

Faith Talk

The Shield of Faith Church
Hanahan, SC

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If Jesus Came to Your House

-by Lois Blanchard Eades

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two
If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do.
Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honored Guest,
And all the food you'd serve to Him would be the very best,
And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have him there
That serving Him in your own home is joy beyond compare.

But when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door
With arms outstretched in welcome to your heavenly Visitor?
Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in?
Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?
Would you turn off the radio and hope He hadn't heard?
And wish you hadn't uttered that last, loud, hasty word?

Would you hide your worldly music and put some hymn books out?
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?
And I wonder - if the Savior spent a day or two with you,
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?
Would you go right on saying the things you always say?
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?

Would your family conversation keep up it's usual pace?
And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace?
Would you sing the songs you always sing, and read the books you read,
And let Him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to go?
Or would you, maybe, change your plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest friends?
Or would you hope they'd stay away until His visit ends?
Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on?
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do
If Jesus Christ in person came to spend some time with you.

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

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Youth Talk "Time to Eat Meat"

Can I just say how EXCITED I am about 2014 and our Youth????? **I AM SOOO EXCITED!!!** I have seen so much growth and maturity coming forth from these incredible kids. It is awesome to see how God is making Himself so real to them. They are very gifted and have so much to offer. I believe they are realizing this more and more each day as they walk with Him.

We have so many things to share about the Lord and the plan He has for their life as leaders in this day and age in which we live. We will study many young leaders in the Word this year while connecting their stories to the lives of our Youth today. Allowing our Youth to have a chance to be themselves and grow is so important. If we let our kids stay on the bottle forever, they'd still be drinking milk and need their diapers changed! It's time to give them a chance to grow and eat some meat...

We have had the pleasure of getting to know each one of them and can see each of their gifts and talents coming forth. A chef, an accountant, a stage actor, a school teacher, an architect, an engineer, a preacher, a homemaker, a singer, and the list goes on... God has a purpose and a plan for each of our Youth to be used for His glory.

One of our goals is to challenge our Youth this year to be motivated to reach others by sharing their gifts as well as their relationship with Jesus. We will be having teaching sessions on the importance of sharing the gospel as well as HOW to share.

Also planned for this year are many fun outings and we will need your help to chaperone and have fun with our Youth. Anything from camping, roller skating, visiting nursing homes, canoeing, ministry concerts, to our upcoming hibachi style Oriental Cuisine Valentine's Dinner, as well as our skits and puppet ministry! Please let us know if you'd like to help with any of these events.

Recently while at an orthodontist appointment we saw models of teeth and how braces are applied. When our teeth (bones) have to be moved in order to make room for others, it can be a long drawn-out process. Something called a 'spacer' has to be placed between certain teeth so that the other brace parts can have a place to go. If the 'spacer' wasn't used to make room, there would be no braces. There would be no room for other teeth to thrive and be in the position that they're supposed to be in.

Sometimes, we need a 'spacer' placed between us and our children. Not to keep them away from us, but to allow them room to grow in the gifts and position that God called them. At some point, children need to be changing their own clothes, washing their own hair, brushing their own teeth, helping with laundry, shopping, dinner, trash, and other household responsibilities. At some point, they need to become the INDIVIDUAL that God has called them to be.

During the teen years, we as parents may tend to allow too much space and the children feel like they are standing alone, not connected to anything or anyone. It's during these years that deep relationships are built and MORE time should be spent with them not less; talking, asking questions, answering questions, and allowing them to share their heart without feeling like they will be attacked.

Our challenge to The Shield of Faith Church is to spend time with our Youth today. They have so much to offer you... they are called and anointed servants of God that we are so proud of! We are looking forward to 2014!

-Floyd and Michele Dotter

Scriptures

1 Timothy 4:12

Let no one despise or think less of you because of your youth, but be an example (pattern) for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.

Luke 18:16

But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God."

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Church Sign

Let the power of love replace the love of power.

Recipe of the Month Corn Casserole

Ingredients:

1 box jiffy
1 cream corn
1 sweet corn drained
8 oz sour cream
2 cups cheddar cheese
1 stick softened butter



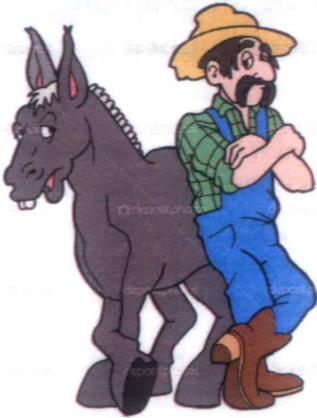
Directions:

Mix and bake at 350 for 45-50 minutes.

-Modified Paula Deen Recipe

Chillie's Corner

"The Farmer's Mule"



A newlywed farmer and his wife were visited by her mother, who immediately demanded an inspection of the place. The farmer had genuinely tried to be friendly to his new mother-in-law, hoping that it could be a friendly, non-antagonistic relationship. To no avail, she kept nagging them at every opportunity, demanding changes, offering unwanted advice and making life unbearable to the farmer and his new bride. While they were walking through the barn, the farmer's mule suddenly reared up and kicked the mother-in-law in the head, killing her instantly. At the funeral service a few days later, the farmer stood near the casket and greeted folks as they walked by. The pastor noticed that whenever a woman would whisper something to the farmer, he would nod his head yes and say something. Whenever a man walked by and whispered to the farmer, however, he would shake his head no and mumble a reply. Very curious as to this bizarre behavior, the pastor later asked the farmer what that was all about. The farmer replied, "The women would say, 'what a terrible tragedy' and I would nod my head and say, 'Yes, it was.' The men would ask, 'can I borrow that mule?' And I would shake my head and say, 'can't. It's all booked up for a year.'"

"Hope

**Smiles from the threshold of the year to come,
Whispering 'it will be happier'..."**
— Alfred Tennyson



Bible Trivia—I Didn't Know That!

- A) Rehoboam was the son of Naamah and *whom*?
- B) Rehoboam was crowned king *where*?
- C) How old was Rehoboam when he became king?
- D) The "heavy yoke" that Rehoboam laid upon the people was *what*?
- E) What servant of Rehoboam was stoned to death by the people?
- F) When the nation divided, Rehoboam became the ruler of two tribes named *what*?
- G) To keep his people from the Jerusalem temple, Jeroboam, king of the remaining ten tribes, made them worship *what*?
- H) The granddaughter of Absalom and the wife who Rehoboam loved most was named *what*?
- I) When the evil Rehoboam died, what prince ruled in his place?

(See page 8 for answers)

Earning the Right to Lead

-by Brian O. Brown
Director, Drake Relays
Drake University

Subject Area: Human Resource Management and Organizational Behavior

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John C. Maxwell poses that “the true meaning of leadership is influence, nothing more and nothing less.” I believe it is true that titles, positions and status do not have much value when it comes to leading, managing and directing others. The only thing a title or position can do is buy a little time to either increase your level of influence or erase it. I found this principle to be true early on in my first year as the Director of the Drake Relays. While it is very fulfilling for me to hold the title of Director of one of the most significant sporting events in the history of the state of Iowa, the title does very little when it comes to gaining buy-in from those I manage.

True and effective leadership cannot be awarded, appointed or assigned. It comes from influence which can't be mandated. It must be earned. In fact, in order to “Earn the Right to Lead” it is a matter of; 1) Actions, 2) Vision, 3) Sacrifice, 4) Character, and 5) Service.

Actions

It was Martin Luther King, Jr. who suggests that, “It is always the right time to do the right thing.” Doing the right thing takes courage and the willingness to stand alone for what is right rather than side with the majority. In my role as the Relays Director, there are many competing interests of fans, coaches and associations. What I've found to be critical in leading others is the commitment to doing what is right regardless of how popular or widely acceptable the decision may be. For example, currently, the Drake Relays is only accessible for high schools in the state of Iowa. Many would like to see the event open to regional states and other high schools; however, as I have observed, over 85% of the paid attendance are moms, dads, grandparents and friends of high school athletes. It would be a disservice to take away opportunities to compete in this historic event from local young men and women in our Iowa high schools.

What you do speaks much louder than what you are saying. I have publicly stated my position and intent to remain committed to the high school athletes and fans. It remains important for me to continue to earn their support and loyalty which has much to do with my actions. People tend to go along with people they get along with.

Vision

Earning the right to lead involves a clearly articulated vision. To formulate vision, you must learn to look in several places:

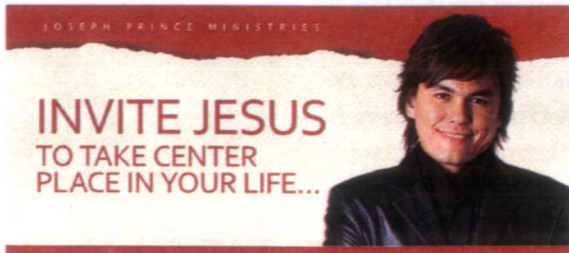
- Look Behind You (what have you learned?)
- Look Within You (what do you feel?)
- Look Around You (what's happening to others?)
- Look Ahead of You (what's the big picture?)
- Look Beside You (what resources are available to you?)

Continued on Page 14

Joseph Prince

“Your Time is Now”

“...Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. .”
2 Corinthians 6:2



Beware of two thieves in your life. They are called “yesterday” and “tomorrow.” They will try to rob you of your present joy. Yesterday will remind you of your past mistakes and mire you in regret. Tomorrow will remind you of your upcoming challenges and try to drown you with worry.

Remember the two thieves who were crucified with Jesus? One of them lived in his past (yesterday). So conscious of all that he had done, he could not repent and would not ask the Lord to save him. The other thief pointed the Lord to the future (tomorrow), saying, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.” Jesus’ answer was “today”—“**today** you will be with Me in Paradise” (Luke 23:42–43). Jesus saved him that very day!

Beloved, Jesus was crucified in the midst of these two thieves to redeem you from being robbed left and right of your present joy and peace. You don’t have to live life regretting the past or worrying about the future. When it comes to your salvation, God has only one timing—now. His Word says that “**now** is the accepted time...**now** is the day of salvation.” If you are sick, God wants you healed **now**. Is that hard to believe? Look at how Jesus healed the sick. He never told any one of them who came to Him, “Not today, come back tomorrow,” or “You are too late, you should have come yesterday.”

My friend, God wants to help you today, not tomorrow or next week. He is a very **present** help in times of trouble (Psalm 46:1). Reach out **now** and take all the help you need from Him!

“The Price Has Been Paid”

*“He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—
and not only our sins but the sins of all the world.” 1 John 2:2, NLT*

When guilt and condemnation weigh heavily on their conscience, many feel the need to pay for their sins. To appease the sense that they have failed, they punish themselves by mentally berating themselves repeatedly for their failings, and some even go so far as to cause injury or harm to their own bodies. And when things don’t work out in their studies, work or relationships, they tell themselves that they deserve the negative outcome. They don’t feel that they deserve to succeed in what they do.

My friend, the answer to our consciousness of guilt, failure or inadequacy is the cross. The cross declares, “Jesus, the sinless, spotless, beloved Son of God, died in your place. There is your punishment! He was pierced. He was cut. He was wounded for your transgressions. He was crushed so that you don’t have to be crushed. He died young so that you don’t have to die young!”

Our conscience is satisfied when we look at the cross and see Jesus Christ hanging there, suspended between heaven and earth. He who knew no sin became our sin, and He bore the fullness of God’s holy and righteous indignation in His very own person on our behalf.

When we look to the cross and realize, “There is my punishment. There is my death,” our conscience says, “Peace. It’s paid.” We don’t have to wound ourselves. We don’t have to beat ourselves. Jesus suffered it all for us so that we can have His every blessing and reign in life. He alone is *the* sacrifice that atones for all our sins. Hallelujah!

The Days of Jesus of Nazareth

(We want to encourage you to look up the Scripture references as you read.)

Messianic prophecies in the Old Testament often foresee Christ in His first coming, but some of them describe His second coming. To make matters more complex, there are places where these two occur right next to each other. My claim is that although the Gospels are primarily written about Jesus' earth walk, they also contain information about Second Coming conditions, even apart from any direct teaching from Jesus on this subject.

The first sign has been evident for a few decades already. After Jesus was born, Herod tried to wipe out the babies in the territory of Bethlehem, in order to prevent the King of the Jews from claiming the throne. Since Roe v. Wade, the devil has been waging a campaign of abortion to prevent the rise of God's end time army. This effort also will fail.

In Luke 2:1 the decree from Caesar was that all the world should be taxed. In most nations, taxes are considerably higher than they were in the 1800's. Subjects of Rome were required to travel to their home town, a government imposed inconvenience. Caesar's got your number! Look out for a new tax from the U.N. to be imposed; it's already under discussion.

The Pharisees and the Sadducees represent a religious world that is outwardly respectable, but inwardly is falling away from the Lord's ways. Today, the Sadducees and their secular allies have much influence in America. They are challenging the authority of the Body of Christ, speaking evil of those who want to live godly, and seeking reasons to arrest those who exhibit genuine spiritual leadership. And as the natural enemies Pilate and Herod joined forces against Jesus (Luke 23:12), today the LGBT crowd and the radical Muslims are both opposing the followers of Christ.

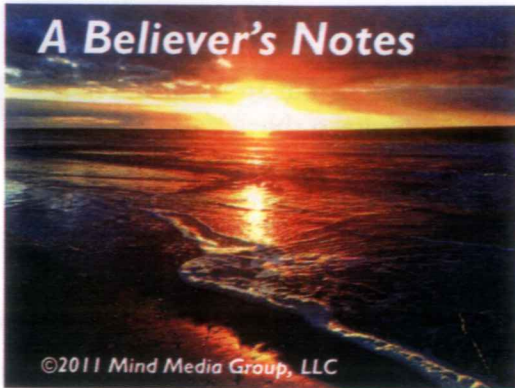
On the positive side, there will be disciples who choose to radically follow Jesus. I am expecting a large increase not only of wonders and miracles, but also of the use of parables in teaching. There will be a return of a closer association between healings and salvations. Some will be receiving higher level revelations of Jesus, even to the Mt. of Transfiguration level.

Some Muslims in the Middle East have recently been saved on account of dreams of Jesus. It's unexpected, but the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4) foreshadows these visitations.

The brighter light of the Gospel will mean interruptions by demons and silencing of John the Baptist. Farms may fail, but multiplication of food will return. Cities that reject the Gospel, even if they escape nukes, will be condemned (Matt. 11:20-24). More than any other Bible prophet, Jesus taught about hell. This will be needed to warn the many about to blaspheme the Holy Spirit. And who knows the variety of responses that we will see with more people being raised from the dead!!!

Jesus' prophecy in John 14:12, has not, in my view, yet been fulfilled. Let's believe that it will be, without waiting for the Millennium! Do we have any volunteers for the "greater works"? And don't forget the prayer of Jesus in John 17. Gear up for a greater anointing of love, that will produce first unity, then oneness in the Body, and supply a great witness to those on the outside. And finally, expect a radically close relationship with the Lord Himself, fulfilling the greatest commandment!!

-Phil Rust

Don't Buy The Lies!

“Behold! I have given you authority and power to trample upon serpents and scorpions, and [physical and mental strength and ability] over all the power that the enemy [possesses]; and nothing shall in any way harm you.”

-Luke 10:19

Satan can't force you to do anything. He doesn't have the power! All he can do is make a presentation and try to sell you lies. He can't make you buy them. He can only present them. You have a choice whether to take him up on his sorry deal or rebuke him and command him to leave you.

Learn not to toy with his lies. Don't take the bait. Instead, learn to immediately turn away from his doubts and thinking and speak the word of God! Ask yourself, “What does the word say that guarantees me the very thing the devil just tried to make me doubt?” Get in the Word of God and find out the real truth. That's where your authority is—in the truth.

Satan will lie to you, cheat you, trick you, deceive you, and bait you into bondage, if you will let him; but God will always tell you the truth of your authority in Christ Jesus. You won't spend your days crying about how bad things are. You'll spend your days telling those mountains to be cast into the sea. Instead of acting like a whiner, you'll be more than a conqueror in Christ. You'll kick devil out of your affairs with the words of your mouth. You will stand in triumph with your needs met, your body healed, and your heart rejoicing!

By the way, Jesus has given me power to tread on serpents and scorpions and over ALL the power of the enemy—and NOTHING by ANY means hurts me!

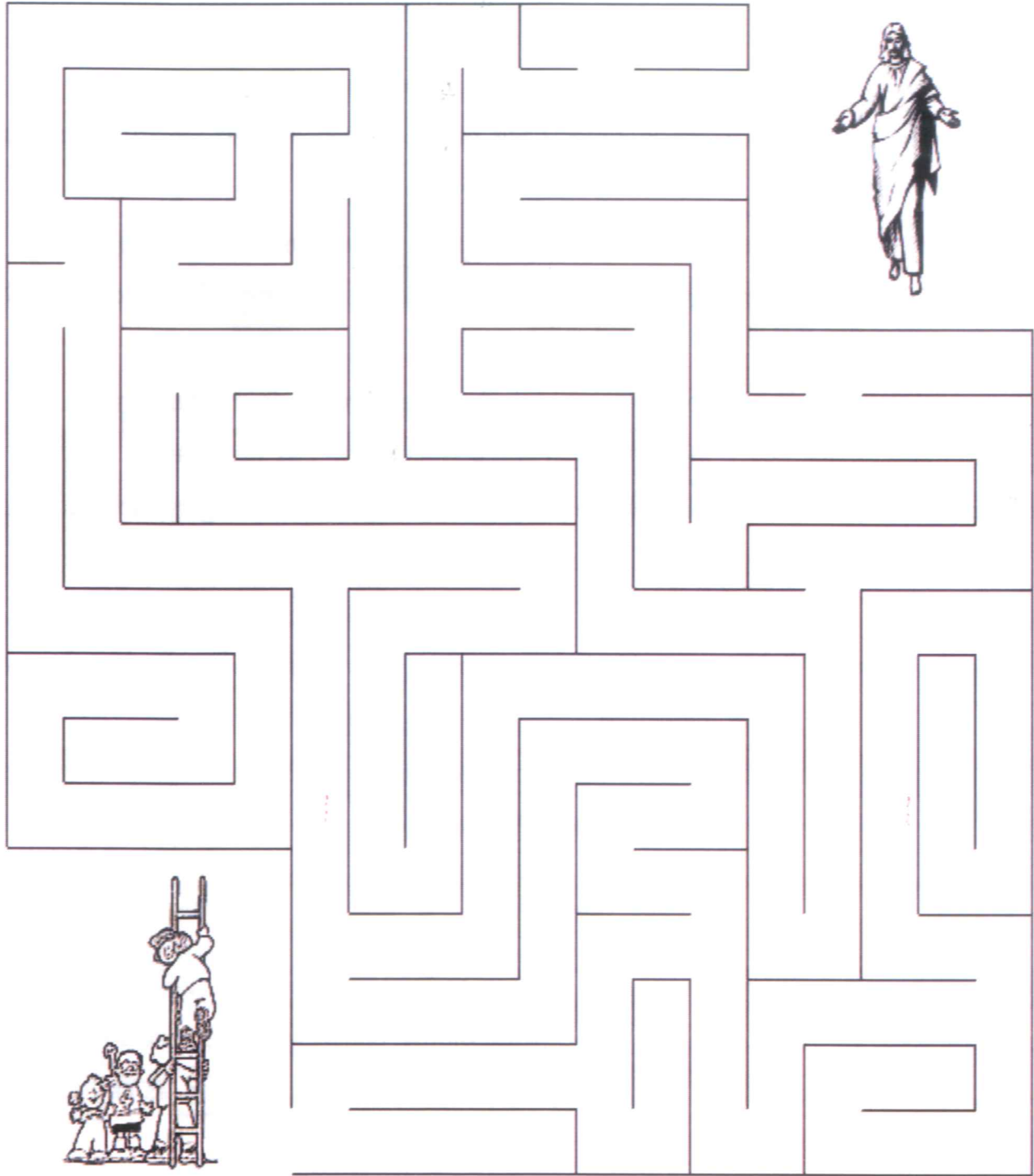
John 14:30

“I will not talk with you much more, for the prince (evil genius, ruler) of the world is coming. And he has no claim on Me.
[He has nothing in common with Me; there is nothing in Me that belongs to him, and he has no power over Me.]”

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

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| A) Solomon
I Kings 11:42-43 | D) Taxes and Conscription of Labor
I Kings 5:13-14, 12:4-11 | G) Two Golden Calves
I Kings 12:26-28 |
| B) Shechem
I Kings 12:1 | E) Adoniram
I Kings 12:18 | H) Maakah
2 Chronicles 11:21 |
| C) 41 Years Old
I Kings 14:21 | F) Judah and Benjamin
I Kings 12:21 | I) Abijah
2 Chronicles 12:16 |

Kids' Corner
(We are ALL His kids!)
"POINT The Way to Jesus!"



Kids' Corner
"Oh Sing to the Lord"

Psalm 96**Amplified Bible (AMP)**

¹ O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!

² Sing to the Lord, bless (affectionately praise) His name; show forth His salvation from day to day.

³ Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples.

⁴ For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; He is to be reverently feared *and* worshiped above all [so-called] gods.

⁵ For all the gods of the nations are [lifeless] idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

⁶ Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

⁷ Ascribe to the Lord, O you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

⁸ Give to the Lord the glory due His name; bring an offering and come [before Him] into His courts.

⁹ O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before *and* reverently fear Him, all the earth.

¹⁰ Say among the nations that the Lord reigns; the world also is established, so that it cannot be moved; He shall judge *and* rule the people righteously *and* with justice.

¹¹ Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all the things which fill it;

¹² Let the field be exultant, and all that is in it! Then shall all the trees of the wood sing for joy

¹³ Before the Lord, for He comes, for He comes to judge *and* govern the earth! He shall judge the world with righteousness *and* justice and the peoples with His faithfulness *and* truth.

Kids' Corner
"Sing to the Lord a New Song"



Kids Corner
“Salvation”

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

Atonement
 Baptism
 Bible
 Commandments
 Commitment
 Confess
 Conscience
 Deliverance
 Devotion
 Forgiveness
 Grace

Holiness
 Hope
 Humility
 Individual
 Joy
 Life
 Love
 Luther
 Morals
 Paul
 Peace

Redemption
 Regeneration
 Repent
 Resurrection
 Righteousness
 Sacraments
 Sacrifice
 Shepherd
 Soteriology
 Works

Health Check



“God’s Blessing Rest upon this House and all who Dwell within. May all who enter, too, be blessed.”

Adapted from the wonderful tradition of Mezuzahs (& Mezuzah covers), in which a blessing (the Mesusah) is placed on each doorpost and gate in a Jewish home.

You can’t see, smell, or taste radon, but it could be present at a dangerous level in your home. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer deaths among nonsmokers in America and claims the lives of about 20,000 Americans each year. In fact, the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and the U.S. Surgeon General urge all Americans to protect their health by testing their homes, schools, and other buildings for radon. Exposure to radon is a preventable health risk, and testing radon levels in your home can help prevent unnecessary exposure. If a high radon level is detected in your home, you can take steps to fix the problem to protect yourself and your family.

Four Things You Can Do During National Radon Action Month:

Test your home – EPA and the U.S. Surgeon General recommend that all homes in the U.S. be tested for radon. Testing is easy and inexpensive. Learn more about testing your home, including how to obtain an easy-to-use test kit.

Attend a National Radon Action Month event in your area – Look for radon events in your community. Contact your state radon program for more information about local radon activities.

Spread the word – spend time during National Radon Action Month encouraging others to learn about radon and test their homes.

- Tell your family and friends about the health risk of radon. Encourage them to test their homes.
- Plan an activity in your community to help raise awareness. Use EPA’s National Radon Action Month Event Planning Kit as a guide.
- Write an op-ed or letter to the editor. View tips and a sample op-ed and letter to the editor from EPA’s National Radon Action Month Event Planning Kit.
- Attract media attention by working with a local official to get a radon proclamation. View tips and a sample proclamation from EPA’s National Radon Action Month Event Planning Kit.

Buy a radon-resistant home – If you are considering buying a new home, look for builders who use radon-resistant new construction. Contact your state radon program for information about radon testing, mitigation, and radon-resistant new construction in your area.

REFERENCES:

<http://www.christiangiftsplace.com/>

<http://www.epa.gov/radon/nram/public.html>

National Radon Information Line: 1-800-SOS-RADON (1-800-767-7236)

-Alisa Wetzig

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

Earning The Right To Lead

Continued From Page 5

Sacrifice

Lawrence D. Bell wrote, "Show me a man who cannot bother to do the little things and I'll show you a man who cannot be trusted with the big things." Earning the right to lead requires a humble spirit and willingness to sacrifice time, effort and position. Effective leadership is developed over a period of time. Sometimes it is the little things we do that affirm our position as the leader opposed to the big things. An effective leader who earns the right to lead understands that a leader is meant to be a river and not a reservoir. In other words, most leaders expect everything to flow into them, like a reservoir. However, leadership that flows and pours into others like a river is undeterred by titles, positions or status. The most important aspect of this form of leadership is empowerment of others and a willingness to sacrifice. If you use your power and influence to empower others, your leadership will extend far beyond your grasp. Mark Twain once remarked that, "Great things can happen when no one cares who gets the credit." For this reason, I intentionally look for opportunities to recognize and honor others who perform at a high level within the Drake Relays organization. Whether big or small, I realize that I will gain more respect and earn more influence if I focus on providing for others what they cannot provide for themselves.

Character

I have often heard it said that, "The ultimate measure of a person is not where one stands in the moment of comfort and convenience but rather where one stands in moments of challenge and controversy." There are challenges to every plan. Unfortunately, there are challenges that surface regardless of the plan. What is most telling and profound about challenge and struggle is the manner in which one leads under pressure. It is the demonstration of absolute resolve and control exemplified by the leader that provides hope and direction for those being led. Character may be manifested in the great moments, but it is made in the small ones. Character is evident when no one else is around and you still do the right thing.

Service

John C. Maxwell tells us that, "You've got to love your people more than you love your position." Earning the right to lead requires an attitude of servitude by the leader. The leader has a willingness to serve and support the needs of those around him. In some settings, service is often viewed as menial or subservient; however, I believe that leaders who stand out in serving others experience the most success in getting others to serve. The Drake Relays has over 600 volunteers – men, women and children that have a willingness to serve. In efforts to increase the level of influence as the leader, it is vital that I spend time with those serving by being willing to join in and help where I can. I have learned to value the lower level worker, volunteer and helper the same if not more than the head or leader in the organization. If others see the value and worth put on people rather than the position, it will endear others to the organization. People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

by Brian O. Brown—Director, Drake Relays, Drake University

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Words Given for 2014

This will be the year of **THE TURN AROUND**. The cry for peace, peace has reached My Throne. Fear of what is to come on the horizon has been on the hearts of my people. 2013 has been a year of stressfulness, trials, temptations and worries that have overwhelmed this world. I shall turn the tables around on all that has been a hindrance in your lives.

Your griefs and sorrows I will turn to joy and you will once again begin to seek My face with gladness. If you will seek Me with all your hearts, I will be found and will turn your mourning into dancing. Your long nights shall become as the noon day, shining brighter and brighter. I will fill your mouths with laughter once again.

Look up My children for your rescue is drawing near. Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord your God. Be not weary in well doing, for this coming year you shall see the fruits of your labor. John 16:20, I Corth.15:58, Esther 9:1, Psalm 30:11, Luke 2:28, Psalm 126:2, I Kings 8:58

-Rosemary Baker

BE AWARE that the arm of flesh will fail you; be it family, friend, government, or any institution. Be aware that it will fail you. Remind yourself why you believe what you believe. Look again to my Word to remind yourself and others why you believe what you believe. Know that I will never fail you!

Be aware and beware of the antichrist spirit that is becoming more prevalent and obvious in this world. Learn to recognize it quickly, and stand firm against it. Strong deception/delusion is already here. Learn to recognize it quickly and stand firm against it. Continue to hide my Word in your heart. Be ready to give an answer for the Hope that is in you.

Do not let the arm of flesh discourage or trouble you. Know I Am. I am your God that watches over you. Know I Am. I am your God who will never leave or forsake you. Know I Am. I am your God that loves you with an everlasting love. Know I Am. I am your God that will never fail you!

-Edyie Wittal

Cataclysmic changes - violent upheavals - atmospheric changes - Matthew 11:12

The **DIVIDING LINE** will be made clear. No one will be able to stand in the middle.

There will be strategic movings across communities and across the nations.

Pray and ask God to remove whatever is holding us bound or bogged down.

We must be set free to fly, run, shout, laugh, whisper, cry, etc...

We must be set free to seize the things of God - to throw away all constraints.

Expect God.

-Renee Gabriel

Words Given for 2014

A Year of Defining Lines and Boundaries

This is the year of separating those who will truly follow God and those who don't/won't. You will be able to tell those who are following Christ from those who are not more clearly than ever.

1. **They will know that we are Christians by our love for one another...**
John 13:³⁵ By this shall all [men] know that you are My disciples, if you love one another [if you keep on showing love among yourselves].
2. **If you love Me, you will follow My commands.**
John 14:¹⁵ If you [really] love Me, you will keep (obey) My commands.
3. **Greatest of these is love.**
I Corinthians 12:³¹ But earnestly desire *and* zealously cultivate the greatest *and* best gifts *and* graces (the higher gifts and the choicest graces). And yet I will show you a still more excellent way [one that is better by far and **the highest of them all—love**].
4. **The Love Chapter**
I Corinthians 13:¹³ And so faith, hope, love abide [faith—conviction and belief respecting man's relation to God and divine things; hope—joyful and confident expectation of eternal salvation; love—true affection for God and man, growing out of God's love for and in us], these three; **but the greatest of these is love.**

Contrary to popular belief, I Corinthians chapter 13 was not originally written for marriage ceremonies. It was written to the Corinthian church to give them boundaries in which to relate to one another. Read the whole chapter with this in mind.
5. **Standards for Christian Living**
Ephesians 4: ¹ I therefore, the prisoner for the Lord, appeal to *and* beg you to walk (lead a life) worthy of the [divine] calling to which you have been called [with behavior that is a credit to the summons to God's service, ² Living as becomes you] with complete lowliness of mind (humility) and meekness (unselfishness, gentleness, mildness), with patience, bearing with one another *and* making allowances because you love one another. (Take time to read the remainder of the chapter.)
6. **Recognize them by their fruits**
Matthew 7: ¹⁶ You will fully recognize them by their fruits. Do people pick grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Even so, every healthy (sound) tree bears good fruit [worthy of admiration], but the sickly (decaying, worthless) tree bears bad (worthless) fruit. ¹⁸ A good (healthy) tree cannot bear bad (worthless) fruit, nor can a bad (diseased) tree bear excellent fruit [worthy of admiration]. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and cast into the fire. ²⁰ Therefore, you will fully know them by their fruits. ²¹ Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father Who is in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me on that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name and driven out demons in Your name and done many mighty works in Your name? ²³ And then I will say to them openly (publicly), I never knew you; depart from Me, you who act wickedly [disregarding My commands]. ²⁴ So everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts upon them [obeying them] will be like a sensible (prudent, practical, wise) man who built his house upon the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not do them will be like a stupid (foolish) man who built his house upon the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great *and* complete was the fall of it.

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Sunday School Events

Children's Sunday School

Ages 6-11

In January, the Children's Sunday school class will be finalizing our "Dare to be a Daniel" study. The kids are really enjoying learning about the life of Daniel and putting these life skills into operation. These skills include PURPOSING to obey God, PRAYING and PRACTICING God's Word, PICKING godly friends, and POINTING others to God. The kids will be completing their Bible memory, a total of nine verses that are necessary to know to tell others about Jesus. They have enjoyed weekly video interactions and demonstrations, along with Bible study and question /answer time. Also, at the completion of this curriculum, they will earn their own set of dog tags with the plan of salvation printed on them.

Recently, we have been going through a witnessing tool called "Steps to Peace with God." In this pocket tract, the steps are laid out, so they know how to tell others about God and why they need a Savior. After they lead someone to Christ, they will be able to explain the assurance that comes with this decision. Romans 10:9 says, "If you declare with your mouth 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Most importantly, our children are future spiritual leaders and are learning how to carry out Jesus' instructions that He gave before His ascension. One of my favorite verses of all time is Mark 16:15, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

Also this month, we will be showing more pertinent videos to this curriculum. We will be watching the new "Daniel" movie, "Facing the Giants," and a movie about Billy Graham. We may possibly further this study into February to finalize everything we have learned and make sure all the kids are confident and ready for their mission. Your children are blessing us and have really great questions. It is our desire as leaders to make sure these kids understand what they are accomplishing here on earth. Specifically, how to be bold in sharing Christ and how to dare to be a Daniel!!

-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

Happy New Year! We have just started **Unit 2: Jesus Ushers in the Reign of God.** The first lesson in this unit will show us how to Honor the Sabbath. The Lesson Scripture: Luke 6:1-11. This lesson will show us how to keep the Lord in the Sabbath. We will take a look at what Jesus did to show what it means to keep the Lord in the Sabbath.

We have to remember to set aside a day of rest from our labors for Him during the week and spend time with the Lord in worship. We don't have to wait until there is a church service or gathering to give God the worship He deserves and desires. Some ways in which we can keep the Lord in the Sabbath may include studying the Word, having praise and worship with you and the Lord or even having worship time with some fellow believers. We could also use that time to look for ways that we can be a blessing to others.

In Jesus' day, there were a lot of rule-makers telling the Jews what they could and could not do. Keeping the Lord in the Sabbath has nothing to do with following a list of rules regarding what can and cannot be done on this particular day. Just get into some quiet time with God and let Him direct your worship time. Jesus just wants us to make Him the center focus of the Sabbath. Proper observance of the Sabbath requires knowing God's heart, following Christ's example, and doing what matters to God. We have to make sure that whatever we choose to do on that day of rest (Sabbath) honors Jesus. Sabbath activities need to be done with a commitment to keep God's character and purpose in mind and to make sure the activities are pursued in a way that honors God at all times. It is always a good choice to be involved in activities that enhance our life with Him and worship of Him. Our actions and our words should bring honor to Him at all times and in all places. Remember just how important it is to worship God and fellowship with other believers on the Sabbath and take time to observe the day to God's glory. **"When you cannot rejoice in feelings, circumstances or conditions, rejoice in the Lord."** **A.B. Simpson**



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

-Yolanda Wilson

October

Colossians 3:23 (KJV)

And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

November

Colossians 3:1 (KJV)

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

December

Acts 10:35 (KJV)

But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

January

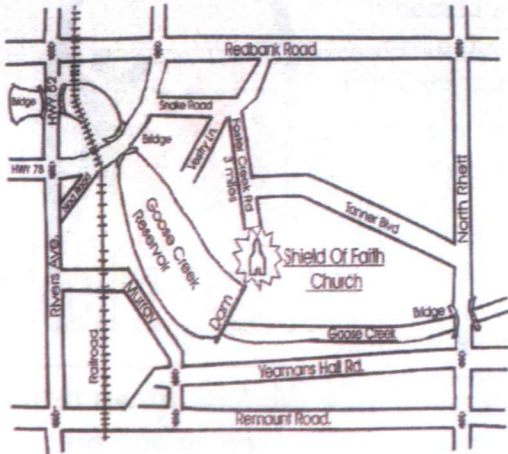
Mark 11:24 (KJV)

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

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Next deadline to submit articles is:
Wednesday, January 15th

January 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		31 New Year's Eve Service 9-midnight	1 HAPPY NEW YEAR No Evening Service	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Youth Meeting re: Valentine's Day Event	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Article Deadline	16	17 Creative Arts Meeting 7-9pm	18
19	20	21 Praise Team Meeting 7-8pm	22 Youth Meeting re: Valentine's Day Event	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 No Youth Service	30	31	1