not all been true at the same time for several weeks.

The final factor that is contributing to how long this is taking is my lack of experience. I've never done something like this before. I am learning as I go which makes things take longer, too. However, I am learning more than just carpentry as I work on this project. I am also learning things like patience and self-discipline. This weekend I learned about consequences.

Whenever I get started on the next phase of the building, I begin to realize some of the mistakes I've made in the previous phase. When that happens, I am forced to deal with the consequences of my earlier mistakes. Sometimes I need to redo a portion of it. Other times I need to work around my previous errors.

This weekend I spent a fair amount of my time correcting the mistakes I had made before I could proceed correctly. At one point I came inside for a drink of water. Lisa asked how things were going. I commented that I was paying for the sins of my past. By this I meant that progress was slow because of having to correct my previous mistakes. I am probably learning more from my mistakes than from my successes. I am not likely to forget the things that required time to correct. Not only will I remember them, but I regret them and am determined not to repeat the same errors again. However, I still have to deal with the results of those errors.

That got me to thinking about sins, forgiveness and consequences. When we sin there are two aspects of it with which we need to deal. The first is the guilt of sin. The second is the consequences of sin. The guilt of sin is removed when we are forgiven by God. When we realize what we have done wrong and repent; that is, determine not to repeat our error, we can be forgiven by God. This removes the guilt of sin, but it does not remove the consequences. Sometimes the consequences are short lived or are easy to correct. But other times they are difficult or impossible to fix. The results may last the rest of our lives.

Both Moses and David committed sins for which they were forgiven. Yet the consequences could not be overcome too easily. Moses was not allowed to enter the Promise Land because of his sin in striking the rock and calling God's people rebels. David's child with Bathsheba died and his family was troubled with the consequences of his sin with Bathsheba for the rest of his life. In both cases, God plainly says they were forgiven. The guilt of their sin was taken away. However, the consequences remained.

The next time you are tempted to sin, remember that though you repent and are forgiven, the consequences may last a lifetime. It just might help you to overcome the temptation.

Terry Carter, Evangelist



**COMING EVENTS**

- August 21 Summit School of Preaching Fall Classes begin
- August 21 Music Practice Meeting – 6:30 P.M.
- August 22 King’s Kids – 7:00 P.M.

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

Ray & Nancy Maggard (passing of her sister)  
 Diane White (injured foot/ PTL: Greg & boys home from Maryland)  
 Sean Ramer (sees doctor 24<sup>th</sup>-monitoring clots in lungs)  
 Heather Bowman (Frieda’s daughter)  
 Summit School of Preaching  
 Frieda Bowman (to sell house)  
 Christians around the world being persecuted  
 Mary Copp/ George Thurston (comfort)  
 Joe Stull (Cassandra Smith’s dad) – putting offer on house  
 Kendall Faulk (Christ Church door hanger distribution)  
 Mark Whitsett (paralyzed from accident & for salvation)  
 our widows & widowers

George Faulk  
 David Scott family (his passing)  
 Larrie Petty (migraines)  
 David Marks (heel spurs)  
 Chris Ponchot (Roann church) – spiritual issues  
 Reyna Christensen & Crystal Cain  
 Jeff VanCuren (continued recovery)  
 Anna Lynch (during pregnancy)  
 Walt Teachout  
 ladies’ Bible Study  
 Lisa Judson (completed last radiation)  
 Donna Hower

*Proverb for the Week;*

*Meditate on this Proverb:*

*10:1: The Proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father, but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.*

**SERVICES**

Sunday School	9:00
A.M.Church	10:00
Men’s Praye3r Meeting	5:30
Women’s Prayer Meeting	5:30
P.M.Evangelistic Hour	6:00
Wednesday P.M.	7:00

**ATTENDANCE**

Sunday School	54
A.M.Church	99
P.M.Evangelistic Service	50
Tithes & Offerings	\$4,000
Wednesday Evening	39

**Six Little Ways to Mean More to Your Church**



Be an On-Timer



Be a Friendly Greeter



Be a Cheerful Giver



Be a Willing Helper



Be a Hymn Singer



Be an Earnest Pray-er