



Victory in Jesus

In the class I attend on Sunday mornings Josh Boyd is taking us through some of the songs in our hymnal. We are spending a portion of our time in class discussing the different stories of the composers and the events that may have led to the inspiration of certain songs, and we spend time sharing some scriptures that fit the theme of the hymn. One of the great hymns we discussed this past Sunday was *Victory in Jesus*.

There is a line in that great hymn that stood out to the class so we had a short discussion about it. The line reads, "*He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood...*" It was those first three words that grabbed our attention: *He sought me*. What a truly amazing thought. My Lord and Savior sought me. He came after me. His mission was to find me.

So often we speak in terms of our seeking or our search in life. Some truly are seeking after Jesus. Others may just speak in general terms of seeking after something, or searching after something. They may say, "*I was looking for something,*" or, "*I was trying to find some answers.*" The object of this seeking may not be clear, but still we are the ones thought of as seeking. We are the ones on the mission. We are the ones on this great search.

This hymn reminds us of an awesome truth - Jesus seeks too! He sought me and bought me! Remember Jesus' parable about the shepherd that has 100 sheep (Matthew 18:12-14)? He says that if one of them goes astray that he would leave the ninety-nine where they are and go off in search for the one that has strayed. Jesus also tells us in Luke 19:10 that his mission is "*to seek and save that which was lost.*" We are not the only ones seeking something. Jesus is seeking too.

The only reason any of us can sing about our victory in Jesus is because He sought us and He bought us with his redeeming blood. Our God truly is good all the time! -Gilbert

On Walking in the Light

From Chuck Spurgeon's
Daily Meditations

"If we walk in the light, as he is in the light." John 1:7

As he is in the light! Can we ever attain to this? Shall we ever be able to walk as clearly in the light as he is whom we call "Our Father," of whom it is written, "God is light, and in him is no darkness at all?" The youthful artist, as he grasps his early pencil, can hardly hope to equal Raphael or Michael Angelo, but still, if he did not have a noble beau ideal before his mind, he would only attain to something very mean and ordinary. But what is meant by the expression that the Christian is to walk in light as God is in the light? We conceive it to import likeness, but not degree. We are as truly in the light, we are as heartily in the light, we are as sincerely in the light, as honestly in the light, though we cannot be there in the same measure. I cannot dwell in the sun, it is too bright a place for my residence, but I can walk in the light of the sun; and so, though I cannot attain to that perfection of purity and truth which belongs to the Lord of hosts by nature as the infinitely good, yet I can set the Lord always before me, and strive, by the help of the indwelling Spirit, after conformity to his image.

-Phil



All-Church Annual Picnic this Sunday, Sept. 7, Columbian Park

This Sunday, September 7, is the date for Elmwood's annual **All-Church Picnic at columbian Park**. We'll plan to eat at 12:30. Bring plenty to share as we invite our neighbors, friends, and family to join us. Come to **Brown Shelter 1 & 2** (big shelters nearest Home Hospital), and enjoy the food, fun, fellowship, and games. Please note: **NO EVENING WORSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 7**.

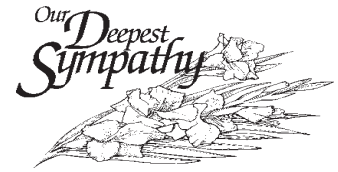
Steve Cable has returned home! Praise God. He is weak and needing lots of rest to continue to heal**Charles Willison**, Jim's father in Ohio, had gall bladder surgery on Wednesday....**Ty Anderson**, youngest son of Mandy & Kenny, will have a test this Thursday for his stomach problems....**Janice Bell**, a visitor who was here on Sunday and fell and broke her leg, is in St. Elizabeth Hospital, room 4351. She hopes to be dismissed by mid-week....**Leon Johnson**, Kathy O'Donnell's father, who suffered complications following surgery last week in Chicago, is at Kathy's home recuperating....**John Tapscott**, father of TJ Campbell's friend, has been diagnosed with colon cancer....Continue praying for **Eugene Zinn, Randi Verett, Jean Stockberger, Lance & Lane Pepper, Valley Stockton, Mandy Anderson, Beth Holt, John Adams, Christi Everett, Dale Kinser, Eileen Richardson, Kaden Koebcke, Amanda Powlen, Julie Lichty, Hattie Coffel, Pat Johnson, Lois Powlen, Marge Campbell, Irene Sims, Henrietta Frampton, Marie DeWoody, Paul & Argie Verett, Delpha Allen, Eagle Bailey, Minnie Scott, and Irene Fox.**

Serving in our military: **Philip Devine, Mark Wilson, Shawn Wilson, and Ti Draughon.**



**for Phil & Katy,
September 21**

Phil & Katy Travis were married August 30 in Michigan. They have already bought a home--3601 Golden Ln., Lafayette 47909. To honor them and welcome Katy to Elmwood, Phyllis & Erin Simmerman and Chris & Kelsey Sutherlin are hosting a wedding shower for them at the Simmerman home, 415 Oaklawn Dr., Lafayette, on **Sunday, September 21, from 2:00 until 4:00**. Money for a group gift may be given to Phyllis, Erin, Chris or Kelsey.



Kristi Smith's father, **Kenneth Clubb**, 69, of Naples, Texas, died Sunday evening. He had suffered pulmonary problems and vascular problems. The funeral was in Naples on Wednesday. Kristi and Doug will spend the week in Texas. Our sincere sympathies to them.

Sympathies also to Cher Campbell whose aunt, **Julia Williams**, died in Morristown, Tennessee, last week. She had cancer.

Attention Parents:

Our **Children's Church** for children in kindergarten through 5th grade will resume this Sunday, **September 7th** during second service!



Thank you to everyone for your prayers, calls, meals, and cards. I am overwhelmed by your love and concern. -Mandy Anderson

August 31, 2008

Class: 174 Worship: 261

Contribution: \$9,585



Just Thinking out Loud

I am thankfully aware that James 1 says, "Every generous act and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights." I am also very aware that God can and does use situations, events, circumstances in our lives to get our attention and to draw us closer to Him. I am deeply aware that Satan is the enemy and he is alive and well and is doing all he can to destroy our lives in hopes that we will turn away from God. Having said all that, the current and coming events make me wonder if we are any different...have we learned anything from the past or are we just going to repeat history?

It has been about three years since hurricane Katrina. It seems at the moment that hurricane Gustav was not as powerful as it was feared and so the destruction was not as devastating as it could have been – many prayers have been answered. We are coming up on the seventh anniversary of 9-11-01. Honestly, I start getting a little nervous at this point in the year, each year, as I am reminded of the tragedies that took place on that day. To add to the mix of possibility, this is an election year and I can only imagine what terrorists are thinking could be done to throw Americans into turmoil, again. I assume that the government continues to learn how to better prepare for potential attacks. As I travel, it seems that security has been tightened – it certainly takes longer to go through security. I am sure the Enemy and our enemies are plotting for more destruction and I wonder if we will be any more prepared than we were last time. I am sure that if you aren't careful, these "cheery" thoughts could really bring you down, so please read on...

Psalm 78 verses 2 to 4 say, "I will declare wise sayings; I will speak mysteries from the past—things we have heard and known and that our fathers have passed down to us. We must not hide them from their children, but must tell a future generation the praises of the LORD, His might, and the wonderful works He has performed." The point is that it is the responsibility of those of us who are more experienced in life to pass on history and more importantly His-story so that we and the future generations will not repeat the mistakes of the past. Of course, it is important to be better prepared for hurricanes and terrorist attacks, but it is more important for us to have our lives in order so that we will be ready to join Him when He calls. If we are truly resting in the arms of God, Satan and his workers can send what they want and we will come through the storms with our faith intact. Let's keep learning – together!

– Lee

Good \$ense Budget Course



"Good Sense Budgeting" is an experience that can be life-changing. This six-session (via DVD) Budgeting course will help you to help yourself in managing your money. The program is totally non-threatening, and you will receive a workbook to help you review the material and plan ahead for your future.

The first session begins this Wednesday, September 3. It will continue weekly on Wednesday evenings at 5:50 PM -6:50 PM through October 8, 2008. Sessions will be held in the Conference Room across the hall from the Food Pantry.

Facilitator, Janet Boston

Prayer Partners 2008

Do you want to help school-aged students (K-12) grow in Jesus and lean on Him throughout their lives? The Prayer Partner sign-up sheet will be in the Farris Foyer this Sunday after first and second services. Please choose a student and sign your name on the sheet. Thank you for being a prayer warrior for our youth!

-Christi

Branstetter

Wednesday Men's Class

The men's class just began a new topic of study--examining the ever popular concept "looking out for number one." Virtually from infancy, we've been demanding what "I want." For example, I want a good job, make lots of money, have a nice home, have a spouse who makes me happy and coworkers who always ask my opinion. Now, contrast these thoughts with what it takes to be a disciple of Jesus. Class begins at 7 PM. Men of all ages are welcome.

-Chuck Brown



Sept. 3, 7 PM...Bible classes

Sept. 3, 5:50 PM...Good \$ense Class begins

Sept. 7, noon...All-Church Picnic at Columbian Park

NO EVENING WORSHIP SEPTEMBER 7

Sept. 14, 6 PM...LIFE Groups begin

Sept. 21, 2-4 PM...Wedding shower for Phil & Katie at the Simmermans' home, 415 Oaklawn Dr.

Sept. 23, 7 PM...Dynamic Marriage course introductory meeting. See Bill or Carol Bell for details.

Read:
Isaiah 27-42;
Galatians 3-6; Eph. 1-3

2008 Spiritual Adventure

Week 38: September 15-21

Ever been discouraged when you felt like you were doing the right thing? Maybe you didn't feel appreciated after doing a good deed for someone or you had worked so hard to accomplish something and received little recognition. Or maybe you were doing the Lord's work—spreading the Gospel, encouraging other Christians, or using the gifts God gave you in another way. When we feel things aren't happening or turn out as we expected, it can be easy to become discouraged. In some ways, it's comforting to know that you're not the only one that has felt this way. As Paul wrote to the churches in Galatia, he expressed similar feelings (Galatians 4:8-20.) He had been to Galatia to spread the gospel, but the Christians there seemed to be falling back into their old and sinful habits. In this bold letter, Paul conveys that he feels as if his efforts in Galatia may have been wasted.

It's important to note that in his audacious writing, Paul continued to encourage these Christians. He perseveres in his work to assist Christians in remaining faithful so that God's Work might continue in this area. In verse 20, Paul says "...I am perplexed about you," or I don't know what more to do with you. Although it's difficult, we sometimes come to this same place as Paul. It is at this time in our lives when we must fully depend on the Lord for support and strength. We may or may not have been trusting in the Lord throughout the situation, but we come to this place and feel that we've done all that we can do. At this point, the only thing left to do is get down on our knees and put all the energy we have left into trusting the Lord.

When we fully trust in Him, we know that he has a wonderful and perfect plan for our lives and every situation that occurs in our lives. God not only provides us with what we need, but He can provide us with more than we can ask or imagine! Allow Him to work in you and do more than you can imagine!

-*Mariah Roberts*

Weekly Schedule

Sunday	
Worship	8:00 a.m.
Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:45 a.m.
Life Groups	6:00 p.m.

Wednesday	
Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

 **Our Vision:**
Knowing Christ,
Making Christ Known.

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