



Church of Christ

March 2, 2003

204 Dix Road Jefferson City, MO 65109

Heart to Heart...

The last couple of weeks have been very different weather wise. The cold temps, ice and snow have created some travel difficulties for some and for our own services. But despite all this, it shows us we aren't in control of anything. The best place to live is under the caring watch of our heavenly Father. It reminds me of a song we have sung a few times, "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow". The chorus says this: "*Many things about tomorrow I don't seem to understand; but I know who holds tomorrow, and I know who holds my hand.*"

I want to encourage you to study your Bibles at home. There is such a need for this. Israel was destroyed because of their lack of faithfulness and knowledge of God. Just read Hosea 4 and it becomes very clear. Here were the people of God, but had pushed God's word to the side. God told them because they rejected His knowledge, He was rejecting them. The easiest prey for the devil is those who have little understanding about God. Some have enough Bible knowledge to be dangerous, but little understanding to discern. They confuse the Word, mixing it with this and that. For years, the church of our Lord was known for their holding to the Word because they studied. Today, that's not the truth. Many in Christ's body are embracing teachings and ideas that come from religious people, looking at their sincerity, thinking they are alright. The Word no longer has its place to teach and help us. We have replaced it with man's writings and teaching. That's the danger. Remember, it was Jesus Himself that taught His own disciples, "And someone said to Him, 'Lord, are there just a few who are being saved?' And He said to them, 'Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.'" (Luke 13:23-24) Once you start entertaining the teachings and ideas of man, you become blind to the truth found in God's word. In other words, your own mind is blinded and can't discern what is of God and what isn't. That's why Jesus was concerned about "*striving to enter*" because His word has to have first place in everything. Not many are going to make it!! The question is, will you be one of them? Think about it!!!

Brent