THE LEAD COW

ISAIAH 1:3 THE OX KNOWETH HIS MASTER

 I enjoy thinking about my childhood. Often, I speak of my life on the dairy farm. One of my jobs was driving up the cows for milking. On the original farm, where we lived, we usually milked about sixty cows. All the cows had numbers. They were black tags with white numbers that hung on a chain around their necks. Years later we started using ear tags. The numbers were for record purposes. Several of the cows also had names. Some of the names were just given them for no particular reason such as “Daisy, Bertha, and Ginger” and others had names they had earned like “Bouncer, Lightening and Grandma.”

 As I said one of my jobs was driving up the cows. As I left the milking barn to go after the cows I would start calling the cows. The call was usually “Whooooo cows, come here!” Over and over I would make that call for the cows to come to the barn. Where ever they were some would start toward the barn if they could hear my call. The lead cow was Daisy. She was a white cow with a few black spots, a very pretty cow. If she was lying down and heard the call she would be the first to her feet and immediately start for the barn. As soon as she started most of the other cows would follow. There were a few that I would have to round up but for the most part if Daisy started the others followed. Now, I am going to speculate a little. I think she came for the food. Some say that a cow feels the need to be milked but according to their actions, such as kicking you on the shin or in the face, I am not sure I agree. Yes I think Daisy wanted to be the first to the feed trough. Whatever the reason, she did me a huge favor by coming quickly to the barn. The herd needed a leader.

 When playing high school football, our coach would often say he was looking for leadership on the team. The team needed someone on the team to step up and play all out every play. That person was one who could and would take coaching. The other team members could see his actions and would follow suit. It usually led to winning games and a special unity among team players.

 Churches need the same thing; someone who hears the voice of the Lord and heads it. He or she is faithful to worship. This person does not have to hold a position in the church but it is obvious that he enjoys the presence of the Lord and the fellowship of the church. He or she desires to be fed from God’s Word and wants to be a part of the worship. When the call comes for worship they do not mind being first: first to pray, first to sing, first to praise the Lord. Personally, I thank God for those type members.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram