

## What Does It Take to Have a Lasting Marriage?

by Mike Ennis

Love is not

a feeling;

it's an attitude



In our last article we looked at commitment as a necessary part of a lasting marriage. Commitment means to obligate yourself.

Marriage is based on a covenant relationship. A covenant is the binding of yourself to fulfill certain obligations to each other. Marriage vows are promises made to each other in the presence of God and witnesses. It is a binding, life-long verbal contract. This is the basis of marriage. Commitment to wedding vows, spouse, God's word, defense of family, and the Lordship of Christ is the foundation of marriage. Aside from a lack of commitment, any other problem in a marriage can be fixed by God and His Word.

Even though commitment is the

first thing needed in marriage, and is the foundation, the cornerstone of marriage is love. Love is the second indispensable ingredient to a lasting marriage. "But Pastor, you said anything but a lack of commitment in marriage is fixable. What if we do not love each other

This problem is fixable because it is simply a misunderstanding of what love is.

anymore?"

The problem with love is that so many

people don't have a clue what it is. Love is not a feeling; it's an attitude. Basing love on emotions, as the world does, has caused immeasurable pain to countless numbers of people. It's like building a sand castle on the beach. It might look solid, but when the high tide rolls in, the sand castle isn't strong enough to hold up, and it washes away... The world gives love a

staggering amount of attention... Love is presented as something to be 'fallen into' and 'fallen out of.' There is no solution given for what to do when the emotion fails you and the warm fuzzies are gone — other than bailing out and starting over with someone else.

The reason people say "We don't love each other anymore" is because they do not understand the concept of Biblical love. Any marriage can have or rebuild love if they use the right concept

of love.

## Love is not an emotional thing first and foremost.

One person defined love as "a feeling you never felt before you felt this feeling." In other words they define love as a kind of mystical feeling. It cannot be feelings first. Jesus shows this in his command in Matthew chapter 5. Matthew 5:44 says, *But* 

I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; We usually do not have warm fuzzy feelings towards our enemies, so whatever love is, it cannot be some kind of feeling. If, however, you practice biblical love you will have the right feelings towards your spouse, but you start with Bible love and then the feelings naturally come. Jesus said in Matthew 6:20-21, But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Note that Jesus says where your treasure is your heart will follow. What you invest in you tend to love. If you invest your life in your spouse, you will have the right emotional feeling towards them, but love, which is the giving of your life to another, comes first.

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# Second Chances in the Garden of Life

by Marlin Carpenter

In what state of being would we find ourselves if we only had one chance to do things right? What if pencils had no erasers? If there was no such thing as "white out" or editing software? What if there were no opportunities for apology or a second chance from God?

Jonah was a man in dire need of a second chance! After disobeying God and an unsuccessful attempt to run from God, Jonah found himself swallowed whole — literally (Jonah 1:17)! However, in spite of Jonah's blatant disobedience, God gave Jonah a second chance to fulfill his mission.

I suppose if any of us were swallowed by a big fish and then regurgitated and granted extended life, we too would be much more eager to serve God!

And thank goodness for second chances in the garden as well! Some years (such as with the current) conditions are far less than optimum for growing a successful garden. Other times the failures of our garden are simply the lack of effort on our own part. Whatever the reason, we all experience failure in the garden on occasion. I particularly enjoy fall because it can be a redemptive time of year in which we find much

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## **Editorially Speaking**

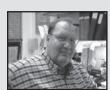
I grew up in a large family and many times my mother would send one of us kids to the store to buy something. When we asked which kind we were to buy, she would always say, "the cheapest kind." Our small-town grocer always knew when we came into the store with a list from mom, he was to fill the order, with "the cheapest kind." It is hard to break old patterns of thinking, so I admit to having grown up with a "cheapest kind" mentality. In today's economy more and more folks are subscribing to the cheapest kind lifestyle, out of necessity, as did my family all those many years ago. I have eaten my share of things that lack that fresh from the garden taste, bit down on green bean vines and found peach pit pieces in nearly green canned peaches. I have learned the cheapest kind is not always the best way to go.

There is a familiar statement in Christian circles regarding God's salvation, "It's free, but it wasn't cheap." The price that was paid for man's salvation was the very life of His only begotten Son. It was the only price God the Father would accept. Man tries a lot of "cheaper kinds" - good works, churchianity, philosophy - all which fall woefully

short of the price of mankind's redemption. The cheapest kind is not the way to go. "By grace are ye saved, through faith, and that not of yourself. It is the gift of God."

Many have commented on how we are able to produce between five and ten thousand papers, distribute them to our nearly 250 sites in a tricounty area and still do it without advertising and for free. Like God's salvation, "It's free but it isn't cheap." God has blessed FAFN with a dedicated staff of volunteer writers, workers and donors, none of whom, to my knowledge, are wealthy. We are average traditional Christian people, lay-people for the most part, with a vision for our world. Visit our website www.faithandfamilynews. blogspot.com, if you feel compelled to see how you can be a part. Join us in this outreach, and be prepared to feel really good about it.

Morris Starkey *Editor, Faith And Family News* 



Morris Starkey is retired from Indiana University Kokomo and lives with his wife, Don-

na, in Miami County. They have two children and five grandchildren.

## Statesmanship, Community Leadership and Service

by Margaret Tice



When I first came to Kokomo, I heard a man's name mentioned at different times in a definite tone of respect. It was "Jim Butcher."

Later I was to hear his wife's name, "Marvel," mentioned in the same way. When I observed Jim one time wiping off tables after a church dinner, I thought, "He that is greatest among you, let him be your servant." I was impressed. Marvel was impressive too. Speaking to a group of ladies, she looked attractive and fashionable and she spoke with openness, strength and sincerity about her life and history —both with the Lord and with her husband.

When my husband was declining with Alzheimer's, I went to Jim for elder care advice and was directed to the help I needed to care for the rest of the life of the one so dear to me; when I met a woman in a Tipton McDonald's who, when I began to talk to her about the Lord, asked me if I knew Marvel Butcher and added what a help over many years Marvel had been to her, I realized there must be people all over who have been helped by this couple. In fact, I think if I asked for a show of hands in this whole area of the state who have been blessed and helped by Jim and Marvel, I can imagine those hands would look as plentiful as the tassels I see daily waving high in the August fields.

Olympic interviews during the games this year reminded me again of how people arrive at the position of being able to do worthwhile things: the Olympians talked about their background, their training, their self-discipline, their hard work, their previous accomplishments and their goals. Let's look at Mr. and Mrs. Butcher that way.

Did you know that...neither Jim **Statesmanship** cont. on page 5

## To Your Health

by Ashlee Shoaff

Johne Donne wrote "No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main." Each sphere of community offers so much to humanity. God colored the world with strokes of variety and connectedness. One by one every community of people depending, working, and living together seeks out their purpose in God's plan (even unintentionally.) He vividly displayed the dependency humans have one to another by noting that it was not good for man to be lonely.

Living healthy lives entails more than our physical bodies. Being fitness- and nutritionally- minded have immeasurable impacts on our health. In addition, our social connections and camaraderie bring vitality.

The 2010 Social Report referred to communities and their connectedness

as the relationships people have with others and the benefits these relationships can bring to the individual as well as to society.

It includes relationships with family, friends, colleagues and neighbors, as well as connections

people make through paid work, sport and other leisure activities, or through voluntary work or community service. The report noted the source of enjoyment and support a community brings. In Ecclesiastes, we are told it is better to have a partner than go it alone. The verse continues by stating that we are able to share in the work, and the wealth, and the help if something goes wrong. On the other hand, if you make decisions to isolate yourself, then there is pity because no one is available to help. This help may come in forms of physical assistance. It also relates to times of emotional and spiritual down-turns. Romans 14 promotes the need for us to "aim for and eagerly pursue what makes for harmony and for mutual up-building (edification and development) of one another" (Amplified Bible.) People exist to help one another.

Connected people feel belonging and have a significant part to play in society. Building communities and society as a whole emanate from people who feel connected to others. The 2012 Social Report also found that communities help to create "social capital", the networks that help society to function effectively. *Lifescape* notes that having friends and outside interests can make a difference in living longer and healthier lives.

The 2010 Social Report showed several studies that demonstrated links between social connectedness and the performance of the economy and positive outcomes for individual health and well-being. One of the recent large studies confirmed that people with more friends and connections are generally happier, healthier and better off, and that happiness spreads through social networks. However, the study also found that social networks can influence health behaviors both negatively and positively—for example, starting and stopping smoking. The proverbial

quote from Galatians rings true, that just a little yeast affects the entire batch of dough. Using wisdom in selecting with whom you spend time makes all the difference.

Fellowshipping with others on a routine basis is essential to our health. An University of Exeter study of stroke patients showed that people with

a wide social network reported 20% higher levels of well-being following stroke. *Psychology and Aging Journal* relates a study of two groups. One showed over a six-week period, one group shared reminiscences about the past, discussing subjects like weddings, the war, and school days, another group played skittles, and the final group had one-to-one reminiscence discussions. After six weeks of 'group reminiscence therapy' they found a 12% increase in memory tests. However, they found no improvement was seen in the group that had one-on-one discussions.

Communing with others offers health and fulfillment to life. Unplug and get connected to real people today.

Ashlee Shoaff, along with her husband, Stan, have four children. She is



currently working on an advanced degree, lives in Howard county and serves our Lord at Victory Baptist Church.

## **Old Timer's Corner**

by Jim Wright

I was in first grade when my sixth birthday rolled around on October 5, 1939. I was just learning the sounds that the letters make, in preparation for learning to read. The day I learned how to spell the word 'the', my grandma was having the first of a series of club meetings in her house. I later learned it was called Child Evangelism Fellowship. On my way there, I was wondering if I would get the opportunity of showing off my new knowledge in spelling.

It wasn't anything like what I thought it would be. She showed us the wordless book telling us what each of the colors stood for, talked a lot about Heaven, read to us John 14:1-6, and then told us about Jesus dying on the cross to pay for our sins. Then she asked us how many of us would like to accept that payment and go to Heaven. Well, I thought, that's a no-brainer. Who wouldn't want to go to Heaven? But to my amazement, only one other kid raised his hand with me!

Grandma gave us all milk and cookies, sent the rest of the kids home, and we two stayed while she read Revelation 3:20 to us, and asked us if we'd like to 'open the door' to our hearts and let Him in. We both prayed and told the Lord Jesus that we were opening the door and invited Him in, and Grandma told us that if we had really meant it, that we were

Later that year, just after we had learned the sounds that the last of the letters made, I suddenly thought, "Now that I know all the sounds, I should be able to read anything!" So I went and grabbed a newspaper. Right away I realized that I didn't know the words I was trying to sound out. It was a disappointing failure. I put down the paper and began to browse Mama's bookcase, and noticed a book called, "The Third Year Reader."

**Old Timer's Corner** cont. on page 8

## Aging Gracefully

by Morris Starkey

Huh?



o f the most frustrating aspects of growing older is that our senses may begin to diminish. Our eyes can lose

their ability to focus on fine print and our hearing acuity may be affected. I find myself saying "huh?" much more often. It really isn't much comfort to know that many others my age are in the same situation. Contrary to the old adage, misery doesn't love company. In social situations, you can get by sometimes by just smiling and nodding when someone speaks to you, hoping their words weren't such as need an answer or response and that smiling and nodding are appropriate. This technique is rooted more in denial than beneficial recognition of a hearing problem. I have a mechanical hearing loss (as opposed to a nerve loss) called otosclerosis - a loss of flexibility in the stapes assembly of the middle ear. Microsurgery, years ago, restored a significant level of hearing, but "huh?" is still a "word" I use often.

Of course, aging affects much more than just eyesight and hearing. Many believe that Ecclesiastes describes the effects of aging thus:

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth (and healthy), while the evil days (poor health) come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them (depression); While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain (cheerlessness): In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble (frailness) and the strong men shall bow themselves (osteoporosis), and the grinders cease because they are few (teeth), and those that look out of the windows be darkened (cataracts), And the doors shall be shut in the streets (fear), when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird (sleeplessness), and all the daughters of musick shall be brought low (speech and language); Remember Him before the silver cord (spine) is broken and the golden bowl (skull) is crushed, the pitcher by the well is shattered and the wheel at the cistern is crushed (incontinence); Then shall the dust (human body) return to

Aging Gracefully cont. on page 11

## **Education Is Character Training**

We aim to develop

Christ-like character and

academic excellence in

live for God's glory.

Wouldn't it be great if there was a school that merged academics and character training? Do you believe academic excellence and personal responsibility are inseparable? Don't

you think our society would be better off if our children were trained to have a God and others focus? Would you be interested in enrolling your children in a school like that? Well, I have good news.

The mission statement of Victory Christian Academy is: We aim to develop Christ-like character and academic excellence in preparing each student to live for God's glory. This statement defines what we believe school should be about. In the previous edition of FAFN, I argued education was not complete if it didn't direct the

individual to a personal relationship with God through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Just as salvation is preparing each student to a personal issue, so too is one's education. Each student must be held responsible for

> the quality of work they accomplish. VCA is a place where both academic excellence and personal character are developed simultaneously.

> > Accelerated Christian Education

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Lasting Marriage cont. from page 1

#### Love is not an accident.

This is one of the most pathetic views of love out there. Love is something that I cannot control. People speak of falling in love as if they tripped and fell on the sidewalk. Anything you can fall into you can fall out of. That is not love! You do not catch love like you catch a cold!

#### **Kinds of love**

The Greek language, in which the New Testament was written, uses several words translated "love." The first two listed below are found in the New Testament. Understanding their meanings helps us better comprehend God's expectations of us.

Phileo (verb) means "to have ardent affection and feeling—a type of impulsive love" (Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary, 1995, "Love"). This is the natural, human type of love and affection that we have for a friend and is often defined as "brotherly love."

Eros (noun) refers to sexual, erotic love or desire.

Agapao (verb) is a special word representing the divine love of God toward His Son, human beings in general and believers. It is also used to depict the outwardly focused love God expects believers to have for one another. Agapao (including its noun form, agape) is "the characteristic word of Christianity, and since the Spirit of revelation has used it to express ideas previously unknown, enquiry into its use, whether in Greek literature or in the Septuagint, throws

but little light upon its distinctive meaning in the N[ew] T[estament] .

This special type of Christian love, "whether exercised toward the brethren, or toward men generally, is not an impulse from the feelings, it does not always run with the natural inclinations, nor does it spend itself only upon those for whom some affinity is discovered" (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words,

Reflecting the fact that human marriage is modeled after the divine relationship between Christ and the Church, husbands are told to love their wives with this kind of outgoing, selfless love (Ephesians 5:25, 31-32). This kind of love is perhaps best expressed in Jesus Christ's statement in John 15:13, "Greater love [agape] has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." Jesus Himself perfectly exemplified this kind of love throughout His lifetime, continually giving of Himself and His time and energies to serve others and ultimately offering up His life as a sacrifice for all of humanity. This is the kind of love God wants each of us to exemplify in our lives and particularly in our marriages.

Mike Ennis serves as Pastor of Victory

Baptist Church. A native of Kokomo, he has pastored for 30 years. He and his wife, Joan, have 4 married



daughters and 8 grandchildren.

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## THE BOOK SHELF

by Jeanine Garrison



"Let the wife make the husband glad to come home, and let him make her sorry to see him leave." -- Martin Luther

... the Bible is the ultimate

marriage manual, but sometimes

other books can help us apply

biblical principles...

The Bible says in Proverbs 18:22, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing . . . ." But these days many are questioning whether that is actually true. For a variety of reasons, the institution of marriage seems to be in deep trouble. Many, young and old, are choosing to cohabitate instead of marrying, and for those who do marry, divorce looms as a foregone conclusion. Statistics may alarm us, but we're usually not too concerned until we, or a loved one, are threatened with becoming one of those statistics. Then we desperately look for help. We know the Bible is the ultimate marriage manual, but sometimes other books

can help us apply biblical principles to our lives and marriages.

I nt h e Shepherd Press book When Sinners Say "I Do", Dave

Harvey likens a marriage to buttoning up a shirt. If you get the first button in the wrong hole, you can bet that all the rest will be wrong too. Getting the first button right is the key to getting everything else right. And what is that first button in marriage? Theology. That's probably not the answer you were expecting. We recognize in today's world that to understand a computer program, you may need to consult the one who wrote the program. Harvey reasons that since God created the marriage "program", it is fundamental that we understand Him and ourselves as revealed by Scripture.

Throughout his book Harvey explores the plan God originally had for marriage as the earthly picture of the relationship between Christ and His church and the damage that sin has consequently done to that picture. He hopes to convince the reader that "dealing with the sin problem is key to a thriving marriage" (p. 29). In his chapter titled "Waking Up With the Worst of Sinners," Harvey explains, "Once I know that I am indeed the worst of sinners, then my spouse is no longer my biggest problem: I am. And when I find myself walking in the shoes of the worst of sinners, I will make every effort to grant my spouse the same lavish grace that God has granted me" (p. 41). He goes on to say, "Our real opponent is not on the opposite side of the bed, but within our hearts. Our enemy is the desires of our flesh that oppose the desires of the Spirit. This is the fiercest and only

> true enemy of our marriage. We must know this enemy well" (p. 58).

Just because When Sinners Say "I Do" is about "theology" doesn't

mean it is a boring read for the lay person. Harvey illustrates his writing with true-life examples from his own marriage, biblical examples, and appropriate scriptures. His tone is serious, as is his subject, but his keen sense of humor often gives the reader a chuckle. His chapters deal with grace, mercy, forgiveness, the spouse in sin, sex, and last of all "When Sinners Say Goodbye" at the end of life.

Another helpful book that deals with marriage is Gary Thomas's Sacred Marriage, published by Zondervan. Though very similar to Harvey's book in theme, Sacred Marriage delves more into God's purpose for marriage and the spiritual growth of the believer, especially through hard times. He poses thought-provoking questions to the reader, such as, what if God didn't design marriage to be easy? What if God designed marriage

Book Shelf cont. on page 9

## Why Does Your Family Need a Budget?

by Mike Ennis

your finances,

your finances will

control you.

A budget is a tool that allows you to manage your finances. Many, if not most, families do not have a budget. They talk as if they have a budget saying things like, "That is not in the budget." What they mean is they do not have the money at that moment to make a particular purchase. A budget

is a detailed plan that tracks and controls your income and spending. It takes a little time to set up and a little effort weekly to "work it" but it is well worth the effort. The first thing that a budget

will do is make you a good steward of God's wealth. While it is possible to set up and run a budget and leave God out of the picture, it is not at all wise nor will it pay off in the long run. God is the creator and owner of all that is in this world. "The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein" Psalm 24:1.

Wise money management begins with an acknowledgement of the ownership of our creator God and the fact that we are simply managers of what is His. A budget allows us to manage His wealth in a way that is pleasing to Him.

Second, we need a budget because if you do not control your finances, your finances will control you. Money makes a good servant but a terrible master that brings

If you do not control much woe and misery. Third, a budget allows you to achieve goals. How many times have you said, "I need to save some money", or "we need to put back for this need"?

> A budget allows you to do that. If you want to get out of debt or save for retirement or your children's college, or any other financial goal, you need a budget.

> Fourth, you need a budget to reduce stress in your life and in your marriage. There are a lot of pressures that come from an out-of-control money situation in your family. A budget allows you to track and manage wealth in a way that

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610 West Alto Road • Kokomo, IN 46902 (765) 453-9768 Pastor Mike Ennis

#### Sunday

Sunday School....... 9:00 a.m. Worship Service..... 10:00 a.m. Evening Service......6:00 p.m. (No evening service every 4th Sunday of the month.)

#### Wednesday

Adult Bible Study..... 7:00 p.m. Truth Trackers......7:00 p.m. (Ages 3 - 6th grade) Teens......7:00 p.m. (7th grade - high school)

Listen to messages online at: victorybaptistchurchkokomo.com

## Prayer

(Part 3)

By Terry Seagraves

I am so happy to be sharing these steps with you. I pray it blesses you as much as it is blessing me. This next step was and is still probably the hardest for me:

#### Go to God in Honesty

I mean really, are we honest when we have to admit we were wrong? For example, did you swear at the driver who pulled in front of you? Was the line moving too slow for you at the checkout? I could give you many examples, but this is a newspaper and not a book. As a Christian, I have learned, you can't lie to the Lord! First of all that's a sin! I remember my Dad telling me, "You get punished harder for lying about the deed than you do for doing the deed." Trust me, I learned that one fast, and it's funny, when I did something wrong and admitted it, my punishment wasn't so bad. So what it comes down to is, do you tell the Lord the truth or do you suffer the punishment for the lies? The Lord is so happy when we are honest with Him. He loves us and He forgives us. We just have to ask. So be prepared to be

honest. Jesus will bless you more for it. I believe it makes you feel so much better to have an honest talk with the Lord.

#### Go to God in Sincerity

Let's look at what Sincerity means—genuine, honest, true, unpretentious. Wow! That is a strong amount of meaning for one word.

We have discussed honesty and I would like to concentrate on unpretentious. Who do we pretend to be when we pray? Are we sincere in our hearts? Do we try to pray like the preacher? Do we listen to others pray in church and think; I want to pray like them. No, this does not work; the Lord wants us to be ourselves. Take away the Sunday clothes and make-up; be yourself. Jesus did not put on a fancy show. He did not use fancy words and He did not pretend to be something He

Prayer cont. on page 8

#### **Second Chances** cont. from page 1

opportunity to create second chances with our gardens. We can plant fall plantings of green beans, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, lettuce, and more. In fact, there are many things that can be planted in the fall. Furthermore, the fall plantings of these crops tend to do better than the spring plantings. I find it most unfortunate that the majority of people are unaware of this fact. The crops tend to do better due to the cooler temperatures and increased rainfall that typically accompanies the fall season. This is especially true for cool crops such as broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, spinach, etc.

There is also great enjoyment in seeing flower beds come back to life after stalling out for the summer. A lot of flowers will make a comeback in the fall and look nice again if they are properly pruned back during the summer. This, along with adding some fall mums, pansies, and fall blooming perennials to the beds, can really spruce things up, giving a final hoopla for the season.

And if this isn't enough for second chances, at least we can take note of what worked well and what didn't and try again next year! Don't give up just because some things failed. If we did that with everything

in life we would find ourselves very defeated. It seems much better to just learn from our mistakes and try

I think Jonah learned a lot sitting in the belly of a fish for three days and three nights. I am sure he had many regrets regarding things he had done or had not done. Especially the one where he tried to run from God and ended up fish food! But in the midst of this hopeless situation Jonah cried out to God for another chance instead of giving up. Chapter 2 of Jonah says, "Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly". After this, God caused the fish to spit Jonah out on the dry land. If you have found yourself sitting in the proverbial belly of a fish after trying things your way instead of God's, call out to Him. He is listening. Our God is a God of second chances!

Marlin Carpenter owns Garden Gate Greenhouse at the corner of Miami

County 500 South and Hwy 19. Marlin is a Master Gardener and recognizes God's work in the beauty of His creation.



nor Marvel have brothers and sisters? Both Jim and Marvel received Christ as Saviour when they were 9 and 10. Marvel read early and memorized many Bible verses which she was often asked to recite to people. She was graduated very near the top of her high school class. She studied two years at Bible college then went on to receive a degree in education and two Master's Degrees—Early Childhood and Elementary Education. Though she worked as a waitress, in child care, in an office and as a teacher, she found teaching the most interesting. She was singing a solo at a Youth Revival in a tent in Michigan when Jim was attracted to her, met her that same night and 13 days later proposed to her and she accepted. They have been married 59 years and have three children, all

married with families, their oldest

being a preacher and the other two

teachers, and from them they have

seven grandchildren and three great-

grandchildren. Marvel is co-founder

He that is greatest

among you, let him

be your servant.

Statesmanship cont. from page 2

of PSALMS (Practical Scriptural Application for Ladies' Minds & Souls), a nondenominational Bible study through which literally hundreds of women in this area

have been and are being taught God's Word

Did you know that Jim grew up in Hazel Park, Michigan, a suburb of Detroit, where in high school he earned 9 varsity letters in 4 sports; he earned degrees in Political Science and Sociology from Wittenberg University in Ohio, which he attended on a partial athletic scholarship. Married halfway through college, he worked at 16 different jobs to support his family and himself and still attained 7 major athletic letters and graduated on the Dean's list. He worked midnights at a steel mill while earning his law degree at Valparaiso University and afterwards went to work as the first City-County Planning Director for Huntington. He came to Kokomo in 1959 as Director of the Kokomo and Howard County Planning Commissions and as Director of the Kokomo Urban Renewal Commission.

From 1962-64 Jim served as general counsel and worked in stewardship and public relations for Youth for Christ International, Wheaton, Illinois. He is a former Board Member of the local Child Evangelism Fellowship. From 1964 to the present, Jim has engaged in the general practice of law in Kokomo and is senior partner of Butcher, Ball

& Lowry Law Firm, is a member of the Indiana and Howard County Bar Associations, and is authorized to practice law in Indiana, Illinois, and before the Supreme Court of the United States. Jim has been a columnist for a local bi-weekly newspaper, giving advice to senior citizens regarding estate planning and other legal matters. He is an estate planning speaker at seminars and conferences across central Indiana. In addition he has appeared on local television programs to provide legal expertise on estate planning and Medicaid planning topics.

Jim is author and sponsor of numerous bills in the Indiana State Legislature affecting estate planning, reduction of Indiana inheritance taxes, and strengthening laws against drunk drivers and abortion providers. He often speaks at churches and community events, like the National Day of Prayer, and is active in his local church where he has served as Deacon,

Moderator and Sunday school teacher. He was elected to the Indiana Senate for two fouryear terms. He was a 1986 candidate for Congress in Indiana's 5th Congressional

District, that campaign being the most interesting work of his life. He is a member of the Board of Directors, a co-founder and first President of the Indiana Family Institute, Inc. (affiliated with Focus on the Family), a member of Howard County Historical Society, and co-founder and chairman of the Board of Directors of the Citizens Coalition for Decency, Inc. He is a former member of Eagle Forum—a pro-family life forum.

Goals? I think theirs can be summed up in what they said when asked how they would like to be remembered in their epitaphs some day. Jim said he'd like his to read "Here lies a man of integrity; he was a Godly influence on family and friends." Marvel said she'd simply like to be remembered as "a woman who walked with God." No one's perfect, but it seems to me Jim and Marvel are living their lives with these goals in mind and are winners, like the Olympians.

-Margaret Tice, widow of Don Tice,

businessman, pastor and Christian educator, mother of two sons who, with their wives and families, know, love and serve the Lord.





## First Aid 101

Rachel Irwin, RN



This article was inspired by our recent family vacation to FL. My brother-in-law happened to have a first aid kit that was put to use several times during the week. My Aunt Lou recommended that I write an article on what was needed in a first aid kit.

Most homes in America have a first aid kit of some kind or at least the basic contents of one. I'm also going to explain what to do with some of its contents, explaining what to do in case of minor injuries that occur in the home, especially in homes with children

According to the Mayo Clinic website, contents of a first-aid kit should include:

#### **Basic supplies**

- Adhesive tape
- Antibiotic ointment
- Antiseptic solution or towelettes
- Bandages, including a roll of elastic wrap (Ace, Coban, others) and bandage strips (Band-Aid, Curad, others) in assorted sizes
- · Instant cold packs
- Cotton balls and cotton-tipped swabs
- Disposable latex or synthetic gloves, at least two pair
- Duct tape
- Gauze pads and roller gauze in assorted sizes
- First-aid manual
- Petroleum jelly or other lubricant
- Plastic bags for the disposal of contaminated materials
- Safety pins in assorted sizes
- Scissors and tweezers
- Soap or instant hand sanitizer
- Sterile eyewash, such as a saline solution
- Thermometer
- Triangular bandage
- Turkey baster or other bulb suction device for flushing out wounds

#### Medications

- Activated charcoal (use only if instructed by your poison control center)
- · Aloe vera gel
- Anti-diarrhea medication
- Over-the-counter oral antihistamine, such as diphenhydramine (Benadryl, others)
- Aspirin and nonaspirin pain relievers (never give aspirin to

- Calamine lotion
- Over-the-counter hydrocortisone cream
- Personal medications that don't need refrigeration
- If prescribed by your doctor, drugs to treat an allergic attack, such as an auto-injector of epinephrine (EpiPen, Twinject, others)
- Syringe, medicine cup or spoon

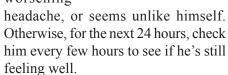
Here are some of the most common injuries we face on any given day, and ways to handle them, according to the Mayo Clinic website and the Real Simple website.

#### **Head Bump**

What to do first: Assuming your child is conscious and responsive (if not, call 911), apply an ice pack or a bag of frozen vegetables for 20 minutes to reduce any swelling.

What to do next: Watch him carefully. Get medical help if there's

a change in his pupils (one is larger than the other, or they don't react to light); he's vomiting often or won't eat; or he feels dizzy, has a worsening



What not to do: He can sleep, but wake him every four hours to check in. And don't let him play sports. Even if he's feeling better, he needs to sit out the day.

#### **Cut or Scrape**

What to do first: If there's active bleeding, apply direct pressure with a clean cloth. The bleeding should stop in 5 to 10 minutes. If it doesn't, see a doctor.

What to do next: If there's a small foreign object in the cut (like a piece of glass), it's OK to remove it with tweezers sterilized in alcohol. Clean the wound with soap and warm water, pat it dry, and apply an antibiotic ointment. Cover it with a sterile

bandage, and change the bandage daily.

What not to do: Don't swab the wound with an antiseptic, such as hydrogen peroxide or alcohol. It isn't necessary and will sting, compounding the trauma.

#### **Squashed Finger or Toe**

What to do first: If the digit is deformed, the nail is coming up, or there's blood under the nail, see a doctor. Apply an ice pack or run under cold water to ease swelling. If the wound is bleeding, clean it with soap and water and put on a bandage.

What to do next: Over the next 72 hours, watch for increased pain, swelling, redness, drainage, or fever. These symptoms can signal infection; see your doctor.

What not to do: Don't attempt to straighten a fractured finger or toe on your own. That's definitely a job for a doctor.

#### Nosebleed

What to do first: If your child is vomiting or seems unusually pale or sweaty, get medical help. Otherwise have her tilt her head

slightly forward. Pinch her nostrils and hold firmly for 10 minutes.

What to do next: If the bleeding hasn't stopped, repeat for 10 minutes. If the blood is still coming after that, get medical help.

What not to do: Don't have your child lie down or tilt her head back, as she could swallow blood. And don't put dry tissues in her nose; removing them could reopen scabs. Instead, you can insert gauze wetted with decongestant nose drops to shrink blood vessels.

#### Burn

What to do first: Run cool water over the area for several minutes, then pat dry with a clean towel.

What to do next: To ease the initial pain, apply a cold compress (not an ice cube, which can cause a cold burn on top of a heat burn). Then cover the burn with a sterile bandage. You can

also give your child some pediatric ibuprofen. If the burn has blistered or oozes, or if redness or pain persists for more than a few hours, seek medical help.

What not to do: Don't apply Neosporin or any other greasy ointment; it can trap heat and make the burn worse. And don't apply butter; this old-school "remedy" can introduce bacteria and cause an infection.

#### **Sprain**

What to do first: Determine if it is a sprain or a break. This can be tricky as they are both very painful. However, there are differences, such as movement. If broken, you will not be able to move the affected area. With a sprain you can move it, but may not want to because it is just as painful. Applying weight on a foot is painful with either a break or a sprain, but it is impossible with a break. If in doubt the only way to tell is an x-ray. For pain control, use an anti-inflammatory, like Ibuprofen.

What to do next: Follow the R.I.C.E plan. Rest—stay off of your foot until swelling decreases. Ice compress to decrease swelling—apply ice pack 15-20 min, 4-8 times per day for 48hrs to decrease swelling. Compress the area—use an elastic wrap or bandage. Elevate—keep the extremity elevated until the swelling decreases.

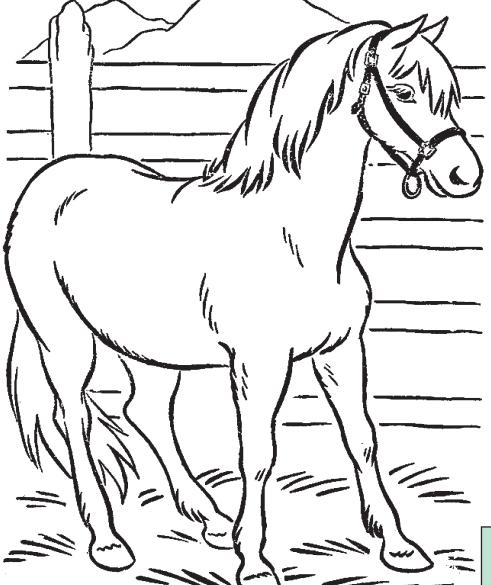
What not to do: Don't overuse it too soon. After 2 days you can begin applying weight, but don't go out and run a marathon.

I found this information from websites Mayo clinic and Real Simple. The web is an excellent source if you are unsure what to do or when to seek medical attention. As a mother and Christian I often find the best thing to do is pray for God's protection over the ones we love. God has done so many unknown things to keep us safe as we go along, but for the times when He allows things to happen, I hope this article will help you deal with those bumps in the road. God Bless you!



Rachel Irwin is married to Justin and has two children. She is a practicing RN in Howard county.





Hey, Kids up to 10 years old, enter our coloring contest for a chance to win a Jumbo Box of 64 Crayons!

Color this picture and mail it to the address below, or you may scan it and send it to us at editorfaithandfamily@gmail.com.

Fill in the information below and we will contact the winner.

Name\_\_\_\_

Age\_\_\_\_

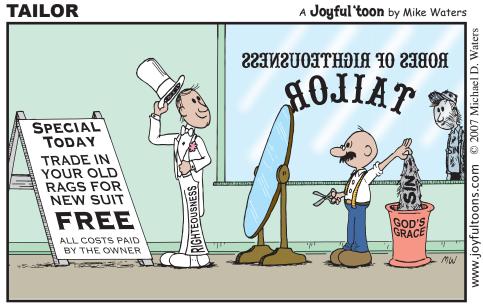
Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Mail your entry to: Victory Baptist Church
Attn: Editor, Faith & Family

610 W. Alto Road Kokomo, IN 46902

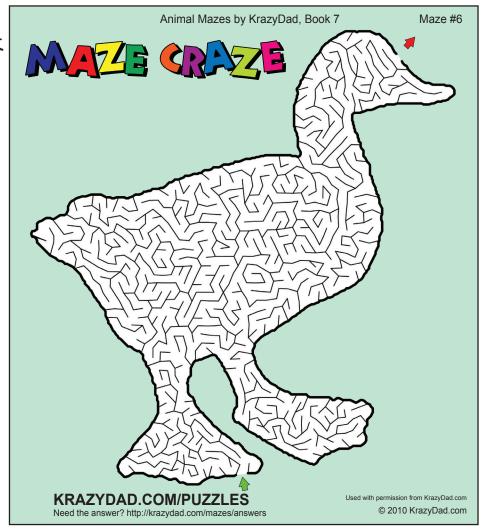
Deadline: November 1, 2012

Used with permission from RaisingOurKids.com.



I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness,

- ISAIAH 61:10 NIV



#### Prayer cont. from page 5

wasn't. Does He expect more from us? I don't think so. When I go to God in prayer, I am just me with all my sin load, simple words and a desire for the Lord. If you can't be sincere with God, please tell me who you can be sincere with. Satan loves a liar; he loves dishonesty and he loves to play on our emotions. Now if I had to choose who I want to make mad, and we make that choice every day, who do I want mad at me? Our Dear Lord and Savior, or Satan? Sincerity brings us so much closer to God. So for me: I go to God in Love.

I go to God in Honesty. I go to God in Sincerity.

These are not fancy words, just a Christian woman bringing you my words in Love, Honesty and Sincerity. So until next time,

Prayers for you always,

Terry



Terry lives with her husband in Howard county and works with an area Child Evangelism Fellowship Good News Club.

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:"

Matthew 7:24

#### Old Timer's Corner cont. from page 3

I took it down and opened it, even though I realized that a first grader would not be able to read third grade material. But the first words were ones I could figure out! "Once upon a time, there was a King who lived on a glass mountain." I had a little trouble with 'mountain', but I went on, and before long I got so engrossed in the story, that I forgot all about 'reading'! And when the young prince made it up the mountain, married the princess and lived happily ever after, I heaved a sigh of wonderment and delighted satisfaction

I immediately started on the next story. Before the afternoon was over, I had read the entire book, and suddenly realized, "I can read! I can really read." It was such a wonderful revelation, that I was just ecstatic. I found another book on Mama's shelf, called 'Tom Sawyer'. I absolutely, positively fell in love with that book! I thought Mark Twain was the best author in the world.

It was three years later, after I had gotten a paper route (I'll tell you about that later) that required a huge basket on the front of my bike, that I was riding by a yard sale. The twenty-four volume set of the complete works of Mark Twain caught my eye, and I stood there drooling. The owner came over and said, "You want to buy them?" I

replied slowly with obvious longing in my voice, "Oh, if only I could afford to!" "Have you got five dollars?", he asked. My mind started figuring five times twenty-four. I started out, "Five dollars each would be a good pri..." "No, I mean five dollars for the whole set!" "Really? You'd sell the whole set for five.... I'll go home and get it. Don't sell them to anyone else. I'll be right back. Don't sell them." I hoped no one else had heard the price. Who wouldn't buy such a treasure for only five dollars! I rode like I'd seldom ridden before and came back breathless, with the money clutched in my fist. He took the five and was smiling as he helped me load the priceless books into my paper basket. I could hardly wait to get home and start on A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court.

Jim Wright earned his MA in Engineering from Oklahoma State, is a Certified Flight Instructor, and is retired from EDS. Together with his late wife Lolly,



they raised four children. Jim teaches Children's Church and is a Deacon at Victory Baptist Church.

## Cookin' Corner

by Donna Starkey

Here are two recipes for white chili. The first recipe is from my sister, Clydene, a pastor's wife in Kansas. Enjoy!!

#### White Chili (Spicy)

1 lb. boneless skinless chicken breast, (cut into  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch cubes) or one can of canned chicken (12.5 oz)

1 medium onion, finely chopped

 $1\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. garlic powder

1 Tbsp. canola oil

2 cans (15 $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. each) great Northern beans, rinsed and drained

2 cans  $(14\frac{1}{2} \text{ oz.})$  chicken broth

1 can (4 oz.) chopped green chilies

1 can Ro-tel

1 tsp. salt 1 tsp. ground cumin 1 tsp. dried oregano  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. pepper 1 tsp. chili powder 1 cup sour cream

 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup heavy whipping cream

Grated pepper-jack cheese or a mix of pepper-jack and colby

In a large saucepan, saute the chicken, onion and garlic powder in oil until chicken is no longer pink. If you are using the canned chicken, saute the onion and garlic powder until the onion is translucent. Add the beans, broth, chilies, Ro-tel and seasonings. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer uncovered, for 30 minutes. Remove from heat, add cheese, sour cream and cream.

#### White Chicken Chili (Mild)

3 cans (15 $\frac{1}{2}$  ounces each) Northern beans, drained

 $3\frac{1}{2}$  cups cooked chicken

1 onion, finely chopped

1 stick butter/margarine

 $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup flour

1 can  $(14\frac{1}{2} \text{ oz.})$  chicken broth

1 can evaporated milk +  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup water

Salt and pepper to taste

2 Tbsp. chili powder

#### Directions

Brown onion in butter then add the remaining above ingredients (except beans and chicken).

When thickened add beans and chicken. Serve with grated cheddar cheese and sour cream to taste.

This recipe is a mild white chili recipe and has no tomatoes for those who cannot eat tomatoes.

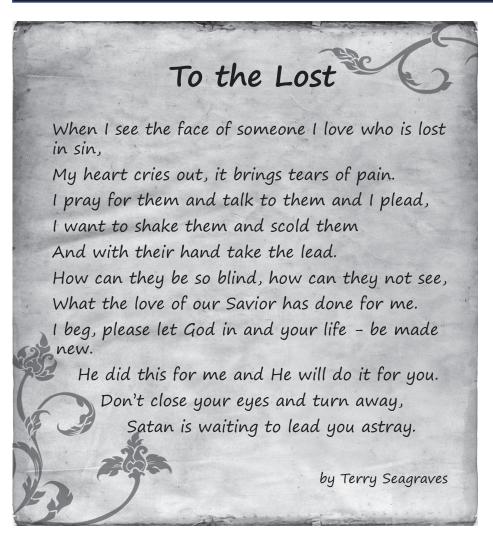
Donna Starkey is married to the Editor and lives in Miami county. She enjoys cooking, reading and spoiling her five grandchildren.



"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

Matthew 7:7-8



Education cont. from page 3

has developed an academic program designed to do just that. After experiencing the failures of the mass-production mentality of public schools with their own children, Christian educators began building a program designed to meet the needs of individuals. After 40 years of improvements, the ACE curriculum has become the premier academic program used in over 140 different countries around the world, including VCA, for the past 32 years.

When you hear people talking about improving education, they usually talk about throwing more money at the problem, teacher training and evaluation, achievement testing, or community involvement. I certainly understand these are important topics to be addressed; however, they are not the heart of the problem. You hardly ever hear someone arguing for more stringent standards for academic achievement and conduct. The heart of the problems is the methodology implemented in delivering the academic content to the student and the level of mastery which must be demonstrated by the student in order to progress toward graduation. Unfortunately, public schools focus most of their energies on how to teach a group of children instead of focusing on how children learn.

When you put the majority of the

responsibility for a child's education on the school staff instead of the student, you are undermining the character training potential which should be inherent in school work. How many times do you hear disgruntled parents blaming the school for the academic failures of their children? I want to tell the parents that the real fault lies within their heart and their child's. (I must interject two things: I don't say that because I don't like my teeth where they are, and I am not saying there

are not bad teachers out there.) However, a bad teacher can be overcome by a diligent student with concerned parents, whereas a good teacher can't do anything for a lazy student with indifferent parents

indifferent parents. Parents and teachers must insist their students do their absolute best in their academic studies no matter what anyone else does or doesn't do.

You must understand the student is the most important player in the game of education. One day he will stand before God to give an account of the things he did here on earth. We must begin at the earliest possible age instilling in each child the fact that he is not going to be able to offer excuses for his lack of effort in his schooling.

**Book Shelf** cont. from page 4

to make us holy rather than happy? What if there is a bigger purpose to marriage than my happiness, my comfort, and my desires? Thomas writes, "This book looks for that purpose and meaning – how can we discover in the challenges of marriage the opportunities to learn more about God, grow in our understanding of him, and learn to love him more?" (p. 17).

Thomas deals with love, respect, prayer, sin, perseverance, character, and sexuality. He often introduces a subject by reflecting on what church history and the Christian classics have to say about it. Some readers may find his approach too academic, but one can skip some parts and still mine the many spiritual nuggets in the book. The author stresses that marriage is indeed tough, but he says, "We must not enter marriage predominantly to be fulfilled,

emotionally satisfied, or romantically charged, but rather to become more like Jesus Christ' (p. 96). He concludes, "If we view the marriage relationship as an opportunity to excel in love, it doesn't matter how difficult the person is whom we are called to love; it doesn't matter even whether that love is ever returned. We can still excel at love" (p. 266). The type of love described in *Sacred Marriage* is indeed a spiritual challenge and one that many of us fail to achieve. It would be most beneficial to any troubled marriage.

Jeanine Garrison lives in Clinton County with her books and her husband Tim. The couple has three grown children.

"There are few people who realize what God would make of them if they abandoned themselves into His hands, and let themselves be formed by His grace."

- St. Ignatius -

Parents must stop offering excuses for their children and start expecting their best

The challenge lies in motivating the student to do his best. Because, let's face it, some students don't seem to care even when everyone else around is doing their part. (However, this is a very rare situation.) If there was a pill that would make students want to do their best, that pharmaceutical company would make billions. I have had many parents ask me, "How

... the student is

the most important

player in the game

of education.

can I get my child to care more about their studies?" Here is the generic answer I give. There are three basic levels of motivation. If at least one of these does not inspire the students to do their

best, there is not much else you can do, except to be prepared to help them pick up the pieces of their lives in the future. The highest level of motivation is a desire to glorify God. Students must understand their ultimate goal is God's glory. He is glorified in the hearts of the students who have a desire to do their absolute best simply to be well-pleasing to their Creator. The next level of motivation is a desire to prepare them to be the best servants they can be for the sake of others and to make their parents proud. One of the

major goals of education is to prepare the student for a lifetime of service to others. Unfortunately, everyone is born with a natural tendency towards selfishness. The lowest level of motivation is self-gratification. Students must realize the effort they put into their academic studies will impact the rest of their lives. Let's face it, educational achievement is a major factor in determining what profession a person pursues. If students want to get good jobs so they can buy a lot of things, the best avenue to that is a good education.

If you do not instill in the hearts of children that they are accountable to God and that they must do their best in school so they can be prepared to serve others in the most effective capacity, then you are left with only the selfish motivation. I pray you can help your child understand the importance of Christ-like character and academic excellence as you prepare to unleash your child on society. The future of our nation lies in the rediscovery of the purpose of education.

Matthew Turner is principal of Victory Christian Academy and co-founder of the Kokomo TEA Party.



You may contact him at vcamatt@yahoo. com.

Budget cont. from page 4

will tremendously reduce the stress in your life. It not only will reduce the stress in your life but it will reduce stress in your marriage.

Stress and worry are often born from the unknown. When you really don't know if you have enough money to buy something you need, it causes stress. If you don't really know where all of the money you make seems to disappear to, it causes stress. If you really don't know how you are going to make it if your spouse loses their job, it causes stress. High levels of stress in marriage are a recipe for disaster. Money fights are often cited as the number one cause of divorce. If couples can get this part of their marriage

straight, it will provide a huge step towards a long, happy marriage. The most important ingredient for a couple to reduce stress in finances is to get on a budget. A budget will tell you if you have enough money to buy something. It will take you from wondering where your money is going to you being in control of where it is spent (or saved). Reasons To Budget Your Money by Mike Young http://www.debtfreeadventure.com/reasons-to-budget-your-money/

A budget eliminates fighting and disagreements about money in marriage because both partners commit to the budget and it becomes the mediator in disagreements. The budget is boss.

This eliminates the impulsiveness which often leads to conflicts.

There are other reasons that we could give to have a budget but these are more than enough to commit yourselves to establishing and living by a family budget. If you would like more information or help in establishing a family budget, please feel free to contact us at 765- 453-9768. Ask for Pastor Mike.

Mike Ennis serves as the Pastor of Victory Baptist Church. He and his wife, Joan, have 4 married daughters and 8 grandchildren.

"IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL NATIONS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE PROVIDENCE OF ALMIGHTY GOD, TO OBEY HIS WILL, TO BE GRATEFUL FOR HIS BENEFITS, AND TO HUMBLY IMPLORE HIS PROTECTION AND FAVOR."

George Washington 1789

## **Around Town**

#### **Regular Events**

- **1**st **Thursday every month** Children's Museum Indianapolis. Free admission. 4:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month Music Jam Open Mic Walnut Creek Community Center, 4600 Colter, Kokomo. Hosted by the Southern Sounds Band featuring Country, Bluegrass, Gospel & more. Free admission donations appreciated. Smoke & alcohol free. 5:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m. Doors open at 4:00 p.m.
- **Every Tuesday from June 5<sup>th</sup> October 2<sup>nd</sup> –** Board Game Bonanza Kirkendale Nature Center in Jackson Morrow Park. Kids under 12 need adult supervision. 5:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Every Saturday from April 21st October 13th Farmer's Market corner of Sycamore & Union Streets. Admission is free. www.kokomofarmersmarket.com 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.

#### **September**

- 8th & 9th Gun Show Kokomo Event & Conference Center. Admission \$5. Hours: Sat. 9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. & Sun. 9:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.
- 13th 16th 30th Annual Vietnam & All Veterans Reunion Howard County Veterans Grounds, located 6 miles east of U.S. 31 on State Road 26. Music, speakers, and acitivites held throughout the weekend. For more information, call 765-628-0297 or visit www.hcvvo.org
- 15th 16th Koh-Koh-Mah & Foster Living History Encampment 100 S. 1000 W. in Howard County, 10 miles west of Kokomo. Sat. 9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. & Sun. 9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. Tickets are Adults \$6, Seniors & Students \$5. Ages 5 & under are free. www.kohkohmah.com.
- **18th** 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Howard County Automotive Heritage Hall of Fame. Held at Kokomo Automotive Museum. Reception at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. and induction ceremony and program at 7:45 p.m. For tickets, call Gary Loveless at 765-614-2886 or email gwlconsulting@yahoo.com. For more information, visit their website at <a href="http://www.hcautomotivehalloffame.org">http://www.hcautomotivehalloffame.org</a>.
- 22<sup>nd</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> Community Sale Held at the Kokomo Event Center. Hours TBA. Admission \$1. Call 765-454-9999 for information.
- **29**<sup>th</sup> HESP Walk-A-Thon Walk held at Highland Park at shelter across from Old Ben. For more information, call 765-452-1711.

Andrea Cardenas is married to David and they live in Howard County. Andrea sings in the choir and works with children in Truth Trackers at Victory Baptist Church.



#### **October**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Barktoberfest Held in Highland Park from 9am-Noon. For more information, call the Kokomo Humane Society 765-452-6224. Hours TBA. Admission \$1. Call Tiffany at 765-454-9999 for information.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Runnin' the Shores 5k Run Held at Champagne Shores. For more information, call Todd Moser at the St. Joe Foundation at 765-456-5406.
- 18th 30th Annual Howard County Health Fair Held at Kokomo Event & Conference Center. Free admission. Seasonal flu & pneumonia shots, free health screenings, free health assessment, health information and food court. Call 765-453-8593 for more information.
- 27<sup>th</sup> YMCA Jack-o-Lantern Jog 5K Run/Walk Starts at 8am at the Kokomo YMCA in Downtown Kokomo. Call 765-457-4447 for information or to register.
- 27<sup>th</sup> Haunted Trail Walk Jackson Morrow Park. Open to public. Free admission. 6:00-8:30 p.m. Children under 12 must be accompanied by adult. Call 765-456-7275.

#### **November**

- **10**<sup>th</sup> − CKRR Charity 5k Run/Walk − Starts at 9am at the UAW Local 292 Union Hall in Kokomo. Call Charlie Skoog for information at 765-457-2607 or email runckrr@aol.com.
- 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> Shipshewana on the Road in Kokomo Craft Show held at the Kokomo Event & Conference Center. Hours: Sat. 9am-6pm & Sun. 10am-5pm. Admission \$4 adults. Kids ages 12 & under free. Visit www. shipshewanaontheroad.com.
- 17<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> Howard County Historical Society's Annual Gingerbread House Competition & Exhibit Exhibit held at the Seiberling Mansion. Open Tuesday Sunday 1-4 p.m. Admission \$4 adults. For information, contact 765-452-4314 or www.howardcountymuseum.org.
- **22**<sup>nd</sup> Club Kokomo Cares 5k Run/Walk Starts at 8am in Highland Park in Kokomo. Call Ray 765-854-1393 for more information.
- **24**<sup>th</sup> Christmas at the Sieberling Opening Night Lighting Ceremony & Tours held at the Seiberling Mansion from 6-9pm. For more information, call 765-452-4314 or visit www.howardcountymuseum.org.

Aging Gracefully cont. from page 3

the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." (Eccles.

Diminishing senses can create an atmosphere for family dissonance. An older family member may abruptly change the subject of ongoing conversations, not necessarily because they have no interest in the subject at hand, but because they can't hear what is being discussed. Raising the decibel level doesn't always enable a hard of hearing person to hear better. In cases of tinnitus or otosclerosis it may only make it worse. For those who interact with the elderly, try talking in lower pitches - slightly elevated in decibels, but a deeper voice. This sometimes helps. Hearing loss from aging is often in the higher frequencies and in raising the decibel level one also often raises the tone frequency, resulting in frequencies out of the senior's hearing range.

As senior citizens, we must recognize that we are being impacted by the effects of aging. It is a truth validated from the Word of God. There is, however, a hearing loss far more debilitating than that of the natural ear. It is a refusal to hear the Word of our Lord. "He that hath an ear, let him hear," is a persistent invitation from God to listen to Him. Just as your physician is qualified to give you a proper opinion about natural hearing, only the "Great Physician" can cure spiritual deafness. Accepting good counsel is a key to aging gracefully.

Morris Starkey is retired from Indiana University Kokomo and lives with his



wife, Donna, in Miami County. They have two children and five grandchil-

## **Lessons From Little Ones**

By Brenda Howard

My 4-year-old niece was telling her grandparents that sometimes she gets in trouble for throwing a fit. Her grandpa asked if maybe she could stop and think before she threw a fit and decide not to do it. After a thoughtful pause, her reply was, "Actually, no. My mind doesn't want to do it but my body does it anyway."

Paul expressed this same struggle in Romans 7:15 (NASB) -"For that which I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate." Later in verse 17 he says, "For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is in my flesh; for the wishing is present in me, but the doing of the good is

So, where does all this leave us? Are we destined to live a defeated life because we can't control our sinful flesh? Should we shrug our shoulders and say, "Oh well, I can't help it!" Absolutely not!

In my Wednesday evening children's class I was teaching about sin from James 1:13-15. I had a footprint visual with the first step written on it: We are tempted to do wrong. The second footprint said: We have the wrong desire (satisfying self rather than bringing glory to God). The third footprint had step three: We choose to sin. One very perceptive 7-year-old boy raised his hand at this point and asked, "So if we stopped at step one or two, we could choose NOT to do step three, right?" I think he understood!

Paul goes on to say in Romans 7:24-25, "Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" The victory over sin comes through Christ! When we acknowledge Him as Lord of our lives, we can ask Him to give us the right desires and the strength to resist temptation.

1 Corinthians 10:13 says, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.'

Brenda and her husband, Bruce, live in Kokomo, Indiana. They have one married daughter.



## Life, Liberty and Property by Matt Turner Property

If it is true that government affects our families, then we need to participate to help promote legislation which strengthens the family. However, what if you really have no clue about anything concerning politics; how would you even begin? For the record, when I was in my third year of college, I didn't have any idea what a conservative or liberal was. We would need to begin with a few fundamental lessons in American government. What did our Founders actually establish and why?

Let's begin today! We will do our best to walk the fine line between simplifying and oversimplifying. Lucky for us, our history is not really that old. Despite the fact that every founder didn't agree on every issue, it is possible to come up with some things they all agreed on. The place to begin with in the journey through American political thought would be the Declaration of Independence. That document is the essence of what makes us American!

Jefferson declared that our most basic individual rights come from God, not the government. The three fundamental rights are life, liberty, and property (the pursuit of happiness). Life is the one right all others are dependent upon. Liberty, or freedom, is an extension of one's life. We ought to be able to pursue any career we believe will bring us the most fulfillment in life. The freedom to do what I choose with the profit of my labor is the final fundamental right of an individual. I should be able to choose what charitable organizations I will and will not support.

These three rights are supposed to restrain our government. Elected officials are supposed to guard against the violation of these three fundamental rights. If a law was purposed to legalize murder, we should stand against it. If a law was purposed to force anyone into a certain profession, we should stand against it. Or, if a law was purposed to take the lawfully earned property of anyone to be given to another, we should stand against it.

Unbelievably, these very things are happening in our nation today. Abortion and euthanasia are affronts to the most basic right of life. Obamacare is an affront to the right of freedom. Now the government can tell you what you have to purchase. Furthermore, they can take as much from you as they choose in any way they choose by their uncontrollable power to tax. Finally, our government certainly takes from many of us and forces us to support causes we would never choose to do on our own.

FAFN prays you will begin to see why it is critical for as many of us as possible to get involved with our local, state, and federal government. We must give diligence in electing and holding officials accountable. The very survival of our culture is a stake.

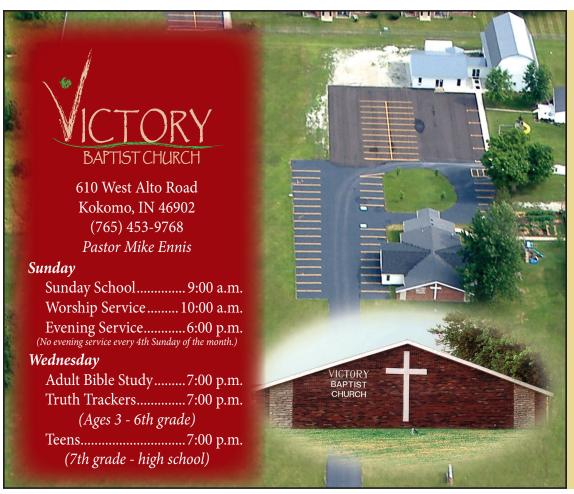
The next installment of this column will discuss the idea of federalism. This is a fundamental principle which is being completely lost in Washington, DC today. Do you know what that even means? If not, please check it out in our next edition.

Matthew Turner is principal of Victory Christian Academy and

co-founder of the Kokomo TEA Party. You may contact him at vcamatt@yahoo.



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# Do you need counseling?

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#### SEPTEMBER 2012

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Sat. Sept. 8, 9:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfast & DVD Series Sun. Sept. 9, 10:00 a.m. - Grandparents' Day - Charlie Marshall

Sept. 12-14, 7:00 p.m. - Brother Larry Sauvageot Sept. 16, 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. - Brother Larry Sauvageot

#### OCTOBER 2012

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Sat. Oct. 13, 9:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfast & DVD Series Sun. Oct. 14, 10:00 a.m. - Harvest Sunday Sat. Oct. 20, 5:00 p.m. - Harvest Party

#### **NOVEMBER 2012**

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Tues. Nov. 6 - Election Day

Sat. Nov. 10, 9:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfast & DVD Series

Mon. Nov. 12, 9:00 a.m. - Veteran's Day Thurs. Nov. 22 - Thanksgiving Day

## **God's Simple Plan of Salvation**

#### The Bible says there is only one way to Heaven.

Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me." (John 14:6)

#### Good works cannot save you.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

#### Admit you are a sinner.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Romans 3:23)

#### Be willing to turn from sin (repent).

Jesus said: "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:5)

#### Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried, and rose from the dead.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

"But God commendeth [demonstrated] his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." (Romans 10:9)

#### Through prayer, invite Jesus into your life to become your personal Saviour.

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (Romans 10:10)

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)



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