



NEVER ALONE

by Martin Drummond

Satan loves pouring salt on our wounds.

Not the preservative salt of God's truth, but instead the painful salt of abandonment by those we thought would support us.

His objective, of course, is to lure us into thinking that nobody cares about us.

Particularly if we've been doing the right things yet it seems that nobody appreciates it.

Our perspectives can be skewed at such times and we're not totally absent of support. But when we're hurting, it can sure seem that way.

Listen, God never abandons those wearing His name.

This is a truth that no amount of lies from Satan can displace.

Even in the most difficult of times, the most lonely of times, God is with us because we've asked Him to dwell WITHIN us.

I was reminded of this truth by the Apostle Paul while reading from 2 Timothy 4:16-18 as part of my devotional read today:

"At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

In view of all that Paul had done for the Kingdom of God and for countless thousands of Christians, the last thing he should have expected was abandonment while he faced religious persecution and looming death.

But people are people and self-preservation so often becomes more important than spiritual fidelity.

What Paul faced must have been crushing to his heart. Put yourself in his place for just a few moments.

Imagine being a faithful church pastor and you've sacrificed every earthly thing to keep the ministry going and yet, various forms of oppression have scared off all your weak-faithed members. The temptation would be to say, "*What's the use?*" and take the easy way of compromise.

It's at such a time when trusting God will still provide more than enough strength to keep sharing the Word — [2 Cor. 9:8](#)

And when our mission is done, we'll safely arrive in heaven.

Let's remember this promise, no matter how lonely we feel at work or at home or at school... or at church.

We're never alone, my friend.

God promised so when He said, "*I will never leave you nor forsake you.*" (Hebrews 13:5).

October is PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

PASTOR APPRECIATION....REVISTED

by Daniel F. Case from www.case-studies.com

Most “average Christians” in the pew don’t really have a clue when it comes to what their Pastor does between Sundays. I’m reminded of a Southern Baptist Pastor who once told me about a deacon who started in on the old “the Pastor really only works a day and a half every week” line of thought. Recognizing the need for some practical education, the Pastor handled this less-than-mature deacon with great wisdom, inviting him to spend a day working at the Pastor’s side, to get a feel for what his typical day is like. In that Pastor’s words, “God really blessed us with a horrendous day!” The deacon dropped out before lunch time, and became one of the most outspoken supporters of his Pastor, both privately and publicly. He even supported giving the Pastor a raise in salary—in a Southern Baptist church, there is no higher (or more unusual) level of appreciation.

Many Pastors—and their families—live their lives under spotlights and magnifying glasses. Faults and flaws that are easily dismissed in others somehow seem bigger and more significant when observed in someone involved in vocational ministry, and it can be even worse when those flaws appear in that minister’s spouse and children. Some churches even have a pattern of bringing in new Pastors, expecting impossible levels of perfection, and then driving them away when the fact that they are imperfect fellow humans comes to light. Some Pastors have been through that cycle so many times that they have learned to live inside a protective shell, hiding their heartaches and struggles from those who ought to be supporting them the most. Sadly, there are many gifted men who have left vocational ministry behind them as a result of that abuse.

So, how should we honor our Pastors during Pastor Appreciation Month? Well, to start with, honor them during the other 11 months of the year, as well. That’s the whole premise of my original column on the subject. Your Pastor has unique needs, so pray over it, get creative, and let the Lord lead you. Here are twenty specific ideas to get your creative juices flowing:

1. Ask him if you can go along on those Hospital and Shut-in visits.
2. Discover your Spiritual Gifts, and actually DO something with them in your church.
3. When you see him on Wednesday, tell him about the new insights you have as a result of meditating on last Sunday’s sermon.
4. Meditate on last Sunday’s sermon.
5. Grow up.
6. Anonymously (if possible) leave his favorite candy bar on his desk or in his mail slot.
7. Invite him to go fishing, golfing, or some other shared interest—without an agenda.
8. Call him on the phone and ask what his prayer needs are.
9. Actually pray for his needs after he tells you what they are.
10. If he’s married, call his wife and do #8 and #9
11. If he’s not married, quit trying to “fix him up” with someone.

12. Mow his lawn—anonously—while he’s away from home.
13. Ask him how you can help him.
14. Actually help him after he answers #13.
15. Quit complaining.
16. Compliment him when he does things right.
17. Say “Amen!” (at the appropriate times) while he’s preaching. *Saying “Amen” to a preacher is like saying “sic ‘em” to a dog.*
18. Hug him and tell him you love him.
19. If he’s married, send his wife flowers and a thank you note—she plays an important support role. Also see #11
20. Now that you’ve read this list, actually *do* some of it—**now**.



As a Halloween alternative, this was a great event last year and to make it even better this year we need everyone’s participation. **WE NEED TRUNKS!** Decorate your car trunk with any theme of your choosing. Each car will provide their own candy to hand out. We ask that everyone donates a pack or 2 of hot dogs. To sign up or for more information, please see Tania Veloz.

T R U N K O R T R E A T



**October 31
6pm to 8pm
in the church parking lot**





HOPE DEPOT MINI RETREAT OCTOBER 29TH from 8:30am-1:30pm

Join us for a morning of Faith, Hope, and Love. We will have several different speakers. Breakfast and lunch will be included. Please sign up with Martin or Eddy to bring supplies for the meals. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to get away from the hustle and bustle of daily life and receive some fresh words of encouragement.

**Join us Wednesday nights at 7pm
in the Fellowship Hall for our
midweek bible study being led by
Martin Drummond.**

Lesson theme:

**"Success is a fruit:
How to make good decisions"**



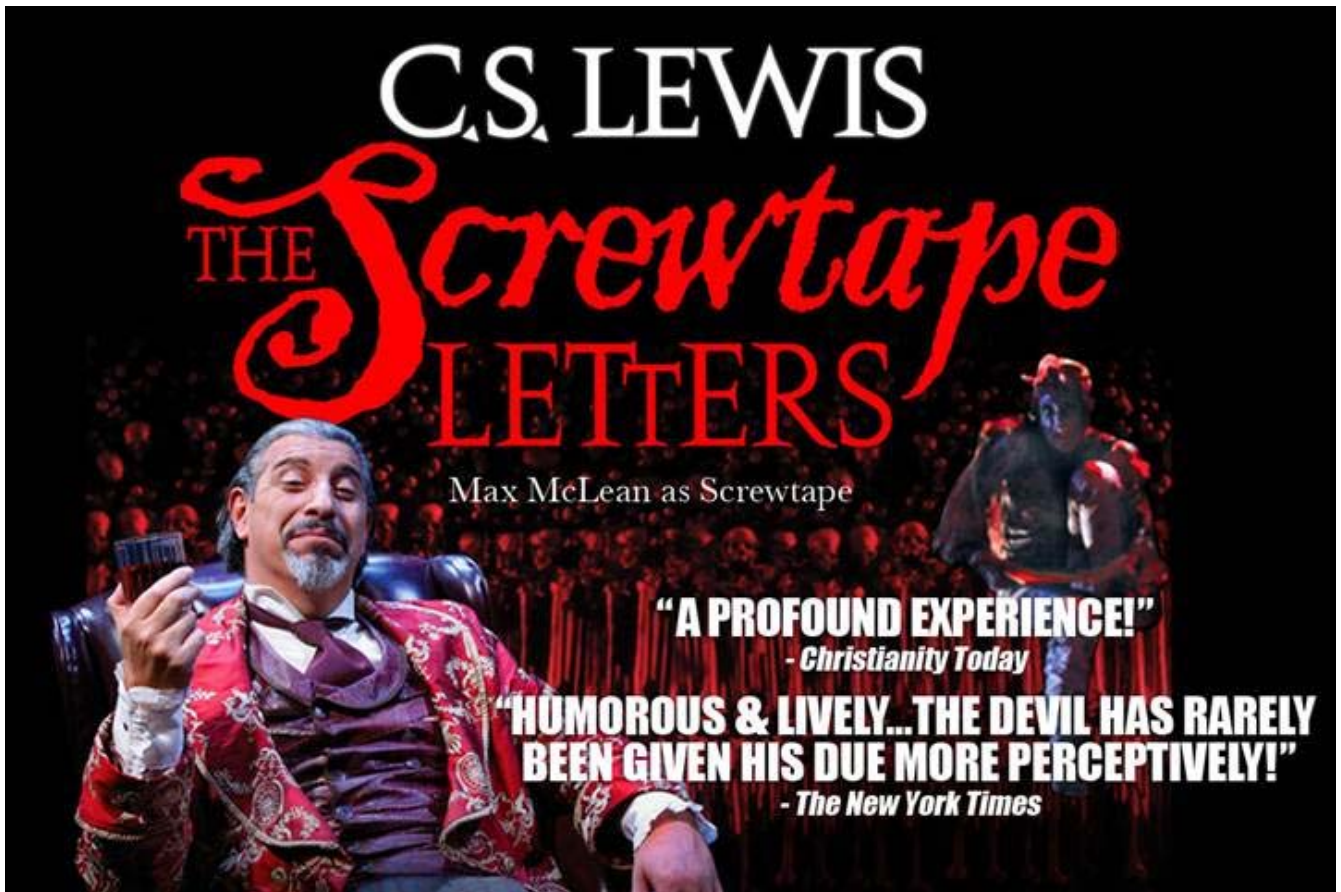
**Morning prayer will be held in
Room #4 from 8:45 am - 9:15 am
Every Sunday morning**

All are welcome to come and pray for the service, for those things listed on the prayer list, for the church body, and anything else that the Lord lays on your heart. Also, anyone who wants to be prayed over is welcome to join us.

For more details, please contact Lori Drummond.



COMMUNITY NEWS



C.S. Lewis' brilliant novel, **The Screwtape Letters**, reveals spiritual warfare from a demon's point of view. This funny, provocative, and wickedly witty theatrical adaptation, starring Max McLean as Screwtape was a hit in New York where it ran for nine months and a sold out sensation in Chicago, Los Angeles, Atlanta & Washington D.C.!

“A Gripping, Sizzling Dramatization!” *World Magazine*

“Fascinating, Entertaining and True to the Book!” *Catholic Herald*

THREE GREAT OFFERS!

- **Save \$10 on Great Seats!** (When buying two \$49 or \$59 tix. Use code HPR11)
- **Save More on Groups of 10 or more!** Call 866.476.8707
- **Limited Number of \$29 Tix!**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12
AT 4 P.M. AND 8 P.M.

at the Gusman Center for the Performing Arts,
174 East Flagler Street, Miami

For tickets call 305.372.0925 or visit

www.ScrewtapeonStage.com



This is limited offer, subject to availability and not valid on previously purchased tickets.
Venue service fees apply on all purchases.



**Pastor
Appreciation
Month**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12  11am	13	14  7pm	15
16	17	18	19	20	21  7pm	22
23 Board meeting 5pm	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Trunk Treat 6pm-8pm 					



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6 	7	8	9 	10	11 	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 	25	26
27	28	29	30			



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

2 nd	Gerald Bethel
3 rd	Nuria Kinnaird
3 rd	Chuman Rodriguez
4 th	James Wenning
7 th	Pedro & Laura Madera
8 th	Lupe Belmont

8 th	Nicholas Hargraves
14 th	Oryanna Decastro
16 th	William Terán
17 th	Melody Rivera
25 th	Jaime & Melody Rivera
26 th	Gladys Casas



Serving Schedule

OCTOBER 30

COMMUNION MEDITATION

David Medder

COMMUNION SERVERS

Gene Kinnaird*
Chris Kinnaird
David Hiers
Mark Schoenfeldt

NOVEMBER 6

Tom Fields

Eppy Suarez*
Bobby Veloz
Danny Abdo
Pete Moolah

DONATION COUNTERS

Chris Kinnaird
Steve Chin

Tom Fields
Marino Polanco

**Will lead offering prayer*



Pauta de Servicio

30 DE OCT

ORACION OFRENDA

Marino Polanco

ORACION SANTA CENA

Jaime Rivera

LECTURA DE LA PALABRA

Pedro Madera

SIRVIENDO A LA MESA

Santiago León
Nelson Garrido
Marino Polanco
Alex Gutierrez

6 DE NOV

Jaime Rivera

Santiago León

Zaida Velásquez

Carlos Martin
Nelson Garrido
Pedro Madera
Marino Polanco



Email us at sdchurch@bellsouth.net and we'll do our best to get you answers!

Got Questions?



If you do not wish to receive this e-Newsletter, please contact the church office via email (sdchurch@bellsouth.net) and advise us.