

#### **Monthly Newsletter Publication**





# **Melva's Corner**

#### CAN I GET A WITNESS?

Bible Text: Luke 24:44-49

Central Truth: The church exist for the sake o bearing witness to Christ.

What we call "the great commission" is found in all the Synoptic Gospels. It is the emphatic call from Jesus to the surviving eleven apostles and to the church that would be created by their preaching – that the gospel is to be preached among all nations for the salvation of all who will receive it. The least-well-known version of that commission is the one found in the Gospel of Luke.

[Jesus] said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

Then He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

# Life Events

May 2006

#### **Happy Birthday Blessings**



Allyson Roberts Mary L Hill AnnMarie Martin Lena Williams

#### RETIREMENT



Congratulations to Bobbie Williams who will be retiring on May 31.

#### They're expecting A Boy in September



Keith & Jackie Simpson

(Mary Simpson's Son & Daughter in-law)

You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:44-49; Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16).

We have called these words "the marching orders for the church" or "the command that justifies the church's existence." For all the legitimate passion we seek to arouse in one another for prayer, Bible study, and spiritual formation, the gospel ultimately will not allow us to be self-focused: we pray, learn, and mature for the sake of modeling and sharing the gospel. For all the encouragement we give one another to feed the hungry, love the downtrodden, and rescue people in bondage to various addictions, those are not the ultimate needs of human beings; some people aren't hungry and not everybody is enslaved to alcohol or drugs, but everybody needs a Savior.

The church exist for the sake of bearing witness to Christ. Consistent with Jesus' charge in the great commission, we are determined to get over ourselves in order to share the good news of the gospel with people whose lives are in chaos without a Savior.

Luke has Jesus saying that "repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." Let's begin with the part of the message that focuses on "forgiveness of sins." I have an idea that freedom from the guilt and condemnation of sin appeals to everybody who has ever faced up to his or her failings, weaknesses, and wrongdoing. Is there anyone who believes God created us to live in rebellion against Him and against our own best interests? Is there anyone who wants to live under the oppressive cloud of guilt and shame that we bring on ourselves by sin?

The other part of the great-commission message in Luke's Gospel is "repentance." Repentance is the total life-response hearers make to the gospel, if they are saved by it. You know that the word itself means a change of mind, a turning around of one's life. It is the deliberate choice to change the direction of one's life from the longing for and pursuit of sin to the pursuit of Jesus Christ. I actually think repentance is simply a thread in the all-embracing response to him that Scripture calls faith. Repentance is believing that God's description of our condition as sinful people is correct, that His way of addressing our problem through Christ has been effective, and that He is both willing and able to do in your life what you have seen Him do in the lives of others. In the words of the song: "I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back, no turning back."

If all we talk about and emphasize is God's eagerness to forgive, we could end up with a sloppy form of grace that distorts the gospel into easy-believism and churchjoining as an alternative to discipleship. If we decide to focus on the multiple demands of repentance, however, we will almost certainly wind up with legalism – the view that salvation comes through strict obedience to a demanding law. As in Jesus' original statement, the two must be preached together and in balance. People must be challenged to change their minds about the meaning of life, make а determined decision to put Jesus first from this point forward, and nevertheless recognize that our salvation comes not from that decision and its implementation – for nobody among us can be sinless under law – but through God's continual supply of pardon, grace and empowerment.

Jesus seems to offer a basic approach to sharing the gospel in our text today that works well.

First, let everything focus on the person and work of Jesus. Just as Jesus "opened the minds" of His original disciples to show that everything in Scripture points to Him, so must we both understand and teach the Bible with a Christ centric emphasis. That He suffered and rose from the dead is the ultimate proof of God's love for lost humanity. Second, the offer of repentance and forgiveness of sins is for everyone – all nations, all races, all ethnic groups, all economic levels. All who will accept the judgment of God against sin that was accomplished in Christ's death may have His pardon, blessing, and transforming power to see them through on the new path they have chosen. Third, the best way for those who are already Christians to draw people to this message is by being "witnesses" to Christ. The apostles could bear witness (first-hand testimony) to their personal experience of Jesus as alive from the dead. You and I do not have their experiences to share first-hand, but we do have our own testimonies of what God has done through Christ to redeem us, to make life meaningful, to give us hope for the life to come.

The final element of Jesus' great commission in Luke is the promise of the Holy Spirit. And it is the Holy Spirit rather than any formula or methodology of presentation that makes aospel the effective. He encourages believers to live out our faith in practical ways. He touches others by His mystical presence in individual believers and in the collective body known as the church. He convicts hearts of their need for God. And that becomes the opening for you to bear gentle witness to what He has done for you, to share your convictions about Jesus, and to invite that person to come and experience His for them self! God will be faithful in bringing that process to its conclusion. That is his responsibility and promise of the Holy Spirit.

I'm reminded of an event where the town's police chief was cruising the streets. At an intersection, he saw a driver who appeared to be confused. Thinking the man was lost and trying to find an address, he pulled over to help him. As it turned out, the man was looking for something. He told the Chief he was looking for a police officer to arrest him because he was drunk! Sure enough, the 28-year-old man was feeling no pain. He produced a non-driver's I.D. because his driver's license had already been suspended. A preliminary breath test indicated his blood had more than four times the legal 0.08 alcohol content in his system.

People aren't always that straightforward or self-aware when they are drunk – or angry or depressed or frightened. Sometimes we have to pick up the signals of someone's bizarre behavior and take the risk of trying to help him. Did you catch the euphemism for intoxication I used earlier? I said the drunken driver "was feeling no pain." To the contrary, his action of asking to be arrested tells me he was feelina considerable pain – and knew he was in danger of hurting others because of his condition.

I know people whose temper and rudeness, abuse of a mate, adultery, alcoholism and general bad attitude toward life are symptoms rather than primary issues. They feel guilt, shame, and rejection to the very depth of their souls. They are frustrated far less with others than with themselves. They want a sense of forgiveness and direction for their lives, but they have no idea where to look for it. The gospel says that God is eager to communicate His love and pardon and forgiveness to all of us - no matter what our past or the intensity of the pain it has brought. But someone must be cruising the streets, someone must be on their post, able to spot those confused people, and willing to risk involvement with them.

Then God can begin His work of rescue and redemption. You can witness to what He has done for you. You can point individuals to the Christ-story. You can model a life of repentance, testify to the joy of pardon and become God's instrument for leading that soul to the fountain of life that has been opened in Christ.

That is at the heart of our reason for existence, church! And if you are someone who is fellowshipping with us today through this message and being called to change your mind and life-direction for Christ's sake, we encourage you not to resist the nudge God is giving you. He is calling you to turn your eyes upon Jesus. To decide to follow Him. To announce your faith, to receive the gift of baptism in His name, and to start life over again as a child in God's own family. No turning back. No turning back. Yes, you can start life over again. No turning back. No turning back.

#### **My Prayer**

Dear Lord Jesus,

I do believe that you died on the cross to pay the penalty for my sins.

I do want to may a U-turn from going my own way and I want my life to revolve around you.

Please come into my life, forgive my sin, and may me a member of God's heavenly family.

Thank you for your gift of eternal life and for your Holy Spirit who has now come to to live in me.

In Jesus' name I pray.

Amen



#### Memory Text:

"This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:44-49)

#### READY OR NOT- CHANGE WILL COME!

Bible Text: James 1:17

Central Truth: Life is always changing and how I react is my choice.

"Every good and perfect gift comes down from the Father who created all the lights in the heavens. He is always the same and never makes dark shadows by changing." (James 1:17 CEV)

Yes! Life is always changing.

Robert Redford is looking older and playing older roles in movies. New heart-throbs are making the blockbusters. Music does not sound like it did in the sixties, nor do the stars dress like they did "in my day."

Children change so quickly we can almost see them growing. They learn new things every day. They are out of diapers, begin walking, and start speaking their mind in what seems to be only a few days.

Jobs change. Tasks that once required hours of manpower as well as years of study and experience can now be accomplished by pushing a button on the computer.

Opportunities change. Where we were once limited in our abilities to travel, to study, and to explore the world, we are now about to see the world and experience history from the convenience of an easy chair in our living room.

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People change.

Relationships change.

We mature.

We age.

We develop new skills.

We acquire and learn new information.

We have mood swings.

We experience success, we have disappointments.

We eat, we sleep, we walk, we run, we come, we go, we get.

Life changes as relentlessly as the tides.

Life is always changing. As life continues to change, Chuck Swindoll's words on "Attitude" continue to echo in my head:

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on my life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company ... a church ... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past ... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the string we have, and that is our attitude ...

I am convinced that life is ten percent what happens to me and ninety percent how I react to it. And so it is with you ... we are in charge of our attitudes."

Yes, I realize that sometimes we find it difficult to recognize Jesus. Our busy

schedules sometime prevent us from seeing Jesus. Our preoccupation with our occupation sometimes prevents us from seeing Jesus. Religion sometimes prevents us from seeing Jesus. Church sometimes prevents us from seeing Jesus. Disappointment keeps us from seeing Jesus. Anger keeps us from recognizing Jesus. An unforgiving spirit can keep us from seeing Jesus. Guilt may blind us from really seeing Jesus.

#### So Melva, What can we do?

Keep looking. Even though the disciples did not readily recognize Jesus after His resurrection, they did go to the tomb. Something compelled them to go even when they thought all hope was lost. When the news began to spread that He had risen, even though it did not make sense, they kept their hearts open and finally they all said, "We have seen the Lord!" With that, their lives were changed.

Keep looking. Keep hoping. Don't stop believing that what seems to be impossible may be possible. When you do, you will see Jesus, and others will see Jesus in you.

Here are two suggestions to try this week:

First, as you move through your week, look for people that God is using to accomplish His work. Tell them you noticed how God has used them. Thank them for being open to His leadership and willing to let Him use them. Especially thank them if the work that was done was for your good.

Second, let Him use you. Make yourself available to His direction. Put yourself in a position that will allow Him to shape you, train you, and direct you to the person He wants you to influence. Expect to be surprised. Be ready to be excited at what He can do with what little you have. It may not make the headlines of the local paper, or be the lead story on the evening news, but in one or two people's life it may be what gives them hope to take another step, try one more time, and live another day.

If you do find yourself feeling somewhat less than thrilled with your performance during the first six months of the year, maybe Paul's words from Colossians 4 will be helpful to you:

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." (Colossians 4:2-6 NIV)

God uses people everyday to carry out His work. Let Him use you today.

"For God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey him and the power to do what pleases him." (Philippians 2:13)

Make this statement your motto this week: "I know there will be changes that will occur this week. I don't know how I will react to those changes. I do know that life is always changing and how I react is my choice."

#### **Memory Text:**

"For God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey him and the power to do what pleases him." (Philippians 2:13)



# Higher Mountain...Higher Praises

#### 2-n-1 Jan H. Smith

Raise increase on the job. New musical keyboard, top of the line, purchased for me by the church!

**"HE TOUCHED ME"** Sylvia Washington

I am the woman with the issue of blood. When I touched the hem of his garment, I was made whole.

I sit here today and tell you of a miracle that GOD has given me. Every month for the past 3 or 4 years, I have had heavy menstrual cycles for at least 2 days every month. I was soiling at least 6 to 8 tampons and about that many pads. They both were soiled at the same time 1 of each.

This month I have not soiled 1 pad. I prayed for a normal menstrual cycle and that is what I got. I cramped a bit more but the flow was normal.

I am so prayerful, so thankful, so blessed. TO GOD BE THE GLORY. THIS IS MY TESTIMONY!

#### HEALTH RESTORED Mary J. Smith

Original Request: Mary J. Smith's father Rev. C.F. Jordan was taken by ambulance to CMMC hospital in Jackson, MS. yesterday morning around 9:30 AM. He is being treated by Dr. Harvey Sanders. The main issue is his blood pressure - the doctors 'say' it is high. Rev. Jordan is extremely upset regarding his hospitalization and had to be sedated last night. We need to pray for stabilization of his vitals and

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peace of mind. It is my understanding that Rev. Jordan was celebrating his 89th birthday yesterday.

Mary J. Smith: Good News! We are finally home. They released Daddy this afternoon. We got home about 6:00 p.m. He is like a little child at Christmas, now that he is home. Please continue to keep us in your prayers. I need it in a big way. Thanks again for your spiritual support.

Original Prayer Request: I just received a phone call from our sister Carolyn Cooper who informed me that they were taking her mother Lucille Coleman to the Baptist hospital in Little Rock, Arkansas. It seems that today Lucille underwent a stress test to determine if her heart was strong enough to endure knee surgery. Her treating physician, Dr. Hargrove administered medication in his office to increase her heart rate in order to conduct the stress test. He subsequently became alarmed when her heart rate did not decrease after the test's completion and suggested she be taken to the hospital until her heart rate of 135 decreased.

Lucille is not showing any outward signs of agitation or stress and appears calm and feeling fine.

Saints, lets get Lucille's heart rate to an acceptable level (in the eyes of her physician) so she can go home.

**Praise Report:** Good News! I just spoke with Carolyn and Lucille is home from the hospital, resting comfortably. Please stay on your post. We know the enemy likes to come immediately and try to steal the seed.

#### IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME! Denise Jones

Praise the Lord Saints. Just want to TESTIFY today about how GOOD My Father has been to me. God has given me such "GREAT PEACE" I can't even explained the PEACE He's given to me.

Since I've been making GIFT BASKETS my life has truly changed in more ways that I could ever explain. God is a GOOD GOD. He knows what you need in your life and if you would just let Him in and GIVE UP things in your life He will make EVERYTHING in and around you BETTER than it's ever been before.

Saints, I can't sleep and sometimes I can't eat because FINALLY out of 43 years, I'm enjoying working. All my life I've enjoyed using my hands to create different things but I didn't make baskets. Oh, I could place items in a basket but never did I think I would be creating them.

I made \$2500.00 selling Valentine Baskets. My clientele is growing EVERY DAY! These clients are not only the people that I know; they are people who are telling other people...Oh I can't explain it!

I want you to know I made over \$1700 selling EASTER BASKETS. Believe it or not I WAS NOT going to sell them because I didn't think people bought Easter Baskets. I never bought my kids one I made it myself. Sunday morning I had 7 baskets left out of 50. I donated them to the church and I also gave God 10%.

"If You Build It...They Will Come!" This Is True! True! True! - God Is Good!

Today is Administrative Assistant Day Denise Jones

GUESS WHO is an Admin. Assistant, <u>Anitra</u>

I received a call from her last night and she was so excited because she's being treated to a 2 hr. lunch with all the administrators with Blue Cross Blue Shield.

That's not all, when she arrived on the job this morning, she was called to the front desk where she had a HUGE vase of flowers with LEMONS in the bottom of the vase Wait, that's not all, Anitra also received a card with MONEY inside.

You can't tell me GOD doesn't exist, IT AIN'T FAIR...IT'S FAVOR !

One thing I have learned saints, you have to "PRAISE HIM"... HE'S WORTHY OF IT when things are going WRONG and when things are going right, give God "PRAISE"

#### GOD SAVE JOB FOR HIS CHOICE Lena Williams

Lena's daughter Kim interviewed for a job at St Jude in Memphis, TN in October and heard nothing more. Kim interviewed with several other companies and nothing came through. Each time she prepared for an interview a prayer request was submitted and Melva always asked about St Jude. Well, last week Kim received a call and was offered the job! Saints, it's all in God's timing. Kim thought the job had been filled but God held it for her. What God has for you is yours.

#### **Ephesians Four Ministry**

During our 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Teleconference I mentioned the availability of free biblical resource material. Well, I received my CD last week and was pleasantly surprised to find that it contained 37 free books instead of the 31 advertised.

The 37 free books, this ministry offers, are on CD ROM. There is a shipping cost of \$7.95. The link you need is:

#### FREE BIBLE SOFTWARE

#### IN HIS PRESENCE

#### 6:00 P.M. HOUR OF PRAYER



Use this wonderful supernatural tool the Lord has blessed us with the 6 o'clock hour of power. This is the time to intercede for the needs of others, the concerns of the ministry, and to pray for the leadership within our community, our nation, and our world.

Bring all of your cares and burdens to the altar and encourage others to do the same. Lives are being changed. Breakthroughs are happening.

#### Home Bible Workshop Schedule



Mark your calendars for the May 2006 dates. Please plan to attend.

## May 20<sup>th</sup>

"God's Power Principles" (Featuring Web Conferring)

M 1050 Ridgeside Drive Brandon, MS 39042

**Phone: 601-824-7498** 

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# **WEBSITE OFFERINGS**

(Article Excerpts) www.mcclainministries.org

#### WHAT ABOUT FINANCES?

I know many Believers who are convinced that they can't afford to give to God. The reason? Fear. It's one thing to believe in God; it's another to trust God to provide the rent payment. When you're engulfed in financial hardships, it's humanly impossible to think about giving. Yet, "what is impossible with men is possible with God" (Luke 18:27). When God asks us to trust Him with our finances, He also promises to reward us. He doesn't always spell out the exact ways he will repay our trust, but He does promise us a rich reward (II Corinthians 9:11).

#### ARTICLES BY OTHERS

#### **GETTING OVER LIFE'S HURDLES**

The hardest part of living is getting over the next hurdle. There will always be another hurdle as long as you move forward. That, I believe is what stops most people from moving forward. They project in their minds bigger and bigger hurdles while having smaller and smaller resources. What most people don't understand is, the hurdles actually get smaller and the resources get bigger. As we seek the Lord, His presence is even more powerfully with us.

The Psalmist wrote, "The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you." (Psalm 9:9-10).

What an incredible promise! And of course we know that the closer we walk with God,

the better our chances of success, freedom, and victory.

#### HEALING-SPIRIT-SOUL-BODY

Our prayer is that you will find healing in these lessons from the Scriptures.

Have you or do you know of someone who has been verbally, physically or emotionally abused? Do you know of anyone who has low self esteem? Or someone with a blood disorder like the "woman with the issue of blood." Well, recently I discovered a wonderful webpage that builds your faith in area of healing. It is divided into categories i.e. Abuse, Emotions, Bitterness etc.

Are you still living in the past? Why not receive your healing today? Past experiences and emotions can have a way of controlling our lives. Walls of protection are built up in our lives and it is necessary for these walls to be "razed" (to destroy to the ground, to demolish). My prayer is that you will begin to spend time praying to God to give you guidance and wisdom in helping you to tear down your walls.

You cannot live in the past. Blaming your past hurts for your attitude and behavior today is not acceptable. You are accountable to go forward.

Whatever kind of abuse you have experienced, we know that our God, through Jesus Christ, can bring you out of your pain and suffering. Jesus said that He came to heal the broken hearted and set the captive free. What Jesus has done for others He will do for you. Even though you have been misused, God can take away your pain and make you brand new.

The lessons in this study were written with you in mind.

Our prayer is that you will find healing in these lessons from the Scriptures. These

lessons build on each other, so start with the first one and work your way down the list.

#### ENTREPRENEURS - HOW TO CREATE A CONSULTING BUSINESS

Everyone has an untapped reservoir of knowledge. Put yours to work as a consultant and teach your skills to others.

The dictionary defines a consultant as "an expert in a particular field who works as an advisor either to a company or to another individual." Sounds pretty vague, doesn't it? But unless you've been in a coma for the past decade, you probably have a good idea what a consultant is.

You see, in this day and age, anyone can be a consultant. All you need to discover is what your particular gift is. For example, are you very comfortable working around computers? Do you keep up with the latest software and hardware information, which seems to be changing almost daily? And are you able to take that knowledge you have gained and turn it into a resource that someone would be willing to pay money for? Then you would have no trouble working as a computer consultant.

Or are you an expert in the fund-raising field? Maybe you have worked for nonprofit agencies in the field of fund-raising, marketing, public relations or sales, and over the years you have discovered how to raise money. As someone who has turned a decade of fund-raising successes into a lucrative consulting business, I can tell you that fund-raising consulting is indeed a growing industry.

#### ENTREPRENEURS-EARN AN EXTRA INCOME THROUGH BLOGGING

This newest web phenomenon can rank your site number one in search engines, boost traffic and sales, and establish you as an expert in your industry. I'm sure you've heard about one of the biggest things to hit the web in the last few years: blogging.

A "blog" (derived from the term "web log") is basically just a website with two key differences: First, it's extremely easy to add information to it. A blog is like an online journal, so you just log in, type what happened today, post it, and you're done! Second, you can add a simple little feature that automatically tells a whole bunch of other websites that you've made an update to your blog--every time you make a change.

However, what you may not know is that a blog can also be a very powerful marketing tool for your business, and some people actually earn an income just from blogging alone.

The fact is, blogging is fast becoming an extremely important strategy for any online marketer.

#### MULTI-MEDIA

#### THIS BLOOD IS FOR YOU

We're not exactly sure what happened that first Monday. We do know, however, the disciples were forever changed and their change will certainly reach through the centuries and change us. We do know this: they would listen and learn from their Master, they would recall the things He taught them and see them in a fresh light because of His resurrection, they would wait on the Lord in prayer, and they would be filled with the Holy Spirit and change the world.

Well over 100,000 Mondays have come and gone since that first Monday. Our lives have been touched and our destinies have been changed by the events that happened early on the first day of the week when the tomb was opened and the Lord walked triumphantly from the grave. On this Monday, we ought to remind ourselves of that early passion by the disciples who firmly believed their Lord was risen from the dead. We should follow their example and make that first Monday commitment to listen to our Master, to see what He taught in the light of His resurrection, to wait on Him in prayer, and to live for Him by the power of His Spirit.

#### A CHRISTIAN WITNESS-A PRAYER FOR ISRAEL-PSALM 83

The Website has been so hot this month, to the degree that I believe we will reach an all time high. Thanks so much for your support and the contributions so many of you have made to its success. Speaking of which I have finally been able to load a presentation that Lena Williams shared with me sometime ago.

"A Christian Witness-A Prayer for Israel-Psalm 83."

The historical prospective of this presentation is so well done that I have added it to the 'Learning Tree' feature of the website. As you know the Learning Tree is provided for those who are making a serious study of the WORD and have Biblical Scholarship as your goal.

"Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem"

#### SEND IT ON DOWN!

#### TURN UP YOUR VOLUME ON YOUR COMPUTER AND PRAISE THE LORD

God inhabits the praises of His people. Something begins to happen in the Spirit world.

Just click onto the link and scroll all the way down for some Toe Tapping Fun!

#### SOMETHING BOTHERING YOU?

I would like to express my appreciation to those of you who take the time to share with others. The seed you're sowing is definitely reaping a bountiful harvest. Please continue to share your wisdom, knowledge and information on the 'World Wide Web.' Together with the Website-our Workshops, Newsletters and Teleconferences we are reaching thousands with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Yes, we are spreading the gospel through the 'Information Super Highway.' Please keep on sowing-lives are being changed.

Here's another powerful presentation shared by our sister Mary Simpson-just simply click onto the link-once there-left click to advance the screen.

#### THE RESURRECTION

Jesus is alive from the dead. The Lord has defeated death. He has risen. Your broken hopes are no longer broken but now confirmed. Your fear has melted away into confident courage. But what are you supposed to do? Where are you supposed to go? How will life be different now, for certainly, it can never be the same again?

#### **MISSING CHILDREN**

As I was strolling through one my favorite sites last night I saw this page that literally broke my heart. A page devoted to missing and exploited children. Oh my God! Why should there be a need for such a webpage?

Let's daily link our prayers and efforts with the "Promise of Hope" ministry to find these children.

This page was created because we need to stay alert for these missing children and to continue to pray that they be found. Just click onto the link-scroll to the middle of the page and view the photos and information on these missing children of every race, gender and age. We need God in America!

#### THINKING OF YOU

#### THE BIBLE IS A TREASURE CHEST BUILT ON THE PREMISE OF

#### "SEED TIME AND HARVEST"

#### WHEN <u>WE</u> FOCUS ON SOWING SEED-<u>GOD</u> WILL FOCUS ON MEETING OUR NEED

This new page is specifically designed for you to share with others and will be updated weekly with new links. Its a perfect way to sow into the lives of others.

Just click onto the link below-select desired presentation-once there-scroll down page. Each presentation has music so please wait until it loops through.

#### SOW MORE/REAP MORE

The quality of your life is in your hands. Where ever you are in life is a direct result of sowing seed in good ground. Want to improve your quality of life. Here is some additional seed to sow. Start Sowing today and never stop.

#### **BEFORE I GO**

A FRIEND LIKE YOU

PRIVATE PLACE

**REFLECTIONS** 

MIRROR LAKE

SUNSET DREAMS FOR FREEDOM

ON MY TURF

#### SAIL AWAY

#### **RENEWAL**

#### LIGHT OF DAWN

#### **McCLAIN MINISTRIES**

National Bulletin Board Synergy Session

#### www.mcclainministries.org



The next Bulletin Board 'Networking' Party is scheduled for Saturday, September 23, 2006. Prior to our party date we will host two (2) Synergy Sessions in an effort to galvanize the energy and resources necessary to successfully complete this massive project.

These 'synergy' sessions will allow us to pool all of our tangible and intangible knowledge.

The first of these sessions is scheduled

Saturday, May 6, 2006 5:00 – 7:00 PM 1050 Ridgeside Drive Brandon, MS



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# **ENTREPRENEURS** McClain Ministries E-List Featuring

## **Charles Simpson**

www.science4everyone.com

# **Science for Everyone**

What is Science for Everyone?

Science for Everyone, Inc. (SFE) is an interactive math and science company designed to increase student interest in math and science learning.

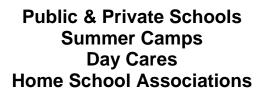
Founded in September 2000, the mission of SFE is to help children develop a richer appreciation for the importance of math and science by transforming the manner in which math and science education is presented.

Using our unique "hands-on, minds on" interactive approach, SFE educates students to appreciate the wondrous fabric that math and science weave in our complex, multifaceted society.

Presented in an exciting, thought-provoking 45-minute framework, and anchored in a tested and proven laboratory of cutting-edge demonstrations, SFE is a proven way to excite the imagination and curiosity of children.



Who do we service?



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# **TO BLOG OR NOT TO BLOG?**

(That is the Question)

Over the past few years, "blogs" have taken over where personal Web sites left off. Once the domain of journalists, commentators, politicians, and savvy University students, blogs are now used by people from all walks of life and of all ages. It has been said that there are now millions of blogs on the Web. Bloggings rise in popularity has been nothing short of phenomenal. Blogs are used as online diaries, soapboxes, political commentaries, to report breaking news, to share the latest family events with those we love, or just to talk to the world at large.

#### What is a blog? And why are they so popular?

A blog is a special type of Web page—an online journal—with unique characteristics that set it apart from regular Web pages. Blogs are made up of multiple journal entries listed in reverse chronological order that invariably include a title, a date, and time stamp. Each blog entry also will have its own Permalink (a unique Web address) and sometimes a Trackback (an automatic entry that appears in your blog to tell you that somebody has written about your entry, and linked to it), a Category, and Comments.

Comments are one of the things that make blogs unique and special. Anybody who reads a blog may, if the blog owner allows it, publish comments under a blog entry to agree, to disagree, to sympathize, or to share their own thoughts. This interaction is different than more traditional feedback utilities such as Guestbooks. Guestbooks are generic—entries are not tied to one particular page, or commentary. Blog comments, on the other hand, are tied directly to a particular entry.

#### Who uses blogs?

Nowadays, anybody can use a blog. Traditionally, blogs have been used by journalists, political commentators, and the like. Blogs have been used as the instrument of choice for some amazing exposés over the years. In recent times, blogs have been adopted by mainstream Internet users, thanks in part to Blogger.com and Live Journal, and MSN when they introduced MSN Spaces—a very easy to use, free blogging service that is available to all users of MSN Messenger.

#### How do I start a blog?

Simply choose a blog provider, create an account, and start writing. A list of the most popular free blog services can be found in the Related Links list to the right of screen.

After you have chosen a blog provider, creating a blog entry is very easy. It is not like designing a Web page where you have to find software to create your site, design a layout, create the pages and then upload them. The most popular blogging sites do not even need special software—all you need is a Web browser.

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## The Journey of A Mother

For those who are fortunate enough to still be blessed by having your Mom with you, this is beautiful...For those who aren't... it is even more beautiful.

The young mother set her foot on the path of life. "Is this the long way?" she asked. And the guide said "Yes, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you reach the end of it but the end will be better than the beginning."

But the young mother was happy, and she would not believe that anything could be better than these years. So she played with her children, she fed them and bathed them, and taught them how to tie their shoes and ride a bike and reminded them to feed the dog, and to their homework and brush their teeth. The sun shone on them and the young Mother cried, "nothing will ever be lovelier than this."

Then the nights came, and the storms, and the path was sometimes dark, and the children shook with fear and cold, and the mother drew them close and covered them with her arms, and the children said, "Mother, we are not afraid, for you are near, and no harm can come."

And the morning came, and there was a hill ahead, and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary. But at all times she said to the children, "A little patience and we are there." So the children climbed, and as they climbed they learned to weather the storms. And with this, she gave them strength to face the world. Year after year, she showed them compassion, understanding, hope, but most of all...unconditional love. And when they reached the top they said, "Mother, we would not have done it without you."

The days went on, and the weeks and the months and the years, and the mother grew old and she became little and bent. But her children were tall and strong, and walked with courage. And when she lay down at night, looked up at the stars and said, "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned so much and are now passing these traits on to their children."

And when the way became rough for her, they lifted her, and gave her their strength, just as she had given them hers. One day they came to a hill, and beyond the hill, they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide. And mother said: "I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know the end is better than the beginning, for my children

can walk with dignity and pride, with their heads held high, and so can their children after them. And the children said, "You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates." And they stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her. And they said, "We cannot see her, but she is with us still. A Mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a living presence."

Your Mother is always with you. She's the whisper of the leaves as you walk down the street, she's the smell of certain foods you remember, flowers you pick and perfume that she wore, she's the cool hand on your brow when you're not feeling well, she's your breath in the air on a cold winter's day. She is the sound of the rain that lulls you to sleep, the colors of a rainbow, she is Christmas morning. Your Mother lives inside your laughter. And she's crystallized in every tear drop. A mother shows every emotion ,happiness, sadness, fear, jealousy, love, hate, anger, helplessness, excitement, joy, sorrow... and all the while, hoping and praying you will only know the good feelings in life.

She's the place you came from, your first home, and she's the map you follow with every step you take. She's your first love, your first friend, even your first enemy, but nothing on earth can separate you. Not time, not space...not even death!



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