

Gems

Paris, TN Convention, 2009

October 8-11, 2009

- Jesus is safe. If we walk with Him, He will keep us safe. If we're with Jesus, then we are safe for others to be with.
- It is good to feel a need that we can be better before God. It would be a terrible thing if we could not see our own situation. We can never make our offering acceptable of ourselves. It has to be through the blood of Christ.
- Things in our life that are not right could cause others to sin. Cleansing requires willingness. We can sing the song of the Lord when we are willing for His cleansing.
- It is good to look to see the blessing in every situation.
- Be grateful for every correction we receive from God.
- The word "Fellowship" came from travels on the sea where each ship was like a helper ship to the other ships to help each other reach the harbor. True fellowship is not socializing. Glad we can have fellowship with each other and with God and Jesus. (If you help another reach the harbor, you'll get there too.)
- Be yoked with Jesus. It is easier and safer than being yoked with the world.
- It is not what we say, but what we live that makes a difference.
- Danger Signal: If we are ever jealous of someone because of what is right in them!
- Whenever we see the spirit of a little child in our brother, then we know that is of God.
- Is it good to remember the promises of God, and that He will never fail. Be thankful for those who encourage us.
- Trusting in God keeps us from taking things into our own hands. If you don't know what you should do, then do nothing; it's better to wait on the Lord. But, if God tells us to do something, we should do it. It is always more comfortable to us when we are assured that the Lord is in it, that when He is not.
- Trust means accepting the fact that God does know what is best. If you're ever unsure about what to do, then call on the one that does know what to do.
- Let the peace of God rule in our daily lives. Don't let the worries and cares of life take the peace away.
- Others feed us. We can also be bread to others. This feeds the heart of God.
- I can't be me (and you can't be you), and offer the proper service to God. We have to become new creatures.
- Time is necessary when we are in a process of meeting a goal. A time will come when time will be no more. We look forward to dwelling in a perfect Heaven where time has no meaning or purpose.
- Jesus said, "I will give you rest..." There was a condition to take His yoke. The yoke is not forced on anyone. When Jesus is at our side, the yoke is easy.
- The word of God is alive, and nothing else can do what it does. It can quicken, bring power to what is right, help resist evil, etc. It is stronger than the strong man.
- Jesus wept. Not because of what they were going to do to Him. He wept because of what they were doing to themselves.

- Death will fix a gulf, a gulf that no man can change. The Gospel puts us on the right side of the gulf.
- Confidence in God means that we know that whatever God does is going to be for our best. God provides a refuge for us that's always in our reach.
- The scales & balance are mentioned in Proverbs. It's important to have a just balance in how we "weigh" ourselves. Jesus is the true standard. God weighs the spirit: our thoughts, our motives for our deeds, ...
- God is not looking for leaders. He is looking for followers, for those who would follow Jesus and His teachings.
- We are thankful for the resurrection of Jesus and the hope of a final resurrection. Our living and planning today are based on knowing there will be a resurrection. Are we living and planning for eternity?
- Grace is the gifts from God that we do not deserve.
- We are pilgrims. A pilgrim is a person traveling in a foreign & hostile country but is headed home.
- We are building day by day, a building the world may not see. Why is it unseen by the world? Because they don't see the foundation of Jesus, and the humility of the way. We see it because we have a vision of the foundation. (The difference in religions is in the foundation.)
- There will be nothing raised up in Heaven that was not laid down in this life in the will of God.
- David was a man after God's own heart. We can have a testimony like that also. A heart like God's heart, and a will do the will of God.
- Hannah received a peace when she made vows to God, but she had a song in her heart when she paid the vows.
- Jesus was called many different names in the New Testament, but he never gave a name to His people. It's important to have Jesus' nature. Many have a name or label. More important to have Jesus on the inside than a name.
- Wonderful privilege that we can go to God in Jesus' name. Be thankful for that.
- When we're at convention or our weekly meetings, we are connected with each other because of a common bond. That bond is Jesus.
- Our planet earth revolves around the life giving star we call the sun. Earth is not the center, the sun is the center. Same is true with us. Let Jesus, the son, be the center of our universe. And may all we do revolve around Him.
- When the natural sun shines in our home we can see all the dirt and dust. Likewise, when Jesus shines in our hearts we can see what needs to be cleaned.
- Don't be content with artificial light. We need Jesus the true light.
- Jesus is the Good Shepherd who was willing to become the Lamb of God.
- Jesus was tempted in three ways by the devil on the mountain. The devil uses those same ways to tempt us: hunger of the flesh, greed, and pride.
- Jesus saw the multitude as sheep without a shepherd. He had great compassion. We need compassion not for just those we know, but for the stranger, and the multitude.
- When Jesus had compassion for the woman taken in adultery, he helped those men. Our compassion can help others.
- Jesus did not come to condemn us, but to set us free and give us hope.

- Sadly, our human nature causes us to label people by what we see. We need to remember the question God asked, “Can these bones live?” Remember those bones did live again. See the potential in things.
- The spirit of Christ living in us can help us control how we act, and how we react.
- God provides things for us to help us be an overcomer: 1) We can be strong in His power, 2) The whole armor of God.
- Every face we see represents a soul. Each soul has hopes, fears, failures, and victories. Teach us to pray for others.
- If God gives us peace, we can be a peaceful influence on others.
- One of the best feelings we can have is that of being broken... because then we know God is working within.
- To stay on course, correction is necessary. This is true with ships on the sea, and it is true with our lives.
- A good appetite is a sign of health. We’ll have good health if we feed on the Lamb.
- Seek after good. Then seek better over good, and best over better. Then we’ll be blest.
Good->Better->Best->Blest
- Life is not a matter of just drifting along. We have to start right or we will not finish right. We have to continue right or we will not finish right.
- Don’t ask God to take us out of the world, but to keep us from the evil in the world.
- Successful army victories in war time are often achieved by knocking out the lines of communication. That is also what the devil does... the devil wants us destroy our prayer life.
- Jesus was tempted in all points. When the devil took Jesus to a high mountain, the devil asked Jesus to look down, not look up. Today the devil wants us to look down and not look up to God.
- Prosperity can be a dangerous thing. It can cause us to be forgetful. We don’t want to forget God. We want to always put God first.
- The Joy of the Lord is your strength.
- Our Father in Heaven would do more than our natural father. We ask a little, and God gives more than we ask, something even better.
- We need to have the right perspective, that we would see things the way God would want us to see it. Things out of perspective may make little things look big, and big things look small.
- What would open Heaven for us? Ans: Poor in Spirit and Pure in Spirit. What would close Heaven to us? Saul was disobedience and could not get direction from God. He went to the witch because Heaven was closed. Saul confessed that he had “played the fool”.
- When the last trump shall sound we can rise to be with Him. But only if we have obeyed the other sounds of the trumpet: call to fellowship, call to prayer, call to help, call to battle.
- Whatever comes from any victory, we did not earn it by what we did. It’s by the grace of God.
- Looking in a mirror can soften our criticism of others.
- “Is it worth it? Yes, it’s worth it.” What we would say when we question giving our life to God’s control. Jesus gave his life and poured it out over and over. He kept giving. He said it was worth it.
- How can we be born again? We’re born with a human spirit. It’s good, but it is not in God’s control. We have to know God and have a living relationship with Him. This happens when we are born again to God’s Spirit that can control the human spirit. We can’t have fellowship with God unless we have His Spirit.

- If you say, “I can’t do it.” You’re right. But if you are born again, God will give you the nature of Christ, and then you can do it. You can do it if God is with you.
- “Do unto others...” This is called by man the golden rule. Jesus taught what He was doing. Taught and practiced, that made it golden. (Important to give soft answers, say I’m sorry, don’t over react, etc.)
- Have you ever wondered how many times people have said your name before the God of Heaven. We need to pray for others by name.
- It is in silence that God speaks to us. Jesus was silent at times, giving God the chance to speak. The world does not like silence & the light of God’s presence.
- Knowledge is not going to save us. We could know the Bible and Bible history in the greatest depth, but that will not save us.
- We have no written laws. We have Christ as the head of the body of Christ. There’s one head and one mind that tells us what to do and what not to do.
- Noah focused on God’s instruction. It was much more than building a house or boat. Instead it was building his salvation. It would have been on his mind continually: at morning, at meal time, at bed time. He had the thought I must build this ark for our salvation. Is our own salvation on our mind as it was on Noah’s?
- Jesus came not to be ministered to, but to minister to others. He came not to rule over us, but to serve. God’s kingdom is a kingdom of servants. Humility is a must. If we think we should have another place, then we are out of place.
- If we don’t have it ourselves, when we try to share it with others, then our words will fall to the ground.
- Abel’s sacrifice was accepted because he had the spirit of a lamb himself.
- Bring the spirit of a lamb to the meeting. Bring that humble and childlike spirit. It not just what we say in the meeting, it’s the spirit we bring.

12/12/09