



Valley Baptist Church Newsletter May 2008

From the Pastor's

Dear Church Family,

One of my favorite Scriptures says this:

“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

II Timothy 2:2

What was Jesus' method to reach the world in which He lived? Certainly he ministered tirelessly to all those who came His way. Certainly he cared for everyone from every age and gender and race. But where did He thoroughly invest Himself? In the lives of 12 men – the disciples. Jesus must have believed that if He could teach and train and influence those 12 men that they in turn would do the same in the lives of other men and that all the men being trained would be the kind of man through whom his wife and children would benefit. I still believe the same. That our church would come to be known as a church where the men are serious about walking with God in integrity and leading their families (and by the way it would simultaneously be known as a place full of happy wives and children.☺)

We have around 40 family units attending VBC. Imagine if each of us were to reach just one unchurched/lost family during the remainder of this year. Living organisms multiply and reproduce. Rather than becoming overwhelmed with the vast amount of lost people around, could you focus on one or more individuals or families, praying for them, serving them, and sharing your testimony with them?

Fun times are being planned for this summer. We are praying toward a variety of activities for Sunday afternoons. For example, each 4th Sunday during our fellowship meal we will break out the grills and enjoy barbecued hamburgers and hot dogs with volleyball and other games to follow.

Blessed to be your pastor,

Ronny

❖ VBC Family & Music

Fellowship Meal

Sunday's 12:00 noon

Worship & Prayer

Thursday Mornings 10:30 am
At the church

I would like for anyone interested in singing special music as a choir to meet for just a few minutes after the service on Sunday. Thanks!

The following is a sample of the daily devotions from daily success. You can go online to iblp.org and click on the tab daily success and sign-up to receive these daily devotionals by email. They are based on the Commands of Christ. Some of the men in our church have already started receiving these and I thought there might be others who would like to receive them. They are written to men but are not just for men. Read the following and see what you think.

***Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men”
(Matthew 4:19).***

Command 2: Follow Me | Day 11

Use Transformed “Rods”!

Meditation is imagining the action involved in carrying out the command. For example, imagine what would happen if you were Peter or Andrew and heard Jesus' call to follow Him and be made a fisher of men. There is a principle here.

Jesus will take our talents and skills and transform them for eternal achievement. This is what He did with Matthew's experience as a tax collector. Matthew teaches more about money in his Gospel than any other writer. The same principle is true with David; his shepherding skills were transformed by God into tools with which to shepherd, or care for, the whole nation of Israel. The skills he used for the sheep were applied to taking care of people. “So he [David] fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands” (Psalm 78:72). However, before God can use our skills, something must happen.

God will use whatever we bring to Him, but it must first be transformed by an action on our part. That action is demonstrated by the rod of Moses.

When God called Moses to follow Him back to Egypt and deliver the nation of Israel from bondage, He asked Moses to cast down his rod. That rod represented his skill and livelihood as a shepherd. The rod became a snake and was so terrifying that Moses fled from it. What a precise picture of personal skills and abilities that are not dedicated to God. Once the rod was given to God and seen in a totally new light by Moses, God told him to pick it up. When he did, it was transformed into a new rod. No longer was it referred to as

the rod of Moses, but rather the rod of God, and with it God was able to accomplish great and mighty deeds, which brought much glory to Him.

God will not use our skills or abilities, but He will transform them into His skills and abilities when we place them at His feet.

As a young boy I had an interest in drawing, but I had no unusual skill. However, when I dedicated my body to God at about the age of twelve, God took my interest in drawing and directed it to chalk art. As a result, millions of people have received spiritual encouragement and direction from the drawings. What “rods” do you presently have in your hand that are going to “bite you” if you don’t give them to God today?

Through Christ our Lord,

Bill Gothard

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707 West Ogden Ave., Hinsdale, IL 60521.
www.iblp.org

Bobby

❖ **Women's Ministries**

Motherhood Celebration

Women's Ministries is hosting an afternoon Mother/Child gathering on Saturday, May 17th. Our guest speaker (via DVD) will be Nicole Johnson, one of the Women of Faith speakers. You are invited to bring a picture of your mother and a dozen of your favorite cookies (purchased or baked in your kitchen). We will meet in the fellowship hall at 1:30. Mark this date on your calendar and make plans to join us for an afternoon of celebration!

Brownfield Family

We are still collecting items to send to the Brownfield’s who are returning home on furlough from Africa. This Sunday, May 4th is the deadline for your donation. We would like to purchase gift cards for local stores and/or restaurants. If you would like to contribute toward these, place your offering in an envelope marked Brownfield’s. We are also collecting the following items:

Golden Grahams Cereal
Thank you notes
Sachet for linen drawers
Box of chocolates
Box of tissues, napkins, roll of paper towels, toilet tissue

For their teenage boys:

football
baseball gloves
baseball or softball
socks
games

Stewart Family says "Thank You"

Dear Valley Baptist Church,

What a blessing you have been to our family!

Thank you so much for your gifts. You showered our family with love through your effort to gather and send the things we need and miss from home. The girls, Sarah (2) and Abigail (1), are already enjoying the books. We love to read together. The girls also look very nice in all the beautiful dresses and the cute PJs. And, of course we will all enjoy the food and drink items you sent from the good ol' USA.

We are so grateful to have a church family like yours supporting us and praying for us.

Please continue to pray for our family. It is now summer in Rajasthan and the daily temperatures are 110-120 degrees. The girls and Rhonda stay inside as much as possible (which is difficult since they love to play outside), but Glenn has to go out in the heat almost every day. Glenn visits in homes that have no AC, tin roofs and only ceiling fans. Dehydration can be very real problem when he stays out in this heat for several hours. Glenn and his partner, Deepraj, are now giving 16 Bible studies with opportunities for more. God is blessing their work and ministry. Please pray for their continued boldness. Also pray for these 16 families to have openness as they hear the Truth from the Bible for the first time and that God's Holy Spirit would awaken their spirits so that they can have the faith to believe.

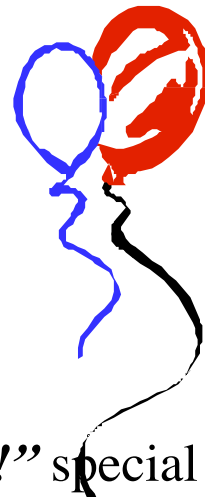
Again, thank you for your ministry to us!

Working together for His glory,
Glenn, Rhonda, Sarah, and Abigail

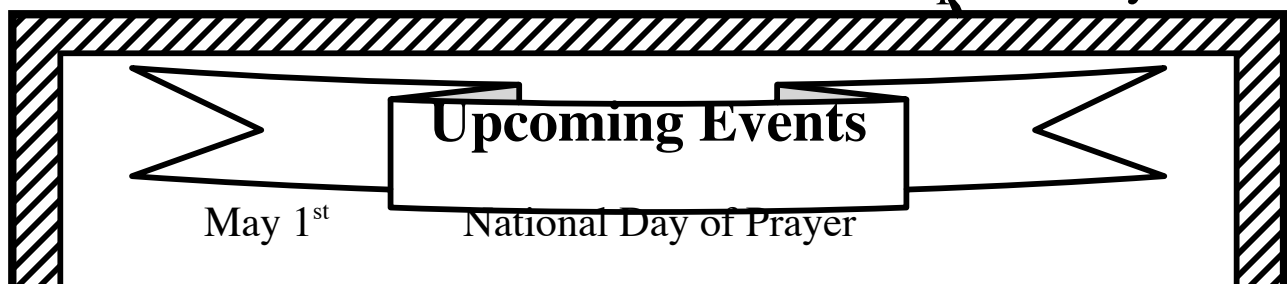
Carrol Bowerman

May Birthday's and Anniversaries

May 3 rd	Decker Richmond
May 6 th	Jillian Hampshire
May 7 th	Pat Howard
May 8 th	Janet Taylor
	Joe Crabtree
May 9 th	Ronny Cooksey
	William Hampshire
May 12 th	Raymond Bailey
May 14 th	Callie Boggus
May 22 nd	Jim Snow
May 27 th	Judi McDaniel



Have a GREAT "*Jesus Loves You!*" special day!!!



May 4 th	7:00 pm - Prayer Time at the Sweets Senior Adult Day Seniors come be our guest at the Fellowship Meal
May 7 th	6:30 pm - Business Meeting
May 11 th	Mother's Day / No Fellowship Meal
May 12 th	6:30 pm – Quilting
May 17 th	1:30 pm - Mother/Child Gathering
May 18 th	2:00 pm – Special Prayer Time
May 19 th	6:30 pm – Quilting
May 21 st	9:00 am - Caleb Club Breakfast (Jakes)
May 25 th	12:00 noon – Special Fellowship Meal Picnic & Games
May 26 th	Memorial Day / Office Closed

Sunday School Classes & Teachers

- Babies – 3 years old, Rhonda Ingram & Judi McDaniel
- 4 years old – Kindergarten, Linda Reed & Wanda Hill
- Elementary, Kathy & Hannah Cooksey
- Family and Youth, Mark Menne
- Young Adult, Bobby Johnson
- Adult 2, Richard Reed
- Senior Adult, Tom Snow
- Ladies Class, Joanne Williamson
- Life Care, Tarlton & Wanda Taylor

Our volunteer team from Texas had to cancel and we may not hold Vacation Bible School this year. However, in its place we may hold a community outreach on or near July 4th. We would welcome hearing your ideas regarding simple, creative ways to plan and conduct such an outreach that would be enjoyable for all ages.

www.macvalleybaptist.org or www.macvalleybaptist.com

If we have omitted anyone, please let us know, so that we may recognize your birthday and/or anniversary in future newsletters. If you are a newcomer, please let the church



Has your home address, phone number, or
your e-mail address changed?
PLEASE keep us posted!

Reach One

by Pastor Frank



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Mary's mad at me! She thinks I have been obsessing
about deer hunting again ...

Reach One

by Pastor Frank



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I still say we're getting too much like
the rest of the world!