



What Would You Do? What is God Doing?

What would you do if you were born with no legs or arms? Would you blame God? Would you blame your parents? Would you choose to be miserable all of your life? Would you let your circumstance be the opportunity to serve the Lord with a powerful message of God's Grace and Perfection? Sunday evening, we shared a video of an individual with that exact set of circumstances. Nick Vujicic of Australia was born with no legs or arms and there is no medical reason for his situation... no one to blame. Nick's message is very powerful (<http://www.hourofpower.org/video/video.details.php?id=2237>); you can watch it online at this address. Earl Nelson also has a copy of the DVD – you might ask him if you would like to borrow it. Beyond people like Nick, God is working in all of our lives and I believe that is simply amazing. Have you ever thought about it? The creator of the universe takes time out to invade my messy life! God is in you and working through you. If that doesn't excite you and give you goose bumps, nothing will.

Sunday night, I gave the opportunity for people to share how they have seen God working in their lives... a couple took the chance. I admit it was spur of the moment and for some to share it takes a little planning. I also know that many people choose not to share because they don't want to sound like they are boasting about themselves. Let's put things in perspective for a minute. It is not about you and it is not about me, it is about God's work in our lives. Jesus himself said, "apart from me you can do nothing." We are vessels carrying God's message of reconciliation to the world. We are the conduits God is using to share His love with the world. Some of you will remember that one of my favorite passages of scripture is Philemon 6: "I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ Jesus." I honestly believe that some of us are miserable because we are not talking about what the Lord is doing in our lives... we are clogged up conduits, we need to open the flow of God's love and grace and do what we are designed to do. I tell the teens all the time that their friends are not interested in a man who died on the cross 2,000 years ago... there were many of them. What the world wants to know is, What is God Doing in your life today? Is He making a difference – yes, He is.

I'm not sure if the best venue for our (His) stories is public, print, or video. I do know the message of God's love and grace needs to get out... through you and me.

– Lee

Men's Retreat "The Man I Want to Be"

Recently a group of men from our church made a commitment to attend the men's retreat at beautiful Ross Camp. Our men were challenged to carve out a weekend of time for a spiritual adventure with God, and to be with other Godly men. The men's retreat committee made the decision to handle the retreat ourselves. We had no outside speaker to teach the lessons. We even planned our own meals, prepared most of the food ourselves, and brought most everything we needed for classes, singing, and recreation.

Our own presenters used the Neal Jeffrey materials on "The Man I Want to Be." Neal Jeffrey is a former college All-American and NFL quarterback who is recognized as a dynamic speaker and a gifted entertainer. He inspires audiences to go higher, swifter, and stronger in the critical areas of their lives. Interestingly, Neal Jeffrey is a stutterer at times. His background in sports gave him a unique platform to challenge our men to make life count where it matters most. From the DVDs we saw, Neal Jeffrey made us laugh at times, but he especially inspired us to be the man God wants us to be.

By the end of the weekend, we came to understand what God wants each of us to become. God wants us to be men who believe and make every day count. God wants us to leave a legacy of faith for those who follow after us. Our Lord wants us to be brave by turning disappointments into joys of triumph. Importantly, we came to understand that we are blessed when we understand we can reach our potential when God is in control.

–David Weckerly



Sue Armstrong had gall bladder surgery on Monday. After an overnight stay, she went home on Tuesday....After another trip to the hospital with some post-surgery problems, **Max Houlton** is home....**Beth Holt** had medical tests on Monday. With a recent diagnosis of arthritis in both hips and foot problems, she has had to give up her job....Continue praying for **Bob Stafford, Delpha Allen** (*St. Anthony's Health Care*), **Ellen Raguetta, Chuck Smith, Valley Stockton, Dick Waterstraat, Marie DeWoody, Joe Bailey, Sue Sill, Hattie Coffel, Kaden Koebecke, Irene Sims, Mary Tavana, Paul & Argie Verett, Anna Dale, Minnie Scott, Irene Fox, and Burnell Gulden.**

Serving in our military: **Philip Devine** is home!! Praise God! He will be in Lafayette the first week of November....**Jeremy Crable, Michael Farris, & Michael Bryenton** in Afghanistan; **Joshua Thompson and Ti Draughon** in Iraq; and **Chris Martin**, in South Korea.

Upcoming Baby Showers



Joyce Mathews is hosting a baby shower at her home (1412 Fairfax Dr., Lafayette–south) for **Sarah & Mark Bird on October 14, from 2:00 until 4:00 in the afternoon** (*this is a couples' shower*). For a group gift, give your contributions to Miranda Parson, Sharon Porter or Joyce.

Hedi Devine (715 Noble Ct., West Lafayette) is hosting a baby shower for her daughter and son-in-law, **Karen & Kenji Totsuka, on Saturday, October 20, from 1:00 until 3:00 in the afternoon.** For a gift list to choose from, Karen is registered at Target. R.S.V.P. 497-3061.

Another baby shower is being planned by Becky Pitt, Gina Boyd, and Dana Miller for **Kristi & Doug Smith on Sunday, November 4, from 2:00 until 4:00 PM.** (*Location to be determined.*) If you wish to contribute towards a group gift you may give your donation to Becky, Gina, or Dana.

Thank You!

We want to thank our Elmwood family for your thoughts and prayers, and for the flowers. They were beautiful. –Carrie High's family
Vernell Swank, Gene High, Alice Huddleston

Thank you for all of your prayers and the flowers. Kim Pettit & family
(Mickey Rigdon's family)



Senior Servants Meeting

The Senior Servants will NOT meet on October 17 at the Elmwood building—instead going to the Senior Fair. Senior Servants WILL meet on October 24.

Men's Breakfast on October 20



The men will meet for breakfast at Elmwood on **Saturday, October 20, 7:43-8:59 AM.** They plan to continue the "Man I Want to Be" series (lesson 5).

New Start Date for Sunday Morning Class

The starting date for a new class open to men and women, has been changed to **Sunday morning, October 21st.** It is a study of the four New Testament gospels with emphasis on their similarity, content, and application of material to our Christian walk. If you have any questions, contact teacher, Chuck Brown.

October 7, 2007
Class: 180 Worship: 262
Contribution: \$9,909
Budget: \$10,000/week

Read:
Jer.emiah 33-52;
John 3:1-6:24

2007 Spiritual Adventure

Week 43: October 22-28

God's Phone Number

Telephone numbers used to begin with two letters, which were an abbreviation for a word. For example, there was a Glenn Miller song called PENnsylvania 6-5000, and Liz Taylor made a movie called BUtterfield-8. These were telephone exchanges, and had exchange names — PENnsylvania, SYcamore, KLondike, etc. I'm personally not old enough to remember any phone exchanges being used (I do remember party lines); however, Hee Haw's BR549 is in my memory banks. All of this is to lead to what someone once told me was God's phone number: Jer. 33:3. *"The LORD who made the earth, the LORD who forms it to establish it, the LORD is His name, says this: Call to Me and I will answer you and tell you great and wondrous things you do not know."*

This week's readings include Jeremiah 33 and I immediately thought about being told God's phone number. The readings in Jeremiah are during a time that Jerusalem and the people of God are under siege and oppression. When the Word of the Lord comes to Jeremiah this time, God is announcing his judgment and wrath on Judah's oppressors and that the land would once again be free and blessings were on the way.

God really does love His people (you and me included) and He has done everything to provide what we NEED...not always what we want. Another of the passages included in this week's readings is very familiar: John 3:16, 17: *"For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world that He might judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."* I love verse 16, but verse 17 keeps me going...and it makes me want to tell Him, "Thank You!" God loves us and wants to hear from us regularly! He's even closer than the phone...have you called Him lately? –Lee

 Weekly Schedule	 Elders	 World Missions	
Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Life Groups 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.	Bill Bell 463-1139 Joe Matthews 474-8369 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653	Kevin Chambers World Christian Broadcasting Anchor Point, Alaska 99556 Loren and Penny Hollingsworth Phuket, Thailand 83000 City of Children Ensenada, Mexico Bren and Cheryl White P.O. Box 245 New Market, MD 21774	
Elmwood Nursery School & Pre-K Preschool: Tues-Thurs 9-11:30 am Pre-K: Mon-Thurs 9-11:30 am Director, Susan McClain 447-2874	<th> Staff</th> <td></td>	 Staff	
	Ministers Gayle Crowe 447-6940 Lee Porter 463-6993 Dan Cooke 543-7469 Office Manager Sherry Marks 447-2874		

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