

# Faith Family News

A Spiritual Resource For Your Family

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## The Role of a Husband

by Mike Ennis

It was testimony night in the church. A lady got up and said, "We are living in a wicked land where sin is on every hand. I have had a terrible fight with the old devil all week." Whereupon her husband, who was sitting glumly by her side, said, "It's not all my fault either; she's tough to get along with."

In our last article we began to look at the role of the husband/father in the home. We said that the man's role can be defined by three words: leader, lover, and learner. In that article we dealt with the role of the husband as **leader**. "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body" (Ephesians 5:23, KJV).

This is a God-defined role given to the husband. He is to be the head of the home. We learned though that headship in the home is not a dictatorship. God's model for leadership is servanthood. The biblical pattern of leadership means being a servant. Leadership of the home means humility. Leadership also means discipleship. As leaders we must be followers; we must be a follower of Jesus Christ. We must be in the process of changing or growing in the Lord. If these things are not true in your life, you are not leading your family the right way.

The second word that describes the role of the husband is the word **lover**. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Ephesians 5:25, KJV). Husbands, love your wives. This is the number one duty of the man in the home. It is not to bring home the bacon. It is not to handle the money or fix the car. It is not even to train the children (although that

would be a close second). The number one responsibility that we have as men in the home is to love our wives.

What does that mean to be a lover or for husbands to love their wives? Well, it is not sensual love that is being spoken of in Ephesians 5, nor is it emotional love. It is volitional love—agape love. It can be defined as "Willing the highest good of another and then acting to fulfill that good." We see that definition in our text. Ephesians 5:25 (KJV) says "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." Husbands, love your wives just as Christ also loved the church. That was not an emotional or sensual love that Christ demonstrated; it was volitional—an act of

the will. Christ chose to love us and then demonstrated that love by giving all that He could give to fulfill His choice to love us.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13, KJV). If we are going to love our families, we must will the best for them and act to fulfill that best. The role of the husband is to be a lover. Think about Christ's love for us.

It is **unconditional**. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8, AV).

It is **unending**. "Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end" (John 13:1, KJV).

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (2 Corinthians 13:4, KJV).

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## Aging Gracefully

### Making Melody in Your Heart

by Morris Starkey

[Ed. Note: This is the first in a series of articles on music in the church and its relevancy to the senior citizen believer. Younger believers might also benefit from this information.]

*Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord* (Ephesians 5:19).

As our pastor was preaching a few Sundays back, he read this verse in connection with another subject, different from the one I will address in this article, but I started thinking about music and the role God intended for it to play in our expressions of faith. The objective of this series of articles is not to be confrontational regarding the type of music used in our worship services but to help us see how the Apostle Paul makes a clear delineation in the various types of musical forms prevalent in the early church. In like man-

ner, these musical forms could be considered beneficial for a multidimensional musical expression of our faith. What can we make of this scripture written to the Ephesian church, perhaps one of the strongest churches, both in faith and practice, in the first century of church history?

**First, music and singing are essential to the historic Christian church.** Though very little is known about the use of music during the first two or three centuries of church history, the absence of information does not negate music's importance to worship. The transition within the early church from the music led by the "Chief Musician" (Cantor) in the synagogue (Temple) to the incorporation of themes of redemption in the Messiah surely created a mix of musical expressions hard for us to imagine. Add to that the converts from non-Jewish backgrounds who

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## Editorially Speaking

### “The Times They Are a-Changin’”

When Bob Dylan wrote the words to this anthem to change in the early 1960s, he said “This was a song with a purpose.” Some song critics have even suggested there is a biblical reference to Mark 10:31, when he writes “The order is rapidly fadin’/ And the first one now/ Will later be last/ For the times they are a-changin’.” Certainly the context of the era was a time of change all across America.

Change can be a healthy thing. It has certainly been proven true during some of the most socially convulsive times in our country’s history. However, the changes we are seeing across the social landscape are not so good. Our social institutions are being redefined. In many cases, this redefining is completely gutting the nature that our Creator intended for these institutions.

Faith, marriage and family are under attack to a level never before seen. Godly pastors, priests and rabbis are feeling the pressure from those who would completely denigrate those things held holy by their respective parishioners. Sadly, in too many cases, even the churches of Jesus Christ are following in lock-step with those who would pervert the truth of God. This “go-along-to-get-along” mentality is a cancer in our churches.

We are seeing more and more the fulfillment of what the Bible describes as the last days—unholy affections, declaring evil as good, and the distorting and twisting of biblical precepts to fit the selfish desires of mankind. When young, unmarried girls are having babies out of wedlock, often for no other reason than peer recognition, we truly have work to do in spiritually educating people how to avoid the pitfalls of bad choices (correction sin).

Faith And Family News is not standing by, wringing our hands, and saying, “What to do! What to do!” and neither is God. We know what we are going to do. We are going to continue sharing the positive, life-changing message of a sovereign God before Whom we will one day all stand, as long as God gives us the where-with-all to do it. Yes, the times they are a-changing, but be encouraged. God is not being caught off guard.

*Morris Starkey is retired from Indiana University Kokomo and lives with his wife, Donna, in Miami County. They have two children and five grandchildren.*



## Too Much, Too Soon

by Jeanine Garrison

When someone says that the Bible is dull and boring, you know that they haven’t read it. Its pages contain every theme imaginable, and much of the content is for mature readers. So if a parent or teacher is reading through the Bible with children, it can become quite a challenge to present the Word of God truthfully, yet in a manner that the child can handle and understand. For example, the subject of adultery appears many times in the Bible. How do you explain that to a child? One teacher, trying to handle the subject delicately, explained that it would be like a married woman who still went out on dates. A little girl in the class said, “Adults go out on dates?” The teacher chuckled a little and said, “Well, yes.” The child’s short but incredulous reply was, “Huh.” Clearly the story was way beyond her scope

of experience (thankfully).

As I thought about her response, I was reminded of a quote I once read from Corrie ten Boom’s *The Hiding Place*.

*And so seated next to my father in the train compartment, I suddenly asked, “Father, what is sexsin?” He turned to look at me, as he always did when answering a question, but to my surprise he said nothing. At last he stood up, lifted his traveling case off the floor and set it on the floor. Will you carry it off the train, Corrie?” he said.*

*I stood up and tugged at it. It was crammed with the watches and spare parts he had purchased that morning.*

*“It’s too heavy,” I said.*

*“Yes,” he said, “and it would be a pretty poor father who would ask his*

**Too Much, Too Soon** *cont. on page 8*

## Love Found and Lost

by Jim Wright

After that first date on October 20, 1952 I hung around Lolly a lot. She was going to Foreign Missions Fellowship, so I went to FMF to be with her. She was going to street meetings, so I went to street meetings and played my guitar—to be with her. We talked much and enjoyed each other’s company immensely. I was more and more impressed with her.

She spent Thanksgiving vacation with a friend who lived fifty miles away. I got a ride with her friend’s boyfriend when he went to pick them up afterwards. Riding in the back seat of his car with Lolly, my arm on the back of her seat just happened to slip down, until it was firmly around her. I felt her eyelid brush my cheek, and the thrill was intense and surprising to me. I knew that I loved her and that, given the opportunity, I could and would love her all my life. I had to let her know. I didn’t know how. So I just put my lips close to her ear and whispered, “I love you.”

She stiffened as she turned and asked, “Are you sure?” Ah, so that’s what a girl does when you tell her you love her!

“Yes,” I whispered. Without saying a word, she settled back into my arms, and snuggled. Wow!

Our relationship deepened, and after Christmas vacation we were sitting in church together, and she asked, “Can we take a walk in the valley this afternoon? I have to tell you something.”

“Sure, what’s it about?” She wouldn’t tell me or even give me a hint. “This sounds ominous,” I complained.

“Well, it’s not good,” she replied.

I spent the time before our three o’clock meeting imagining all the bad things she could be going to tell me. She had to know that I was getting really serious about her. So it surely would be something she wouldn’t tell a casual acquaintance. Maybe she couldn’t have children. Maybe she wasn’t a virgin. Maybe she had some

tragic disease and was about to die! In that case, I reasoned that we should be married right away so we could spend as much time as possible together. I concluded that whatever the bad news was, it would be all right as long as we could be together. I actually said to myself, “As long as I have Lolly, I can take anything.”

We met at three and took our walk. We talked about anything and everything except the bad news. I finally said, “Lolly, what do you have to tell me? No matter what it is, it will be all right, so don’t worry.”

She said, “I’ve been putting it off as long as possible because I wanted to spend as much time with you as possible, but the Lord has told me that we have to stop going together.”

“What? Is there some other guy?”

“Oh, no,” she replied.

“Well, is it something I’ve said? Something I’ve done? Something I haven’t done? Tell me why!” I was desperate.

“No, nothing like that,” she wailed. “I don’t understand it either. I just know that He has made it very clear to me that we have to stop seeing each other.”

My world collapsed. I was devastated. If there was a reason, I could argue with that. I was better at logic than she. But how do you argue with “the Lord made it clear to me?” I gave her one last hug and walked her back to the dorm—and left her—forever! I cried, I prayed, I asked the Lord over and over what I did wrong. Slowly during the next week it became clear to me. I remembered saying to myself, “as long as I have Lolly, I can take anything.” I should have been saying, “as long as I have the Lord, I can take anything.” I had unwittingly put Lolly in the most important place in my life—the place the Lord should have, the place I gave Him last spring when I yielded to His will completely. After that total submission, He gave me so many blessings and delights, capped

**Love Found and Lost** *cont. on page 10*

**“From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.**

**Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.”**

**John 6:66-68**

## Be the Jar

by Emily Pier

It's much easier to just read it. Just gloss over it and move on. However, sometimes God's Spirit beckons in relentless pursuit with a divine drawing. He's drawing me into something that feels way bigger than me, way harder than I can handle, way different from how I am used to living.

I like my life. I like my family's way of doing things. It feels good. It feels like "home." But as often is the case with God, He likes to shake things up, do it different—and not just slightly different. His different reminds me of upside down and backwards to my understanding.

So I sit, Bible open, with 2 Corinthians 4 not letting me go. I sit with phrases weaving in and out of my thinking the past few days as I wash dishes, drive to appointments, parent my kiddo, consider our future. Whispering in my mind are phrases like, "always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies." The verses that follow are echoing too: "We who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you."

It's been screaming at me in the book I am reading, woven into sermons or podcasts I have been listening to, and, ironically, I've rediscovered it in some verses I had taped to my wall. Yes, interestingly, I've read

these verses before.

Actually, I've read them plenty of times, but never really thought about them. Ever since God radically changed my husband's and my heart a couple of years ago, everything reads different. Lots of scripture that was poetic and inspirational before has started to feel more, *hm*, applicable and, shall we say, instructional. And by instructional, I mean explicitly clear about what I am to do.

I don't know how I rerouted the Old Testament precedent of life requiring death into sorting clothes for the needy and serving the occasional meal. I mean, there's Jesus' death which produced life, the death of all the disciples (save one) for the expansion of the life-saving gospel, and the daily dying Paul seems to refer to frequently. There are so many who do sort clothes in a Christ-honoring way, doing it from a beautiful motivation of love; it's just that I simply wasn't. A couple of years ago, any interaction I had with those with true, deep needs in hard places somehow made me feel good about myself and my few minutes of service. There you go; you're welcome, World! (Cue that clanging cymbal from 1 Corinthians 13.)

Having said that, we have changed our lives in response to what God has spoken to us. We live less for ourselves than we ever did before, but self still exists. Don't misunderstand me. I'm not trying to persuade myself

that I shouldn't take time for myself or rest with my family—absolutely not. However, I am putting my current wonderings into print. Am I giving my best to God?

The question that caused Brad and me to sell our home and move into town (away from all Christian neighbors to a place where I have yet to find more than one) was: How do we give Jesus more? That question burned in our hearts and minds as we worked and slept and ate until we could work and sleep and eat no longer in that particular place—because, for us, giving Jesus more meant being in a different place. It meant leaving the house we had known, loved, remodeled, repainted, loved our baby, hosted parties, hugged precious neighbors, and (by the way) had a small garden with a compost bin and everything. I think maybe it was because in that house we had blocked out some of the most needy in our community. It meant coming to a small apartment surrounded by people who don't know Jesus and sometimes want very little to do with us. I am not touting our move and commending myself to you as some great Jesus follower, for He is drawing me to His Word anew and suggesting surrender. Basically He is showing me that not only do I **not** have it all together, but any little shred of "together" I seem to hold is really just Him shining out of this jar of clay. And we're back to 2 Corinthians 4.

The invitation seems to be the surrender of dying in order to bring life. Paul's life models this truth—that in the laying down of my life, maybe God would give life to somebody else.

As my family moves into a new season of rearranging our lives to love others better (and consequently Jesus), I'm a little scared. Some of the things we are moving toward are out of my comfort zone. But what a sweet reminder it is of my great need of Him. Sometimes, believe it or not, I think I can do it on my own. Oh, I would never say that. I've got enough scripture memorized to know that I can't say that, but I do it with my life without conscious thought. This next season in our lives, this invitation from Jesus into the bigger, harder, different life than ours, is an invitation to not do it on my own, but to trust completely and to die daily. Just to be the jar.

Emily lives in Howard County with her husband and has been actively involved



in community outreach, such as Kokomo Urban Outreach, Bridges Outreach, and New Leaf Mentoring.

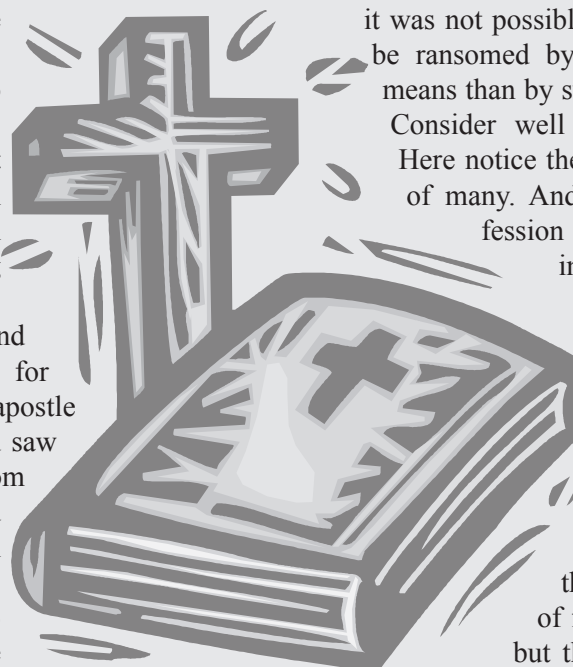
## From The Pen Of Matthew Henry

### Galatians 2:20-21

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."

Here, in his own person, the apostle describes the spiritual or hidden life of a believer. The old man is crucified, Romans 6:6, but the new man is living; sin is mortified, and grace is quickened. He has the comforts and the triumphs of grace; yet that grace is not from himself, but from another. Believers see themselves living in a state of dependence on Christ. Hence it is,

that though he lives in the flesh, yet he does not live after the flesh. Those who have true faith, live by that faith; and faith fastens upon Christ's giving himself for us. He loved me, and gave himself for me. As if the apostle said, The Lord saw me fleeing from him more and more. Such wickedness, error, and ignorance were



in my will and understanding, that it was not possible for me to be ransomed by any other means than by such a price. Consider well this price. Here notice the false faith of many. And their profession is accordingly; they have the form of godliness without the power of it. They think they believe the articles of faith aright, but they are de-

ceived. For to believe in Christ crucified, is not only to believe that he was crucified, but also to believe that I am crucified with him. And this is to know Christ crucified. Hence we learn what is the nature of grace. God's grace cannot stand with man's merit. Grace is no grace unless it is freely given every way. The more simply the believer relies on Christ for every thing, the more devotedly does he walk before Him in all his ordinances and commandments. Christ lives and reigns in him, and he lives here on earth by faith in the Son of God, which works by love, causes obedience, and changes into his holy image. Thus he neither abuses the grace of God, nor makes it in vain.



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## Justin: Philosopher, Apologist, Martyr

by Jamie Purcifull

Early in my Christian experience, I never really gave much thought about the history of the Church or how we got the Bible. I had some vague knowledge of the Reformation, but that was about it. Little did I know that the first few hundred years after the Apostles was a colorful yet incredibly difficult and tumultuous period for the early church. There were varied persecutions and endless uprisings of false teachings that put pressure on the young church to uphold and define the faith and to expose that which was in error. (Move over, Dan Brown; I'm not talking about your fictitious novels as being a source of church history.)

What I found interesting was that the canon of the New Testament had not yet been fixed or clearly defined. You just couldn't walk down to your local market and pick up a Bible in the year 150 AD. Most people could not even read or write, as it is estimated that only about ten per cent of the population was literate in these times of antiquity. Despite this, the writings of the apostles and other early Christian authors seemed to be well-circulated and shared. But regional differences were evident, and some collections were held in higher esteem than others. The church was also contending with the subversive teachings of the Gnostics, Marcionites, and later the Arians who were forcing a consensus as to what writings and interpretations should be accepted and trusted as being part of and adhering to the true apostolic tradition.

Out of this setting emerged some of the first great defenders and expositors of the faith, some of whose writings and stories have survived. They give us a window on the challenges the early Christians faced and the development of the New Testament.

Enter Justin Martyr. He was born

around the year 100 AD in Flavia Neapolis, a small town about thirty miles north of Jerusalem. Brought up a pagan Greek and well educated in rhetoric, poetry and history, he set about his life as a searcher of the truth, traveling and embracing many of the popular Greek philosophies of his day. While in Ephesus about the year 130 AD, he must have witnessed the persecutions of Christians there as he relates how he was impressed by their



steadfastness and purity of spirit, even when confronted with death. About the same time he tells of an encounter with an old Christian man while strolling in a field along a seashore. This encounter changed his life as he writes, "But straightway a flame was kindled in my soul; a love of the prophets, and of those

who are friends of Christ possessed me, as I found this philosophy alone to be sound and useful." He went on to found Christian schools first in Ephesus and then in Rome. He spent the rest of his life upholding Christianity and defending Christians by engaging in debates with pagans, Jews and heretics, using his prior pursuits in classical and philosophical culture as a means to connect with his listeners. Three of his works in defense of the faith have survived. Taken as a whole, they are a sweeping historical deduction that the pagan's desire to worship (false) gods, the search for reason and truth in philosophies, and the teachings of the Old Testament prophets all intersect and reach their ultimate fulfillment in the incarnate Christ.

His first two apologies, as they are called, are a direct appeal to the Roman Emperor Antoninus Pius and the Roman Senate to end the persecutions of Christians. In these treatises, he tries to deconstruct the oppressions and persecutions as being irra-

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## THE BOOK SHELF

by Jeanine Garrison



*What was once a shadowy picture of God dwelling with His people became a Technicolor reality when Jesus came.*  
— Todd Friel

As I was teaching the first and second graders in Sunday School regarding the end of the Old Testament and the shift from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant, I struggled with an accurate yet understandable explanation for my young students. But I also struggled because I didn't really completely understand it myself. After the quarter ended, I began reading Todd Friel's new book *Jesus Unmasked*, published by New Leaf Press (2014), and realized that this was the book I needed to help answer my questions.

Often it is helpful to give a summary or bird's-eye view of a topic before getting into the details. This is what Friel does as he, by his own admission, "rockets" through four thousand years of human history in the first few chapters. He begins by discussing truth (Does two plus two always equal four?) and in a nutshell the life of Jesus. He talks about some big, fancy words (like supralapsarianism) that are sure to win big points in Scrabble, but he does it in a way that makes the terms easy to understand and without losing his reader. Friel discusses important biblical concepts, bringing their truths into eye-opening clarity. I especially benefited from the section on sin and "why sin's punishment is really, really bad" (p 55).

Friel defines the content of his book when he says: *As we make our way through the Old Testament, you are going to see three things.*

*Lots of types and shadows of Jesus.*

*The timeline of the Old Testament. You will have a clear understanding of the order of biblical history.*

*Explanations for why the world works the way it does.* (p 49)

Much of the book is spent in explaining the types of Jesus seen in the Bible. He discusses how many of the types in the Old Testament are fuzzy shadows but how the pictures of Christ are disclosed more clearly and distinctly the closer we get to the New

Testament. Many of those types will be familiar to a believer—Jesus is the Ark, the Rock, the Living Water, etc. Other types discussed may be new to the reader—Jesus is Seven Festivals, Jesus is the Tabernacle. It is Friel's goal to follow the Scarlet Thread (Jesus present as the central figure) throughout scripture and "unmask" the hidden Jesus.

Friel, who is the host of *Wretched Radio*, a daily syndicated talk radio program, and *Wretched TV*, liberally sprinkles his unique sense of humor through his short chapters, keeping his reader on the hook and wanting to read on. He proves that theology does not have to be boring. While his tone for such a serious subject is casual (and some may take issue with that), he constantly cites scripture references for his material and often alerts his reader that the subject is of critical, even eternal, importance. Friel ends most chapters with an evangelical appeal, but he also intersperses pleas to heed the gospel message throughout his writing. It is easy to see why reviewers believe it is the book to give the atheist in your life.

*Jesus Unmasked* reminds me of a giant jigsaw puzzle. It takes the biblical pieces, some of which are indistinguishable by themselves, and puts them together until they form one beautiful, complete picture. There is so much content to absorb that even now am thinking I need to reread it. Although it is not an in-depth study of typology such as a theological student would need, it is greatly enlightening and very readable for the average believer (and atheist). It has certainly earned a place on my reference book shelf.

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



*"For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?"*

Matthew 5:46



# Cookin’ Corner

by Donna Starkey

Psalm 96:1 says, “O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth.” Often as I work in the kitchen, doing the dishes or trying new recipes, I find myself singing songs to the Lord or reciting psalms that I have memorized. This does two things—makes the time go faster and reminds me how the Lord continues to bless me on a daily basis.

I recently tried the two recipes in this issue, which were given to me by Barbara Pilger, the pastor’s wife at First Baptist Church in Winamac. Her husband Mark says that she is the greatest cook in the world. Her soup recipe was a hit in our home, and the cake recipe was a huge success at our church carry-in. I trust you will enjoy trying these two recipes.

## Italian Sausage & Tortellini Soup

- 1 onion, chopped
- 3 carrots, peeled and chopped
- 4 stalks celery, chopped
- 1 tablespoon fresh garlic, chopped
- 4 (10 ½ ounces) cans beef stock
- 1 tablespoon Italian seasoning
- 1 pound bulk Italian sausage, cooked and drained
- 1 (6 ounces) can tomato paste
- 2 tablespoon sugar – optional (offsets the bitter taste of the paste)
- 1 (8 ounce) package cheese tortellini
- shredded parmesan cheese

In a skillet, cook the sausage until no longer pink. Drain and set aside. (If you cannot find bulk sausage, you can use Italian sausage in the casings. Just remove the casing and cook.)

In a pan, combine the onion, carrots, celery, garlic, sugar, beef stock and Italian seasoning. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Reduce heat and simmer for 10 minutes. Add cooked sausage and tomato paste. Heat through for about 5 minutes. Stir in cheese tortellini and cook until tender (about 20 minutes). Garnish with fresh shredded parmesan cheese. This makes 6-8 servings.

## Ugly Duckling Pudding Cake

- 1 package yellow cake mix
- 1 package instant lemon pudding mix (small box)
- 1 (16 ounce) can fruit cocktail (do NOT drain)
- 1 cup coconut
- 4 eggs
- ¼ cup oil
- ½ cup packed brown sugar
- ½ cup pecans, chopped

Blend all the ingredients, except the brown sugar and nuts, together in a large mixing bowl. Beat at medium speed for 4 minutes. Pour into a greased and flour dusted 9 x 13 baking pan. Sprinkle with brown sugar and nuts.

Bake at 325 degrees for 45 minutes or until cake springs back when lightly pressed and pulls away from the sides of pan. Cool in pan for 15 minutes. Spoon hot butter glaze over warm cake.

### Butter Glaze

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| ½ cup butter          | ½ cup granulated sugar |
| ½ cup evaporated milk | 1⅓ cup coconut         |

Combine the butter, sugar and milk in a sauce pan and boil for 2 minutes. Stir in the 1⅓ cup coconut. Spoon over the cake.

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



# Adam’s Failure as a Leader

by Matthew Turner

In the previous issue of FAFN, we began to look at the biblical account of the Fall of Man in the book of Genesis. Chapters 2-4 give the details about the creation of the human race, their placement in the Garden of Eden, their rebellion, the curses placed upon mankind and the earth, and the promise God made to them concerning redemption and the overthrow of Satan.

This is the passage I use when people try to argue that God is unfair to punish the whole human race just because one man sinned. At the very time of the rebellion, God promised to send the Messiah to remedy the consequences of the Fall. Remember, it was Jesus Christ, God’s only begotten Son, Who came to this wicked world to suffer and die on the cross to save mankind.

In this edition I plan on addressing something many have not considered. Although the Bible is clear in naming Adam as the one who rebelled, most people want to blame Eve. After all, wasn’t it Eve who was tricked? Wasn’t it Eve who was deceived? We, just like Adam and Eve, are great at blaming others for the messes we get ourselves into. Adam told God, “It was the woman YOU gave me” (insinuating God was really at fault).

My thesis for this article is: if Adam would have been a better husband, he would have done a more thorough job of teaching Eve the commandment of God and standing up for his wife. I contend the Bible is correct in assigning the blame for the

Fall on Adam, not Eve.

Let me begin by pointing out the fact that Eve was not yet created when God gave Adam the instructions concerning their food supply and the restriction regarding eating from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil (Gen. 2:7-25). Since Eve was not present, she was dependent upon Adam to teach her about the consequences of breaking God’s orders. That also means the consequence of death was contingent upon Adam eating the fruit, not Eve.

As we examine Satan’s twisting of God’s words, we learn some ways people pervert truth in order to confuse those not familiar with God’s Word. If a deceiver can get you to question whether or not something is a sin, you are headed down a dangerous road. Then he will try to convince you

nothing bad will happen if you break a rule. Finally, he will argue there is much benefit in your sin. If you get to that point, you are toast!

Satan begins by sowing the seeds of doubt in Eve’s mind. Satan acts as if God is keeping something good from them. The serpent wants Eve to think God is oppressive by restricting their freedom to choose. The fact is that God told Adam he could eat from all the trees except one.

I do want to give Eve a little credit here. From her initial response we see she understands God has given them freedom to eat from the trees of the garden. Up to this point, she has had no reason to doubt God’s goodness

Adam’s Failure cont. on page 9

## Those who wait on the Lord . . . shall walk and not faint Isaiah 40:31

There is no thrill for us in walking, yet it is the test for all of our steady and enduring qualities. To “walk and not faint” is the highest stretch possible as a measure of strength. The word walk is used in the Bible to express the character of a person—“... John ... looking at Jesus as He walked. . . said, ‘Behold the Lamb of God!’ ” John 1:35-36. There is nothing abstract or obscure in the Bible; everything is vivid and real. God does not say, “Be spiritual,” but He says, “Walk before Me. . .” Genesis 17:1.

— Oswald Chambers in *My Utmost For His Highest*



## Created to Garden

by Marlin Carpenter

Why is it that so many people enjoy gardening? Is it because of the beauty of the plants? The benefit of home-grown edibles? The satisfaction of creating an aesthetically pleasing landscape? Physical labor that is a result of working in the garden? Mental or emotional therapy and stress release that some experience while gardening? Or just the sheer pleasure of getting dirty?! Perhaps some or all of these reasons pertain to you. I would like to suggest one more reason, from which I believe all the other reasons stem. That is, we were created to garden!

It all started back in "The Garden" with Adam and Eve. "The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it" (Genesis 2: 8-9,15). The first job man had on earth was to tend the garden. It would not have been

hard work, but rather a pleasure to work in the garden. It wasn't until after the fall of man that work became burdensome. Genesis chapter 3 records the curse that is put upon the ground and man's work as a result of his sin. Verses 17-19 speak of the toil, sweat, thorns and thistles that became a reality concerning man's work. Though we do experience the sweat, hard work, and annoying and often tenacious weeds

that come with gardening, we also still enjoy a great sense of pleasure as well. I believe that this is because it was what we were created to do! There is a connection between all of God's creation. We also enjoy the animals that He created. Well, most of them! There are a few choice critters that I would have voted to leave out of the mix!

A theory exists that relates to this hypothesis. It is called biophilia. Biophilia is the idea that there is a bond between people and other living things—such as plants and animals. This theory was popularized by Edward Wilson "who proposed that the deep affiliations humans have

**Created to Garden** *cont. on page 10*



## Thomas and the Preacher

by Terry Seagraves

Hi, Everyone! I have been so busy with my school work and playing with all my new friends. School is so much fun this year. We have several new students and I am helping them make new friends and fit in. It is hard going to a new school and not knowing anyone. I have met a couple of mice that are very shy, and I make it a point to be extra friendly and show them around.

Today I ventured into my special cubby-hole in the preacher's office and I got to hear some of his sermon for next Sunday. I really enjoy listening and watching him study. I have learned that a preacher is very important and has to study just like me. He

makes sure that we learn all we can about the Bible and the love that God has for us. Did you know that the Bible is the true word of God? In it He shows us how we are supposed to live and stay away from sin.

As I was listening to Pastor, I learned that we are to watch our words because they have great power to bless or to hurt. The Bible says we are to "Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry." I know there are times when I get upset with my brothers and sisters that I will speak out in anger. That is wrong and if Mom and Dad hear about it, I am in big trouble. I watch Pastor very closely, and there are times that he will stop and pray for God to open his heart to receive the words that he must speak to reach out to lost souls and those who have needs. He loves his church and prays for the hurting and the sick.

My dad says that a pastor has the hardest job of all and that some people do not understand what he has to go through to care for his church. Pastors are very special because being a preacher is a call from God. When God tells you that you are to preach, you preach, just like Paul in the Bible.

Momma said that when a pastor weeps for his church, it is because he loves everyone so much and wants them to follow in Jesus' footsteps. He wants them to have a desire to serve just like Jesus did. Jesus walked on this earth to serve others and share God's word. Jesus does not want anyone to perish and not go to Heaven, and neither does our pastor.

I think there should be a Pastor's Day and everyone should take the time to tell their pastors just how special they are and give them (as Dad says) a good pat on the back to let them know that they are good leaders and blessings to us. I know if I could talk to our pastor, I would give him a big hug and say thank you for leading me to Jesus.

Pastor does not know it, but I leave him notes and say thank you. He thinks it is from the children but that is okay. I like to watch him encourage the children because he encourages me, too. Do you have a pastor that you love? I sure hope so.

One day Pastor was very busy and one of the children came to him with a problem. He did not tell him to come back later or that he did not have time. He stopped what he was doing and listened to the little boy. He got out his Bible and they had a long talk. The boy was very happy and Pastor had a big smile on his face.

I think this year for Christmas, I am going to make a blessing list for the pastor. I know he will never see it, but I can show it to my dad and we can see all the times that Pastor has blessed me through the year. I think my dad would make a good pastor; he studies the Word of God and makes sure that we all learn to live our lives as God would want us to. My dad loves to hear the preaching and he takes careful notes to study later. I am learning to take notes in my class and sometimes Dad will help me with the Bible chapters. Our pastor has children and grandchildren that are in our church, and I know he is very proud of them. But one thing about our pastor is he has a hug for all children and a big smile.

I wish I were a little boy so that I could sit in the front pew and be like the other children. But I won't complain; God made me special like everyone else and I know He watches over me. The Bible states that God knows each hair on a man's head and each feather on a bird, and I love that He knows me and loves me. What I don't understand is how a human can go through their lives and not want to know Jesus. I feel very sad for them and I pray that someday all will know the love of Christ.

**Thomas** *cont. on page 7*

## CARRY YOUR BOOKS?

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

- 1 PETER 5:7 NIV

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# FUN FOR KIDS (of All Ages)

Hey kids!! Here are some more silly tongue twisters.  
See how fast you can say these without messing up.  
Lots of luck!!

One-One was a racehorse.  
Two-Two was one, too.  
When One-One won one race,  
Two-Two won one, too.

Which wristwatches are Swiss wristwatches?

Three free throws.

Six thick thistle sticks. Six thick thistles stick.

I saw Esau sitting on a seesaw. Esau, he saw me

A proper copper coffee pot.

(And the old favorite) She sells seashells on the seashore

## Being A Christian

by Terry Seagraves

It's hard to be a Christian when you are ten years old,  
Your friends don't understand you and you don't know  
where to go.

Our Preacher always tells us to follow in Jesus' Way, to  
be honest, caring and trusting

In God day by day.

My heart belongs to Jesus and my eyes are on His light.

I promise I will do my best to do what is always right.

To be a light to other children when things seem really  
hard.

And when Satan brings his temptations 'round, be  
strong and on my guard.

Thomas cont.from page 6

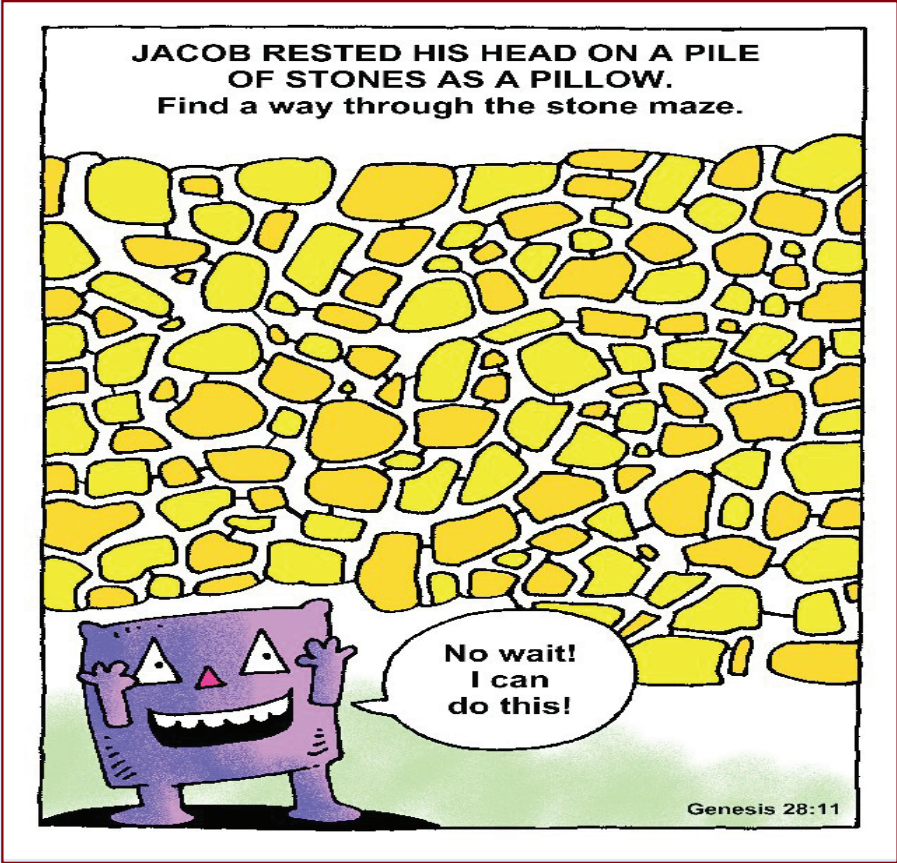
I love telling our new friends about our pastor and our church. I want everyone to feel welcome and know that when they come to our church they are a part of a great family. My favorite Sunday is Family Day. Everyone brings food and they have fellowship with one another. It is awesome because we get to eat great food and listen to God's Word being shared by everyone. I

love watching the children play and we learn new games from them.

Got to go; it is time to play with my friends. So until next time, prayers for you always.

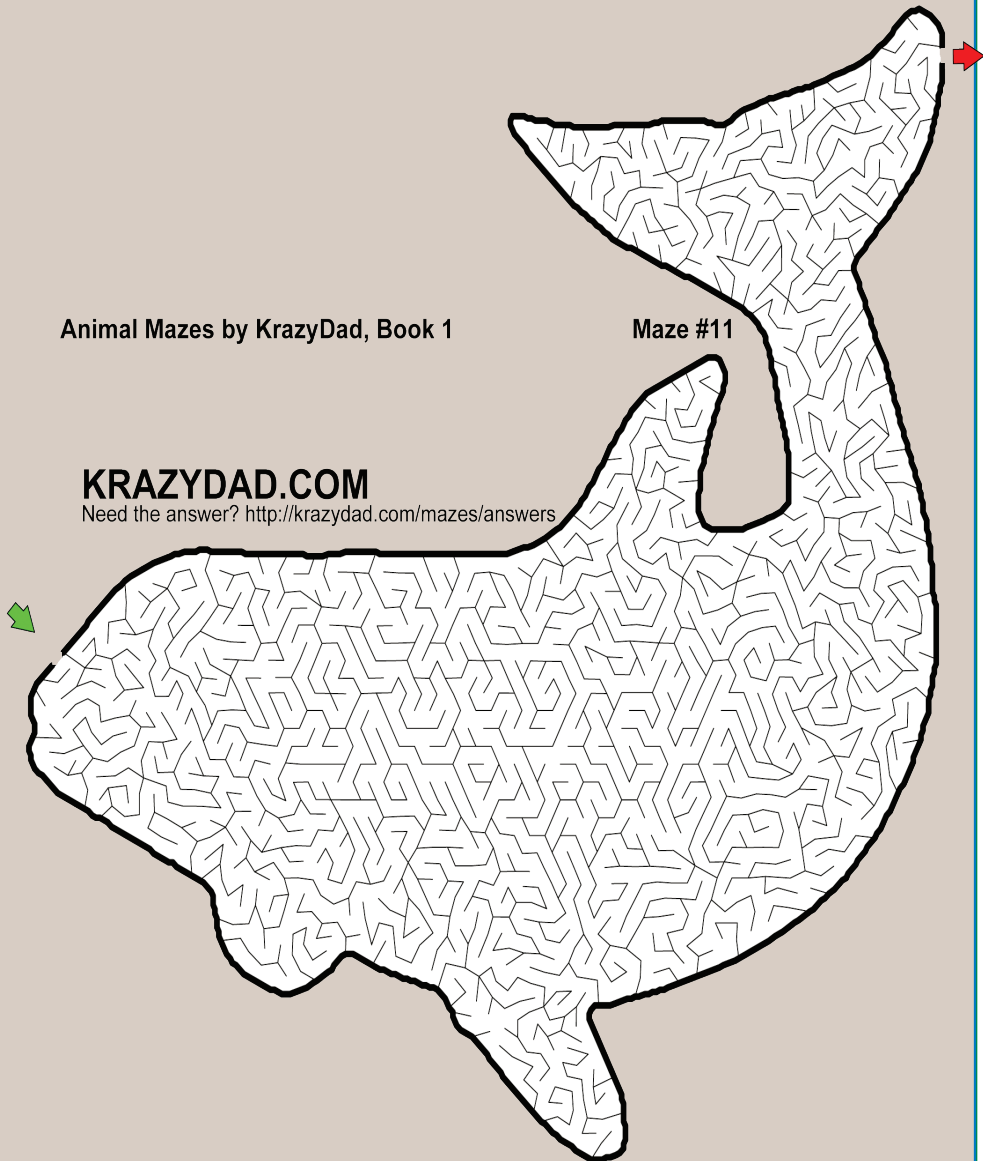


Terry lives with her husband in Florida. She is enjoying living near her daughter, son-in-law and two granddaughters.



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## MAZE CRAZE





## Genealogical Research in Indiana: Two Helpful Online Resources

by Jill Garrison



So far, most of my genealogy research has centered on counties within Indiana. Along the way, I've found some online resources that have proven very helpful and I've shared them with researchers that come into the library. Two of these online resources are the Online Indiana Death Records & Indexes and the Indiana State Library's website.

The Online Indiana Death Records & Indexes ([www.deathindexes.com/indiana/](http://www.deathindexes.com/indiana/)) is a records guide that provides links to various death and obituary indexes that have been compiled on the state and county levels. With each link is a description which tells where the data came from. For example, one of the Howard County links is to the Howard County Memory Project—Genealogy Indexes, which according to the description, “includes indexes for deaths record-

ed in newspapers, funeral notices, census mortality schedules, *Kokomo Tribune* obituaries October 1998–present, and more.” After locating an ancestor in one of these indexes, you can then get a copy of the record. Obituaries and funeral notices can usually be obtained for a fee from the library located in the county seat. Because I prefer to do my own research and I'm a penny-pincher, I usually request that the microfilm be sent to my local library through inter-library loan. This service is provided for free within the state of Indiana. (A word of warning, do not take for granted that the date given in an obituary index is the date of death. It may be the date that the obituary appeared in the newspaper.) Mortality schedules may be found on Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, or at the county seat library. Actual death certificates can be obtained from the Board of Health of the county where your ancestor died or from the Indiana Department of Health, provided your ancestor died in 1907 or after.

After “Online Indiana Death Indexes and Obituaries” is another section entitled “Ordering Indiana Vital Records,” which provides a link to information about requesting birth, marriage, death, and divorce records in Indiana. The last heading on the page is “Also Helpful . . .” and contains links that direct users toward Ancestry.com's records that pertain specifically to Indiana. At the very bottom of the page are links to online death indexes for other states and the Social Security Death Index. This webpage is definitely a “go-to” resource when looking for records regarding the death of an ancestor in Indiana.

Another great online resource is the Indiana State Library's website. On its “Databases” page ([www.in.gov/library/databases.htm](http://www.in.gov/library/databases.htm)) is a section entitled “Indiana State Library Databases,” which contains links to various useful databases. These databases include indexes for newspapers, vital records, biographies, military records, and digital

images.

Of these databases, the ones that I have used the most are those pertaining to marriage records. Tracking down ancestors' marriage records can prove to be trickier than one might think because it was not uncommon for them to marry in a county other than the one in which they lived. That's where these state databases can come in handy. Unfortunately, the two databases that the Indiana State Library (ISL) offers do not cover every year since Indiana became a state in 1816. One database covers up to 1850, and the other covers 1958–2005, leaving an over 100-year gap from 1850 to 1958 and another gap from 2005 to present. The more recent gap can easily be addressed by using The Marriage License Public Lookup on [www.publicaccess.courts.IN.gov](http://www.publicaccess.courts.IN.gov). This database contains many, but not all, marriage records for Indiana from 1993 to present. The huge gap from 1850 to 1958 is another story, and

**Genealogical Research** *cont. on page 11*

### HOLD ON TIGHT



**Too Much, Too Soon** *cont. on page 2*

*little girl to carry such a load. It's the same way, Corrie, with knowledge. Some knowledge is too heavy for children. When you are older and stronger, you can bear it. For now you must trust me to carry it for you.*

Over and over I have heard people, even professional counselors, say that our world today is a tough place to raise children. Many say that they are glad they didn't have to grow up in such an environment. Today's child is confronted with issues on a daily basis that those of us in the older generation didn't learn about until early adulthood. Our culture, schools, media, and sometimes even parents, push young children to look older than their

years and to participate in activities better left till later. Usually when children are allowed to unfold in a natural manner and timing, they display a God-given innocence and naivety that protects them from the heaviness and burdens of life. It is our job as adults to guard their hearts and minds until they have developed enough mentally, emotionally, and spiritually to handle the facts of life.

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



**Making Melody** *cont. from page 1*

may have been influenced by any one of several religions of the day, and it even becomes more complex. Many writers on church history have suggested that musical orthodoxy as we know it today wasn't nearly so refined at the time that the church was finding its musical ground in the writings of the New Testament.

I believe God loves music, and He created us with a capacity to express ourselves through singing and music. He has given most of us a voice to sing, however “refined” that singing voice might be. I am sure He chuckles when He hears some of our singing, a testament that He has a sense of humor. He has gifted many to play musical instruments to accompany singers, as David did in playing his harp and singing the songs of his day as he tended the sheep. So great is the need for musical expression that even those unable to hear and/or speak and who must communicate through sign language use a technique of signing that clearly indicates the words are being sung. As I age, my singing voice, which never was very refined to begin with, is even less so. But let's be honest here; they just write some of that music in too high a key. That's my story, and I'm sticking to it.

Is there a musical “style” that is patently **Christian**? That's a good question and an old question. Two of the most respected writers in recent church history, Luther and Calvin, were decidedly opposed to each other's views of the kind of music to be used in the church. Luther had openly proclaimed his desire to use all available music, including the most obviously secular, for the worship of the church. Calvin, to the contrary, absolutely rejected such a use of existing secular resources. (Charles Garside, Jr., *The Origins of Calvin's Theology of Music: 1536-1543* (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 1979))

We will further explore this in the next issue, but if you are an aging saint, exasperated in trying to find your musical faith expression and wanting to age **Gracefully**, stay with us. We've got some good things coming that I think will be a blessing to you.

Morris Starkey is retired from Indiana University Kokomo and lives with his wife, Donna, in Miami County. They have two children and five grandchildren.







### Adam's Failure *cont. from page 5*

and love. She has not been wanting in any way as far as we know.

However, we see Eve has added something to God's instructions. She expanded God's prohibition of eating the fruit to simply touching the fruit. God did not tell Adam he could not touch the fruit. Therefore, it seems Adam did not accurately teach Eve God's Word. I know this may seem like a minor detail; however, we must be careful not to add to or subtract from God's Word. That leads to extremism.

After the serpent sows the seeds of doubt, he comes out with his guns blazing. He basically calls God a liar. Satan tells Eve that God is simply keeping them from becoming as powerful as God. He makes rebellion look like the right thing to do. Here is where we see the results of Satan's manipulation of God's Word. Eve begins to think God is an oppressive tyrant keeping them from achieving true happiness.

By the way, this passage supports the biblical teaching about the three main types of sin. They are the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. Eve believed the fruit would be good for her body, satisfying aesthetically, and able to make her as smart and perhaps as powerful as God. The ability to "have it all" drove Eve to action.

Up to this point, it seems as if Eve is completely responsible for the Fall.

However, my question is why didn't Adam step in to defend his wife and respond to Satan's manipulation of God's Word? Many Bible teachers believe Eve was all alone by the tree when Satan came to tempt her. But Genesis 3:6 tells us Adam was with her. Even if he was not present at the initial temptation, he could have and should have rejected Eve's offer to eat the fruit. He should have been able to counter every point. This dynamic is called "peer pressure." Please do not try to fool yourself by thinking this only affects children and teens. Peer pressure affects us all—even more so when it is "spouse pressure."

Adam should have simply reassured Eve that God had provided everything they needed to live a perfect life forever. They could have gone on to procreate an eternal race. However, he chose to be manipulated by a lie. Adam was taken in by the promise of something better.

Thankfully, Jesus was not taken in by Satan's temptations (Matt. 4). Jesus knew Satan had no real power over Him. My dear friend, run to the loving arms of Jesus and find true joy, peace, happiness, and contentment.

Matthew Turner is principal of Victory Christian Academy and co-founder of the Kokomo TEA Party. Contact Matt: [vca-matt@yahoo.com](mailto:vca-matt@yahoo.com).



## Mother's Corner

by Ashlee Shoaff

In a world pursuing basic human desires, we find ourselves entangled in circumstances and attitudes that are not beneficial. Events happen that cause us to make decisions based on our egos, timetables, or sensuous longings. We want what we want when we want it. If only life were as simple as choosing the color of nail polish to wear or even deciding which of your children's sports to coach. Then we could formalize a plan to control our environment or life circumstances. We often believe that if we just slow down, life could or would be simpler; decision-making could or would be easier.

Time and time again we hear wisdom from others. It's easy for someone else to suggest that we must slow down. And while this can be good advice, shouldn't we consider where we are—at which stage or season of life we find ourselves? Can't we find peace, gentleness, kindness, faithfulness, joy, self-control, justice, righteousness, and goodness (Gal. 5:22) in that place of small, needy children, hectic schedules, or life's ever-evolving circumstances?

Our answers obviously will vary; that is appropriate. Only quiet and persistent consideration of these questions before God can lead to answers. Life is disheveled at times. The following are typical situations parents face:

- Arguing
- Bedtime Issues
- Biting
- Defiance
- Direct disobedience
- Disrespectful behavior
- Fighting between siblings
- Hitting
- Interrupting
- Issues getting ready in the morning
- Not listening or being attentive to parental instructions
- Lack of impulse control
- Meal time hassles
- Melt downs
- Not getting homework done
- Not listening
- Not sharing
- Rebellious behavior
- Screaming
- Swearing
- Talking back
- Tantrums
- Tattling
- Whining

Many times we cannot "slow" these circumstances down. Yet we

don't have to face them alone; you are not alone. Countless parents feel the external and internal pressures to perform and master parenting. "[God] will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection" (Ps. 91:4, NLT).

Our reactive nature wants to do something, fix things. We assuage our conscience by creating experiences for our children (or even for ourselves). This helps us believe that we are making up for lost time or giving them what they want or that we are even meeting a need. Or we comply with our children's demands or allow ourselves to be passive to get through the moment or situation. Sometimes slowing down doesn't fix anything; creating new experiences for our children doesn't simplify situations. Being compliant with their demands doesn't instill godly character. Hurriedness may be your life. The craze of children's developing and manifesting sin is life. It happens. How do we embrace it? Enjoy it?

To believe that the only answer is to slow down destroys the beauty of God's continual working over and development of our soul. In Mark 5:25-34 we meet a woman debilitated by a physical ailment for twelve years. Her yearning for just one touch of Jesus brought her to a place of healing. In the midst of the crowd, she extended her hand to receive the cure only provided by God's grace. In verse 34, he said to her, "Daughter, your faith, your trust and confidence in Me, springing from faith in God has restored you to health. Go into peace and be continually healed and freed from your distressing bodily disease" (AMP). We don't know, but it's hard to believe that she slowed down life. Life continued to happen. The difference may just be that she sought the place of healing and wholeness within her circumstances.

Maybe it's not physical hardships, but a volatile relationship with your child that makes your life seem hurried. God will not leave you in a land of drought if you choose to seek Him. John 7:38 (NIV) states, "Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." It is through the nurturing of your relationship between your Messiah and yourself that the fruit of His spirit can direct you.

**Mother's Corner** *cont. on page 11*

**Love Found and Lost** *cont. from page 2*

off with the loveliest girl in the world. Then I put her in His place, and shut Him out. How dumb could I get? He gave me the chance of a lifetime for happiness, and I blew it!

Well, I repented. I presented my body a living sacrifice again (crawled back on the altar, so to speak). I decided that since I had blown my chance for happiness and was destined to be miserable for the rest of my life, I should at least make Him happy. I had to do something significant to show Him that I really meant business this time. Well, what? The hardest thing in the world for me to do is to get up earlier than I absolutely have to! So I determined to get up at 5 am and study the Bible for a solid hour before breakfast and my 7 o'clock class. I had no idea how I was going to make myself do that.

I was telling my friend Louie Scarboro about my plan, and he blurted out that he was thinking the very same thing but didn't know how he was going to make himself do it either! We covenanted together to meet

and study together, and if either one of us wasn't there on time, the other would go into his dorm room and roll him right out onto the floor with no warning, no delay and no mercy. And I slept on the top bunk! The plan worked to perfection, and for the rest of the semester neither of us ever missed or was late. I have never in my life grown faster spiritually than during that spring.

But then a strange thing happened. I began thinking that Lolly and I should start going together again. I would put it out of my mind, and ask the Lord to make Satan stop tempting me.

Oh, rats! I'm out of room again. I'll have to continue next issue.

*Jim Wright earned his MA in Engineering from Oklahoma State, is a Certified Flight Instructor, and is retired from EDS. Jim is a Deacon at Victory Baptist Church.*

**The Role of the a Husband** *cont. from page 1*

ent, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39, KJV).

It is **unselfish**. "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:6-7, KJV).

It is **purposeful**. "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:26-27, KJV).

It is **sacrificial**. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Ephesians 5:25, KJV).

The last word that defines the role of a husband is the word **learner**. "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered" (1 Peter 3:7, KJV). The Bible says "...dwell with them with understanding" (according to knowledge). It is a command!

The world says "You can't understand a woman." God says, "You do it!" It takes time (dwell with). It takes studying women in general, your wife in particular, considering her load in life and special needs, likes and dislikes. Give attention to her as a weaker vessel, a prized possession, not a domestic slave. Honor her; prefer her over other women, your children, and yourself. She should be second only to the Lord Himself as an object of your devotion.

If you are going to fulfill your role as a husband/father, you must be the spiritual leader of your home. Jesus said that if the blind lead the blind they shall both fall into the ditch (Matthew 15: 14). Unless you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour you may very well be leading your family to eternity in Hell. The greatest responsibility that we have as leaders in the home is to lead our families to Christ and then lead them in serving Him. Anything less and we will be failing miserably in our leadership responsibilities.

*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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*Faith and Family News [FAFN]* reaches thousands of people in our area in its mission to be a spiritual resource to the individuals and families of our area. *FAFN* publishes four times a year and distributes copies through nearly 300 locations in the area. The reception of our publication has been phenomenal!

Our readers are ordinary people who own or rent homes and apartments, buy goods and services locally, enjoy the food and recreation of the area, and believe in the family. Our area has many reliable Christian and/or family-oriented businesses and organizations, and *FAFN* would like to extend this opportunity to inform our readers of their services.

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email [editorfaithandfamily@gmail.com](mailto:editorfaithandfamily@gmail.com)  
for an information packet.****Rooting for You** *cont. from page 6*

with nature are rooted in our biology" ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biophilia\\_hypothesis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biophilia_hypothesis)). Biophilia literally means love of life or living systems. The term biophilia was first used by Erich Fromm to describe a psychological orientation of being attracted to all that is alive (*The Heart of Man*, Harper & Row, 1964). While I don't agree with the totality of Wilson's hypothesis, I do believe that there is an innate love for life within the heart of man, whether it be the lives of other people, plant life or animal life. Go to the zoo and observe the droves of people who visit just to see all the animals. Notice how many people have plant life interwoven in some form to the scope of their homes. Whether it be vegetable gardens or flower gardens, most have some form of plant life growing at their residences. Even people who live in crowded cities find a way to have some plant life, be it a container plant on a balcony or an indoor plant.

On the third day of Creation "God said, 'Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth;' and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that

yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1: 11-12). On the sixth day God created man and said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed." Verse 31 says, "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good." If all that God created was good, and man, animals, and plants were part of that creation, it only stands to reason that man would have an intrinsic love for the other things God created—as well as for the Creator!

This then, is why we get such great enjoyment from gardening and why for many years gardening was the #1 pastime of Americans. We enjoy gardening because God created it, and said it was good. It is upon this premise that I build my hypothesis that we were created to garden!

*Marlin Carpenter, a Master Gardener, operates Garden Gate Greenhouse at 500 S and Hwy 19 in Miami County. Stop by for all your gardening needs.*

[egardengate.com](http://egardengate.com)





**Mother's Corner** *cont. from page 9*

The wisdom of slowing down may be the solution to many of life's problems, but we must make decisions based on the information and spiritual perceptiveness we have at the given time. There is a chance that we will offer the same advice to those young to middle-aged parents when we've reflected on our life's journey. But, it's all right to bear down tight and ride the roller coaster of these years with the approach of Proverbs 3:5-10 (additions in brackets).

*Trust in the LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART* [even when life is hectic, painful, or difficult], *and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him* [by yourself and with your family], *and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, AND TURN AWAY from evil* [or the bitterness

you hold because of life's circumstances, or your child's developmental stage or the hectic schedules]. *It will be healing to your flesh* [to allow God to mold the thoughts and approach to your situation] *and refreshment to your bones* [to place the burden on Him]. *Honor the LORD WITH YOUR WEALTH* [and life circumstances] *and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your* [heart and soul] *will be filled with* [peace and gentleness and contentment], *and your* [attitude] *will be bursting with* [joy and righteousness].

*Ashlee and her husband Stan have four children. She has an M.S. in Counseling and Counseling Education. She lives in Howard County.*

**Genealogical Research** *cont. from page 8*

finding marriage records during that time period may put your genealogy research skills to the test.

Indiana Memory is an ISL database which acts as a portal to digitized collections, which are significant to the history and culture of Indiana. These digitized images of books, manuscripts, photographs, newspapers, maps, and other media come from the collections of Indiana libraries, archives, museums, etc. As Indiana's bicentennial approaches, ISL will be pushing for more institutions to join in this digitization project. Those institutions which are already apart of this project, such as the library where I work, will be aggressively adding images on a monthly basis. This is great for genealogists with Indiana ancestors. We will have access to historic photographs, maps, letters, journals, etc. from the comfort of our own homes. We may not have known that some of these items even existed.

ISL's webpage entitled "State Wide Genealogy Databases, Indexes & Internet Resources" ([www.in.gov/library/3266.htm](http://www.in.gov/library/3266.htm)) supplies another list of databases. Some are the same as those listed on the "Databases" page, but additional databases for census, court, institutional, land, and naturalization records as well as maps and county resources are also listed. Most of these links will take you to the websites of other institutions where these resources are found.

I frequently use the "Indiana

Newspaper Holdings Guide" ([www.in.gov/library/newspaperholdings.htm](http://www.in.gov/library/newspaperholdings.htm)) on the ISL's website. This guide tells which newspapers the ISL has and whether they are original copies or on microfilm. While originals cannot be requested through inter-library loan, the microfilm can. To find out what is available, click on the link for the county of the newspaper. This will bring up a listing of newspaper titles which includes the cities or towns where they were published, the years and months that have survived, and the format in which they are available. Many towns have had more than one newspaper over the years, often running simultaneously for at least some period of time, so it is wise to check which newspapers existed for which time periods before requesting them through inter-library loan. You may want to request all the local newspapers that were in print at the time in question.

I hope that the Online Indiana Death Records & Indexes and the Indiana State Library's website prove to be as helpful to you as they have been to me. Resources such as these can help us see what records are available to us and zero in on the ones that pertain to our ancestors.

*Jill teaches a preschoolers' class at VBC and currently works in a public library. She has taught in a Christian school in England.*

**Justin** *cont. from page 4*

tional and based on misinformation and misconceptions. His third writing, *The Dialog with Trypho the Jew*, is an account of a conversation with a Jewish Rabbi where he tries to explain that the prophecies of the Old Testament concerning the coming Messiah can only be about Jesus Christ. From these writings we get a glimpse into the beliefs and practices of the primitive Church and what writings were regarded as scripture. He makes heavy use of the Old Testament by referring to it as the "Books of the Prophets" and refers to the "Memoirs of the Apostles" as his source of instruction about Jesus Christ. Although he does not name any particular book of the New Testament, it can be derived from his

quotations and references that he is familiar with and using all four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), Acts and probably Revelation too. Justin wrote other works as well that are referred to by himself and other ancient authors, notably a *Treatise Against Heresy* which was probably a refutation against Marcion (who believed that Jesus had nothing to do with the God of the Old Testament), but these have unfortunately been lost.

In about the year 165 AD, a few years after a new Emperor had ascended the throne, a new round of persecutions began. Justin and some of his students were arrested and sent up to the Roman prefect Rusticus for trial. There they were compelled to renounce Christianity and sacrifice to the pagan gods. To this Justin responded, "No one who is rightly minded turns from true belief to false." In the same way, those that were with Justin

also refused to sacrifice to idols. In a scene all too familiar to Christians of the day, Justin and his party were led away, scourged and finally beheaded.

As Christians are reviled and persecuted today, it is sobering to think of the incredible sacrifices these early Christians endured as they were determined to be Christ's witnesses. They suffered extraordinary hardships and resistance while fighting to preserve and continue the faith and be an example for all. Justin Martyr is the prototype and just one of many Christian apologists that set the precedent on

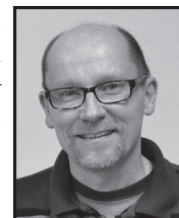
*As Christians are reviled and persecuted today, it is sobering to think of the incredible sacrifices these early Christians endured as they were determined to be Christ's witnesses.*

how to live and defend the faith. The complete texts and commentaries of Justin Martyr's works can easily be found on the internet from many sources.

*We who once reveled in impurities now cling to purity; we who devoted ourselves to the arts of magic now consecrate ourselves to the good and unbegotten God; we who loved above all else the ways of acquiring riches and possessions now hand over to a community fund what we possess, and share it with every needy person; we who hated and killed one another and would not share our hearth with those of another tribe because of their [different] customs, now, after the coming of Christ, live together with them, and pray for our enemies, and try to convince those who hate us unjustly.*

*First Apology of Justin Martyr*

*Jamie Purcifull is married to Lori and they have two daughters. Jamie works as a Radiologic Technologist at Community Howard Hospital.*



## The State Of The Bible Survey

The State of the Bible survey, conducted by Barna Group on behalf of American Bible Society, details Americans' beliefs about the Bible, its role in society, its presence in U.S. homes and other information about the best-selling book of all time. As in previous years, the survey found the Bible remains a highly valued, influential force in America.

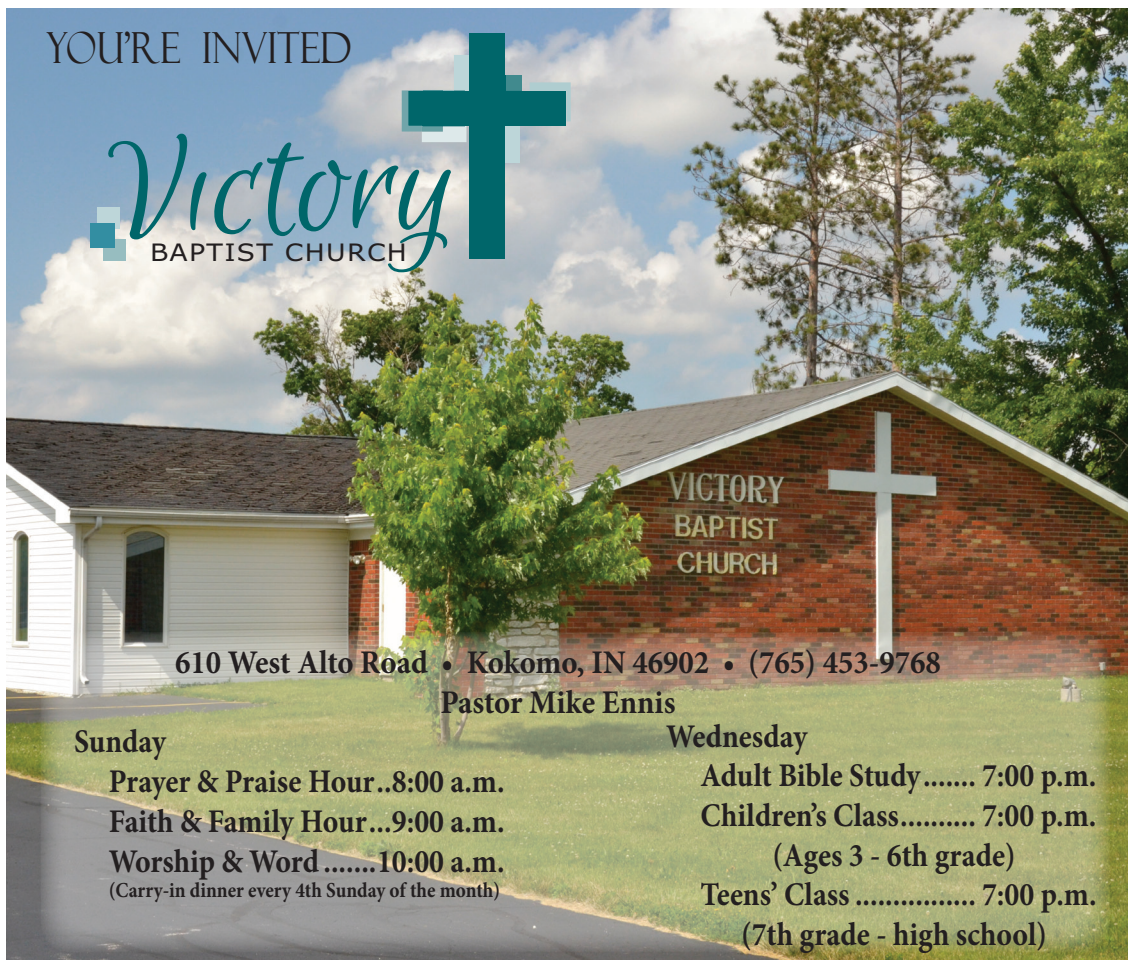
"African-Americans are the nation's most engaged Bible readers. With the majority of blacks believing that the Bible contains everything a person needs to know to live a meaningful life, it is clear that the Bible is still a cornerstone of black culture," said Arthur Satterwhite, senior program manager of Arts & Media Bible Advocacy for American Bible Society. "And African-Americans are leading the way in adopting the latest technology to allow them anytime, anywhere access to God's Word."

Sixty-two percent of African-Americans believe that the Bible contains everything a person needs to know to live a meaningful life, compared to only 50 percent of all adults.

*Resources: Infographic and full report of the State of the Bible 2014 are available at [TheStateoftheBible.com](http://TheStateoftheBible.com)*



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Pastor Mike Ennis

**Sunday**

Prayer & Praise Hour...8:00 a.m.

Faith & Family Hour...9:00 a.m.

Worship & Word.....10:00 a.m.  
(Carry-in dinner every 4th Sunday of the month)

**Wednesday**

Adult Bible Study..... 7:00 p.m.

Children's Class..... 7:00 p.m.  
(Ages 3 - 6th grade)

Teens' Class ..... 7:00 p.m.  
(7th grade - high school)



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Call 453-9768 for information or to set up  
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# MONTHLY PRAYER BREAKFAST

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delicious breakfast, great fellowship, inspirational DVDs, prayer time

## 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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