

Faith
&
Family

Connect
A Ministry of Victory Baptist Church

Dedicate your speech to God

Robert Schaeztle

'Commit your works to the lord, and your thoughts will be established.'
[Proverbs 16:3NKJV]

get it wrong, a speech
right, and its words
can feel like
last for an eternity
lifetime

Over the years God's wisdom and authority have taught me much how to lean on Him. Before leaving my car as I began my work day I would pray; 'Father let your light so shine through me this day that others will see your good work as I dedicate and purpose this day for your honor.' Taken from Mathew 6:33, I found my work not without temptation, but through those moments, His presence was there for

me, to walk with me throughout the day. Were all days alike or without moments of extra strength needed from our lord...no, by all means.

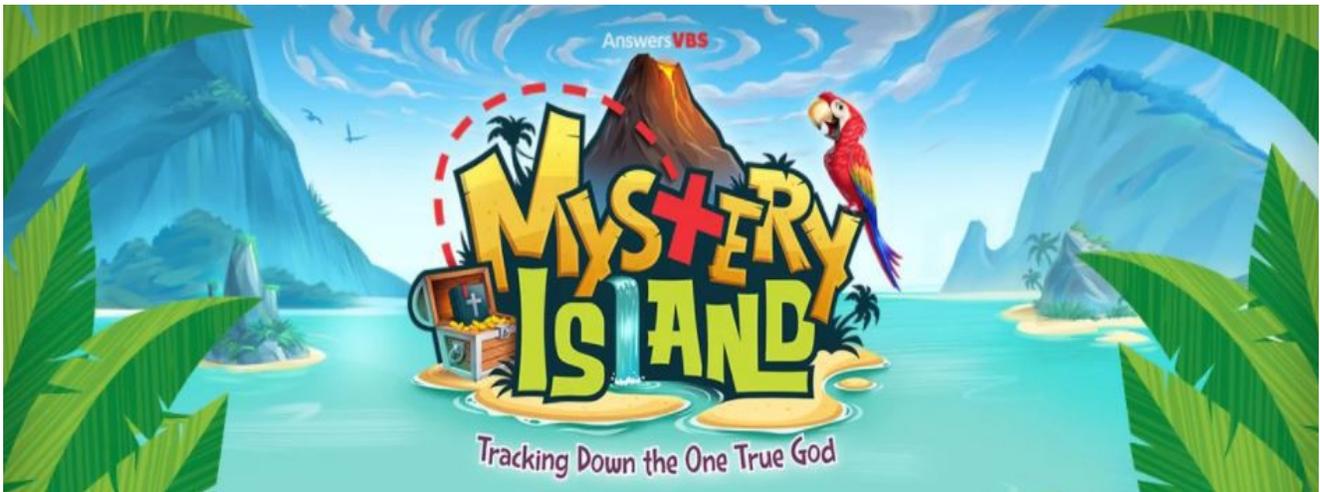
Throughout my 40 plus years working as a 'Civil Servant' dealing and interacting with all kinds and types of people personalities, I realized many moments when after many a given situation I would say; "Thank You Lord for walking with me through this." There are many who probably memorized Proverbs 3:5-7 also very good words of admonition, encouragement, and truths that give maturity to trusting more in His leading rather than self. Verse 7 [be not wise in your own eyes] especially of proverbs 3 teach that resting in human reasoning or thoughts can cause one to stumble into temptation to answer before he listens. [Proverbs 18:13] When serving others, whether it be in 'customer relations' or in every day communication needs, following the wisdom of James 1:19: 'Know this, my beloved brethren. Let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.' In these days of volatility consider how we're to let 'His Light' shine through us.

Faith & Family *Connect* – A Ministry of Victory Baptist Church

Mike Ennis – Senior Pastor

Morris Starkey - Editor

JUNE JULY 2021



Vacation Bible School

Date: July 11-15

Times: 6 – 8:30pm

Place: Victory Baptist Church

610 West Alto Road

Kokomo, Indiana

What to Expect:

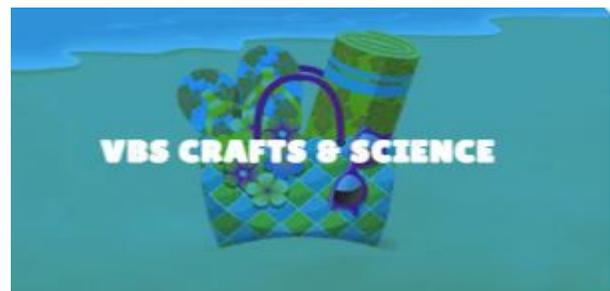


The kids will be singing action songs that glorify God and are fun and exciting to sing!

They will come home with a song in their heart!



The kids love games and love to move around. The activities teamwork, Biblical truths and are fun!



Be prepared for the kids to bring something home with them from VBS!

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Shepherd of My Heart

Gail S. Davis

Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be, not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve.



Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:2, 6-7

As we humble ourselves to do God's will and serve others because we willingly obey Him, we should do this because we love Him, not because we must. If we have cares and anxieties

that burden us and cause us to be distracted in our obedience to Him or cause us to think twice before obeying Him, then we must give those anxieties and cares to Him. God does not ask us to ignore those difficulties, but to willingly obey Him and receive His heart-peace, shalom, knowing He will take care of what causes us anxiety.

God cares for your heart. He cares about what keeps you from willingly saying yes to Him. God cares about your anxieties and fears you continue to bear as you serve Him. When you answer, "Yes" to God, give Him your anxieties with your willing submission of obedience. He will lift you up. Your burdens will be lighter because you gave them to Him. Covenant is two-sided.

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm, and steadfast. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 5:10-11

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Assume Nothing

T. M. Babcock

“Therefore judge nothing before the time...” (1 Corinthians 4:5)

One of the most painful experiences as a believer is to be misjudged due to a false assumption. We expect to be judged by people in the world, but when we're judged by people in the church it really hurts.

I remember hearing about a Christian speaker who assumed a man in the audience was disinterested in his message because the man chose to fall asleep. Later in the evening, he learned the man was narcoleptic and could fall asleep anywhere at any time. He had no control over his sudden sleep episodes!

I have a vocal disorder which prevents me from speaking in a smooth even tone. My voice sounds forced, jerky, with an uncontrollable tremor that makes me sound upset and about to cry. The stigma attached to my disorder is inescapable. I avoid phone calls and lengthy conversations. People who don't know me

assume I'm sick, stand-offish, lacking confidence, or upset. Some assume it's due to a mental problem or "it's all in my head." I belong to a Facebook group for people with Spasmodic Dysphonia and we've all had similar responses from people who don't understand.

Let's look around us as believers. Is there someone any of us might be making a false assumption about? People assumed many things about the Apostle Paul that were hurtful "For his letters say they, are weighty and powerful; but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible," (2 Corinthians 10:10 KJV). In other words, Paul was a disappointment because his physical weakness and verbal inadequacy didn't live up to his writing. Yet Paul wrote how God's "grace is sufficient" and His "...strength is made perfect in weakness..." (2 Corinthians 12:9 KJV). We should never assume anything about any Christian God stands to use in His own mighty way.

Trustworthy by Ennis Smith

James 5:12 – Above all, my brothers, do not swear-not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your “Yes” be yes, and your “No,” no, or you will be condemned.



How many times do we let ourselves down? How many times do we disappoint the ones we love? Each year, millions of people make new-year resolutions destined to failure. Every day, parents make promises to children but renege, for a myriad of reasons. We

make promises we have no real intention of keeping. Each broken promise diminishes our trust in ourselves. When we lose trust, we lose faith.

James tells us to keep it simple. Promises are not necessary, to bind a decision into action. We need to have a transformation in our way of thinking. Romans 12:2 says, “be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” The power of “Yes” should become the binding word. Conversely, the power of “No” should also be a definitive answer. Anything other than “yes” or “no” is the work of the evil one.

The world teaches us, it is perfectly okay to recant on a promise, because they’re broken every day. But, as Christians, we need to hold ourselves to higher standards. Jesus never had to promise anything. His word was his bond. When He said “Yes,” it was done. When He spoke “No,” it was undone. Today, let your “Yes” and “No” speak to the truth of your character. Let these small words prove your trustworthiness.

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More Than Enough

by Bob Valleau

"Jesus wept" (John 11:35) are two of the most powerful words in the Bible. They show Christ's humanity over the loss of a loved one, Lazarus. They depict our God as kind and caring and deeply involved in the affairs of mankind.



How many times have you cried over the loss of a loved one? How many times have you grieved about the death of a family member or a friend? The

death of a family member or a friend is never easy to deal with, especially when it is sudden or as the result of a lengthy illness. Yet, we don't have to suffer alone in our sorrow. Jesus, who was fully God and fully man, is touched with the feelings of our infirmities (Hebrews 4:15). He can relate to our pain, and He wants to offer us His comfort of love.

"But," you may ask, "is He enough to heal me from the hurt of my loss?" Of course, and we have a promise even before He stepped into His earthly suit for service: "...weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." (Psalm 30:5, American KJV).

It's natural to weep and to grieve over the death of someone you knew or whom you held dear to your heart. But the feelings of loss don't have to last forever. Allow Christ to infuse you with His love and realize that He is more than enough to comfort you and to carry your sorrow.

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The Finest Substance

by Florence Simmons

"Command the Israelites to bring you clear oil of pressed olives...so the lamps may be kept burning" Exodus 27:20.

Olive oil is a very precious commodity to many countries. Many centuries ago, a very



important lifeline was given to the people of Israel: the oil produced from their olive trees. My husband David and I had traveled with a tour group to Israel. On a few acres of ground

near Nazareth, we were shown a reproduction of a village-like setting that depicted how people lived in Jesus' day so that visitors could connect the biblical stories and visualize the shepherd's life.

The olive press they displayed was indispensable for living in former times. We were told that they would press ripe olives three times. The first expressed oil yielded the finest substance. God's temple received the first and best oil for its lamps and other religious purposes.

The finest oil was reserved for where God's presence dwelt. After the exodus from Egypt and while they were still tramping in the desert, Moses gave this command. "This is to be a lasting ordinance among the Israelites for the generations to come" (Exodus 27:20).

God requires the first oil from us. That would consist of the first of our strength, the first of our day to seek Him, or the best of our abilities and talents. If we give Him our first, we will find that He will provide the rest.

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The Good, Great and Glorious God

by Fenny West

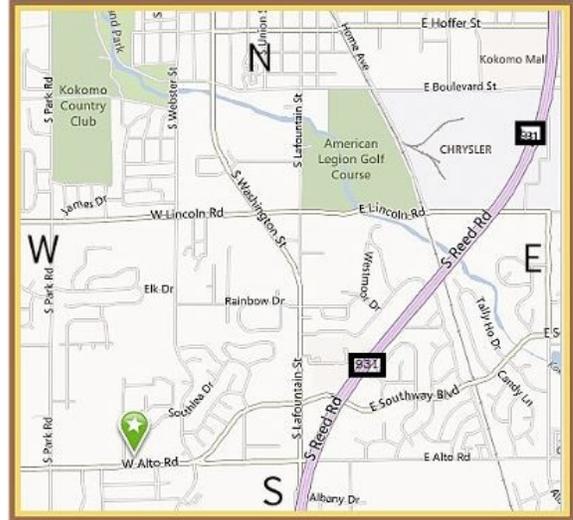
My God is glorious and victorious
Too awesome and fearsome.
He's precious and righteous,
Bounteous, gracious and
splendorous.

My God is wonderful and beautiful;
Beyond every imagination and
comprehension.
He is powerful and merciful.-
The God of Hope, powerful and
faithful.

He is the great , good, God of gods
Declaring the end from the
beginning.
He's the king of kings and the Lord
of lords;
Unconquerable but always
conquering.
He is the End just as He is the
Beginning.

Praise and honor and glory belong
to Him
He is the Master of the Sea
He rules from sea to sea. Praise
Him.
No one compares to His Majesty
and beauty,
Sovereignty, integrity and
excellency

Map to Church



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