

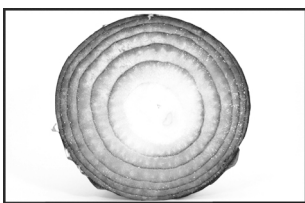
# J.O.Y = Jesus. Others. You.

I have been struggling each passing day as the political rhetoric intensifies at all levels of government. It seems everyone believes their position; their opinion is superior and right.

All seem to be entitled and justified in what they say and believe, not even thinking about considering another person's opinion, even when that opinion is more factual than just a thought.

I vowed to not write about my struggles until the election in Indiana is over on Nov. 3. I will still stay true to my thinking and not write my opinion of who should be elected. All I will say is everyone, I pray, has taken the time to register to vote and has either cast their vote or made plans to vote by Nov. 3.

I also pray that everyone who has or will vote, has done their due diligence,



A SLICE OF LIFE

Linda Wilk



researching carefully candidate positions and what each candidate stands for, not relying on biased political campaign ads that at this point truly could be interchanged as each one seems to try and find ways to sling mud at their opponent.

I am hopeful, yet not convinced, that once the

election is over, things will calm down and a somewhat civil America will resume. However, I am not sure, given there are certain political arenas that the election has already passed, yet I witness unrest and arrogance continuing.

Which brings me to the point of my column, a Bible study I am currently involved with called JOY – A Study of Philippians by Deb Burma.

This past Sunday one of the daily studies really resonated with me. It is titled: JOY IN HUMILITY and was based on Philippians 2:3-4.

The premise behind the devotion is “at the center of our sinful human nature is SELF, the author says. She goes on to say, “The fallen world, our sinful nature, and Satan all tell us to ‘look out for number one’ (selfish ambition) and to

think highly of ourselves (conceit). Both fly in the face of unity. Self looks inward. Unity links arms and looks forward and upward!”

Instead, we need to focus on HUMILITY in our actions and our deeds. This does not mean that we let people walk all over us. This does not mean that we do not have an opinion or that we do not share that opinion. It means that when we are working with others, we try to listen more than be heard. It means that as others are discussing a topic or expressing a well thought out researched position, that we consider whether that position or statement makes more sense than the belief we originally stated or were intending to state.

It means that we can change our thinking. It means we can publicly

admit when we were wrong or change our mind or vote because new information has come to light that requires a change in our decision.

There have been times recently that I find myself wanting badly to verbally lash out at someone because their opinion or their thinking is so polarizing or divisive I can't begin to imagine why they are thinking how they are thinking.

There are those who I must wonder if what is being said is being said just to see what kind of reaction they can elicit.

I believe there are some today who are in so much pain and anxiety they lash out without thinking about what they are saying or how it might impact the person who is receiving their misguided rant.

Then there are others

who are trying to save faith, just cannot humble themselves to admit that maybe their original thought or opinion was not correct, yet if they do not stand their ground, they will be considered weak.

Yet, then I think about how God would want me to react or respond and I try my best to really think about how my words, my actions will benefit or cause even more discontent.

In this world of unrest and hostility, I would ask that each of us think about how JOY might be the answer if we look at it the way the author of the book spelled it out: J.O.Y = JESUS. OTHERS. YOU - In that order. By thinking of Joy that way, it might just help you to remember what is most important and precious as we live out our daily lives.

## Deaths — continued from Page 1

**Martha Jane “Marci” Johnson**  
**1942-2020**

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Friday, Oct. 16 at 12:30 pm. Burial followed at Marion National Cemetery.

**Rosa Lee Holliday**  
**1947-2020**

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 1 pm. Burial followed at Grant Memorial Park.

James Newton George  
**1960-2020**

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey Chapel, on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 12 pm. Burial followed at Marion National Cemetery.

**Orland Nathaniel Burtner**  
**1942-2020**

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, North Chapel, on Monday,

Oct. 19 at 1 pm. Burial followed at Riverside Cemetery.

**Marshall “Jr.” P. Barney**  
**1928-2020**

Funeral services were held at Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey Chapel, on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 11 am. Burial followed at Gardens of Memory.

**Shayda Loraine Murray**  
**2019-2020**

Arrangements were entrusted to Needham-Storey-Wampner, Storey

Chapel.

**Jeanette S. O’Banion**  
**1941-2020**

O’Banion’s services were private, and burial took place at Park Cemetery.

**Martha C. Brust**  
**1939-2020**

Funeral services were

held at Armes-Hunt Funeral Home, Upland, on Saturday, Oct. 17 at 1:30 pm. Burial followed at Jefferson Cemetery.

**Linda Lee Kastrup**  
**1954-2020**

The family will be holding a private service.

**Michael E. Colvin**  
**1952-2020**

Funeral services were held at Armes-Hunt Funeral Home, Fairmount, on Saturday, Oct. 17 at 11 am. Burial followed at Park Cemetery.

### Indiana History Answers

1. C   2. D   3. A   4. E   5. B

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