



Encouragement

Volume 49, Number 34

Thoughts from Bryan...

A few weeks back Lisa Toliver was baptized into Christ. The progression of her conversion (I think) is a great evangelistic model to follow.

It started with Debra DeLoach. She and Lisa work together and Debra simply invited Lisa to church. No strings, no pressure, just a heart-felt invitation. Lisa came, was blessed by the experience and kept coming back. In the course of time Bill and Cathy Malone spoke to Lisa and found out they had a connection through her father. In the context of their conversations the Malones inquired about Lisa's spiritual life and offered to study with her if she was interested - she was!

They studied for a few months letting scripture do the teaching, and after encountering God's message shared by two caring people Lisa made the decision to be immersed into Jesus for the remission of her sins to the glory of God.

Think for a minute about this process. There was not a city-wide door knocking campaign, bulk mail-out, Gospel Meeting or any other corporate activity. Now these are all good and valid forms of reaching our community, but someone who cares inviting another to services has a powerful impact on people. It did on Lisa and it did on me. My buddy Fonz shared the Lord with me, lived what he believed, prayed for me and I am eternally grateful.

On Sunday, October 3rd we are going to have "Friend and Family Day" here at Central. We will have invitation cards printed with the date, time, et. The goal is for everyone to take some and hand them out to friends and neighbors. After worship we will have a meal, then a devotional time and that will conclude our services for the day. We have one month till this event, so be praying now about who you will invite. My dream for this worship service is 600 people so please help make my dream come true!

bj

CHILDREN & YOUTH *by Chris*

Chris' Corner...

It's September - and we all know what that means - let the sniffles begin! Colds, allergies, the flu, all kinds of sicknesses will be spreading this fall. The weather is cooling somewhat, and as the weather changes we prepare ourselves for a season of coughing, itchy throats, watery eyes, and stuffy noses.

Thankfully, however, there are cures and medicines we can take for those symptoms. We don't have to just suffer through it, we can take a few actions to prevent and/or deal with the symptoms.

Sin is the same way - sin has a cure. That cure is Jesus Christ, our savior. We don't have to just suffer through sin, but we can take action! Jesus is the great physician and he can heal us.

So this fall, as the weather changes and our immune systems begin to go to war, let's remember that we are at war. When sin gets a hold of us, let's ask God for forgiveness and he will forgive us. We can be cured through Him!

Statenville Spirit Night:

September 11th will be Statenville's Spirit Night. We'll meet at the building here at 5:00 and travel to Statenville where we will worship with them and several other area wide students. No money is needed. We will return at 10pm. Contact Chris with questions.

Oasis:

There is a sign up sheet for the Oasis youth rally outside my office. Please sign that sheet if you are interested in joining us for this excellent weekend. We'd love to have YOU (yes, you!) join us this weekend.

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Building Our Dreams
by John Klimko, Jr.

CHILDREN & YOUTH Cont.....

Prayer Devotional

We are just one week away from our special "Prayer Devotional" with the Southside congregation. We will meet from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. for a special afternoon of lifting up various concerns to the Lord in prayer. We are very honored to be invited to join our brothers and sisters in the Lord at Southside for what will be a wonderful time of drawing closer to God through prayer. Please note that we will not have a 6:00 p.m. service here at the Central building on that date.



AROUND THE BEND

September 11th - Spirit Night at
Statenville COC 5:30-9:30
November 19th - 21st - OASIS
Youth Rally

FEEDING THE FLOCK

We will resume with our first Feeding The Flock for the Fall scheduled for Wednesday night, **September 22**. The menu will be: Fried Chicken, Green Beans, Hash Brown Casserole, Fruit Salad, Chocolate Cake and Caramel Cake. Mark your calendar now for that date.

VISITATION



Thanks to all who encourage others. The visitation team for September 12, is listed below. Members may pick up assignments from the folder on the table in the office hall foyer near the Large Auditorium.

M/M Kevin Boyd
Mrs. Sheree Hudson
Mr. Kerry Morris
Mr. Clarence Paine
Mrs. Lavelle Quinif
M/M Don Seat
Ms. Morris Smith
M/M John Stephenson
M/M Clyde Tomlinson
M/M Leon Weeks

RESPONSE TO INVITATION

Alex Bundrick responded to the invitation Saturday night at Sonquest requesting prayers for dealing with a loss in her family.

AREA EVENTS

All ladies are invited to the Ladies Day at the Forrest Park Church of Christ, September 18, 8:15-12:00 noon. Speaker: Cindy Colley of Huntsville, AL. Theme: "Give Me A Break." A light breakfast will be served and an indoor picnic at 12:00 noon. RSVP at 242-2174, ext. 201, by September 15.

All ladies are invited to the Ladies Inspiration Day at the Newsome Street Church of Christ, 202 Newsome St., Hahira, GA, October 23. Guest speaker will be Deborah Walker of Robbins, IL.

Everyone is invited to a series of studies focusing on the 66 Books of the Bible as one book, at the Moultrie Church of Christ Adel Highway, Moultrie, GA., September 26-28.

Everyone is invited a Gospel Sing, October 10, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., at the Greenville Church of Christ, Highway 90 West, Greenville, FL.

EX LIBRIS

For The Youth

Juv Ham	The Answers Book For Kids, V.1	Ham, Ken
Juv 213 Par	Building Blocks In Science	Parker, Gary
Juv DVD Ell	Ellis, Gwen Read and Share Bible V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4	
Juv DVD	The Prophets	Sona & Jacob
Juv DVD	Noah's Ark	Warner Home Video
Juv DVD	Moses	Warner Home Video
Juv DVE	Jonah A Great Fish Story	Bridgestone Multimedia

EX LIBRIS

227.89 Fud	Fudge, Edward William	Hebrews
248.4 Har	Hardin, Jason	Boot Camp
262.14 McI	McInteer, Jim Bill	Minister's Manual For Churches of Christ
232. Rog	Rogers, Stephen	Jesus Our Example I
232. Rog	Rogers, Stephen	Jesus Our Example II
232. Rog	Rogers, Stephen	Jesus Our Example III
250 Edw	Edwards, Earl D.	Protecting our Blind Side
222.12 Ste	Stewart, Ted T.	Solving The Exodus Mystery
220.07 Mis	Missler, Chuck	Learn The Bible In 24 Hours
252.03 Mea	Meadows, James	Sermon Outlines From The Old Testament

NURSING HOMES

HERITAGE HOUSE: Irene Brown, Phillip & Marian Bennett

PRESBYTERIAN HOME: Melba Webb
Emma Shaw

LAKEHAVEN: Ubie Lineberger,

LANGDALE PLACE: Mildred Southall

CRESTWOOD: Jeanne Ryan

FELLOWSHIP HOME: Olive Scott, Henry Snow
Sylvia Higgins

HOLLY HILL: Bobby Bray

BAPTIST VILLAGE: Lillie Mae Dees

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

SGMC: Helen Hamm

ATLANTA: Laura Griggs

NASHVILLE, TENN: Willie Mae Swafford

CENTRAL MEMBERS:

Larry Bundrick, Betty Jo Cone, Jody Copeland, Glen Farmer, Jim Hampton, Peggy Herring, Sylvia Higgins, Jackie Mathis, Alexia Seat, Gordon & Elaine Teffeteller, Phillip Walker, Mary Nell Wells.

FRIENDS & FAMILY:

Janice Allen, Cliff Brown, Wilbur Copeland, Jerry Corbett, Jon Emery, Tom Ed Gooden, Harriette Gray, Laura Griggs, Ralph & Helen Hamm, Marshall McLane, Tyson McLane, Mary McLendon, Anthony Miller, Sybil Millhorn, Marvin Mullis, Larry Reese, Martha Shea, Debbie Starling, Alice Stevens, Jimmy Tipton, Elanor Spivey, Bobby Stallings, William Stuntz, Colby Warren.

MILITARY: Johnny Tucker, Emily Arnold

DAILY PRAYER LIST

September 12: Tim, Pam, Zachary & Amy Baker
September 13: Jay, Tracie, Meghan, Sidney & Jayson Barfield
September 14: Betty Jo Bell
September 15: Barry & Karen Bennett
Masha Bzenyuk
September 16: Chad & Auburn Bennett
September 17: Greg & Marie Bennett
Garrod Sandlin
Whitney Sandlin
September 18: Jerad, Trixie & Ethan Bennett

MISSION OF THE WEEK

Mt. Dora Children's Home
301 W. 13th Avenue
Mount Dora, FL 32757
Phone: 352-383-2155

AT HOME WITH GOD



BIRTHDAYS



September 15: Wivian Harris
September 16: Jan Hamlen
Tiffany Hatfield
Melba Webb
September 17: Lauren Kelley
September 18: Egon Schartel
Shea Walker
September 19: Jennifer Malone
Don Seat
Betsy Stephens
September 20: Joseph Prince
September 21: Shawn Moore
Marcia Wilson

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The women of the Douglas Church of Christ in Douglas, GA, meet on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. For directions contact: Cleo Chaney, 229-384-8898 and for other questions contact: Cathy Shaw, 229-560-1922

COMPLAINT

Impatient people water their miseries and hoe up their comforts; sorrows are visitors that come without invitation, and complaining minds send a wagon to bring their troubles home in.

C. H. Spurgeon

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

John 14:23

God wants to be your dwelling place. He has no interest in being a weekend getaway or a Sunday bungalow or a summer cottage. Don't consider using God as a vacation cabin or an eventual retirement home. He wants you under his roof now and always. He wants to be your mailing address, your point of reference; he wants to be your home.....

For many this is a new thought. We think of God as a deity to discuss, not a place to dwell. We think of God as a mysterious miracle worker, not a house to live in. We think of God as a creator to call on, not a home to reside in. But our Father wants to be much more. He wants to be the one in whom "we live and move and have our bring" (Acts 17:28).

AT A GLANCE



September 19: Area-Wide Prayer Devotional
September 22: Feeding The Flock
October 30: 39ers
Ladies Bible Class:
Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. in the Connector
Ladies Bible Class in Douglas
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., preacher's house
Men's Prayer Group:
Tuesdays at 7 am in the Annex
Christian Student Center:
Devotional Wednesdays at 7:00

ELDERS: Homer Anderson, Kevin Boyd, Byron Brown, Jerry DeLoach, G.R. Holton, Bill Malone, Leon Weeks

MINISTERS: Bryan Jarvis, John Klimko, Jr., Chris Petty

DEACONS: Jay Barfield, Donny Bryan, Jeremy Colson, Mickey DeLoach, Wes Force, Barry Gross, Richard Hamlen, Anthony Herring, Ted Hundley, Pendleton Little, Don Locky, Jerry McMullen, Sr., Matt Malone, Chris Prine, John Stephenson, Clyde Tomlinson, Phillip Walker

Church Office:

Leigh Lawlor.....Secretary
 Gail DeLoach.....Bulletin
 Dawn McLendon.....Children Education
 Phone: (229) 242-6115.....Fax:(229) 242-6116
 Visit Central on the web.....www.cacoc.com

Central Avenue Church of Christ
304 East Central Avenue
Valdosta, GA 31601-5704

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 Permit # 103

For the Record: September 5, 2010

Class	255
AM Worship	398
PM Worship	186
Mid-week PM	229
Budget	\$12,587
Contribution	\$13,103
Over Budget	\$516

MISSIONS: Brazil, New Zealand, Ukraine, China, Malawi Mozambique, India, Preaching the Gospel (TV), Swainsboro, GA

Central Avenue Church of Christ Family Gatherings

Sunday Bible Class.....9:30am
 Worship.....10:30am
 Evening Worship.....6:00pm
 Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00pm

THE SHEPHERDS VOICE

Let Go and Let God

I read an interesting article recently about a lifeguard and the many challenges he faced while serving in that role. Of course, his main duty was to "guard life" which meant that there were times when he had to rescue those who were drowning.

A statement he made about dealing with drowning victims is worth repeating. He said, "It is almost impossible to rescue someone who is drowning- - when he is trying to save himself. This person is in a panic mode and is fighting so hard that the lifeguard knows the potential exists for the one in trouble to drown them both!"

"However," he added, "if he will allow the lifeguard to put his arm around him and not struggle against him, he can rather easily be pulled to safety."

When I read this story it reminded me a lot of our spiritual struggles. First of all, there comes a time when every accountable person sinks because of sin (Rom. 3:23). Then, when we realize our plight, we also realize our need for salvation. But struggle or fight as we may, we are incapable of saving ourselves by our own merits (Eph. 2:8-9). Thus, we are in need of a Savior, and thankfully a Savior we have (Matt. 1:21). However, he will not save us as long as we are trying to be our own savior.

Acts 2:40 teaches, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." But reading the full text still illustrates the same point, namely, we save ourselves by surrendering to the will of the Savior. When man tries to reach God by his own devices, he ends up only sinking deeper (cf. Prov. 14:12). On the other hand, when we surrender to God's power and will, we then allow Him to pull us from death to life (Eph. 2:1-10).

The lesson here is not a new one - just one that mankind has wrestled with since the Garden of Eden. It seems the general rule followed has been: "I can handle this job all by myself!" But, the rule that should be followed is: "Let go, and let God."

~ Bill Malone

