



## A Heart Condition

The external parts of discipleship can only get you so far. At the heart of discipleship is the heart. God has always been interested in the heart.

Throughout history humanity has tried to fool one another by putting on a good show – by focusing on the externals. It is easy to do, right? In Jesus' day you would hear a comment like, *"That person must be holy. Look how they fast, and look so mournful while doing so."* Or, you might hear, *"That woman is always at the temple putting money into its treasury."* Today you might hear comments like, *"Yes, he is a mighty fine Christian. He is at church every time the doors are open."* Or, maybe, *"She truly worships according to the biblical pattern."*

I'm not saying any of those things are bad. Those are good comments. The only problem is that they focus on the externals, and we can be so easily fooled by the externals. We can even fool ourselves by our own external actions. But the externals don't fool God because he can see past them. God sees the heart, and the heart never lies.

Again, at the heart of discipleship is the heart. God is concerned with your heart. So in Joel 2 God is calling for his people to repent and turn back to him. He says, *"Even now, return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your hearts, and not your garments"* (2:12-13). The external action was to rip their garments, but God says he wants them to rip their hearts in repentance. That is internal.

While Jesus is preaching his sermon on the mountainside he turns to adultery and says, *"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his **heart**"* (Matt. 5:27-28).

In Matthew 15:8 Jesus, speaking of hypocrisy, said, *"These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."*

The externals will only get you so far. Where is your heart? What condition is it in today?

*-Gilbert*

## More News from Kuala Lumpur

One of the quirks of English in Malaysia is the way people answer simple questions. If I ask, "Can you drive when you turn 18 here?" The answer is not "yes," but "Can." If I ask, "Do you have a pencil?" The Malaysian answer is, "Have." Short. Direct. But not what we're accustomed to.

We have had the opportunity for more than 3 weeks now to share the Gospel in the same simple way. Our reader reads aloud a story about Jesus. Then we talk about it. In something of a Malaysian style, we share the Gospel. Simply. Directly.

We have had almost 100 people total at our first two parties (which mix our readers and the local Christians), as well as more than 120 sessions of one-on-one Bible study so far. Praise God! This week is exam week for most of our readers, so we ask for your prayers that they choose to come and study what we know is most important and not skip our sessions to cram for their midterms. Thank you for remembering our work and praying for our readers to come to know Jesus!

**-Josh Boyd**

## Come Celebrate!



Everyone is invited to come to a wedding shower for **Erin Simmerman** and **John Fyffe** at the home of Bill and Carol Bell—216 Jennings St., West Lafayette—on **July 11, 2:00 until 4:00 in the afternoon.** Donations for a group gift may be given to Katy Travis, Sheryl Willison, Lynae Stafford, Amy Hodges or Carol Bell. Come celebrate with them and give your best wishes to Erin and John.

## You can help area students with school supplies



Once again Elmwood will be a collection site for Salvation Army's "Tools for Schools." If you would like to help children in the community with school supplies for the upcoming school

year, a box has been placed in the Farris foyer for your donations and will be there until the end of July. Some suggested items: glue sticks, Fiskars scissors (5 in. pointed), zippered pencil packs, 1 inch 3-ring binders, new backpacks, plain picket folders (no prongs), highlighter markers (yellow), colored pencils (12 count/24 count), solar powered calculators, 8 count large crayons, 8 count regular crayons, Prang oval paints (3 pan), washable markers. Your generosity is much appreciated.

## New Bible Study Offered

Interested in studying a course on the Mosaic law (Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy)? Wanita White is starting one on Sunday morning upstairs (southwest corner, room 210)—so far only three in this class. The other class is the 9:30-10:30

Tuesday morning class that meets in the elders' conference room (next to Gilbert's office). There are approximately a dozen in this class, but newcomers are welcome. If you would like to take the lessons as a home study course and bring in your lessons for grading, this too is an option.



## New Men's Class on Wednesday Night

Joshua Brainard is leading a discussion on the book, *On Guard*, by author William Lane Craig. It is a book on evidences for the existence of God and for the truth of Christianity. Books are available and may be picked up on Wednesday. They will be meeting in room 14.

## Your donations are appreciated



The food pantry is always in need of personal items: **shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes, and especially toilet paper.** In addition, we really need **soups and canned meat.** Anything you donate is such a big help and much appreciated.



*A Note of Thanks*

Many thanks to **Nancy High** for the beautiful flower arrangements that grace our pulpit area. These are new ones that she specifically created for Sara Postlethwait's memorial service. A beautiful arrangement is in the Farris foyer for everyone to enjoy. Thanks, Nancy.

## Forget Something?



Have you forgotten some things you might have loaned our VBS crew for **this year's Vacation Bible School week?** Michelle says there are even **items from last year** that need to be picked up. Call her (583-3106) if you are missing them.



**Brian Guthrie and Julie Braun** were married July 2. Brian and Julie will continue working in Dayton, Ohio, and coming back to West Lafayette most weekends. Congratulations and best wishes to the Guthries!

**July 4, 2010**

*Class: 157 Worship: 253*

*Contribution: \$11,117.78*

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Youth News

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tuesday 7.06 Indy Zoo Trip (middle school girls)
- Friday 7.09 Cedar Point Trip
- 7.18-7.23 Camp C.U.M.O.
- 8.13-8.15 YOUTH INACTION Conference

THINGS PONDERED

Assets for Healthy Youth Development, Part 2

We are spending a few weeks looking at the 40 assets for healthy youth development. Last week we listed the four groups of external assets. This week, we'll list the assets within those groups.

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Support

1. Family Support
2. Positive Family Communication
3. Other Adult Relationships [3 or more]
4. Caring Neighborhood
5. Caring School Climate
6. Parent Involvement in Schooling

Empowerment

7. Community Values Youth
8. Youth as Resources [given useful roles]
9. Service to Others [1+ hours per week]
10. Safety

Boundaries & Expectations

11. Family Boundaries
12. School Boundaries
13. Neighborhood Boundaries
14. Adult Role Models
15. Positive Peer Influence
16. High Expectations [to do their best]

Constructive Use of Time

17. Creative Activities [3+ hours per week]
18. Youth Programs [3+ hours per week]
19. Religious Community
20. Time at Home [3+ nights per week]

As you view this list, are there assets that you feel a strong interest in or ability to promote? Raising and encouraging our youth is a community effort, and we all have something we can contribute. Each of us can be a positive role model, help them feel safe and valued, and support them in their various activities. As part of their "religious community" we show them that life with Christ is worthwhile and that it works when we live in obedience to God's Word, act lovingly and like Christ toward people, and emphasize prayer and praise. Our youth are one of our most valuable assets in this world. Let us come together to give them the assets they need to grow, especially to grow in the Lord. —danae



**Kaden Koebecke** had surgery to remove both kidneys on Tuesday. Doctors said surgery could not have gone any better. He will have a long (and painful) recovery. Please keep the Koebecke and McCoy families in your daily prayers.... **Barney Smith** has been

transferred to Rosewalk Nursing Home for recuperation and therapy following his knee replacement surgery....**Sheryl Willison** had a procedure on her throat with hopes of it helping her recurring loss of voice....**Phyllis Gray** is in St. Elizabeth East Hospital, room 3N4....**Betty Farner**, Sue Adams' mother, is receiving hospice care....Mindy's father, **Mike Hart**, has been experiencing problems with congestive heart failure as well as considering treatment for cancer.... **Carolyn Rigdon** is now recuperating at home....**Henrietta Frampton** is back at her Fairington apartment after a stay in Mulberry Nursing Home when she was receiving radiation after surgery for a benign tumor on her spine....Continue praying for **Dorothy Walters, Mike Shirley, Kay Taviana, Jan Lucas, Jeff Hendress, Tom Maxson, Sandy Towle, Wanita White, Joe Erwin (lung cancer), Steve Cable, Valley Stockton, Delores Hill, Willie & Calvin Batts, Connie & Ken Nicholson, Annie & Elaine Crowder, Hattie Coffel, Eugene Zinn, Irene Sims, Marie DeWoody, and Paul & Argie Verett.**

In the military: **Tim Beghtol** is in Afghanistan....**Matthew Kauffman & Michael Flynn** are serving in Iraq. **Joe Newman** is in Chicago in Naval training.

Continue to pray for our **Let's Start Talking** mission team members: **Josh, Gina, Kinley, Knox, Lanita & Steve Boyd.** God is doing amazing things already with their readers. Be sure to read their latest report on the front of this newsletter.



*God is good...all the time.  
All the time...God is good.*



**July 11, 2-4 PM**.... Wedding shower for Erin Simmerman & John Fyffe at Carol & Bill Bell's home, 216 Jennings St., WL

**July 11, 6:00 PM**.... Worship at Elmwood—we'll break up into focus groups after singing & sharing of communion

Read:  
 Col. 3-4; Leviticus 16-18;  
 2 Kings 11-15; Ps. 84-86;  
 Prov. 11-12; Ezek.31-36;  
 Luke 21-22

# 2010 Spiritual Adventures

## Week 29: July 18-24

### To Know God

Reading the above chapters - including the Old and New Testament gave me a longing to learn more about God and His ways. David prayed, "Teach me your way, O Lord and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name" Ps 86:11. "This is what the Sovereign Lord says," is written repeatedly in the chapters of Ezekiel. God goes on to not only give Ezekiel precise instructions but to prepare him for what was ahead.

Leafing through my Bible I found the following article written by our former minister Gayle Crowe. "An awesome thought: to know God. That refocuses much of the 'church business' we have known and loved for so long. Our job is not to build a great church. Not to keep the doctrine pure. Not to create a worship service so inspirational it brings people to tears. Not to keep the heretics out of the church. Not to erect more buildings, exalt more preachers, wow the community, find the right side on more 'issues' or outdo the religious competition. Our job is to know God. 'Isn't that too simplistic?' No. Knowing God is not too simple. Knowing God is the most awesome task to which any human ever set his mind. No teacher of math, biology or physics would ever presume to think he knows everything in his field or study. Is it not ludicrous to think the task of knowing the God who made math, biology and physics is 'simplistic'?"

It is our real job in this world to know God, does this not set into perspective all else? An occupation is not worth getting an ulcer over. Neither is upkeep on the house, paying bills, a crying baby, an out-of-date suit, or finding the next rung on the ladder of success. What were we made for? To know God."

As Christians, and as God's students, let's continue on in this world as our classroom and be life long learners of His.

—*Thelma Hoyt*

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 463-7012 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653  <b>Staff</b> Ministers Gilbert Kerrigan 418-3652 Phil Travis 743-0954  Office Sherry Marks, Manager 447-2874 Carol Bell, Secretary 447-2874	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

 Our Vision:  
 Knowing Christ,  
 Making Christ Known.

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