



## A Haunting Question

As I was reading through a book about the Holy Spirit entitled *Forgotten God* I came across a series of questions that haunted me. I read them over and over. After I let the questions settle in for a little bit I read the them to Kate. She was haunted by the questions. Read these questions and see if you find them as haunting as Kate and I did:

*“How would you be missed if you left this place? What would change? Basically, what difference does your presence here make? Or, as my youth pastor once asked me, what would your church look like if everyone was as committed as you are? If everyone gave and served and prayed exactly like you, would the church be healthy and empowered? Or would it be weak and listless?”*

*~ **Forgotten God**, by Francis Chan (pg. 91)*

It is possible to read that over and over until depression sets in, but I don't believe that is Chan's purpose in asking those questions. His purpose is to point us to the Holy Spirit (what he calls the forgotten God). The real question that lies behind that series of questions is this, *“How much are you letting the Holy Spirit work through you and guide you?”* He is not talking about your talents and abilities, your experience and knowledge, or your position in life. He is talking about the working of the Holy Spirit through you.

Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 12:7, *“Now to each one of you the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”* Now to each one of you... That means this is true of everyone who is a disciple of Christ. That also means that everyone in the church is vitally important. But that is only true as long as we are letting the Spirit's gifting work through us.

It is not about talent and abilities, experience and knowledge, or social position. As long as we totally rely on those things we will never look any different than those outside the church. Non-Christians have just as much talent, experience, money, knowledge, etc... What should make us different is the working of the Spirit in our lives—something supernatural.

Are you letting the Spirit work through you? Are you using your Spirit-given gifts? Are you letting the Spirit lead you through life?

**-Gilbert**

## I Love You More

*Take a look at the mountains  
Stretching a mile high  
Take a look at the ocean  
Far as your eye can see  
And think of Me*

*Take a look at the desert  
Do you feel like a grain of sand?  
I am with you wherever  
Where you go is where I am*

*And I'm always thinking of you  
Take a look around you  
I'm spelling it out one by one*

*I love you more than the sun  
And the stars that I taught how to shine  
You are mine, and you shine for me too  
I love you yesterday and today  
And tomorrow, I'll say it again and again  
I love you more*

This song, written by Matthew West, reminds us of the overpowering and relentless love that God has for us. We are surrounded by the beauty of nature which points us to God and reminds us of both his vastness and his willingness to come near to us. We are blessed to be loved by so great a God.

**~Phil**



**Roger Birky** remains in Clarian Arnett Hospital in room 239 with respiratory problems....**Vernell Swank** had cataract surgery on Monday....**Ted Holderfield** will have knee replacement surgery on both knees on October 13....Continue praying for **Penny Stafford, Jeanette Tidrick, Sara Postlethwait, Kaden Koebcke, Travis Koebcke, Thelma Hoyt, Bud Darby (broken hip), Delores Hill, Clifford & Betty Farner, Annie Crowder, Diann Doty, Jan Lucas, Christa Phillips, David Brutans, Charles Moore, Hattie Coffel, Mary Tavana, Dorothy**

**Walters, Irene Fox, Edith McCoy, Eugene Zinn, Valley Stockton, Irene Sims, Marie DeWoody, Paul & Argie Verett, and Minnie Scott.**

In the military: **Joe Newman** begins training with the Navy soon ....**Josh Martin** and **Brent Kaufman** are serving in Iraq.

## Women's Ministry News...

- Ladies, please check out our new bulletin board outside the ladies' classroom, and **sign up by this weekend** for any ministry opportunities that might interest you. We will evaluate and determine which ministries to develop next week. Please add your email address to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you would like to receive our newsletters. The second newsletter will be sent out next week. Information about our Women's Retreat speaker, to be held February 27, 2010, is on the bulletin board as well.  
*-Terri Miller*
- A **Women's Appreciation Luncheon** is on the calendar for **October 17, 1:00 PM, in the A-2 fellowship room.** We will honor our ministers' wives—Kate Kerrigan, Sharon Porter, and Katy Travis—and recognize the women who have tirelessly and cheerfully taught our children in 2008 and 2009. Come show your support and enjoy the fellowship. Sign-up sheets for food will be available this week.
- **Barb Newberry** is hosting a get-together for women at her home on **October 30, at 6:00 PM. Requirements:** bring your own 6" sub sandwich and a drink. She will furnish the rest of the food. Also, a **must:** come dressed in **"different than regular clothes."** Questions? See Barb.

## Miami Elementary Mentor Program

The mission of Miami Elementary is to inspire and empower all children to learn, hope, dream, contribute, excel, create, and appreciate. Why a mentor program? We need to be pro-active in our approach in addressing the social and emotional needs of these children to attain our vision and mission for their lives. Without the presence of a "significant" and "caring" adult in their lives, they are left with many barriers in life to hurdle on their own. Mentors at Miami meet with students 1-3 times a week either at the start of school or during their lunch hour. Meeting days and times will be scheduled based on the availability of the mentor. Mentoring is a rewarding activity for both the student and the mentor. It provides personal satisfaction knowing that YOU are making a difference! If interested call Miami Elementary at 765-772-4800 or contact Jason Cochran for more information.



We have another little boy to add to our nursery! **Ramsey Scott Loy** was born to Craig and Angela on September 22. He weighed 7 pounds 1 ounce, and measured 20.5 inches long. Congratulations to Craig, Angela, and big sisters Chloe and Annika. Some will remember Ramsey's grandma, Cathy Scott, and great-grandmother, Minnie Scott.



*Thanks to Chris Sutherlin and her super cleaning crew. Her helpers were Ramona Bartlett, Joy Batcha, Joyce Mathews, Sherry Marks, Barb Newberry, and Gail Ruhl. Thank you very, very, very much!*

*-Bill Farris*

## Food Pantry Needs

The **food pantry** is in need of **toothpaste and toothbrushes and toilet paper.** These items are not available at the Food Bank.

**September 27, 2009**

**Class: 156 Worship: 279**

**Contribution: \$10,430**



## Service Opportunities

**LIFE CHAIN** is taking place this year on Sunday, October 4, from 2:30 until 3:30 PM. It is a time set aside to remind people of faith of the sanctity of human life and to confirm factual truth in the minds of people who waver about the humanity of a fetus—abortion is indeed the killing of an unborn child. Signs are provided. Join other pro-life people for one hour on Sunday, October 4, at S.R. 26 from Lafayette Courthouse across to Purdue. Contact John Marks about how to sign up. There is no age limit on this one...everyone can stand in place for one hour. Join the chain and show your support for the protection of the unborn.

The **DUTCH APPLE PIE fundraiser** for Lafayette Christian School is in its 15<sup>th</sup> year this year, October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. In two days, they will turn almost 400 bushels of apples into 6,500 Dutch Apple pies. The project requires a large number of willing hands to make it successful. For several years, Elmwood teens and other members have been welcomed to join the project with open arms. It is a great opportunity to share in Christian fellowship and make new friends. We have several students at Lafayette Christian who are family members here at Elmwood. The work will take place both days from 8 am to 10 pm. They are glad to have workers come as a group or as individuals. It is requested that you wear older clothes since apple juice can stain. Health codes are observed, so a hair cover is required. You can wear your own hats, or hairnets are provided. Everyone 9<sup>th</sup> grade up is invited to join in the fun. Call 447-3052 for more information. If you would like to check out a video from last year's production days to see what goes on, go to: <http://www.lafayettechristian.org/pies.cfm>.

## The Great Communion

Two hundred years ago next year, Thomas Campbell wrote in a foundational document of the Stone-Campbell Movement, the *Declaration and Address*, that "the church of Christ upon earth is essentially, intentionally, and constitutionally one. . . ." "Division among Christians is a horrid evil, fraught with many evils," he added and said that Christians "are . . . bound to love each other as brethren, even as Christ has loved them." In that document, Campbell called the Lord's Supper "that great ordinance of unity and love."

For 2009 a plan was made to encourage followers of Christ from all the streams of the Stone-Campbell Movement globally to come together with one another in their own neighborhoods, villages, towns, and cities to share in another Great Communion—one that will happen in thousands of places around the world. Consider what makes us one. It isn't our work or intellectual prowess, but the sacrifice of Christ that embodies the grace of God.

We are all encouraged, as members of the Stone-Campbell heritage, to participate in "that great ordinance of unity and love" on Great Communion Sunday, October 4, 2009. I hope to see you 8:00 for worship, 9:30 for class and at 11:00 am at Harrison High School – remember the second service at Elmwood will not meet this week so all may attend the Great Communion.

– Lee

# Weekly Prayer Focus

## September Prayer Focus: Member's Needs & Offsite Ministries

These ministries foster knowing Christ by encouraging Christians to put into practice the mercy and concern of Jesus for those in need. These ministries make Christ known by providing people and resources to come to the aid of those in need, whether they be Christians or not. All will see the spirit of Jesus as they are served by others. Pray for God's blessings on those who are snow servants, provide offsite communion, provide transportation, visit those who are sick or homebound, and provide other services. Pray for those who need encouragement and hope. Pray for upbeat and positive spirits to those who are serving others. Pray for those who find life overwhelming and challenging. May God bring comfort, counsel, and resources to make a positive difference in their lives.

–David Weckerly

## Prayer Partner Ministry

It's not too late! You may still sign up to choose one of Elmwood's youth for a prayer partner. We hope you'll consider praying for a K-12 student(s) this school year. Contact Christi Bransetter if you're interested.



- September 30, 7 PM....**Bible classes for all
- October 3, 8:30 AM-2:00 PM....**"*Making a Fashion Statement*," Ladies Day, East Park Church of Christ, Danville, IL. Speaker: Ruth Carol Ringold
- October 4, 11:00 AM....****The Great Communion** worship service at Harrison High School.  
**NO SECOND (10:45 am) SERVICE at Elmwood that day.**
- October 4, 2:30-3:30 PM....**LIFE CHAIN meeting at the Courthouse across to Purdue
- October 4, 6 PM....**LIFE Groups meet
- October 4-7....****DOES GOD EXIST?** John Clayton speaks at Eagle Valley Church of Christ
- October 10, 9:00 AM....**Ladies' Inspiration Day at Lebanon Church of Christ, 1204 Indianapolis Ave., Lebanon. Speaker: Cynthia Dianne Guy speaking on "*Hungering for More*." Lunch served; no childcare available
- October 11, 2:00 PM....**Coalition for Living Well's annual fall walk at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds
- October 17, 1:00 PM....**Women's Appreciation Luncheon, Elmwood A-2
- October 30, 6:00 PM....**Women invited to Barb Newberry's home for fun and fellowship

Read:  
*Jer. 17-32; Psalms 131-140;*  
*Titus; Philemon; John 1-2*

# 2009 Spiritual Adventure

## Week 42: October 12-18

### How Do We Forgive?

In the New Testament scripture reading Philemon, we read that Onesimus had stolen from Philemon and ran away. On his journey he met Paul and became a repentant Christian brother. Paul writes a letter of appeal to Philemon for the release of Onesimus so that he can also spread the gospel of His word.

As we read Paul’s letter in Philemon, we can’t help but reflect about individuals that have made mistakes and “wronged” us in the past. We find that many of these mistakes or sins are trivial in nature, yet we can often articulate the most precise details of what occurred (even after decades passed by). We hold grudges. Perhaps we don’t even acknowledge these people anymore.

We recognize one challenge in these situations is in our response. So consider: what if you were Philemon and you received this letter from Paul, what would you do? Who is the Onesimus in your lives? What if you ran into this person(s) on the street, would you respond differently than you did in the past?

As humans we all make mistakes, certainly some more serious than others. As Christians, we must forgive other people and encourage them to serve God in their lives. This can come at a cost to us. Praise God for the price he paid for us!  
 -Kenny & Mandy Anderson

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 Mathews 474-8369 Joe Ruhl 463-6822 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653	Kevin Chambers World Christian Broadcasting Anchor Point, Alaska 99536  Loren and Penny Hollingsworth Phuket, Thailand 83000 E-mail: lholly54@yahoo.com  Bren and Cheryl White P.O. Box 245 New Market, MD 21774
	Staff	
	Ministers Gilbert Kerrigan 418-3652 Lee Porter 463-6993 Phil Travis 447-2874 Office Sherry Marks, Manager 447-2874 Carol Bell, Secretary 447-2874	

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