

Faith Talk

The Shield of Faith Church
Hanahan, SC

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Scriptures to Meditate on and Remember

Romans 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Romans 6:11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:13 And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God.

1 Peter 3:8-9 Finally, all of *you be* of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, *be* tenderhearted, *be* courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

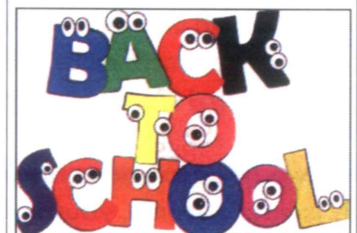
2 Corinthians 4:1-2 Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

Philippians 4:6-9 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

-In the Wonderful Name of Jesus, Pastor Bob and Susan Tilton

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Youth Talk "Who is Your Neighbor?"

We have been focusing on servanthood and humility during our time with the Youth. We want them to understand that God rewards those who are the servant, or the least, and blesses them with fulfillment that no man can bring.

Our passage has been Luke chapter 10:25-37 discussing the story of the 'Good Samaritan.' A lawyer asked Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life. Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? What is **your** reading of it?" So the lawyer answered and said, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your **neighbor** as yourself.'" And Jesus said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." Then the lawyer tried to justify himself and asked Jesus, "**Who is my neighbor?**" Jesus' reply amazes me...

Jesus told a story of a man who was robbed, brutally wounded, and left for dead on the road while people just walked by him... He was naked, bleeding, and laying in the dirt to die. A 'holy' man (minister, priest, preacher) walked on the other side of the road and would not stop to help him. Then a Levite walked by without helping either. Levites were the family who took care of God's temple but were not necessarily ordained priests. It caused me think of the symbolism of Christians who are not necessarily ordained ministers. Then, a Samaritan, a person who was considered the scum of the earth to most, stopped and picked up this bloody body and put it on his own donkey to care for the man. He even took care of the man's additional expenses to include his food, doctor's care, and a roof over his head until he became well. Then Jesus asked the lawyer, "Which one was his **neighbor?**" We know that the lawyer replied, 'The Samaritan.' We then read Jesus' famous words in verse 37 "And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "**Go and do likewise.**"

How many of us have picked others up and ended up with their naked, bloody body on our own? How many of us can say that we have allowed their naked, bloody body to be placed in our car or in our home? Have we really used our valuable resources to take care of those in need, or have we managed to take care of people only if it's convenient for us to do so?

True love goes above and beyond the call of duty. It looks past the odors, disease, shortcomings, and sin and gazes straight to the true need of a person... to be loved. Matthew 25:40 says, "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to **Me**.'" Matthew 19:29-30 says, "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many *who are* first will be last, and the last first."

So we need to ask ourselves... "Who is my neighbor?" It is the person you walk past in the grocery store, it is your parents, your children, your spouse, the one who greets you at Wal-mart or the one who helps you check out of a store; it can be a friend or a stranger. Being a true servant is to do something without being asked and without expectation. Matthew 23:11 says, "But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant."

(Continued on Page 3)

“Who is Your Neighbor?” - Continued

Let's keep these scriptures in mind:

Psalms 135:14 “For the LORD will judge His people, And He will have compassion on His servants.”

Proverbs 14:21 “He who despises his neighbor sins; But he who has mercy on the poor, happy is he.”

Romans 13:10 “Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.”

Remember what Jesus said as His response to the lawyer... “Who is the neighbor? He who showed mercy on him.” And Jesus said to him, **“Go and do likewise.”**

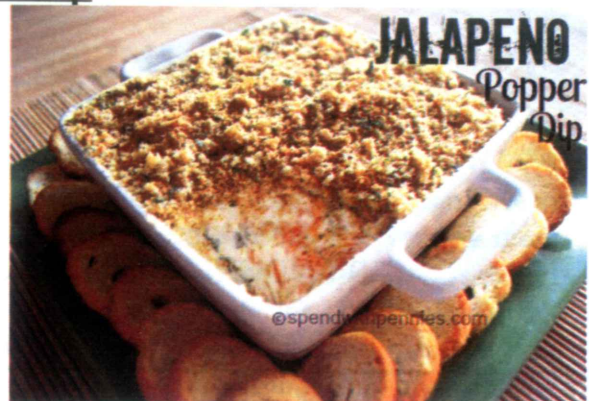
-Michele Dotter and Melanie Colson

Recipe of the Month

Jalapeño Popper Dip

Ingredients:

- 1—4oz can diced jalapenos, well drained
- OR 4-6 fresh jalapenos, roasted and diced (include seeds if you like it really spicy)
- 1—8oz package cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 3/4 cup + 1/4 cup shredded parmesan cheese
- 1 cup Italian seasoned bread crumbs
- 4 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted
- 1 tablespoon dried parsley



Directions:

- In a mixer or by hand, combine cream cheese and sour cream.
- Add cheddar cheese, 3/4 cup parmesan cheese, and diced jalapenos, mix well.
- Spoon into 8 x 8 baking dish, spreading evenly.
- Blend bread crumbs, melted butter, 1/4 cup shredded parmesan cheese, and dried parsley, using a fork or your fingers, until crumbly.
- Sprinkle the buttery crumb topping evenly over the cream cheese mixture.
- Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes, or until hot and bread crumbs are golden brown. Do not over-cook.
- Serve with bread or crackers.

www.facebook.com/groups/loseweightwithlinda

Chillie's Corner "Pastors' Wives"



Two Pastors wives were visiting and sewing their husbands' pants. One wife said: My husband is just beside himself, he does not know what to do anymore and he is so tired and depressed he said he is ready to just give up and resign.

The other wife said: I am sorry to hear that because my husband has never been happier. Our membership is growing and we are out of our financial burden, we have such a large and loving congregation. Life could not be any better than it is right now.

One woman was mending the seat of her husband's pants, the other was mending the knees...

Church Sign

A lot of money is tainted:
it tain't yours, and it tain't mine.



Bible Trivia—I Didn't Know That!

- A) What was Jonathan's mother's name?
- B) Jonathan once disobeyed his father's rash order by doing *what*?
- C) What did Jonathan give to David?
- D) Indicating that David's life was in danger, Jonathan shot arrows near the stone of *what*?
- E) The ill-fated messenger who informed David of Jonathan's and Saul's deaths was *what*?
- F) The Song of the Bow—David's lament over the deaths of Saul and Jonathan—was recorded *where*?
- G) Jonathan, his brothers, and Saul died *where*?
- H) When he was told his father, Jonathan, was killed, Mephibosheth was how old?
- I) Mephibosheth claimed his servant betrayed him. What was this servant's name?

(See page 8 for answers)

Emotional Buildup: Easily Offended? Irritable

Today I was in a restaurant, and looked out the window to see a river. The Lord said to me, "Do you see the rough surface of that water? That is because there is turmoil under the surface. The same is true with people who are rough around the edges and are easily triggered to things such as pain, anger, hurt, etc."

Have you ever seen somebody who is tense, where it is easy to get on their nerves? Do they always seem irritable? Does this describe how **you** feel? Have you ever wondered why a person is like that? It is certainly not a part of God's design for us, for His Word is clear that we are given a sound, clear mind:

2 Timothy 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Turmoil in one's system is usually caused by emotional buildup (things in the past that were never let go of) or unclean spirits. If something is bothering us, we need to make the choice to release our concerns to the Lord. Whether it be bitterness, fear, hurt feelings, emotional damage, feelings of rejection or abandonment, those feelings are devastating to our spiritual health and must be released from our systems. God's Word clearly tells us to cast our cares upon Him, for He cares for us:

1 Peter 5:7 "Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you."

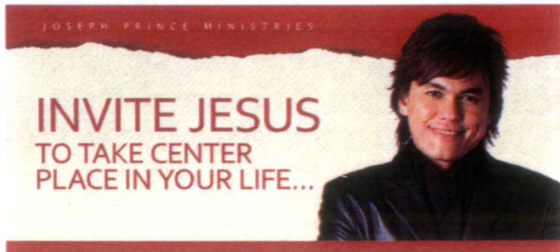
God wants us to release our emotional buildup, hurt feelings, etc. and give those things to Him. Why did God tell us to do this? Because He knew the devastating effects that such negative buildup can have on our systems. If we fail to follow God's command, and allow an emotional buildup in our systems, we then make ourselves available for spirits of anger, hate, bitterness, rejection, etc. Once that happens, those spirits can lay under the surface, and continually remind us of why we are hurt or angry. It's like a record playing in your mind over and over again, continually escalating you to higher levels of bondage and turmoil. If this has happened, the first step is to release the negative buildup to the Lord, stop listening to all the reasons as to **why** you are upset, etc., and if the problems seems to linger... **seek deliverance** from those spirits! It is not normal for our rivers to be rough from turmoil that has been brewing under our surfaces!

The Deadly Side of Hurt Feelings

Hurt feelings are a sign of an underlying struggle with forgiving those who have hurt us. What you may not know is that unforgiveness can send a person to the grave if they die without resolving those issues in their life. The Bible makes it clear that if we are going to be unforgiving, we not only become spiritually defiled (Hebrews 12:15) and turned over to tormenting evil spirits (see Matthew 18:23-35), but our unforgiveness actually blocks God's forgiveness towards us concerning our own sins:

Matthew 6:15 "But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

That means if you are an unforgiving or bitter person, then you are not clean to stand before God. Your sins are still hanging over your head, if you fail to release others for what they have done to you.

Joseph Prince**“The Power to Sin No More”**

*Therefore there is now no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

Romans 8:1, NASB

Today, I want to talk about how you can have a victorious thought life. I know that you may experience temptations and sinful thoughts from time to time. But here's the thing: Right in the midst of that temptation, you need to know that there "is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Notice that this verse is in the present tense. Right now, even if at this very moment, sinful thoughts are going through your mind, there is no condemnation because you are IN CHRIST JESUS!

You cannot stop birds from flying over your head, but you can certainly stop a bird from building a nest on your head. In the same way, you cannot stop temptations, sinful thoughts and desires from passing through your mind, but you can certainly stop yourself from acting on them. How? By confessing at the very moment of temptation that you are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus and that there is therefore now no condemnation for you!

The power of Jesus to overcome every temptation kicks in when you remain conscious that even at the point of temptation, Jesus is still with you and that you are righteous in Him apart from your works (Romans 4:6)! When you do that, you reject the condemnation for the temptation that you are facing. You are now able to rest in your righteous identity in Christ apart from your works, and release the power of Christ in you to rise above the temptation. That, beloved, is the overcoming life in Christ!

“He Was Crushed For Your Wholeness”

*Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come
and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord.*

James 5:14, NLT

Why does the Bible talk about anointing the sick with oil? Is there something magical about the holy anointing oil? No, my friend. When we anoint our sick bodies with oil, we are simply releasing our faith in Jesus' finished work. He was crushed for our iniquities so that we can be made whole.

Before anointing oil can be made, olive fruit must be crushed in a press. Likewise, before healing can be dispensed to us, Jesus had to be crushed. His crushing began at Gethsemane, which means "oil press", and continued at the scourging post, ending only with His death at the cross.

Beloved, whenever you use the yoke-destroying anointing oil (Isaiah 10:27), see Jesus crushed for your healing. See the agony that He endured in order for His healing grace to be righteously bestowed upon you. As you meditate on His finished work, you'll receive the benefits of His complete and perfect work!

John Wesley

“Revivalist” by David Smithers



On March 9th, 1791, when John Wesley was carried to his grave, he left behind him a good library of books, a well-worn clergyman's gown, and a much abused reputation. But also, an England moved to the very depths and a Church thrilled through and through with an awakened spiritual life. John Wesley was a man who truly possessed both apostolic vision and gifts, but most importantly he was a man who lived in view of eternity. "Consumed by the thought of the shortness of time, the great work to be done, and the need for haste in doing it, on he marched, preaching, pleading, warning and guiding . . ."

John Wesley was a man mighty in faith and prayer. Time and again people possessed with devils were brought to him and in answer to prayer the demons were cast out. Not only were evil spirits cast out, but the sick were healed as well. As Wesley preached, the power of God often came upon his listeners, and hundreds would fall under the power of the Holy Spirit. Then, in answer to prayer, their souls and bodies were healed. A physician became offended at the cries of many who fell under the power of God. He attended Wesley's meeting and a lady he knew fell under the power. "Great drops of sweat ran down her face, and all her bones shook. But when both her soul and body were healed in a moment he acknowledged the finger of God." On another occasion when Wesley was traveling the preaching circuit, his horse suddenly became lame. With no one near to offer help, he stopped and prayed. "Immediately the horse's lameness was gone."

Wesley pleaded with men to repent and by faith make peace with God or suffer in an everlasting hell. People who had entertained false hopes of salvation had their religious masks torn away by his plain preaching. Wesley believed that those who failed to warn the sinner and backslider, themselves stood under the judgment of Christ. He was determined to declare the whole counsel of God, offering the love of God in Christ and giving warning of the dreadful consequences of rejecting the Gospel. Wesley wrote, "Before I can preach love and grace, I must preach sin, law and judgment."

John Wesley, as well as the other early Methodist preachers, was both a bold advocate and a living example of sanctification. Wesley preached with unceasing zeal that complete holiness was the primary fruit of a vibrant faith in Christ. Counseling another minister, Wesley wrote, ". . .till you press believers to expect full salvation from sin, you must not look for any revival."

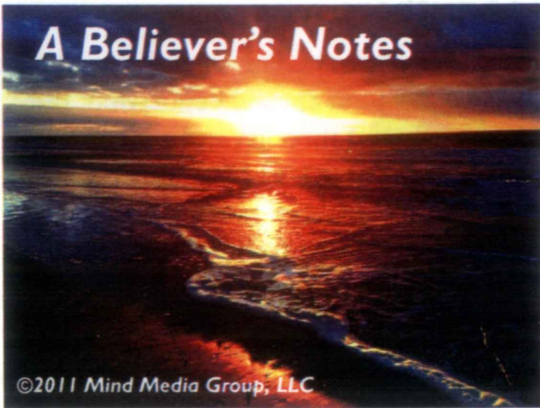
If John Wesley were to make an anonymous visit to the Methodists of today, it is doubtful whether many of it's churches would welcome him. They would most likely resent his fervent zeal and enthusiasm. When he was eighty-three he made a note that he was regretful that he could not write more than fifteen hours a day without hurting his eyes. Wesley faithfully preached almost up to the very day he died. Truly his vigor and zeal in old age were the reward of his faithful stewardship of time. He seemed to consider every thought, word and deed in light of eternity.

"Amid all his arduous labors, his innumerable engagements, his coming and going, Wesley lived a hidden life of intimacy with God. When worn out with overwork he often found new strength in answer to prayer." It was Wesley's strict habit to daily spend one hour in prayer in the morning, and then another hour in the evening. John Wesley shook the world by his preaching because he first shook heaven and hell with his praying. His preaching had a sense of eternal urgency because he had touched eternity on his knees.

www.watchword.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=47

To think about: What will they write about us when we are gone?

In My Name You Will Cast Out Demons



Mark 16:14-18

¹⁴ Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. ¹⁵ And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

You might say, "In all my years, Jesus has never preached any sermons or healed any sick people through me." That's because you haven't expected Him to do those things! Even though the Anointed One is **in** you, He is not going to be revealed **through** you unless **you use** your FAITH. After all, every thing we receive from God, even the new birth (being born again), must be activated in our lives by FAITH. So, if you want the Anointed One who lives **in** you to begin to be manifest **through** you, you'll have to believe God for it. You can't just sit back and see what happens. You must lay hold of the promise of God and believe what the Word says, rather than what your circumstances or experiences say.

You may feel as though you have no power or anointing at all. But the Word of God says after ye believed, ye were sealed with that "Holy Spirit of Promise." (Ephesians 1:13) To be sealed means 'to be stamped with an image.' That means when you were born again, you were stamped with the likeness of the Anointed One. You were made to look like the Lord Jesus Christ on the **inside**. Now, you need to believe that and let what God put on the inside of you come out! Seek to yield to the Anointed One within you every day. Let Him have His way. Expect the divine life already **in** you to begin to flow so that others can see the Lord Jesus Christ **through** you! Put your faith into action by spending time with Him. Set your affections on those things that are above. Desire Him to reveal Himself through you so much that you're willing to set aside other things and seek Him first. The more important Jesus becomes to us, the more He will reveal Himself through us. So make up your mind to hunger for Him and to give Him His way in you **everyday**. As you do, He will begin to bless others **through** you. Speak the Word, 'Jesus lives **in** me. He is my hope of glory.' Colossians 1:27

Bible Trivia **-I Didn't Know That!** (From Page 4)

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A) Ahinoam
I Samuel 14:49-50 | D) Ezel
I Samuel 20:18-20 | G) Mount Gilboa
I Samuel 31:8 |
| B) Eating honey
I Samuel 14:27 | E) An Amalekite
2 Samuel 1:13 | H) Five
2 Samuel 4:4 |
| C) Robe, armor, sword, bow & belt
I Samuel 18:4 | F) Book of Jashar
2 Samuel 1:18 | I) Ziba
2 Samuel 19:26 |

Kids Corner
(We are ALL His kids!)
“Paul Preached to the World”



Paul preached the Good News in Jerusalem and in many other cities around the Roman World, and many people became followers of Jesus.

Kids Corner “The Ten Commandments”

Exodus 20:1-17

¹ And God spoke all these words, saying:

² “I *am* the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

³ “You shall have no other gods before Me.

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of *anything* that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; ⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, ⁶ but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

⁷ “You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold *him* guiltless who takes His name in vain.

⁸ “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. *In it* you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. ¹¹ For *in* six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

¹² “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ “You shall not murder.

¹⁴ “You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ “You shall not steal.

¹⁶ “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷ “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor’s.”

Kids Corner
“The Ten Commandments”



↑ End

Kids Corner
“Romans 1”

E	C	A	E	P	L	E	A	S	U	R	E	N	I	S
S	T	S	U	L	P	I	H	S	R	O	W	D	R	R
B	N	B	E	L	I	E	V	E	T	H	Y	E	U	E
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E	R	C	O	M	F	O	R	T	E	D	E	A	T	H
L	G	E	N	T	I	L	E	S	S	D	L	U	A	P
B	L	U	F	K	N	A	H	T	S	K	E	E	R	G

Apostle
 Backbiters
 Believeth
 Beloved
 Blessed
 Boasters
 Comforted
 Creator
 Death
 Debate
 Despiteful
 Dishonour

Envy
 Gentiles
 Glorified
 Grace
 Greeks
 Immorality
 Judgment
 Knowledge
 Lusts
 Malignity
 Murder
 Paul

Peace
 Pleasure
 Proud
 Reprobate
 Rome
 Sin
 Thankful
 Unmerciful
 Vile
 Wickedness
 Witness
 Worship

Health Check

The Post and Courier

Wednesday, July 17, 2013

Report: S.C. residents exercising less, gaining weight, but living longer

By Lauren Sausser at (843) 937-5598

Men in Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties are less physically active than they were 10 years ago, and more of them are becoming obese. But data published last week by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation shows they are also living longer than ever before. The same report also shows that women in the tri-county area are getting more exercise than they used to, but are still gaining weight. Female life expectancy in these counties is also up.

The report featured county-level data from across the nation, highlighting the fact that men and women in the Lowcountry and South Carolina weigh more and will lead shorter lives than the national average, especially residents in poorer, rural counties.

"People are making poor lifestyle choices such as excessive TV viewing and low levels of physical activity, but improvements in medical science allow them to live longer, but not necessarily better," said Edward Archer, a researcher at the University of South Carolina's Arnold School of Public Health. "Their quality of life and health are poor, but science is able to keep them alive."

Beaufort County residents are the healthiest in the state based on the metrics in the report. Men and women there had the highest levels of physical activity, the longest life expectancies and the lowest levels of obesity, a medical term applied to men and women whose body mass index (BMI) is 30 or higher. BMI is a function of height and weight and can be easily calculated using a tool on the National Institutes of Health website. Residents in rural counties fared the worst.

Women in Allendale County have the sixth-highest level of obesity in the nation at 58 percent. Men in Marion and Lee counties have the shortest life expectancies in the state. On average, men there do not live past their 68th birthday, eight fewer years than the national average.

The Post and Courier's multi-part series "Forgotten South Carolina" investigated the disparities between 26 rural counties and the rest of the state.

The institute based its report on data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. Both are administered by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The full report is online, www.healthmetricsandevaluation.org.

(Special 'Thanks' to HR 'Jock' Stender for sharing this article with us.)

This information is intended to supplement, not replace, your health care sources.

Life expectancy 1985-2010

County	1985		2010	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Berkeley	69.9	76.1	75.0	79.7
Charleston	68.9	75.8	74.7	80.6
Dorchester	69.5	76.9	75.6	80.1
S.C.	68.6	76.3	73.7	79.2
U.S.	70.8	77.8	76.1	80.8

Percent getting sufficient physical activity 2001-2011

County	2001		2011	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Berkeley	59.8	43.1	53.7	45.6
Charleston	60.9	49.7	56.5	53.1
Dorchester	59.3	43.1	58.1	52.7
S.C.	58.0	43.3	55.1	49.1
U.S.	56.8	46.7	56.3	52.6

Percent obese 2001-2011

County	2001		2011	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Berkeley	29.3	31.6	37.5	48.6
Charleston	24.6	26.1	30.3	36.4
Dorchester	29.7	30.3	36.4	37.9
S.C.	28.4	31.6	35.4	40.7
U.S.	26.1	28.7	33.8	36.1

This data was published Wednesday in a report by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation. The report was based on data compiled from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

History Does Matter

Among the many challenges that Moses met in the wilderness was the rebellion of Korah. Here, we read the words of Dathan and Abiram: "Is it a small thing that you have brought us up out of a land of milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, that you should keep acting like a prince over us?" (Numbers 16:13). Their accusation is problematic for a number of reasons. First, this rebellion occurred soon after the death of the ten spies. However, Moses had not killed these; rather the Lord struck them on account of their evil report of the Promised Land. And in claiming that Moses was dominating Israel, Dathan and Abiram were conveniently overlooking the tyranny of Pharaoh's Egypt, where the Hebrews had suffered in slavery for centuries.

Finally, those two actually referred to Egypt as a land of milk and honey. However, God had been calling it the land of bondage. The Lord had been telling Israel that He would bring them into the land of milk and honey as an inheritance (Exodus 3:8, Deuteronomy 8:7-9), which He also said was different than Egypt, and better (Deuteronomy 11:9-12). Sadly, many people joined Korah and his partners in rebellion. Why? Narratives of history are powerful, whether they are true, or whether they are distorted.

Some years ago I tried encouraging a Jewish friend of mine to read the Bible, even if only the Old Testament. He declined, saying that the Bible is "just a history book." Though he didn't make the right choice, it is noteworthy that so much of the Bible is historical. Therefore, history must be important to the Lord. Moreover, I believe that He is quite displeased with distortions of history, even when His historical involvement is not explicit. Our educational administrators need to be prayed over.

In Judges 11, the king of Ammon sent an army against Israel over a territorial dispute. Jephthah responded with an accurate history lesson (Judges 11:15-27) which could have prevented war. However the enemy king wouldn't listen, and was punished with defeat at the hands of Jephthah's forces.

When Stephen was arrested and put on trial, he defended himself with a long history lesson (Acts 7:2-53) which should have led to acquittal. I lack the space to describe how Stephen turned the tables on his accusers throughout his speech; it's worth a study. But the ruling priests certainly didn't like being skewered! Judicial proceedings are supposed to be impartial, but that's not always the case.

There is a valuable coin in the middle of the Bible. Psalms 105 is "heads" and Psalms 106 is "tails." The story of Psalms 105 is God's faithfulness to Israel, and of Psalms 106, Israel's unfaithfulness to God. Yet there is another aspect of the coin: remembering what God has done in national history is "heads," while forgetting the Lord and his deeds is "tails."

Near the end of his life, Joshua called a convention where he reviewed Israel's history, resulting in a renewal of the nation's covenant with God (Joshua 24:15-25). We read in Nehemiah 9 of a similar renewal after Israel returned from the Babylonian captivity. Other examples could be cited. Human wrongdoing was not ignored, but faced and repented of. Yet, we cannot base national continuance on remembering our demon-inspired deeds. We need to keep the primary focus on the God-breathed side of our history.

-Phil Rust

Special Notes

In the 1920's the American slang term for garlic was "Bronx Vanilla" garlic didn't become popular in the U.S. until the 1940's.

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- 3 Applying garlic topically (direct contact) can kill bacteria**
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6. He forgives all your mistakes—no questions asked.
5. He controls the entire universe and everything in it.
4. He has an inside track on your bosses—He created them.
3. His rewards are character driven—not performance based.
2. He has an 'all-you-need' guarantee so you never have to worry about things like food and clothing.
1. He used one element to design it—His unconditional love for you.

Psalms 40:5 "...The things You planned for us no one can recount to You... they would be too many to declare." NIV

Upcoming Events

COMING IN SEPTEMBER....

"ELDER BRUNCH"

Anyone who is sixty (60) years of age or older, along with their spouse or guest, is invited to attend a special brunch to honor our 'Elder Folk' at The Shield of Faith Church hosted by our own, Melissa Bachelor.

Melissa's desire to cook and bake has brought her to another level of service in God's kingdom and she is eager to share it with us!

August 2nd through August 4th



SC Code Section 12-36-2120(57) provides for an annual three-day sales tax holiday for sales taking place from 12:01 a.m. on the first Friday in August and ending at midnight on the following Sunday. Accordingly, the 2013 sales tax holiday weekend will begin Friday, August 2, 2013 at 12:01 a.m. and end Sunday, August 4, 2013 at midnight.

During this time, the 6% state sales and use tax, and any applicable local sales and use tax, will not be imposed on clothing, clothing accessories (e.g., hats, scarves, hosiery, and handbags), footwear, school supplies (e.g., pens, pencils, paper, binders, notebooks, books, book bags, lunchboxes, and calculators), computers, printers and printer supplies, computer software, and bath wash clothes, blankets, bed spreads, bed linens, sheet sets, comforter sets, bath towels, shower curtains, bath rugs and mats, pillows, and pillow cases. The sales tax holiday, however, does not apply to sales of jewelry, cosmetics, eyewear, wallets, watches, furniture, rental of clothing or footwear, items for use in a business, or items placed on layaway or similar deferred payment and delivery plans.

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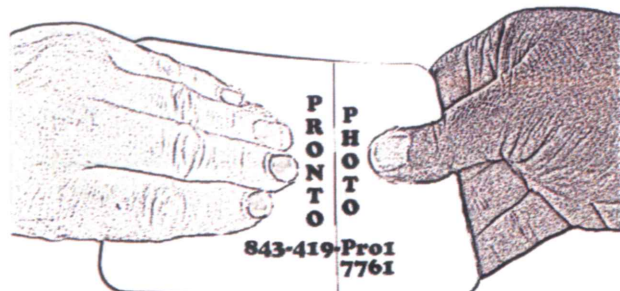


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Sunday School Events

Children's Sunday School

Ages 6-11

For the month of August, the children's Sunday School class will be talking about the most wonderful book of all, God's Word! The Bible is so special and unique that it is the only book that has stood the test of time. From the time it was originally written on paper scrolls, it has been re-written into simpler versions and has been read and re-read over and over again.

We will talk about the laws written down by Moses, and the importance of obeying those laws, so that we can live better lives. We don't want to wander for 40 years. No way! Then we are going to jump way to the New Testament, specifically the Gospels, and talk about their importance to us and to the non-believers. Most importantly, they introduce Jesus, and include many of Jesus' own words. I will explain to the kids what the differences are in the 4 Gospels, and why they are each unique and how their authors were different. John 20:31 says, "But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name".

Then, we will talk about the books of the Bible that Paul wrote, and I will explain to the children how these books still guide us today. Just because it was written thousands of years ago does not mean it is irrelevant. On the contrary, it is right on. Romans gives us a guide to salvation, and many of the following books teach the church how to act towards each other, and how to live more abundant lives. Paul was a wonderful teacher inspired by God. We wouldn't have most of our New Testament if it wasn't for his dedication and perseverance to carry out God's plan.

In Jeremiah's time, the king tried to get rid of God's Word. He cut it up and burned it in the fire; however, Jeremiah got another scroll out and wrote it all back down word for word as God told him. No one has the ability to quench His Word! It is so special that people in other countries will risk their lives to read it. I hope to help our kids see the value in the Bible. They have been diligent in learning their books of the Bible, so they will be able to find scriptures quickly.

I am so proud of our two new grand prize winners from last month. David Dotter and Jaelynn Keyes are our newest winners who can recite the names of all the books of the Bible in order! Congrats to them! I am so proud. Jaelynn has only been to 3 classes, and she has them all down. Way to go! In addition, the kids are completing Bible memory assignments each week, and if they have their verse down, I let them visit the "reward" bucket.

Finally, I am excited to give a preview of our fall curriculum! We will be starting Billy Graham's Dare to be a Daniel. This is a special opportunity for our children. Please tell the kids to bring a friend and be faithful, so we can go through this series together. This is an interactive curriculum, and each child will get their own field manual and rewards for completing their assignments.

-Rachel Ferguson

Men's Sunday School

Join us for Men's Sunday School and let us dive into the word of God together!

Sunday School Events—Continued

Ladies Sunday School

August is here and we will begin Unit 3: Worshiping in Jerusalem Again Part 2; placing emphasis on Repentance. Our journey will start with Lesson 10: Festival of Booths in Nehemiah 8:13-18. *The Lesson Focus* says, "God's Word guides our worship." *The Life Connection* discusses what it means to worship God according to His Word. In *The Bible Exploration* we will read about how the Jews worshiped the Lord when they learned His Word. *The Bible Interaction* will help us explore what God's Word says about worship. *The Life Application* will show us how to pattern our worship after the Word. In our lives, worship should be a cornerstone just like it was for the exiled Jews. Whatever circumstances we may be in, He deserves our praise and worship. We cannot praise and thank God often enough for who He is and what He has done for us.



We look forward to seeing you on Sunday at 9:45am!

We have to use the Bible as a foundational tool to deepen our relationship with God. Use the Bible to allow God to help you float above the pressures of your daily lives so that you can focus on Him and what His Word says about your situation. Nehemiah went to the king about the condition of the city of Jerusalem and gained the king's blessing to rebuild the temple. Nehemiah encouraged the people to rebuild and repair the city's wall. God gave the people what they needed physically and spiritually to rebuild the wall and gates of Jerusalem. It can be hard to worship properly when you feel drained spiritually or physically; however, I just want to remind you of this scripture:

Matthew 11:28 – "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Are you ready to allow the Word of God to guide your lives and your worship? Are you ready and willing to do what God tells you to do? Are you taking time to allow the Word to remove the clutter and excess noise so that you can hear what He has to say?

The people often gathered to hear Ezra read the Law, which included the festivals they were to observe. Ezra gave the instructions on how they were to conduct themselves during the Feast of Tabernacles or Booths. They also had to live in booths that they constructed during the feast. Today, we are no longer commanded to celebrate any of the festivals; however, we celebrate our deliverance from sin. D. Cook states, "We worship a wonderful God and celebrate what He has done for us. He has delivered us from bondage, given us new life in Him, and promised us eternal life with Him. For that we should be forever grateful and live lives full of praise and great joy." **"Let Us Be Glad and Worship: I sing for joy at the work of Your hands; forever I love You, forever I'll stand."** Chris Tomlin

-Yolanda Wilson

May

2 Peter 3:9 (KJV)

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

June

John 1:12 (KJV)

But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name:

July

1 Peter 3:9 (KJV)

Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

August

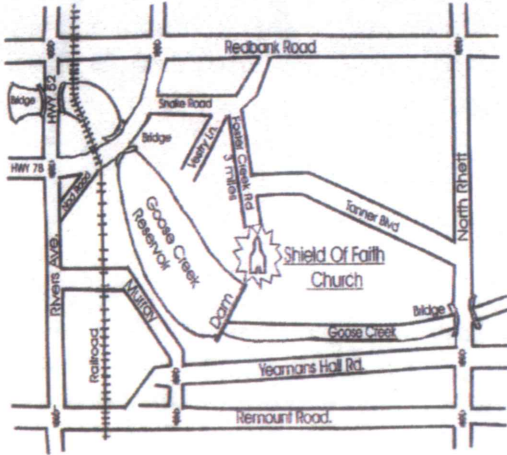
Ephesians 4:29 (Amplified)

Let no foul or polluting language, nor evil word nor unwholesome or worthless talk [ever] come out of your mouth, but only such [speech] as is good and beneficial to the spiritual progress of others, as is fitting to the need and the occasion, that it may be a blessing and give grace (God's favor) to those who hear it.

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Next deadline to submit articles is:
Wednesday, August 21st

August 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Tax Free Weekend	3
4 Chip Keller International Friendship Day	5	6 Praise Team Practice 7-8pm	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Berkeley County School 1st Day	20	21 Article Deadline Charleston County School 1st Day	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31