

THE "TATOR" FAMILY

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We know of different kinds of potatoes:
 - 1. Sweet potatoes.
 - 2. Irish potatoes.
 - 3. Red, white, yellow potatoes even purple.
- B. But we want to talk about "Tators" not potatoes.
- C. We want to notice two kinds of Tators.
 - 1. Bad Tators.
 - 2. Good Tators.

BODY:

I. BAD TATORS.

A. Brother HESI-TATOR.

- 1. He hesitates when it comes to doing any good work.
- 2. He makes excuse after excuse.
- 3. His constant hesitation causes the Lord's work to suffer.
 - a. Peter acted this way- Matt. 14:28-31.
 - b. Felix was Hesi's kin.- Acts 24:25.
- 4. We should get excited about good works.
 - a. 1 Cor. 15:58.
 - b. Col. 1:9-10.
 - c. 1 Tim. 5:10.

B. Sister SPEC-TATOR.

- 1. She is for every good work in the church.
- 2. Her problem is that she enjoys watching others work.

3. She never gets involved at all.
4. The Bible emphasizes personal involvement.
 - a. James 1:22-25.
 - b. James 2:14.
5. In fact she is sinning by just watching- James 4:17.

C. Brother AGI-TATOR. Also known as DEVAS-TATOR.

1. He is only happy when he stirs up trouble in the church.
2. He has two names because he will go to any length to cause trouble.
3. He loves to sow discord among the brethren.
4. He gossips about everything and everybody.
5. He would do well to read and heed the following scriptures.
 - a. Prov. 6:14 **Perversity is in his heart, He devises evil continually, He sows discord.**
 - b. Prov. 6:16-19 **These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.**
 - c. Prov. 26:20-22 **Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; And where there is no talebearer, strife ceases. As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, So is a contentious man to kindle strife. The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, And they go down into the inmost body.**
 - d. James 3:6-8.

D. Brother DIC-TATOR.

1. Dic is great at telling others how and what to do.
2. He loves to sit on the sideline and give orders.
3. He knows all the answers, no matter what the question.
4. Diotrephes was kin to him- 3 Jn. 9.

5. Dic-tator needs to read the following:

- a. Lk. 12:48.
- b. James 1:25.
- c. James 2:22.
- d. James 3:1.
- e. 2 Thess. 3:11-13.

II. GOOD TATORS.

Brother MEDI-TATOR.

1. He is one who thinks before he speaks or acts.
2. He uses the common sense that God gave him.
3. He is like the man in Ps. 1:13 **For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish..**
4. He knows and follows the following:
 - a. Ps. 63:6 **"When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on you in the night watches."**
 - b. Ps. 119:97-99 **Oh, how I love Your law! It [is] my meditation all the day. You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; For they [are] ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, For Your testimonies [are] my meditation..**

C. 1 Tim. 4:11-16.

B. Sister IMI-TATOR.

1. IMI follows the good example of Christ and His Apostles- 1 Cor. 11:1.
2. She loves and obeys her Lord and Master- 1 Jn. 2:3.
3. She is concerned about others and cares for them, by doing this you can tell she is a Christian- Jn. 13:34-35.
4. She bears the burdens of others- Gal. 6:2.

5. You might say that she is a new creature in Christ-2 Cor. 5:17.

CONCLUSION:

A. Which of the Tator family do you best identify with.

1. Hesitator.
2. Spectator.
3. Agitator (Devastator).
4. Dictator.
5. Meditator.
6. Imitator.

B. Which of these do you think others perceive you to be?

C. Let's all strive to be mediators of good things.

D. Let's all strive to be Imitators of Christ.