

Malachi 3:3

“He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.”

This verse puzzled some women in a Bible study and they wondered what this statement meant about the character and nature of God. One of the women offered to find

out the process of refining silver and get back to the group at their next Bible study.

That week, that woman called a silversmith and made an appointment to watch him at work. She didn't mention anything about the reason for her interest beyond her curiosity about the process of refining silver.

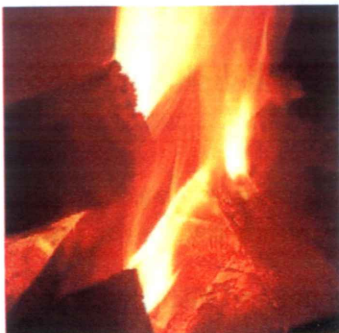
As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up. He explained that in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest as to burn away all the impurities.

The woman thought about God holding us in such a hot spot then she thought again about the verses that says: “He sits as a refiner and purifier of silver.”

She asked the silversmith if it was true that he had to sit there in front of the fire the whole time the silver was being refined. The man answered that yes, he not only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed.

The woman was silent for a moment. Then she asked the silversmith, “How do you know when the silver is fully refined?”

He smiled at her and answered, “Oh, that's easy—when I see my image in it.”



If today you are feeling the heat of the fire, remember that God has His eye on you and will keep watching you until He sees His image in you.

In the Wonderful Name of Jesus,
Pastors Bob and Susan Tilton

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JESUS L♥VES YOU

Youth Talk**John 15:**

- ⁹As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in My love.
¹⁰If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in My love; even as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love.
¹¹These things have I spoken unto you, that My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.
¹²This is My commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.
¹³Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
¹⁴Ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you."

John 3:16-17

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

Forgiveness: (Merriam-Webster) - To give up resentment of; to cease to feel resentment against; to grant relief from payment of.

True love isn't a feeling. It is a commitment. A commitment to stay through thick and thin. A dedication that far surpasses how another acts towards us. An unselfish giving of oneself to serve the needs of another.

Our Jesus did that for us. He died for us. For every wrong thing we've ever done and ever will do. He has already granted relief for us. He paid the ultimate price so that we wouldn't have to.

It is our desire to help our Youth embrace this... to seek Jesus for themselves. To know Him in a relationship... not just a bunch of rules to follow or a way of life that seems so foreign to the way others around them live. If we can help stir up our Youth to develop a thirst for a personal relationship with God, they will never be the same. They will run right past us ya know ;).

A fervor is needed in this generation. Not religion. A fervor to know and be known by the One and only true God that loves us far beyond human knowledge or understanding. A fervor to be in His presence daily, hourly, each and every moment... drawing from His vast supply. A fervor that we each had when we first asked Jesus to be Lord...

There is a great call going out for more of God and less of ourselves... It is our desire to help stir that same hunger in our Youth. Please join with us in prayer as we embrace this wonderful calling. Please pray for our Youth who are tormented daily at school, at home, and in their minds. They are on a battlefield that not many of us can handle. They are strong warriors that will make it through thick and thin. They inspire me to grow. They stir my faith and encourage me in my walk with God.

It is a great honor to serve your Youth and to be a part of their lives.

Thank you ALL for your prayers and support!

-Melanie Putnam and Michele Dotter

Do Not Lose Heart

Be encouraged sisters and brothers of the Most High God! We are joint heirs, princes and princesses of the Kingdom of God. We are not of this world... We are a spirit in a body.

As we live on earth, to praise Him, proclaiming the wondrous works of the Lord, and leading and encouraging others in the Lord... Life happens. Circumstances, tragedies, loss, frustrations, and pain come... BUT GOD!

2 Corinthians 4:16 "Therefore **do not lose heart**. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly (our spirit) we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 so we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

2 Corinthians 5:7 "We live by faith and not by sight."

LET'S SHOUT! What the enemy has planned to discount our testimony... GOD uses to bless us! When those troubles come, we can be encouraged to not loose heart. Focus on what is unseen.

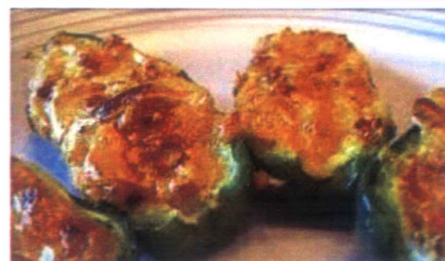
Our Heavenly Father who loves us, provides, and protects us and will one day reward us for walking with Him through this life. The enemy never brings more than our Heavenly Father can bring us out of!

Emerald Chapman

Recipe of the Month

Jalapeño Poppers

1 Pound of ground beef
16 OZ of cream cheese
1 Cup shredded sharp cheddar
20 approx. large jalapeños



Brown beef in skillet, then place the beef on a paper towel. You will use same skillet and grease to prepare jalapeños.

Use rubber gloves and cut jalapeños in 1/2 longways and core. Place them in skillet, inside down, with the beef grease on med/low heat until soft (you will need to turn them over to cook the other side - but don't get them too soft...) Add additional olive oil if necessary.

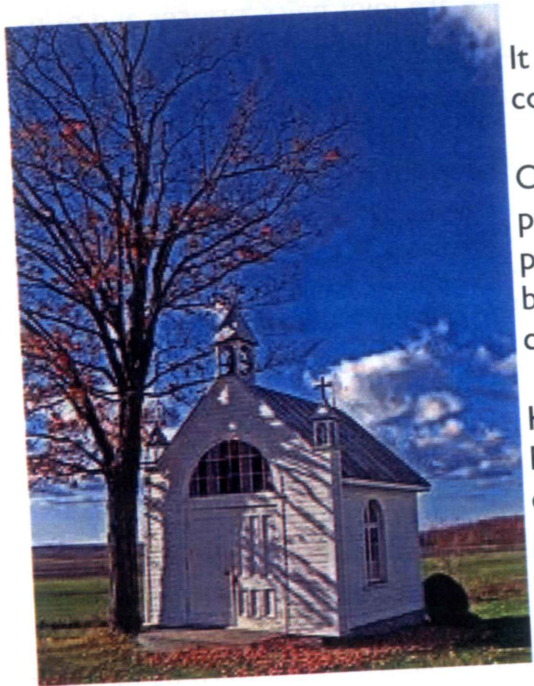
With your hand, mix beef with cream cheese adding salt/pepper if you wish. Optional: You can sprinkle some (about 1/2 cup) Parmesan cheese in the mixture too ;).

Place jalapeños on foiled cookie sheet and place beef mixture into each jalapeño half. After they are filled, top with grated cheddar and bake at 350 degrees until top cheese is melted.

-Michele C. Dotter

Chillie's Corner

"Little Old Church Painted"



It seems that there was a little old church out in the countryside: painted white and with a high steeple.

One Sunday, the pastor noticed that his church needed painting. He checked out the Sunday ads and found a paint sale. The next day, he went into town and bought a gallon of white paint. He went back out to the church and began the job.

He got done with the first side. It was looking great. But he noticed he had already used a half gallon. He didn't want to run back in town and being the creative person that he was, he found a gallon of thinner in the shed out back, and began to thin his paint. It worked out great. He finished the remaining three sides with that last half gallon of paint.

That night, it rained: it rained hard. The next morning when he stepped outside of the parsonage to admire his work, he saw that the first side was looking great, but that the paint on the other three sides had washed away.

The pastor looked up in sky in anguish and cried out, "What shall I do?" A voice came back from the heavens saying, "Repaint, and thin no more!"

Bible Trivia—I Didn't Know That!

- A) God made the sun on which day of creation?
- B) What tree did God tell Adam he was not to eat from?
- C) After Cain killed his brother Abel, Eve gave birth to Seth. What was the name of Seth's son?
- D) Nimrod was a mighty warrior. What was his father's name?
- E) Noah had three sons. Two of them were named Shem and Japheth. What was the third one's name?
- F) The tower of Babel was located in the plain in *where*?

(See page 6 for answers)



You Owe Me Nothing

When someone offends us or hurts our feelings the first thing our flesh wants to do is say, "They owe me..." We tend to feel like they owe us an apology or at least some kind of acknowledgement that they did the 'wrong' thing. Some kind of penitence please! We are hurt so deeply that we don't want to be around them because we feel 'uneasy' and sometimes even angry.

Right after 'The Lord's Prayer' in Matthew 6 we see these words in verses 14-15 "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

The day that Jesus was crucified, there were many angry, RELIGIOUS people that felt like He owed them something. There are many religious people today that have forgotten what love really is. Love is spelled S-A-C-R-I-F-I-C-E not a-n-g-e-r.

BUT, Jesus died on the cross... just for them. He opened not His mouth when they accused Him of all kinds of things. Mark 15:3-5 "The leading priests accused Jesus of many things. 4 So Pilate asked Jesus another question, "You can see that they are accusing You of many things. Aren't You going to answer?" 5 But Jesus still said nothing, so Pilate was very surprised."

They even spit on Him and beat Him with a stick like a dog. Mark 15:18 "They began to call out to Him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' 19 The soldiers beat Jesus on the head many times with a stick. They spit on Him and made fun of Him by bowing on their knees and worshiping Him."

But the only thing Jesus did was L O V E. He didn't retaliate. He didn't hold a grudge. He didn't call fire down from heaven. By His actions He simply said, "YOU OWE ME NOTHING." Again... by His lack of actions in response to them, He was simply saying "YOU OWE ME NOTHING."



ROMANS 13:8 "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law."

MATTHEW 22:37 "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

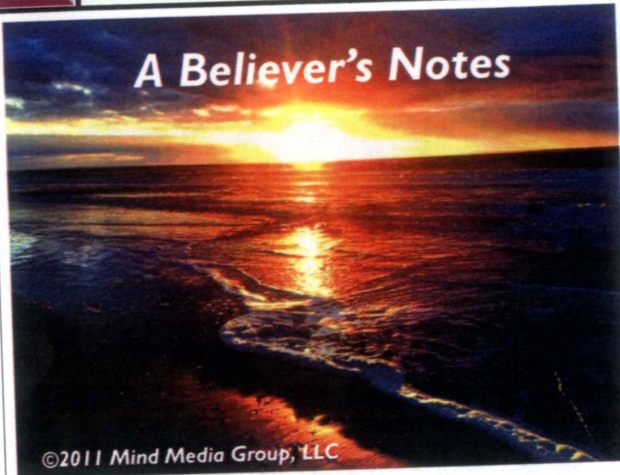
I CORINTHIANS 13:3 "And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. 4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Sacrificially love... laying down our desires... our goals... our plans... our way...

May God show you His everlasting love today.

-Michele C. Dotter

A Believer's Notes



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You Must Walk In Love!

When studying the 'Fruit of the Spirit' in Galatians 5 verses 22-23 you will see that 'love' is the most important key to growing up in God. If we don't grow up in love we won't grow up at all. We won't enjoy the fullness of God we've been longing for until we start walking **consistently** in love.

The 'Fruit of the Spirit' isn't just a nice set of qualities we should adopt so that we will be pleasant company—although people who have this fruit are delightfully pleasant! The 'Fruit of the Spirit' actually releases the supernatural power of God in our lives. Example: Love is God's power to overcome every obstacle. **1 Corinthians 13:8** (Amplified) "Love never fails [never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end]."

Our 'love life' has everything to do with the manifestation of God's presence and His power in our lives. As wonderful as the gifts of the Spirit are (tongues and interpretation, gifts of healings, miracles, etc.), according to 1 Corinthians, the gifts are not marks of spiritual maturity. It's the fruit of the Spirit that indicates a person is walking in the Spirit and not in the flesh.

Are you walking in love? The quality of our life depends on it. Living a life ruled by the love of God is what opens us up to walk in the Spirit and live in the highest measure of blessing and power of God.

Speak the Word out loud—Ephesians 4:15 "But speaking the truth **in love**, may **grow up into him** in all things, which is the head, even Christ."

Bible Trivia

-I Didn't Know That!

(From Page 4)

- A) 4th day
Genesis 1:16-19
- B) Tree of knowledge of good and evil
Genesis 2:17
- C) Enosh
Genesis 4:26
- D) Cush
Genesis 10:8
- E) Ham
Genesis 5:32
- F) The land of Shinar
Genesis 11:1-5



Ten Ways to Love

1) Listen without interrupting

Proverbs 18 Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom. ²A fool hath no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself. ³When the wicked cometh, then cometh also contempt, and with ignominy reproach. ⁴The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters, and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook. ⁵It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment. ⁶A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes. ⁷A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul. ⁸The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly. ⁹He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster. ¹⁰The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

¹¹The rich man's wealth is his strong city, and as an high wall in his own conceit. ¹²Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility. ¹³He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him. ¹⁴The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear? ¹⁵The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge. ¹⁶A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men. ¹⁷He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him. ¹⁸The lot causeth contentions to cease, and parteth between the mighty. ¹⁹A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle. ²⁰A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.

²¹Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

²²Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD. ²³The poor useth intreaties; but the rich answereth roughly. ²⁴A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

2) Speak without accusing

James 1:19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

3) Give without sparing

Proverbs 21:26 He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not.

4) Pray without ceasing

Colossians 1:9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

5) Answer without arguing

Proverbs 17:1 Better is a dry morsel, and quietness therewith, than an house full of sacrifices with strife.

6) Share without pretending

Ephesians 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

7) Enjoy without complaint

Philippians 2:14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

8) Trust without wavering

I Corinthians 13:7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

9) Forgive without punishing

Colossians 3:13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

10) Promise without forgetting

Proverbs 13:12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

“What’s Love Gotta Do With It?”

I John 4:19-21 MSG

¹⁹We, though, are going to love—love and be loved. First we were loved, now we love. He loved us first.
²⁰⁻²¹If anyone boasts, "I love God," and goes right on hating his brother or sister, thinking nothing of it, he is a liar. If he won't love the person he can see, how can he love the God he can't see? The command we have from Christ is blunt: Loving God includes loving people. You've got to love both.

Ahhh, Valentine's Day, chocolates, flowers, cards... who would want to be left out on this special day to celebrate love and be disappointed if there were no embellishments that day?

Count me out! I want to be loved the other 364 days per year and refuse to be told by the world system how to love. I was going to do this month's column on I Corinthians 13 but changed my mind and did something different. As Tina Turner is contemplating the question above, we will tackle it from a Biblical perspective.

Love is not box of chocolates but a decision to have compassion and patience for imperfect people (all of us). Loving others is the second most important commandment: love God first, and then love our neighbors as ourselves. All of us know sometimes that's a tall order. Most folks would state they "want to have somebody to love" and that's why some people want to have children. We don't want to love for several reasons: we are unforgiving, someone has hurt us, or we love conditionally based on works and not out of love as God does.

The word 'love' was difficult to define because the Greek lexicon had dozens of love definitions with different nuances but I picked the ones which I thought were interesting. (All definitions are from the Greek Lexicon from www.biblestudytools.com).

Phrenosis

Definition: understanding; knowledge and holy love of the will of God

Philio

Definition: love of brothers or sisters, brotherly love; in the NT the love which Christians cherish for each other as brethren

Agapao

Definition: brotherly love, affection, good will, love, benevolence; love feasts. Agapao is the charitable kind of love of helping. In the early church, people used to get together and eat after service. They the first potluck people!

Love is a choice and a life style. I find this to be the most difficult aspect of Christian experience. And no, we don't "fall in or out of love," it is not like someone pushes us down the steps and bam! We stumbled and fell, right into love! It is not accidental but a choice we have to make as we live for God and deal with human beings.

Platuno

Definition: to make broad, enlarge; be enlarged in heart, i.e. to welcome and embrace you in love

Hiromeiromai

Definition: to desire, long for, esp. the longing of love

-Nina Berkeley



Kids Corner
(We are ALL His kids!)
Happy Valentine's Day Kids!



Jesus loves the little children!

Kids Corner

The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25 An expert in the Law of Moses stood up and asked Jesus a question to see what he would say. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to have eternal life?"

Luke 10:26 Jesus answered, "What is written in the Scriptures? How do you understand them?"

Luke 10:27 The man replied, "The Scriptures say, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind.' They also say, 'Love your neighbors as much as you love yourself.'"

Luke 10:28 Jesus said, "You have given the right answer. If you do this, you will have eternal life."

Luke 10:29 But the man wanted to show that he knew what he was talking about. So he asked Jesus, "Who are my neighbors?"

Luke 10:30 Jesus replied: "As a man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, robbers attacked him and grabbed everything he had. They beat him up and ran off, leaving him half dead.

Luke 10:31 A priest happened to be going down the same road. But when he saw the man, he walked by on the other side.

Luke 10:32 Later a temple helper came to the same place. But when he saw the man who had been beaten up, he also went by on the other side.

Luke 10:33 A man from Samaria then came traveling along that road. When he saw the man, he felt sorry for him

Luke 10:34 and went over to him. He treated his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put him on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him.

Luke 10:35 The next morning he gave the innkeeper two silver coins and said, "Please take care of the man. If you spend more than this on him, I will pay you when I return."

Luke 10:36 Then Jesus asked, "Which one of these three people was a real neighbor to the man who was beaten up by robbers?"

Luke 10:37 The teacher answered, "The one who showed pity."

Jesus said, "Go and do the same!"

Kids Corner

We are learning to focus on the importance of prayer with regard to helping others.



"Thou shalt love thy
neighbor as thyself"
(Galatians 5:14)

Kids Corner

Word Find

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------|
| Acts | II Kings | Micah |
| Amos | II Samuel | Numbers |
| Colossians | II Timothy | Obadiah |
| Deuteronomy | Isaiah | Philippians |
| Ephesians | Jeremiah | Revelation |
| Esther | Job | Romans |
| Ezekiel | Joel | Ruth |
| Ezra | Jonah | Song of Songs |
| Galatians | Leviticus | Third John |
| Hebrews | Malachi | Titus |
| II Chronicles | Mark | Zechariah |
| II John | Matthew | Zephaniah |

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

“Above all else, guard your **heart**, for it is the wellspring of life”. Proverbs 4:23

February is National Heart Month. America Heart Association suggests seven easy steps to improve your overall health called the *Simple 7*.

Get Active- Daily physical activity increases your length and quality of life.

Control Cholesterol- Lowering your cholesterol helps your whole body get adequate blood supply and keeps your circulatory organs functioning well.

Eat Better- When you eat a heart-healthy diet (**foods low in** saturated and trans fat, cholesterol, sodium and added sugars, and **foods high in** whole grain fiber, lean protein, and a variety of colorful fruits and vegetables) you improve your chances for feeling good and staying healthy – for life!

Manage Blood Pressure- When your blood pressure stays within healthy ranges, you reduce the strain on your heart, arteries, and kidneys which keeps you healthier longer.

Lose Weight- When you shed extra fat and unnecessary pounds, you reduce the burden on your heart, lungs, blood vessels and skeleton.

Reduce Blood Sugar- Lowered blood sugar helps protect your vital organs.

Stop Smoking- Smoking damages your entire circulatory system, and increases your risk for coronary heart disease, hardened arteries, aneurysm and blood clots.

For additional information on the *Simple 7* visit www.heart.org/mylifecheck

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

- Alisa Wetzig

The Key to Life

When I was five years old, my mom always told me that happiness was the key to life.

When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up.

I wrote down “happy.”

They told me that I didn’t understand the assignment and I told them that they didn’t understand life...



The Weight of Words

Matthew 12:33-35 (in Context) Matthew 12(NKJV)

A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

Proverbs 25:10-12 (NKJV)A

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.

A quiz: What is irrevocable, invisible and yet powerful enough to determine the course of our lives, encourage or tear down, the power of life and death rest in it? Women speak 20,000 words per day and men about 7,000 out of the 250,000 words in the English language. Surprisingly, Bible has 774,776 words, more than twice the English language. Our speech comes out of the abundance of the heart. Words are so available, so important in everyday life, and so easily thrown around, profanely, carelessly and we end up cursing instead of blessing. This is how the word 'word' is defined in www.dictionary.com:

*“a unit of **language**, consisting of one or more spoken sounds or their written representation, **that functions as a principal carrier of meaning.**” From dictionary.com, bold italics mine*

So how important are words? God created the whole the world with His words and Jesus came in human form as the 'word in flesh,' spoke all over, raised the dead and healed the sick, all by the Word of God. How does our use of words emulate Jesus' use of words? And what does the heart have to do what we speak about?

Dictionary.com describes abundance as “overflowing fullness: abundance of the heart.” So what we think about, meditate on and believe in, will also be spoken by us. So, if I am unforgiving, angry, or lead by my emotions, I am only hindering my Christian walk; by pulling my harvest, by negating the positives, by speaking the wrong things. Ephesians 4:29 encourages us to treat words like gifts to be given to others.

²⁹“*Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift.*” (NKJV)

Can you imagine if we would monitor our words better and only spoke to encourage and help others, how many more miracles we would witness daily and how much closer we would be to the Creator? We don't have to lose that warm and fuzzy feeling of Christmas and the daily gifts of words would only steer us toward practical holiness. I would venture to guess the only way to fill our hearts with the gifted words, is to renew our minds daily in God's word and only speak what we want to come to pass in our lives and the lives of others. I challenge all of us to be more aware of what we speak about and line our words more with the Word of God. God's Word will never return to Him void but it will accomplish what it was sent to do, unlike our mundane, vain 'junk food words' that bring hurt and harm.

We need to be more aware of what comes out of our mouths: are we passing on golden apples or rotten oranges? Words affect someone even if it is unnoticeable to us and can cause resentments and fester into an unforgiving heart. Christ spoke with authority but with love and as usual, we have a great example to follow.

As my mother used to tell me, “Don't say anything if you can say nothing nice.” Let's start the New Year with a bang and decide to weigh our words prior to speaking. And what a surprise it is to find silence also can be golden.

-Nina Berkeley

The Five Love Languages

Based on the book "The Five Love Languages" by Gary Chapman, there are five prominent ways to express your heartfelt commitment to your mate, children, and others. I encourage you to get this book especially if you are contemplating marriage or feel that you are called into ministry. It is such an eye opener when you realize that we each have our own "Love Language."

First I will list the five prominent Love Languages:

- 1) **Words of Affirmation**—Words that encourage and build up.
- 2) **Quality Time**—Just time on the sofa holding hands can show a huge amount of love.
- 3) **Receiving Gifts**—Flowers, a new pair of work gloves—these can go a long way...
- 4) **Acts of Service**—Washing clothes, cleaning the house, filling the gas tank, getting the kids in bed, etc.
- 5) **Physical Touch**—A hug, a kiss, a pat on the back, holding hands, etc.

Take a moment to review this list. Which of these do you primarily do to show that you love someone? Well, that would be the Love Language that you respond to the most when someone does it for you!

"Realize that the object of love is not getting something you want but doing something for the well-being of the one you love." - page 41

Guess what? The same thing you do in order to show someone that you love them is the same thing you expect someone else to do for you in order to show they love you!

For example; a wife's Love Language is 'Acts of Service' but she's married to a man whose Love Language is 'Physical Touch.' Every time he wants to show her love/affection he touches her. But the wife shows her love by 'Acts of Service' so she is constantly doing things for him. What if the wife decides to touch him? What if the husband decides to take out the trash, wash dishes, and a load of laundry for her? Whattttt???? They would both have full 'love tanks.'

Married folks, talk to your mate and find out what **their** Love Language is so that you can help them to feel loved and appreciated far beyond what they even feel right now.

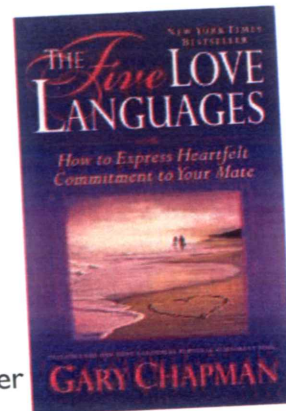
Realize what **your** Love Language is and learn how to detect others Love Language so that you can grow in your relationships with others in a healthy way.

We all want to be loved and appreciated. Let's show our love by taking the time to learn more about each other.

John 13:34-35 "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

(We have this book in the library upon request.)

-Michele C. Dotter



Grace, Grace, and More Grace

2 Corinthians 4:7-18

As we begin a new year with hope and belief in a brighter tomorrow, may we all be thankful for the many blessings that have come our way. We don't know what each new day will bring.

Paul, a man of God, knew how to trust God in every situation. Paul gives us an account of things that have been in his life... yet his hope was in the Lord.

2 Corinthians 4:8-9 "We are hedged in (pressed) on every side [troubled and oppressed in every way], but not cramped or crushed; we suffer embarrassments and are perplexed and unable to find a way out, but not driven to despair; We are pursued (persecuted and hard driven), but not deserted [to stand alone]; we are struck down to the ground, but never struck out and destroyed;"

- He had trouble
- He was put in prison
- He had gone hungry
- He was in want of earthly comfort
- He was pressed on every side—squeezed like an orange
- He was perplexed—he often wondered what was happening to him, but never in despair
- He was persecuted
- He was beaten nearly to death—but he never was destroyed physically or mentally

We will never go through all the things Paul went through in his lifetime, yet.

Through all of this, he encouraged the people to not loose heart when troubles come (verse 16) but to trust in God. Trust God in the good times and when trouble comes. Trusting God will be so much a part of your life that trusting God will seem, and be, natural to you.

-Rosemary Baker

Love Scriptures

Romans 5:8

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 8:37-39

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

1 John 3:1 *See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.*



All About Me "Reverend Rosemary Baker"

What a blessing Rev. Rosemary Baker has been to The Shield of Faith Church since 1975! We are so grateful for her prayers, words of encouragement, edification, teachings, prophesy, counsel, and the list goes on. You would never know how much she has gone through in her life unless you ask. You won't hear her complain but you will hear her praise her Lord that has carried her through it all.

When Rosemary was born, her mother was told that her little girl would never walk. Her legs were deformed, pointing backwards and were in serious need of repair. From the time Rosemary was nine months old until she was fifteen years old she literally lived in the hospital, with the exception of one year. By the time she was twelve she had already had twenty four of the thirty five surgeries that she has had in her lifetime. Amazingly, Rosemary took her very first step with the aide of crutches and braces at the age of twelve. She would go on to overcome walking without aides when she was fifteen years old.

Throughout her life, Rosemary has overcome all odds with her disability and has accomplished milestone after milestone. Not only has she been able to work as a secretary at a dry-cleaners, a head cashier at the Enterprise Store in New York, a cook and head over the food service counter at the BX (Base Exchange), but she has also worked in sales selling the encyclopedia *Wonder World*. She was able to do all that God said she would do!

Writing letters to the men who were in the service was a popular way of encouraging the soldiers. Rosemary wrote a friend who was in the Air Force and his friend, John Baker, read it. John said he immediately fell in love with her. John began writing to Rosemary and even proposed in his first letter to her before they even met! She began writing him when she was seventeen and that is how it all started! He even bought Rosemary her very first pair of shoes. John and Rosemary married when she was nineteen and they had three daughters. Rosemary added, "They are sweethearts and I love them." Together John and Rosemary have seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

At another point in Rosemary's life she began suffering from a condition that no doctor could figure out. She had even prayed, "God if you are such a great God, why can't you get me in the hands of a doctor that can find out what's wrong?" John got orders to leave for Japan in nine days... time to pack and move; in her condition... not fun. When they were packing to move, God allowed Rosemary to have an open vision. She saw a Japanese man approaching them to say he knew of a place where they could stay. She also saw a woman who was serving them breakfast.

The military had already warned them that it would take anywhere from eight months to two years for them to get base housing. Once they arrived in Japan, there was no where for them to stay. That Japanese man, who she saw in her vision, approached them and said he knew of a place where they could stay. The next morning the same woman in her vision served them breakfast. Within two days, John and his sponsor went to housing and there was an available apartment that did not have upstairs or downstairs and was an end unit. They immediately moved into this miracle that God provided to them!

Rosemary went to her new doctor, Dr. Finks and scheduled a surgical procedure. During surgery God revealed what her medical condition was and he was able to clear up the problem. Dr. Finks later told her that if she had not had this resolved, it was only a matter of time and she would have died. We are so grateful that she is with us today. What a blessing it is to know her! We love you VERY much! XOXOXOXOXO

In closing we would like to share with you two of Rosemary's favorite Scriptures from the Amplified:
Romans 8:28 "We are assured and know that [God being a partner in their labor] all things work together and are [fitting into a plan] for good to and for those who love God and are called according to [His] design and purpose."

1 John 1:9 "If we [freely] admit that we have sinned and confess our sins, He is faithful and just (true to His own nature and promises) and will forgive our sins [dismiss our lawlessness] and [continuously] cleanse us from all unrighteousness [everything not in conformity to His will in purpose, thought, and action]."

Upcoming Events

Coin Shows 2012



February 3-5, 2012
August 3-5, 2012

The Exchange Park
Summerville, SC

Friday 1-6pm
Saturday 9am-6pm
Sunday 10am-3pm

For more information call
(843) 200-7416 or
(843) 303-6915



The Shield of Faith Youth presents:

A Valentine's Luau
"Celebrate God's Love!"

Saturday, February 11, 2012
5pm-7pm

Serving Singles **AND** Couples
Nursery Provided * Guests are welcome

Wear your favorite 'floral/island shirt' or simply dress casual and enjoy a fantastic 4-course meal **FREE!**

Entrée is your choice of lightly seasoned—Salmon, Chicken, or Meatballs (tropical toppings will be available) served with rice and skewered fresh vegetables.

Donations towards our Youth Ministry are appreciated but not required to enjoy a great meal and fellowship!

Southeastern Wildlife Exposition 2012



February 17-19, 2012
Charleston, SC
(843) 723-1748

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FLOOR: \$16
BALCONY: \$14
GROUP (+10): \$14
VIP (EARLY ENTRY): \$25

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CATHEDRALKIDZ.COM

TUESDAY, MARCH 6TH - 6:30PM
DOORS OPEN - 5:30PM
VIP (EARLY ENTRY) - 5:00PM

Sunday School Events

Children's Sunday School

We are still learning about Paul and studying the book of Acts. As we continue to follow the travels of Paul, we are going to learn about Jesus' power being displayed through Paul, and the many miracles he performed; for example, healing illnesses and driving out evil spirits in the name of Jesus.

Also, we are going to learn how to handle the hard times in our lives. We must know that God is always with us, and will not forsake us. We also need to take advantage of any chances to help others. In Galatians 6:10, Paul writes, "As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers". Paul had to receive help from friends during his time of house arrest in Rome, where he was able to write Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon.

Finally, we are going to focus on the importance of prayer with regard to helping others. This should be one of the first things we do, in addition to giving and doing for others. The church was very important to Paul, and we should be diligent to care for our church family, as well as others.

Your children are little blessings, who are so eager to learn. Please have them here at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings with their "sword" in their hands! We are going to keep memorizing our Books of the Bible. You will be so proud of them and what they have accomplished.

- Rachel Ferguson



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

Men's Sunday School

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

Ladies Sunday School

The Ladies are now in the last Unit of their Sunday School book. In this unit we will be learning about 'God's Redemption' and focusing on 'Trust.' It is reminding us that good works did not save us and works will not keep us connected to God. We were and are saved by Grace through faith in Jesus Christ and what He did for us on Calvary. Our relationship with God can ONLY be based on faith alone. Take some time to dig into the Bible and find the scriptures on faith. Study those scriptures so that your faith level can grow and increase. You may even find that while you are diligently studying the faith scriptures, that you are memorizing most of them; if not all. Make a commitment to increase your faith level this year.

As your faith level increases, you may even realize that your relationship (trust level) has also increased. An increase in faith and trust also increases your love for Him. When your love for Him grows, so will your desire to please Him and not do anything that will hurt Him. Don't wait to get started on your faith, love, and trust building adventure with God. Start now, in the beginning of the year, so that you can increase these areas to have a better, stronger foundation. A strong foundation gives more support to the other areas of a building when it encounters the forces of nature. The scriptures will strengthen your foundation and continue moving that strength up and throughout the rest of the building as your faith, love and trust levels increases.

Once you go through the faith scriptures, you may want to gather the scriptures on love, trust, healing, deliverance, peace, gentleness, holiness, purity, etc. and begin studying them. Let this year be the year that you devote to strengthening your mind, body and soul. The blessings and benefits, fruits and rewards, will flow over the people around you and those you pray for. Make this your 'Year of Restoration.'

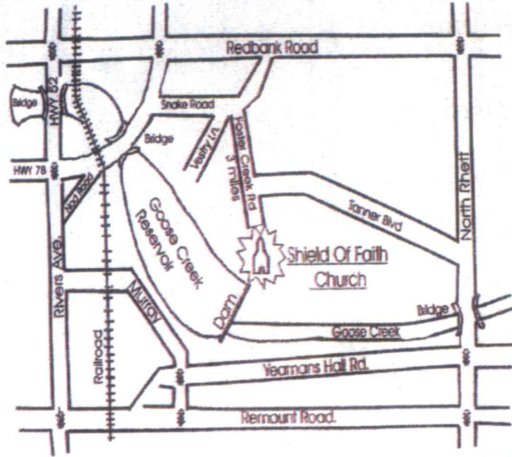
-Yolanda Wilson



**The Shield of Faith Church
Hanahan, SC**

1612 Foster Creek Road
Hanahan, SC 29410
Phone: 843-553-1823

Deepening our Relationship with Him...



We're on the Web!
www.shieldoffaithchurch.net

Next deadline to submit articles is:
Wednesday, February 15th.

February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>National Freedom Day</i>	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>	3	4
5 Baptism	6	7	8	9	10 Youth Lock-In 7pm	11 Valentines Luau 5-7PM'
12	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 Article Submittal Deadline	16	17	18
19	20 <i>Presidents Day</i>	21	22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 <i>Leap Day</i>			