

The Faithful Word

March 2004

“Let Jesus Fix It For You”

Edition 20

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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God Made Children	20c
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Kids Corner	20e

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Pastor, George A. Martin



From the Pastor's Desk “Freedom From Sexual Addiction”

Father, in the name of Jesus, I come before You confessing that I have lust in my heart and have turned away to my own evil desires of the flesh.

Your Word says that I should not let sin rule as king in my mortal body or make me yield to its cravings and be subject to its lusts and evil passions. Nor should I be controlled by unholy desires and pursue those things which cater to the flesh.

Father, I desire to kill the evil desire lurking in my members and to flee sexual immorality. I cast down all sexual vices, impurity, sensual appetites, unholy desires, greed and covetousness, for that is idolatry.

Father, I now set my affections on those things which are above, not on things on the earth. Your Word says that all things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. I confess that the sin of sexual addiction has had power over me, but now Father, I will be strong in You and in the power of Your might. You are my Master and my Deliverer.

Right now, I bind up the spirit of sexual addiction and I loose the spirits of self control, temperance, peace, purity, holiness and faith.

And Father, I thank You right now that since I have traded the sin of sexual addiction for Your truth, which is Your Word, that I am free. Your Word says that whom the Son has set free is free indeed. I confess and declare that I am free from sexual addiction. I thank You right now that my mind is being renewed and I will only meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty. I thank You Father, in Your Son, Jesus' Name. Amen.

Let the Spirit of God and his word transform and empower you in your walk with Christ. His word will also fortify you in your confession of faith against these spiritual vices for we are more than conquerors through Him that love us. We must keep our eyes on the prize for he is faithful that promised to keep us in perfect peace (Perfectness) whose mind is stayed on Him. He will partner with us in our desire to live Holy despite fleshly urges. The yolk is destroyed because of the anointing.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor George Martin

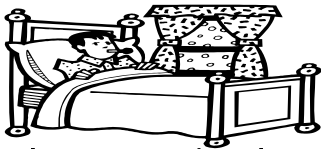
Scripture References: Rom 6:12; James 1:14, 15; I Cor 6:12, Matt 18:18. Ps 145:5, Col 3:2, 5; Eph 6:10, John 8:36



March

Sis. Kim Brown
 Bro. Malachi F. Martin
 Sis. Regina Sanders
 Min. Dennis F. Martin
 Sis. Deanna F. Martin
 Sis. Irene
 Sis. Janntel

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.

Education Connection: Reducing Family Stress

Submitted by Sis. E. Tahiru

Are You Using Time To Help Your Child Learn?

Each of us has only 24 hours in a day. How we use that time can help our children learn. Here's a quiz to see if you are using your time to achieve this goal. Give yourself five points for something you usually do, zero points for something you never do—or any score in between.

- _1. **I set aside some time each day** to be alone with my child.
- _2. **I make sure that television** is not the only highlight of the time we spend together after dinner.
- _3. **I look for free activities** to do as a family each weekend—a trip to a park, a free play or concert.
- _4. **I make sure we spend** at least 30 minutes each day reading.
- _5. **We have a regular time** when we visit the library. Everyone in the family checks out books to read.

How did you score? More than 20 points means you're doing an excellent job. Fifteen to 19 is average. Below 15? Try some of the ideas in the quiz to make the best use of the time you spend with your child.

Avoid Five Pitfalls of Working Parents

Over the past 30 years the United States has moved away from traditional families to dual-earner and single-parent households. In a *Wall Street Journal* article, Sue Shellenbarger suggests five "deadly sins" working parents should avoid:

***Don't continue with a poor family-job situation. Do something to resolve the problem. Research shows that if a parent is unhappy with the work situation, the child will sense this and be anxious. Don't bring stress home from work. In a 1999 study, 34% of the children interviewed said they wished their mothers would be less stressed after work. And 28% said the same thing about their fathers. Don't think about work when spending time with your children. Focus completely on your children when you are sharing a meal, helping with homework or playing a game. Surveys show two in five children say their time with their parents is too rushed. Don't work long "workaholic" hours. A University of Chicago study shows that children whose mothers work very long hours show more signs of depression. These families also experience more conflict. Don't build up resentment about doing chores at home. If one parent does most of the work at home the family will feel rushed. Children of moms "who do it all at home" say their moms are always tired.

What should working parents do? Spend time each evening focusing on your child. Take time to talk over the day. If you do, the rewards will be great.

Responsibility Means Accepting Consequences

A responsible child understands that his actions have consequences. Parents can help children take responsibility for what they do by not letting children "off the hook."

Don't let your child make excuses for his behavior. Talk about how choices have consequences, and let him "suffer" the consequences of his actions. If he forgets his homework at home, for example, don't offer to drive it to school for him. Say, "I'm sorry, but actions have consequences. You'll have to tell your teacher you left it at home."

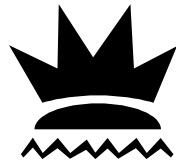
Also: Set consequences at home for inappropriate behavior at school. A child who gets in a fight at school may not be allowed to play with friends that week. Tests of an Effective Consequence

To be effective, a consequence should meet three criteria:

1. Is it logically related to the misbehavior? (Children need to see the connection.)
2. Is its enforcement respectful of your child?
3. Is it reasonable to you and your child?

***As with all discipline techniques, the consequences must be consistently enforced—every time—or they accomplish little.

Corruptible Crowns
 by Sis Savannah VanKummer



When you come into the knowledge of Christ and understand the concept of eternal rewards, the various award shows that air annually can be almost painful to watch. Even though Matthew 6:20 pleads with us to make Heaven our treasured place of storage, all too often we see artists invest heavily in careers that can only reward them with temporary crowns that one day must be left at the grave.

Our children's choir sings a simple, but profound song entitled, "*The Devil Is A Sly Old Fox*," and it is so true. How many times have we seen artists compromise their Christianity in exchange for a record contract? The enemy knows that everyone has a God-given talent that can become a powerful anointing if used for God. He also knows that it is the anointing that breaks yokes. What better way to deter God's plan than to wave million dollar contracts in the faces of those who struggle financially and have always dreamed of fame?

In the beginning, most people plan to use their talent for good, but the industry is bigger, stronger, and only interested in what makes money. By the time many artists wake up to the game, it's too late, and they must deliver the goods.

Some make it out with only a few scars, but others choose to sell their soul. Next thing you know, they are thanking God for the success of their album filled with explicit lyrics, videos that are deliberately designed to promote lust, and films you'd rather not watch

with someone you respect...all the while, accepting the award in little more than a bikini. Ask any secular artist directly regarding their contribution to the cesspool we call hip-hop, or the new Sodom and Gomorrah we call Hollywood, and you will be in for a finger-pointing marathon.

Talent is a gift from God that can either be invested wisely or foolishly. When used for the Kingdom, talent becomes a powerful anointing that can bring deliverance to many. It may seem like a good gesture to give proceeds from your secular work to the poor, but according to I Samuel 15:22, obedience is better than sacrifice.

Anointed work may not land you in P. Diddy's office, win you 5 Grammys, or allow you to sweep up at the Oscars, but when this life is over, it will be worth all the Hollywood connections to hear the Creator say, "Well done my good and faithful servant."

I don't know about you, but I cringe at the thought of being blessed with a beautiful image that is globally recognized, use it as Halle Berry did in "Monster's Ball," then have to stand before God one day and explain how every scene was to horrify...I mean glorify Him. I'm sure Beyonce of Destiny's Child

*****Message Board*****

"Sunday School Rally Day!"

Sister Harris would like to thank everyone who supported the Sunday School Rally on February 29, 2004. Congratulations to the winners for raising the most money. They are as follows:

- Prince – Rolando and Reyvon Steele**
- Princess – Franchesca Brown**
- Queen – Sis. Rochelle Hawley**

Look forward to the next Sunday School Rally Day on May 30, 2004 for your chance to take home a crown. Let's govern ourselves accordingly.

A Message From the YPWW President:
 Come and be blessed. Study to show thyself approved unto God.

Every Thursday Night at 6:30pm

Crowns Con't

is quick to credit a portion of her success to being reared in church, and her five Grammy Awards won this year are sure to bring more opportunities to do "bootylicious" videos, but will all of her shaking, sweating and seductive poses be recognized by the Holy of Holies?

What is it to win the Grammy for "Song of the Year," the Oscar for "Best Film," the Emmy for best television show, the Tony for best stage play and all other prestigious awards, but then lose your own soul which will outlive them all? It's just not worth it. My mother used to say that a moment of pleasure can bring a lifetime of pain. In this case, a lifetime of pleasure can bring eternal pain.

Many of you may feel removed from such lofty achievements, and probably feel that this month's DES issue would be better served if forwarded to *After Math* or *Bad Boy Records*. However,

the principle applies to everyone. I Corinthians 10:31 says that even when you eat, do it as unto the Lord...and for some of us, even this needs work!

Lastly, be urgent in your decision to make changes where you feel convicted. Sure, people may wonder what in the world has come over you, and some people who depend on your success may have to look for another gravy train, but life moves with swift transitions. Death may come tomorrow. All it takes is one un-attentive driver, a disgruntled employee, a stray bullet, or a clogged artery, and it's game over. Death is no respecter of fame or talent.

While you still have breath in your lungs, make sure no corruptible crowns rob you of the eternal ones that await all who make Kingdom work their mission. Your decision may seem radical to some, but ask yourself, "Will they stand with me on judgment day?"

Inspirational Thought:



"All it takes to receive from God is a little bit of faith in a great big God.." – Kenneth Hagin, Jr.

Reference Scripture: "...You shall not need to fight in this battle; take your position, stand still, and see the deliverance of the Lord [Who is] with you... 2 Chronicles 20:17a AMP



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Sis. Stephanie Harris

THE CALL OF GOD

"For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel."

1 Corinthians 1:17

Paul states here that the call of God is to preach the gospel; but remember what Paul means by "the gospel," viz., the reality of Redemption in our Lord Jesus Christ. We are apt to make sanctification the end-all of our preaching. Paul alludes to personal experience by way of illustration, never as the end of the matter. We are nowhere commissioned to preach salvation or sanctification; we are commissioned to lift up Jesus Christ (John 12:32). It is a travesty to say that Jesus Christ travailed in Redemption to make me a saint. Jesus Christ travailed in Redemption to redeem the whole world, and place it unimpaired and rehabilitated before the throne of God. The fact that Redemption can be experienced by us is an illustration of the power of the reality of Redemption, but that is not the end of Redemption. If God were human, how sick to the heart and weary He would be of the constant requests we make for our salvation, for our sanctification, We tax His energies from morning till night for things for ourselves – something for me to be delivered from ! When we touch the bedrock of the reality of the Gospel of God, we shall never bother God any further with little personal plaints.

The one passion of Paul's life was to proclaim the Gospel of God. He welcomed heartbreaks, disillusionments, tribulation, for one reason only, because these things kept him in unmoved devotion to the Gospel of God.

"Forgiveness"

by Karen Waddles

Excerpt from *Women of Color Devotional*

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"
1 John 1:9

Real forgiveness is as difficult concept for us to grasp with our finite minds. We rank sins from little "white lies" to really big sins. We are prone to hold grudges and keep a tally card for infractions made against us. Yet Christ promises that when we confess our sins to him, he remembers them no more (Jeremiah 31:34)

For the unbeliever there is no greater message. We can bring to Christ our tattered, broken, abused hearts and lives, and place ourselves at his feet. We can acknowledge our sin and need for a Savior, and he promises to forgive, pardon and cleanse. He died on Calvary's cross to pay for every sin – there is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1)!

For the believer the message is just as powerful. How often are we strapped under a tremendous weight of guilt and shame because of unconfessed sin in our lives? Satan loves to remind us that if we were really saved, we wouldn't do those things. And always, Christ is standing at the opposite end of the spectrum reminding us that it was for our sins he died on Calvary. He invites us to accept his offer of forgiveness. Stand beneath Calvary's flow and be washed and cleansed of all in.

Something to Ponder: Who do you need to forgive, and what will you say to let that person know he/she is forgiven?

"Why God Made Children"

To those of us who have children in our lives, whether they are our own, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or students...here is something to make you chuckle. Whenever your children are out of control, you can take comfort from the thought that even God's omnipotence did not extend to His own children. After creating heaven and earth, God created Adam and Eve. And the first thing he said was "DON'T!" "Don't what?" Adam replied. "Don't eat the forbidden fruit." God said. "Forbidden fruit? We have forbidden fruit? Hey Eve...we have forbidden fruit!!!!!" "No Way!" "Yes way!" "Do NOT eat the fruit!" said God. "Why"

"Because I am your Father and I said so!" God replied, wondering why He hadn't stopped creation after making the elephants. A few minutes later, God saw His children having an apple break and He was ticked! "Didn't I tell you not to eat the fruit?" God asked. "Uh huh," Adam replied. "Then why did you?" said the Father. "I don't know," said Eve. "She started it!" Adam said "Did not!" ... "Did too!" ... "DID NOT!" ... Having had it with the two of them, God's punishment was that Adam and Eve should have children of their own. Thus the pattern was set and it has never changed.

BUT THERE IS REASSURANCE IN THE STORY! If you have persistently and lovingly tried to give children wisdom and they haven't taken it, don't be hard on yourself. If God had trouble raising children, what makes you think it would be a piece of cake for you?

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT! 1. You spend the first two years of their life teaching them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next sixteen telling them to sit down and be quiet. 2. Grandchildren are God's reward for not killing your own children. 3. Mothers of teens now know why some animals eat their young. 4. Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said. 5. The main purpose of holding children's parties is to remind yourself that there are children more awful than your own. 6. We child proofed our homes, but they are still getting in.

ADVICE FOR THE DAY: Be nice to your kids. They will choose your nursing home.

AND FINALLY: IF YOU HAVE A LOT OF TENSION AND YOU GET A HEADACHE, DO WHAT IT SAYS ON THE ASPIRIN BOTTLE: "TAKE TWO ASPIRIN" AND "KEEP AWAY FROM CHILDREN"

Calendar Events

March Events:

11th-14th Women for Christ Retreat
 14th- Feetwashing Service
 14th – Baptismal Service (St. Timothy Church)
 16th – Youth Skate Party 6p
 20th – Sunshine Band Fashion Show 11a
 20th- Couple's Mtg 7p
 27th – Wedding (Bro. Will & Sis. Vivian)
 28th- Tribe Rally Day

April Events:

3rd – Etiquette Class Spring Fashion Show
 4th – PALM SUNDAY
 9th – GOOD FRIDAY
 10th – Youth Sport 8a
 11th – EASTER
 16th- Singles Mtg 6:30p
 17th – Couples Mtg 7p
 24th – YWCC Mtg 10a
 24th – Bros. Fish Fry 11a
 24th – Sat. Nite Live 7p (Faith Center Min. – Walnut, CA)
 25th- Bldg Fund Rally 3p
 28th-30th – Youth Spring Revival 7p

Health Wise: Moving from Anger to Healthy Assertiveness

by Lynette Hoy, NCC, LCPC (from christianwomentoday.com)

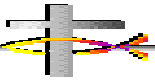
All of us have experienced anger. Some of us have cringed under the rage in our families, struggled with it in our souls, felt it toward our friends, co-workers and loved ones. Some of us have shocked others with volcanoes of anger. The evidence abounds that we live in a mad, mad, mad world.

What does the Bible say about anger? While anger is potentially harmful, the Bible contains examples of how God was able to accomplish His purpose through angry people. Nehemiah writes about his angry reaction to social injustice in Nehemiah 5:6-7. He took positive action to confront oppressive officials in Israel and reverse injustice. Paul provides instructions regarding anger in Ephesians 4:25-6: "In your anger, do not sin.. do not let the sun go down on your anger."

Practical strategies for handling anger

When a co-worker says harshly: "You didn't let me know you were going to lunch early and I ended up taking all the calls!" or when your boss states indignantly: "You didn't finish the contract and now, we've missed the deadline!" rather than lashing out in anger, and defensiveness or concealing your anger, you can pray for Christ to help you respond with a gentle answer, and assertiveness such as:
 ..."I am sorry that you had so many calls while I was gone. I did mention to you that I would be going to lunch early this morning. Any ideas on how we can avoid this situation in the future?" ..."Say more about the contract deadline please? I understood the deadline was tomorrow."

When you are able to control your anger, it may help diffuse the other person's anger and promote respectful dialogue. Take a risk this week and ask God to turn your anger into a gentle assertiveness. Learning strategies to overcome anger - a prime relationship enemy - will get you further down the road to success in all your relationships.



Movie Review: Passion for the Christ

by Brett Willis (www.christiananswers.net)

It's an honor to be chosen as a reviewer of this film. For many months, and even more strongly for the past few weeks, we've all been subjected to a propaganda campaign in the media and on the Internet, attacking *The Passion* with a variety of "concerns" ranging from the possibly-valid to the irrelevant and outrageous. Now that the release date has finally arrived, each of us can decide for ourselves whether to see the film. And if we do see it, decide also whether the objections were justified.

Many of the negative reviews of this film are written by people who don't believe that the Bible is given by the inspiration of God, a problem that severely colors their approach. Sometime late in a review, the writer will subtly peck away at the reader's faith, implying (for example) that Pilate carried more blame for Jesus' death than the film shows. But doesn't the film follow the Biblical record on Pilate's role? Yes, but they imply that the Biblical record ITSELF is tainted, because when the Gospels were written it was important for Christians not to antagonize the Romans, so they blamed the Jews for Jesus' death INSTEAD, etc. etc.

My view of Passion films in general: When I was a kid in the 1950s, growing up in a formal church, we had Wednesday night midweek services during Lent only. One year, a Passion film was shown during those services, a 15 minute slice each week. ["Passion," in this context, means "Suffering."] When the Crucifixion was shown, I distinctly remember an awesome sense of personal responsibility that gripped me as the nails were being driven into Jesus' hands (off-camera of course, but with sound-effects). More than any sermon I ever heard in that church, that film sequence convicted me of sin, and of the fact that by my sin I had shared in causing those nails to be driven.

However, classic-style Passion films probably wouldn't have the same effect on today's audiences that they did on those of 50 years ago, because techniques of extreme graphic violence have been used in films of all types, from war movies with a message of self-sacrifice to ridiculous horror and horror-comedy flicks. Moviegoing audiences are desensitized, are bored by the old-style "less is more" approach, and demand "realism."

So, an actor/director from Hollywood's "A-list," who happens to believe that the message of Jesus is true, has chosen to spend somewhere between 25 and 35 million dollars of his own money to make an R-rated Passion film befitting the trend of the times. Mel Gibson's primary target audience is not extreme conservative Christians who've never seen any of his other films. He's reaching to the same people who've followed his previous work, but he's telling him something more important than he's ever told them before. It's as simple as that.

Kids Korner: Word Search Puzzle

from <http://biblewordgames.com>

Bible Wordsearch

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

GENESIS CHAPTER 3

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

Adam & Eve 2 Puzzle #98

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| ADAM | HEEL |
| AFRAID | HER |
| APRONS | LEAVES |
| BEAST | LIFE |
| BEGUILED | LORD |
| BELLY | MAKE |
| BREAD | MAN |
| BRUISE | MOTHER |
| CHERUBIMS | NAME |
| CHILDREN | NEITHER |
| CLOTHED | PLACED |
| COATS | PRESENCE |
| CURSED | RETURN |
| DAY | RULE |
| DESIRE | SAW |
| DIE | SEED |
| DROVE | SENT |
| DUST | SERPENT |
| EAT | SEWED |
| EDEN | SKINS |
| ENMITY | SORROW |
| EVE | SUBTIL |
| FIG | SWEAT |
| FLAMING | SWORD |
| FRUIT | THORNS |
| GARDEN | TOUCH |
| GOD | TREE |
| HEAD | TURNED |
| HEARD | VOICE |

WALKING

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

Deut.15

MORE PUZZLES AT:
<http://biblewordgames.com>