



ATLANTIC NCFC NEWSLETTER

29 Bedell Ave.

Saint John, NB, E2K 2C1

September 2019

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Lately, I have been thinking more about the great love of our God. It is amazing to me just how deep and how infinite that love is. I cannot begin to understand how God could lavish such love on me. It humbles me to think that He cares so much that He gave His Son to die for me – that I might have a relationship with Him. My heart is overcome with gratitude as I think how much it cost Him to give me the opportunity to do anything we could imagine. He is the great I AM of all time, creator and redeemer of all – and He wants ME to benefit from that love – He wants to have a relationship with ME. That is amazing – and all I can say is thank you and accept the gift that only He could give.

Betty Hitchcock

Loved with everlasting love, Led by grace that love to know  
Spirit breathing from above, thou hast taught me it is so!  
Oh, this full and perfect peace! Oh, this transport all divine!  
In a love which cannot cease, I am His, and He is mine.

Closed in everlasting arms, Pillowed on the loving breast.  
Oh to lie forever here, doubt and care, and self resign  
While He whispers in my ear – I am His and He is mine.

## **What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear;  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged;  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful,  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Saviour, still our refuge;  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee,  
Thou wilt find a solace there A-men.

## **Jesus is Knocking at the Door of My Heart**

A pediatric doctor had a practice of letting the children listen to their own heart before he did. After one young boy had listened, the doctor asked him what he had heard. With a big smile the child answered, "I heard Jesus knocking at my heart!"

Submitted by Jan Lockett

## **Bible Study – Friendship with Jesus**

### **John: 15: vs 12 to 27**

12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.

15. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

### **Study Questions**

Jesus is speaking to his disciples in this passage. (And to us.)

Verse Twelve: Why does Jesus say this is his commandment? What is the difference between a commandment and a suggestion? What IS the commandment?

Verse Thirteen: What is the greatest love that one can have?

Verse Fourteen: How does Jesus define his friends?

Verse Fifteen: How does Jesus differentiate between a servant and a friend?

Verse Sixteen: How did you come into a relationship with Jesus? What did Jesus appoint us to do? What is the fruit that you should bear? Why should we bear fruit? What does it mean to ask for something in Jesus’ name?

Verse Seventeen: Why did Jesus give these commandments? How do we show love to one another?

## **...SO MANY REASONS TO LOVE THE LORD**

Thank you, God, for little things that come unexpectedly  
To brighten up a dreary day that dawned so dimly  
Thank you, God, for sending a happy thought my way  
To blot out my depression on a disappointing day  
Thank you, God, for brushing the “dark clouds” from my mind  
And leaving only “sunshine” and joy of heart behind...  
Oh, God, the list is endless of things to thank You for  
But I take them all for granted and unconsciously ignore  
That everything I think or do, each movement that I make,  
Each measured rhythmic heartbeat,  
Each breath of life I take  
Is something you have given me  
For which there is no way for me in all my “smallness”  
To in any way repay.

by Helen Steiner Rice

submitted by Phyllis

**Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the  
Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.**

**James 1:17**

## Prayer

This is the time of year that students are returning to school. Please pray for those that are entering nursing studies. Pray that they might adjust easily and find satisfaction in their chosen career. Pray that Christian students may find others for fellowship.

Pray for nurses working in hospitals, in nursing homes, in the community and other areas of employment. Pray that they might bring the love of God to those they serve and might find joy in their service.

Pray for those nurses that are retired or just entering retirement – that they might find ways to reach out to others in their communities and feel fulfilled in what they are doing now.

Pray for those that are working on the national level

Thanksgiving will soon be here and we all need to consider our lives and give thanks for our many blessings. Actually, we should do this daily. We are so blessed and don't always take time to stop and give God thanks for what He has done and is doing in our lives. Let's make this a habit. I believe that if we begin the days with thanksgiving, we will see the difference in a very positive way.

Jesus has told us that God hears and answers prayer. Let us come before His throne with confidence. Let us bring our praise, our thanks, our requests, all of our concerns – He will be there for us. And let us listen to Him – let us quiet our hearts and centre our minds in Him. He will do great things.

## Submissions for The Link

You are invited to submit articles, letters, poems, etc. to be included in future issues of the Link. Please send submissions to Betty Hitchcock, 29 Bedell Ave. Saint John, NB, E2K 2C1 or email to [betty.hitchcock@rogers.com](mailto:betty.hitchcock@rogers.com)