



From Our Church to Your Home

Pastor Joseph Howard

Throughout the pages of the Bible, even the casual reader will notice that Jesus Christ came to satisfy the souls of longing men and women who desire peace with God. Throughout the experiences of our lives, even the simplest minds and hardened hearts feel a need for peace – personally, then parochially, and ultimately with God. Spurgeon, the "Prince of Preachers" from London, commented in his *Treasures of David* on this very idea from the perspective of Christ.

"Mark how the dying Lover of our souls solaces himself with the result of His death. The spiritually poor find a feast in Jesus; they feed upon him to the satisfaction of their hearts...the thought of the joy of his people gave comfort to our expiring Lord."

Psalm 22 begins with the prophesying of the soon-coming, self-sacrificing Savior and ends with a reflection on what that would mean for all the world to come. It is as if Christ speaks to our heart when He tells us, *"The meek shall eat and be satisfied: they shall praise the LORD that seek him: your heart shall live forever."* Think of this as both a roadmap and a promised destination. The destination is the City of Satisfaction, the route to get there is by seeking the Risen LORD with meekness.

Friend, if you find yourself searching the map for the City of Satisfaction, if you are looking for peace outside of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ – you won't soon find it. You will only find a hoarse throat after having barked all night up a tree without even one 'coon. Or, as a friend of mine put it when thinking about Solomon's pilgrimage for peace:

"All [you will have] to show for [your] trotting [is] a collection of dead ends – a library of unfinished autobiographies."

Reflections from a Doctor

By Glen Schultz, taken from his book entitled, *"Kingdom Education"*.

A New York Times Magazine poll, "The Way We Live Now," reports that 73 percent of adults believe all people are born inherently good. When an individual or a society believes that people are born good, it means that man can be perfected by providing everyone with two basic things – a good education and a good environment. Just as Satan deceived Eve by telling her that she would know everything (just like God) if she would only eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, he continues to deceive us by telling us that eating of the tree of education will make us perfect.

For example, we have a teenage pregnancy crisis and a rise in use of drugs and alcohol by our children. Society's cure to these problems is education – in the form of sex and drug education. If we could have more and better education programs like these, society says we would solve all of these problems and God would no longer be necessary.

Too often man approaches education as a means of perfecting himself and, in essence, making himself his own god. Christians must never forget that education in any form can never perfect one single individual. Only salvation in Christ can perfect a person.

Christians cannot afford to fall prey to such philosophies when dealing with the education of their children.

"We must always remember that education, no matter how good it is, can never transform a life. It can never produce a moral person or a moral society. Only the redemptive work of Christ can perform such a miracle."

What then is the true purpose of education for a Christian? What does the term "kingdom education" really mean? What roles do the home, the church, and the school play in the educational process? ...As I have poured over the Scriptures and God has revealed His truth to me concerning how Christians are to educate children, I have discovered nine biblical principles to guide us each step of the way. These principles are the very foundation of kingdom education.

These nine principles can be found on our website @ www.wjchristian.org.



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Sunday Morning Worship:
Bible Discovery Groups | 9:30 AM
Morning Worship | 10:30 AM

Wednesday Bible Study | 6:00 PM

Visit us online @ www.fbcwj.church
6605 West Jefferson Road, Quinton

Leading your Wife to Places of Peace

By Pastor Al Choquette, senior pastor of Trussville Southside Baptist Church

Lord, teach us to number our days.

There's an old saying, "time flies when you're having fun"!

Yet when we look back on life, recalling the memories of the highs and lows can often leave us feeling like time has always been flying by. And yet at the same time, we are making plans and setting goals for the future, for next week, next month, the end of the year, and even looking ahead until retirement.

But our life in this world is not just about the destination; life exists in learning to embrace the journey.

In a marriage relationship, it can be easy to settle into grooves where we each become so busy with our "gotta do's" that we lose sight of the simple pleasures of enjoying life together, by being "present" not just in body, but in mind, and becoming intentional about dedicating times of refreshing.

"As husbands, we consider ourselves the protectors of our wife from outside threats, but what about protecting her from weariness or loneliness?"

We need to be on watch to protect each other from overcommitting, from saying yes to every request. Now it is a pleasure and blessing to serve the Lord by ministering toward others, but a sponge that is always being wrung out in others will eventually dry up and be of no use to anyone. That's why we must be sure to have times of refreshing, and that only comes to pass when we become intentional about making it happen. Now it's good for a man and his wife to each have some alone time. Time to pursue hobbies, like woodworking, gardening, reading, sewing, painting etc. But it's also essential to plan times to get away, where a husband and wife can step outside of their normal routine from time to time, maybe a trip to the mountains, lake, or even just a road trip. These times of refreshing can bring about reconnection and peace that may have been lost while in the heat of the battles and routines of life. Men, we have but one life to live for Christ, and should you find yourself so blessed of the Lord to have found a wife, then you should be as intentional about spending time with her now, as you were while you were trying to win her.

Proverbs 18:22 Who-so findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.

So Lord, teach us to number our days.



Pastor Webb and family

Hope for the Home!

By Pastor David Webb, senior pastor of Walker Springs Road Baptist Church

I am pretty sure no one gets married with the intentions of having a terrible marriage. However, life can take its toll on a marriage and on a family. Too often before a couple realizes what is going on, they are headed for divorce. This does not just impact the couple, but it impacts the children as well. It may take a lot of work to right the ship, but I believe any home can become a little "Heaven on Earth" if we truly want it. Psalm 127:1 "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it..." What did you anticipate the day you stood at the marriage altar? What were your expectations for your marriage, or for your children? Is the place you are in today where you had hoped to be when you stood at your marriage altar? Most couples are not where they anticipated being. Over 50% of the marriages in America end in divorce. This is also true of "Christian" marriages. Of the others that do not divorce, many of them have settled on simply coexisting. That is not what you anticipated, and it is surely not what God has planned for your life. Often our marriages are neglected, and we hope that things will just work out.

You cannot build a house like this, and you sure cannot build a family this way. I have built several houses over the years. There has to be a vision of what we want. Once we know what we want, we have plans drawn up. Those plans are very detailed. The house is built by certain standards. A tape measure is a standard. It tells us how long to cut boards, pipes, wire and so many other things. Could you imagine trying to build a house and everyone just kind of guessing at how long a foot or an inch is? That would be a disaster!

"So many people are just guessing at how to build a family. The result of this guessing is disaster."

Even within our churches, homes are falling apart. The devil knows better than you and I, and if he can destroy your family, he can hurt God's Church. The good thing is, we don't have to guess on how to build a home. God has given us a Standard, His Word! Jesus said in Matthew 7:24-25, "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock." God has given us His Word, and it is full of instructions to help us build our marriage and our children. I encourage you to learn how do things God's Way. You might be criticized by others, but having a great marriage and having your children close to you is a tremendous blessing in this life. The sooner you get to work doing it God's Way, the easier it is going as your kids get older.

"There is no shame in not knowing how to have a close family. The shame comes in being unwilling to learn."

We are taught so contrary to scripture by what we watch on television, movies, and by what others are doing. We don't have to be a casualty of the day. God can bless your home just as He has so many others. Sometimes you will see a sign at the railroad crossing. It reads, STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! LIVE! That is what we must do if we are going to have success with marriage and our children. We have a Promise from God. Psalm 1:1-3, Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standers in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD: and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringers forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Notice "...whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Do it God's Way, and your marriage will prosper. Do it God's Way, and your raising of kids will prosper. God keeps His Promises. It is up to you and to study His Word, and live it.

"Satisfaction in Submission"

By Lauren Howard



If you say the word "submission" in today's western culture, you will likely be met with a furrowed brow and immediate opposition. Why is that? I believe it is because many do not know its true meaning or heart behind this beautiful structure that ultimately mirrors the relationship between the Father and the Son.

God created woman and titled her "helper". The word in Hebrew, Ezer, is defined as assistance rendered at a point of real need (Lexicon). She was not given the role of a mere companion, but of indispensable necessity. It paints the picture of an architectural buttress that provides essential support by countering weight and strengthening weak points, allowing the building to stand. Incredibly, out of the twenty-one times Ezer is used in Scripture, the majority of uses are God referring to Himself!

Understanding that women play a pivotal, gender-specific role and seeing God's kindness, value, and purpose for women all throughout His Word confirms the special love He has for them. Once we see this, it is obvious that His heart for submission isn't for women to be inferior or without a voice. Just as the Son submitted to the Father's will and plan of redemption, we can trust that His hierarchy in marriage is for our good.

I personally have seen the good it has brought to my marriage and family. After grasping my husband's weighty responsibility for our family (1 Cor 11:3) and being fiercely loved (Eph 5:25), submission becomes a natural posture. Submission organically sets parameters and allows me be the buttress of his leadership. It often diffuses conflict and creates a safe space of unity for our family. It brings peace to our home. Submission is a daily, living reminder of the gospel to our children.



Scan to visit our website where you will find additional resources and upcoming events.

Upcoming Events

AUGUST

6

MEET THE TEACHER
THURSDAY
6:00 - 7:00 pm

Parents, join us as we prepare to kick off the inaugural school year at West Jefferson Christian School!

7

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
FRIDAY
7:50 AM

The mission of West Jefferson Christian School is to partner with parents to strengthen the Christian home.

20

SENIOR SAINTS
THURSDAY
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Join us for a fun time of fellowship and a meal. We will be having a "Book Swap" in honor of WJCS's first school year. Bring a "Christian helps" or biography and a childhood picture!

SEPTEMBER

7-11

GOSPEL ADVANCE THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
YEI, SOUTH SUDAN

Pray for our pastor as he meets with ministry officials to continue our NGO, tribal leaders to secure property, engineers to work through blueprints, and students to be trained in the Gospel!

17

SENIOR SAINTS
THURSDAY
10:00 AM

The Senior Saints will be travelling to American Village for the Independence Hall Experience Public Program. We will take the bus for a fun day of food and fellowship!

20-22

FALL REVIVAL
SUNDAY - TUESDAY
7:00-8:30

This year's revival will be held under the tent on the church property. Pastor Dan Carr from Gulfport, MS will be preaching. You won't want to miss it!

OCTOBER

4

FROG FEST
SUMITON, AL

Each year, we reserve a booth to pass out tracks and share the gospel or an encouraging word to passers-by. Come by this year and say hello!

7-9

THEE GENERATION YOUTH SUMMIT
MENOMENEE FALLS, WI

Thee Generation Youth Summit is held annually in Menominee Falls, WI. This conference is for kids in grades 7-12.

15

SENIOR SAINTS
THURSDAY
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Senior Saints will be back at the church property for October. This month we will pack the Christmas bags for the refugee children in and from South Sudan. Lunch will be provided!

THE GOSPEL ADVANCE



H A B A K K U K 2 : 1 4

Gospel Advance Theological Institute - Yei, South Sudan

I have now been working in South Sudan for a number of years. The need is greater and the work is larger than any one missionary team could fulfill. The words of our Savior, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth labourers into the harvest." seem to be just as fitting today as they were when He spoke them to His disciples.

This year has been a time of growing clarity in the work that He would have us do in this part of His harvest. Two trips have been made with another two on the books. My first trip was filled with two weeks in January of teaching and training in Arua, Uganda with a veteran missionary. The followup to that trip was to be two weeks of teaching and training in Yei, South Sudan. Unfortunately, just days before crossing the border, rebel activity mounted to such a degree that the nation was put on alert. Our trip was, providentially, thwarted. What God intended was that I learn from a trusted colleague before engaging on such a task in my own field.

My second trip - our first Gospel Advance Theological Institute in Yei was held in May. We had 32 students. It was encouraging to see the men learn each day for 10-12 hours per day. Our topic of study was a theological overview of the Old Testament. It is a testament to God's grace that He allowed me to obtain the curriculum of one of my heroes in the faith. The very curriculum these men are learning is the same curriculum being used to train American missionaries at universities across our nation. Twenty of these men slept on the mattresses in the floor of the church and showered in the temporary showering stations that many of you graciously provided the funds for. All of them would have if we would have been able to provide enough mattresses.

Our next trip in September will mark our second of three terms this year with these men. Our topic of study will be a theological overview of the Gospels.

Our last bit of exciting news is that through the gracious giving of Faith Baptist and New Life Baptist in Odenville, many South Sudanese and refugee children will receive Christmas gifts which will be delivered on our last trip of the year in December.



Spending every waking hour learning and preparing - they passed their exam!

Upcoming Bible College

Open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it. - Psalm 81:10.

Because of the innate difficulties of working in South Sudan, the need has been very obvious to establish our own compound where training can happen in a safe, secure environment - both for the locals as well as those who travel to minister to them.

By God's grace, we have been offered several plots of land to purchase. These plots will be thoroughly reviewed in September and, Lord willing, a decision will be made and the land purchased. We feel strongly that our steps are being directed by the Lord. He has provided a fellow-missionary who has built many Bible Colleges in India to come alongside us for the raising of the funds.

During my time in America, accompanying my pastoral responsibilities are the the need to oversee the curriculum translation into Barri, establish the three year curriculum providing a Biblical Studies certificate, and secure an engineer for the building of the Bible College.

Whether you are an individual or a church, if you would like to partner with the ministry, I would love to meet with you to share the needs. Below are a few of the immediate needs:

1. \$600 would cover the cost for 20 more mattresses for the incoming students.
2. \$1,500 would cover the cost of the food and cooks for one term session.
3. \$17,000 of the \$75,000 has been raised for the Bible College facility. \$58,000 remains.

