

The Faithful Word

August 2003

“Let Jesus Fix It For You”

Edition 13

Join Us For Service

Sunday Services

Sunday School: 9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship: 11:15 A.M.
Pastoral Teaching: 6:00 P.M.
Evening Worship: 7:30 P.M.

Tuesday Service

Prayer & Bible Band 10:00 A.M.

Wednesday Rehearsals

Youth Choir: 6:00 P.M.
Inspirational Choir: 7:30 P.M.

Thursday Services

Y.P.W.W.: 6:30 P.M.
Youth Service: 7:30 P.M.

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Greater Victory C.O.G.I.C.

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Pastor, George A. Martin



From the Pastor's Desk

“An Example of Servant Leadership”

Pastor Martin is an excellent example of a servant leader. Servant leaders are always looking for ways to serve others. After the needs have been met, our Pastor finds ways to provide leadership for the saints. Pastor Martin devotes his time to service and ministry. The servant leadership model that he follows is effective and should be used by all of us.

In the book “The Servant as Leader,” author Robert Greenleaf describes servant leadership: “*The servant-leader is servant first. It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve first. Then, conscious choice brings one to aspire to lead. The difference manifests itself in the care taken by the servant to make sure that other people's highest priority needs are being met.*” A servant leader leads with the other person in mind. They lead with passion and purpose. What better way to describe our Pastor, Elder George A. Martin. We love you dearly..

MEMO FROM GOD

(www.christianstories.com)

To: YOU
Date: TODAY
From: THE BOSS
Subject: YOURSELF
Reference: LIFE I am God.

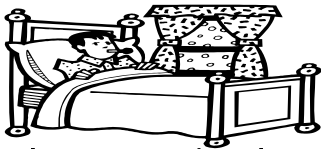
Today I will be handling all of your problems. Please remember that I do not need your help. If life happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, do not attempt to resolve it. Kindly put it in the SFGTD (something for God to do) box. It will be addressed in My time, not yours. Once the matter is placed into the box, do not hold on to it. If you find yourself stuck in traffic; don't despair. There are people in this world for which driving is an unheard of privilege. Should you have a bad day at work; think of the man who has been out of work for years. Should you despair over a relationship gone badly; Think of the person who has never known what it's like to love and be loved in return. Should you grieve the passing of another weekend; think of the woman in dire straits, working twelve hours a day, seven days a week to feed her children. Should your car break down, leaving you miles away from assistance; think of the paraplegic who would love the opportunity to take that walk. Should you notice a new gray hair in the mirror; think of the cancer patient in chemo who wishes she had hair to examine. Should you find yourself at a loss and pondering what is life all about, asking what my purpose is? Be thankful. There are those who didn't live long enough to get the opportunity. Should you find yourself the victim of other people's bitterness, ignorance, smallness or insecurities; Remember, things could be worse. You could be them!!!! Should you decide to send this to a friend; you might brighten someone's day!



August

Bro. George
Sis. Jackie
Mo. Fields
Mo. Herndon
Sis. Rhonda
Mo. Baker
Min. Leon

Sick and Shut-In



Please remember those who are sick and shut-in. Keep them in your prayers.

Sometimes a kind word, a phone call, or even a smile can make a world of difference.

Message From the Sunday School

***If you know your Bible, the Sunday School needs you. If you don't know your Bible, you need to come to Sunday School each Sunday morning at 9:45am. Sis Stephanie Harris - Sunday School Supt.



Being Excellent in a Mediocre World

From: Crown Financial Ministries (www.crown.org)



We live in a society in which average is exceptional and slothful is normal. The trend today is to seek the path of least resistance and, when the going gets difficult, to give up. In school, when the total grades are averaged together, it's called "grading on the curve." In our society, we Christians have allowed our standards to be graded by the curve of the world.

No longer are we "the lights into a world of darkness," particularly when excellence is concerned. We have lowered our standards to those of the average around us. More Christians depend on the government than on God. Why? Because we have found it easier to adjust to mediocrity than to the source of excellence: God's Word. Therefore, it is vital that we walk according to God's Word. To do so, there are some basic attitudes to reassess.

IOU versus u-owe-me

The common attitude today is "somebody owes me something." Many Americans think that a lifetime job with good pay and a guaranteed retirement plan at 65 come with just being born; promotion is a matter of time in grade; 40 hours a week is the maximum endurance for any worker; the last hour of each day is there to make the transition to home easier; a 10-minute coffee break should take at least half an hour; a half-hour lunch should take at least an hour and a half, and an equal share of company profits belong to the workers.

Honestly consider whether Christian employees act as if they believe differently from the *U-Owe-Me* attitude found in industry today. What does God require? *"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men"* (Colossians 3:23). God's principles demand that, no matter what others are doing, we serve Him through every action we take.

Our rights

The banner of nearly everyone in our society today is "We demand our rights." Exactly what are our "rights" as Christians? The rights of servants. Being a servant is not a particularly appealing image to most Christians, but that is precisely what we are called to be. Perhaps the most common reason why most Christians are not useful to God is a proud, defiant attitude toward an employer or husband. But it has its roots in a rebellious spirit toward God. When a person with a rebellious spirit is confronted with the principle of self-sacrifice from God's Word, the truth will become evident. *"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself"* (Philippians 2:3).

Conclusion

"Poor is he who works with a negligent hand, but the hand of the diligent makes rich" (Proverbs 10:4). It should be sufficient to say that God established excellence as our norm. *"Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God"* (1 Corinthians 10:31). To accept less is dishonoring to God and demoralizing to us. The result will be a loss of credibility in the eyes of others and the chastening of the Lord.

Trivia Time!!!



What is the number of "probation" or "testing" in the Bible?

- A. 7
- B. 12
- C. 40

***Find the answer by visiting:

<http://www.geocities.com/thedoubledgedsword/>

Your Revelation from God

by Sis Savannah VanKummer

It's Friday, and three employees have just shut down their computers for the weekend.

In cubicle number one, we have Lisa Jamison. It's payday, but Lisa's check is already spent. After paying the light, gas, and phone bill, there is still her car insurance, which will leave her nearly broke after the rent is paid.

Lisa has been meaning to start tithing at church, but her finances just won't seem to give her a break. She is praying that the Lord reveal to her if she should still tithe even though it will leave her broke and possibly evicted.

In cubicle number two, we have Reggie Wilson. With a fun-filled weekend ahead of him, once again he is faced with the decision of including church on Sunday morning. Reggie grew up in church and believes in God; however, when Reggie became independent, church attendance was the first thing he dumped.

On one hand, he feels that religion is man-made and corrupt. On the other hand, he feels that being out of church leaves him unaccountable and vulnerable to all kinds of destructive influences. Reggie is praying that God will reveal to him what he should do.

In cubicle number three, we have Lindsay Moore who is saved and sanctified. She is faithful in her church attendance, faithful in her tithing, and a committed choir member. But Lindsay is facing a huge dilemma.

For years she has been praying for a husband. Six months ago, a thick, six-foot-two, dark, clean-shaven Greek god with hazel eyes, wearing a Brooks Brother's suit and Hugo Boss cologne sat next to her in church. With teeth that shined like the noonday sun, and enough bass in his voice to rattle anybody's rib cage, he graciously turned to Lindsay and said, "Good morning...I'm Theo." Right then, Lindsay knew she was "no mo' good."

They began talking after church, and decided to go to Sunday dinner together at a local restaurant. Halfway through the conversation, Lindsay learned that Theo had not been to church in years.

The only reason he came that particular Sunday was to do his "God thing" and alleviate himself of the guilt of not going. Thinking that God could somehow use her, Lindsay continued dating him.

Now Theo has pledged his undying love to Lindsay, has expressed interest in marriage, and loves to talk about kids. Meanwhile, his church attendance is sporadic, his knowledge of the Word has not improved, and there are no signs of a prayer life.

In addition to this, Lindsay has already compromised her principles by allowing Theo to become overly intimate with her. He respects her wishes to abstain from fornicating, but he does not seem to exercise the same restraint while kissing as she does. Lindsay is praying for a revelation from the Lord if Theodore is "the one."

In Matthew 6:13-17, Jesus asked his disciples, "Who are people saying that I am?" The disciples rattle off a few names, but they are all incorrect. Then Jesus asked them, "So what about you? Who do you say that I am?"

I can see Peter puffing out his chest as he proudly announced, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus then responds to Peter with a message of deliverance that can be applied to any and all current events in your life today. Jesus answered,

"Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in Heaven."

In today's world, just about everyone is looking for a direct revelation from God concerning their seemingly unique issues. In Lisa's case, she felt that a revelation was necessary in order to make financial decisions that never seemed to leave enough for tithes. **(Con't on page 13d)**

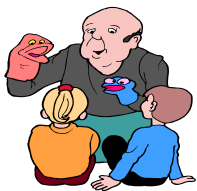
The Sunday School Presents...

The Spectacular Biblical Puppet Show

When: Sunday, August 31, 2003 at 10:15 am

Where: Sanctuary

*Come out and support the Sunday School!!!!



The Cross Movement's "Holy Culture" Cd Review

www.jesusfreakhideout.com

Introducing Phanatik, The Tonic, Tru-Life, and The Ambassador... Better know as **The Cross Movement**. Their fifth album, entitled *Holy Culture* clocks in at over 75 minutes. This group is really comprised of four solo artists with one common goal, and that's to reach the streets with the Gospel. Many of the songs are solo songs with one of the emcees as the featured vocalist. *Holy Culture* opens with the title cut, which isn't the strongest opener they could have chosen, but it's still a good one. "Holy Culture" boasts a slow funky groove with strong vocals and a good hook. The next song, "When I Flow... [It's Gospel]" is an up-tempo track that will truly get the listener on their feet. Once again, we have a track with strong vocals, and a great hook. Next we have the first of five interludes. The interludes were a good idea because they add to the topic of a "Holy Culture." "It's Going Down" has a really strong beat, as well as strong vocals. "Free" is a strong upbeat number, with deep vocals over a piano melody. The album ends with the last of the interludes, "H.C. Panel Discussion," featuring all the emcees talking about the state of Christian rap. This track appropriately closes out this solid project that proves to be one of the stronger new releases in today's Christian scene.

What's Happening Around Town

- "Love LA Gospel Festival" Saturday, August 30th @ 2:00pm
Place: L.A. Memorial Coliseum
Cost: VIP w/ buffet - \$100/person; Lower Level - \$60/person
Other seating available at \$35 & \$25/person
For more information: (562) 997-4004 or www.lovelagospelfest.com
- Lunch & Gospel EVERY 1st Sunday during the hours of 1p – 5p
Place: Crescent City Restaurant in Montclair
For more information: (909) 538-4555

Inspirational Thought:



“It’s okay to ask God for something you’ve already seen Him do; but He wants to do more.”

-Myles Munroe

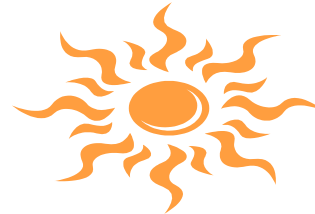
Reference Scripture:

...Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think...

Eph 3:20a NIV

Victorious in the State Youth Congress Theme: “Reclaiming Our Identity As A Chosen Generation I Peter 2:9

During the 59th Annual State Youth Congress, Greater Victory contributed abundantly to the ministry. On Monday night, Min. Leon Hawley did a wonderful job as moderator. During each night of the conference, the Greater Victory Young Adult Choir represented the majority of the State Youth Choir. Thursday was especially a Greater Victory highlight. Our very own Sis. Shela Harris was crowned Miss Young Woman of Excellence, Miss Congeniality, and won the Victory Trophy. That evening Sis. Nicole Martin was the keynote speaker for the special Women’s Program. Her topic was “Are You A ‘Christ’-ian?” The Holy Spirit was truly on this anointed woman of God. Later that evening the G.V. Soldiers performed in the Step Team Competition and brought the house down. They stomped on the devil until he was pronounced dead. To top off a spectacular week, Friday Ministers Leon, Jerry, & Garry Hawley along with a member from Great Cornerstone won the Bible Bowl. Thank you to the leaders, parents, and all the saints for teaching and showing the youth ways of righteousness and the word of God. Greater Victory is truly blessed to have youth who are reclaiming their identity as a chosen generation.



State Annual Purity Class Day

By Bro. Brandon Lucas

At the State Annual Purity Class day in Long Beach, the puritans had a good time and they let everyone know that Greater Victory was in the building. The service was initiated with the opening prayer by Bro. Brandon and then followed by the opening scripture read by Bro. Damian. However, it didn’t stop there. The youth broke up into groups and discussed teen-related issues such as: lust, teen pregnancy, how to act as a Christian, and how to deal with sin and temptation. Afterwards, the youth heard a selection from the state purity class choir followed by the word from none other than Min. Garry Hawley. Closing prayer was led by Elder Johnson. The youth truly enjoyed this enriching event.



Newsletter Staff

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Bro. Brandon Lucas

Tips for Making the Most of College:

1. **Pick an early orientation session.** The later you wait the more courses that will be closed during registration time.
2. **Don’t blow off welcome week programs.** Learning about majors, campus activities, and how to use the library sounds dull but it’s the ONLY time you will have to get a lot of important information that will help you in the future.
3. **Get rid of a course you’re dreading.** Take it at a community college during the summer before classes start. (ex. Calculus, Biology, Chemistry, etc.)
4. **Use a map to schedule classes.** You don’t want to find yourself running from one end of campus to the other.

”Orientation Express”



“Grades stress you out... learning draws you in.”

***The plus for going to orientation: During orientation, you can find out who you need to talk to about school activities, get tips on doing college-level work, you can research majors, find out when and where to take Placement Tests, have the opportunity to buy books in advance, get tips on which professors are the best to take for certain classes, etc.

GET A GUARANTEED JUMP START BY ATTENDING EARLY ORIENTATION!!!

KICK THAT BAD HABIT OF PROCRASTINATION NOW AND START FRESH FOR COLLEGE

Calendar Events

August Events:

24th – Regional Fellowship
(Holyland) 3:30p
29th - Consolation Shut-In 7p
30th - Pastor's Aid Prayer Breakfast
31st - Sunday School Meeting 5p

September Events:

3rd-4th – Back to School Revival
5th- 6th – Local Youth Congress
(Embassy Suites, Santa Ana)
19th - 20th Girls' Night Out
27th – Dempsey Hardy Walk-a-thon



If you are facing a similar threat to your wallet, and are waiting on God for a revelation in this matter, ask yourself, “Who do you say that He is?”

If like Peter you can stick your chest out, and say that the earth is the Lord's and He is your Provider, consider yourself blessed, because the world does not teach this. This revelation could have only come from Heaven - - and it is from Heaven that your provision will come based on your obedience to the spiritual principle of tithing in Malachi 3:10:

“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not open up the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.”

In Reggie's case, what does the world say? It calls church “organized religion,” and people who attend, “religious.” However, if you truly struggle with going to church or staying faithful, who do you say that He is?

If within your heart you believe He is the inspiration behind Hebrews 10:25, which encourages us not to desert the local fellowship, then consider this your direct revelation from God concerning the matter.

“Let us not forsake the assembling of ourselves together as some are accustomed to doing, but let us encourage one another - - all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

If you have issues with church folk or church leadership, you can either remain part of the problem by criticizing, joking or being indifferent, or you can become part of the solution by operating in your God-given purpose. In other words, bloom where you are planted.

Health Wise: Rheumatoid Arthritis

Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) is a chronic, systemic, inflammatory disease that chiefly affects the synovial membranes of multiple joints in the body. In most cases of RA, the patient has remissions and exacerbations of the symptoms. This means that there are periods of time when the patient "feels good" and times when the patient "feels worse".

The disease is considered an autoimmune disease that is acquired and in which genetic factors appear to play a role. The prevalence of the disease is 1-2 percent of the general population and is found worldwide. Females with RA outnumber males by a 3:1 margin. Onset of the disease in adults is usually between the ages of 40 to 60 years, although it can occur at any age.

Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) is a complex, systemic disease. Therefore, treatment of the disease is complex and involves many aspects of the patient's life. Health care practitioners must work together to develop an individualized plan for the ultimate benefit of the patient.

Treatment of the disease can be broadly categorized into the following general areas:

- **Patient AND Family Education**
- **Prevention of Disability and Preservation of Function**
- **Surgical Intervention**
- **Pharmacological Therapy**
- **Maintenance of Lifestyle**
- **Symptomatic Treatment**
- **Social and Emotional Support**



Revelation con't from page 13b

Lastly, if you are a saved man or woman of God such as Ms. Lindsay, and have found yourself in a relationship that remains unequally yoked, who do you say that He is?

Satan comes as an angel of light, but Jesus came that you might have a life. If within your spirit you know that this person is not God's best, blessed are you, because your flesh will never reveal that to you, only the Father who is in Heaven.

“Don't be deceived my dear brothers. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.”

- James 1:17

When it comes to tricky relationships like this, it is also important to remember 1 Corinthians 10:23, which reminds us that everything is permissible, but not everything is beneficial or constructive.

In other words, you have free will in dating, fornicating and marrying whomever you choose, but is the relationship truly a gift from the Lord? Is it lining up with what is Godly? Or has loneliness, panic, fear, denial, lust or impatience taken over? Just remember that God is true love, so anything un-Godly - - like fornication - - is neither true, nor is it love.

If you are looking for a personal revelation from God today concerning a specific matter in your life, look no further. Simply believing that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God is a dynamic revelation that your flesh could have never conjured up.

This is why salvation is a gift. For if Jesus really is the Christ, then we can hand Him the reigns of our life, and let Him be God over all that concerns us today.

Kids Korner

Scripture Scramble

Fill in the blanks below to solve the puzzles.

Psalm 118: __

- 1. IVGE ATHKSN _ _ _ _ _
- 2. , HO _ _
- 3. OD, RL _ _ _ _ _
- 4. OT ETH _ _ _ _ _
- 5. RFO _ _ _ _
- 6. EH SI _ _ _ _
- 7. OGOD _ _ _ _

John 4: _ _

- 1. EH STFIR _ _ _ _ _
- 2. OELDV SU _ _ _ _ _
- 3. CESAUBE _ _ _ _ _
- 4. MHI _ _ _ _
- 5. EW OEVL _ _ _ _ _

Recipe for Kids: Ants on a Log

(Submitted from www.kidshealth.org)

Serves: 2

Prep time: 5 minutes

Ingredients:

- 2 celery sticks
- assistant.)
- peanut butter
- raisins

Utensils:

knife (You'll need help from your adult

Directions:

- 1. Wash the celery and cut it into pieces (each piece should be about 5 inches long).
- 2. Spread peanut butter in u-shaped part of celery, from one end to the other.
- 3. Press raisins gently into peanut butter.
- 4. Enjoy your ants on a log!