**If You’re Happy and You Know it Say Amen**!

***By Pastor Rob Benardo***

The Christian life should be a happy life. After all, living in communion with the Almighty, Infinite, all Loving and Powerful God – well it really doesn’t get any better than that. In this article I’d like to use happy as an acronym and add a third “P” just for fun.

The “H” of the Christian life represents humility. The Bible says that it is by the word of the Lord that the heavens were made and all the host of them and that the whole earth is full of his goodness and glory. Let all the earth fear the Lord and let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him (Psalms 33:6-8 selected)! The happy people of God will be humble in the light of such an awesome and powerful God. In the light of Calvary and the price paid for our redemption, humility is really the only righteous response.

The “A” stands for assurance. The same word that created the worlds, redeemed the human race and the Christian is to go forth with a humble assurance, realizing that he has a sure foundation, and an anchor for his soul laid up in heaven instead of putting down in some shifting sand.

The first “P” is for peace. Romans 5:1 says that the first fruit of justification by faith is peace with God. The happy Christian should be a peaceful Christian, resting in the perfect work of Christ as his Creator and Redeemer. There may not be peace in this world, and we may not have peace even at our workplace, but we can have peace in our souls with God.

The second “P” is for power. Christ came not just to offer forgiveness but also offer power for daily living. The happy Christian is a Christian that has the power of God through the Holy Spirit residing in him. He is one that experiences victory over the trials and stressors of life because the great God of heaven has made him free from the principle of sin and death that reside in his members.

The third “P” is for purpose. The happy Christian is one that knows where he is going and what his exalted position on earth as an ambassador really means.

Last but not least is the “Y” and that is for a completely yielded spirit. The happy Christian is one that is following the lamb wherever he goes. They are the people that are constantly saying like their Lord, not my will but His be done. They are the people that are not seeking for their own power or popularity but are wanting above all else to be used by God to share His love and to glorify Him on this earth. The happy Christian’s greatest joy is to make glad the heart of God. So, if you’re happy and you know it say amen!

**LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

*By Lorrie Rietman*

Does gloomy weather get you down? It definitely can affect me. Days upon days of cloudy skies and drizzle can be just depressing. The kids are hindered in playing outside and Mommy has to come up with more things to do. Life just seems harder on rainy, chilly days. In contrast, when I wake to the sun shining and the birds twittering, it is so much easier to start the day with a smile.

The possibilities for the day seem so much more optimistic. "Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun, " (Ecclesiastes 11:7.)  Jesus is called the sun of righteousness in Malachi 4:2. And we as His followers are to behold Him and share the light of our witness to all those around us. " Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven," (Matthew 5:16.) Though the days may seem gloomy, we can be a light to others and bring that spiritual sunshine to our families and all those who may be around us.

We have so much to be grateful for. Is your presence sunny or does it tend to be gloomy? Let us be sure to start our days, rain or shine, with our Savior that we can be shining His light wherever we are.

**PATHFINDER CLUB REPORT**

*By**Brad and Tracey Hall, Directors of the Battle Creek Pioneers Pathfinder Club*

The Pathfinder Club celebrated the end of the year with Fair at Camp Au Sable in May. We had several things happen that showed God's hand in our weekend.

First of all, one of the driver’s vehicles experienced car troubles that required us to leave their car halfway up at a park and ride. The tricky part was they were pulling up a camper for them to stay in.  But the Lord had put in Brad's and my mind a few days before we left to drive two trucks instead of a truck and a car as we usually do. So, we had an extra truck that was able to pull their camper the rest of the way to camp.

Secondly, while at our campsite on Friday, we were getting ready to eat dinner when we noticed the camper on the site next to us, through the woods, was on fire with people inside. We were able to put their fire out with our extinguisher before they even knew their camper was on fire. If we hadn't been delayed by the vehicle problems on the way up, we would have been done with our meal two hours earlier and we likely wouldn't have been by that side of their camper to even notice the fire so quickly and save their camper and possibly their lives.

As if that's not enough miracles for one weekend we experienced yet another.  The weather forecast for the weekend showed 100% thunderstorms all day Sabbath and Sunday. This forecast caused the conference to cancel all Sunday activities and end the Sabbath programs earlier than scheduled.  Many of the other clubs decided to pack up their stuff on Sabbath afternoon and head home after the program.  As directors, we had to make the decision to stay or leave too. After much discussion, prayer and looking at the weather radar we made the decision to stay and pack up in the rain on Sunday morning, so we didn't have to pack during the Sabbath hours.  To make a long story short, we were one of three clubs who chose to stay (out of nearly a hundred).  It not only didn't rain or thunder during the night on Sabbath, it didn't start raining on Sunday until five minutes after we were completely packed up and ready to leave.

Brad and I are so thankful and blessed by the safety God has continued to grant His pathfinder club yet another year. We look forward to seeing what God has in store for next pathfinder year.  All youth grades 5th - 12th are welcome to join. For more information email me at bt.hall@hotmail.com.

**UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LADIES TEA:** **June 3** at **1:00 p.m.** in the Dining Room for a “Tea/Craft” Day.

**Vacation bible school**: The **Artic Express** is coming to Battle Creek! Kids from 5-8 years old will want to attend this exciting Vacation Bible School. Singing, Bible stories, crafts, games and snacks await them on **June 24-28**, 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Battle Creek Academy. Plan now to attend.

**BIBLE STUDY:** **Exploring the Everlasting Gospel** - **Tuesdays** at **7:00 p.m.** in the Seminar Room. We will continue our study of the most precious message the Lord sent to His people. It is a very powerful message designed by Him for His people giving the assurance of salvation and the necessary power to prepare them for the time of trouble, which is brewing in the world today. *From Jerry Finneman*

**VISITATION MINISTRY:** Meets at **3:00 p.m.** in the Seminar Room the 1st and 3rd Sabbath each month.