

TRUMPET CALL



VOLUME IV, ISSUE 1

CALVARY CHAPEL OF SAVANNAH

SPRING 2008

Rescued

By Melissa Lynch

Imprisoned by bondage, slowly I was suffocating in sin.
He came valiantly on His steed with sword drawn, victoriously slaying my dragons.
He penetrated my darkest, deepest dungeons to save me.

Then under the stars, strategically arranged by His hands,
He fell to His knees and lay my feeble body in His lap.

Into me He breathed new life.
My eyes opened, and I became aware that I was gazing into the eyes of my true love,
This One who saved me from certain death.

In His eyes I saw the depth of His love for me.
His embrace was evidence of a love that endured much to save me.

I inquired, "Why have you come for me? Why have you saved me?"
"I rebelled against You. I did shameful things in your sight then tried to hide myself from You."

My Savior then leaned in closer and gently spoke,
"From me you can never hide. I love you with an everlasting love.
I will never leave you nor will I forsake you.
I have paid the ultimate price; My life in exchange for yours.
All that is left is for you to accept the sacrifice I made and then follow Me."

Have You Visited Our Bookstore?

By Vicki Mitchler

Need a greeting card? A quick gift for a friend? Or maybe you would like some reference materials for a co-worker or family member OR yourself.

If you haven't been in the bookstore lately - step inside - you'll be pleasantly surprised. We have books (of course), Bibles, children's books, reference, devotionals, how-to's, and even novels!

We have DVD's and CD's. We have "pretties" for your home, candles and cups, towels and decorative pillows. We even have tea bags, candy and toys!

So come on in to visit us, everything in the store is intended for "equipping the saints".

If the door is locked, Tara Workman, Susie Tuttle, or I would be happy to let you in to look around.

The bookstore is open following both Sunday morning services and also after the Wednesday evening service.

The Things of the Lord

A Reflection by Pastor George

The importance of fellowship within the church body has been on my mind a lot lately. A look at this word in the New Testament reveals it is derived from the Greek word *koinonia*, which means participation, communion, fellowship. My personal feelings about fellowship have been formulated by actually watching people. I have a trait that I might describe as a survivor trait, which requires observing people around me constantly. (If you see my eyes always wandering when we talk, it is not that I don't respect my personal conversation with you, it is a learned behavior, always viewing my surroundings).

If there is one thing I have noticed most prominently in the lives of saints, it is the direct correlation between their time spent in Christian fellowship versus their time spent outside in the world. There is, beyond any doubt, a marked difference between those who regularly seek the "things of the Lord" versus the "things of the world". There is a strengthening of one's faith when active participation in the "things of the Lord" takes place, since God Himself actively sets into motion a series of events that ushers in a sort of revival in their hearts.

Isn't it amazing that when we step out in faith to pursue getting to church "regularly" and, in addition, take part in the various available ministries that God has reserved for us, that a divine work is begun in our lives? He witnesses in us a willingness to pursue the "things of the Lord" over the "things of the world". And those things, my friends, were powerful attributes of the early church (Acts 2:42) that helped to explode its growth. What is truly significant is the way God is so easily witnessed in the lives of those who seek Him actively.

I can only speak personally of those with whom I directly have had the pleasure of fellowshiping at the Sundays and Wednesday services or in the prayer meeting before the Wednesday night service. What have been the results of fellowship? Lives have been changed, it's as simple as that. Now you may ask, why is that? It's the power of His Word, together with the prayers of the saints lifted up to a Holy God, that reap a bountiful harvest upon those who are faithful in trusting their lives to Him Who gives us all that we need.

God ministers to us through multiple means, but it begins foremost when we come together to fellowship. I have also seen it personally with the Young Adults group as well as the men who actively attend the Iron Sharpening Iron series. The Lord knows how powerful the church can be when we assemble as one body to shore up and strengthen those who are weak. We are edified by those who are stronger than we are.

So, brothers and sisters, let's unite together to begin, this day, a revived interest in pursuing the "things of the Lord" so that we can better minister to those who are obsessed with the "things of the world". Amen.

The Body of Christ

By Susan Maxon

To make a world, diverse,
Was our Creator's plan.
He made us from one blood,
From one woman and one man.

One heart, one mind, one kin,
All tribes and tongues unite.
No matter what our skin:
Black or brown or white.

Hand in hand with brother,
Linked in one accord,
Told to love each other,
We're bound by Christ, our Lord.

One day when we all worship God around His throne, there will be a variety of people in many beautiful colors, sizes, and shapes praising Him in many languages. My blue eyes will see Him exactly the same way your brown or green ones will. My freckled hands will be raised in praise along with your brown or white ones. Our differences will not make a difference to Him.

I found it interesting to discover that Barack Obama and Dick Cheney are eighth cousins, but I didn't find it surprising. We are all at some point related to each other.

"He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth..." Acts 17:26

There is really only one race – the human race. The Bible describes the differences between people by using the terms: tribe or people group or tongue, not the color of skin. We all have one skin color: melanin. Adam and Eve were our original parents, and God created them with a combination of genes. They were probably a medium brown color with a gene pool for all colors from ebony to ivory. In a relatively short period of time after the great Flood, people groups were separated after God confused man's language at the Tower of Babel. As they traveled, the groups made choices about where to settle. Red-headed, fair-skinned people in very sunny areas could be affected by skin cancer while darker skinned people would survive better there. Those with darker pigments wouldn't be as healthy in a less sunny region far from the equator where their skin couldn't absorb enough vitamin D from the sun. Then all over the planet, the interbreeding of people groups would have given rise to different physical characteristics within those isolated tribes.

[cont'd]

Race is not really biological.. Big differences in people come from culture -- like music, art, morality, beliefs, and behaviors. Those who live together or hang out together end up with similar habits and thinking and common ideas. Ken Ham, a creation scientist and evangelist, explains that the major visible differences (eye shape, hair, skin color, etc.) from any one person to the next are only 1 - 2%, and that it's the human heart and the theory of evolution which have produced the modern idea of race and helped stir up division. Racism results from people thinking that traits or abilities are specific to one group of people or another, and then believing that one is superior. The King James Version of the Bible translates Romans 2:11 as, "*God is no respecter of persons*" which means His dealings with mankind are not based on outward appearance. Neither should the body of Christ do so.

Ben Stein's documentary film, *Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed*, now playing at theaters, shows that the theory of Intelligent Design is being outlawed in colleges today, but the movie also tells that Charles Darwin's evolutionary theories not only have convinced many that there is no God but also have given rise to modern "social" Darwinism which justifies among other things, prejudice, including Hitler's racial battle against the Jews. The differences between people are not due to natural selection or survival of the fittest but to the creativity of our God who loves variety and has expressed it so beautifully in His creation.

In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul compares the unity and diversity of the human body with that of the members of the body of Christ, who are a microcosm of the whole human race. Diverse but united -- and utilizing our God-given strengths and gifts -- Christians need to play and work together which will make a difference in our churches, government, and communities as we are fellowshiping, praying, voting our values, and doing good works. When we focus on doing the things of the kingdom of God, the Lord will be lifted up and glorified through us.

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalm 133:1

From the Pastor's Partner

By Susie Tuttle

Ladies, did you realize that the sense of smell is one of the strongest of our five senses? It's been said that just a *smell* can bring back a memory quicker than anything. Remembering the scent of our mother can trigger a treasure chest of childhood memories. I know this from personal experience, having lost my own mother nearly twenty-five years ago. Our sense of smell greatly enhances our memories of a brand new car, a favorite meal, or a beloved puppy. I think as women, one smell that we all especially love is that of a newborn baby.

Whether we want to admit it or not, we each have our own individual scent about us. Animals remind us of this fact. For example, in the event that their owners must be away, a dog or cat can be comforted by the scent on an article of their master's clothing. We've often left out a shirt for our dog to sniff while we're away on a trip out of town. Living on a ranch for several years, we learned that when approaching a horse, offer him your wrist or the back of your hand. He'll then take a big sniff for identification purposes.

Since we are made in the image of God, does that mean our Lord has a scent, too? Yes!

"All Your garments are scented with myrrh and aloes and cassia. . ." Psalm 45:8

Years ago, while at the Temple Institute in Jerusalem, we saw row upon row of spices that had been bottled and labeled to await their usage upon the rebuilding of the Temple. Invited to sample the scents of a few, I selected very carefully the spices I recognized from the Psalms passage. I wanted a *preview* of my Lord's fragrance -- what a joy it was!

The Apostle Paul tells us that through believers, God diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. On my dresser at home, I have spray bottles of perfume. But years ago, when I was a child, my mother always had at least one diffuser on her dresser filled with perfume. The "diffuser" was a little bottle with a bulb on it. When the bulb was squeezed, the perfume was dispensed by way of being drawn up a tube that was coiled and resting in the very bottom of the bottle. Just one or perhaps two squeezes on that bulb, and the perfume would not only be all over the person, but all over the whole room! The liquid, freed from the confines of the bottle would float down like misty rain. In this same way, Paul is saying, God uses us to spray forth information about Himself, His love, His grace, His mercy.

"Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place." 2 Corinthians 2:14

Beloved Sisters in Christ, are we dispensing God's love to the saved and the lost? Are we diffusing a mist of forgiveness and mercy as we go about our lives each day?

"For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing." 2 Corinthians 2:15

Remember that the sense of smell is one of our strongest memory makers. Let's become human diffusers by allowing the Holy Spirit to reach down into the very depths of our being (into the healed areas of our hearts once corrupt in sin and shame, now transformed by His grace and beauty) and release through our words and deeds the very fragrance of our precious Savior upon those around us.

From our lives, may His compassion, love and mercy come forth like a fine, gentle mist.

The Night with Jesus

By Antonia
(age 12)

I was in my bed last night. I said to the Lord, "What if I give my clothes, my food, and these guys to you so you can love me?"

Then the Lord said, "You don't have to give me all of this so that I can love you. Therefore, I love you all the way through."

"What if I give you something that is important to me?" I said.

Then the Lord said, "I will love that, but I will love you more."

"What if I did a sin? Do I hand it over to you, Lord?"

"Hand it over to Me, and I will throw it from the east to the west."

"How far is the east to the west?" I asked.

Then the Lord God took my hand and showed me how far the east is to the west.

Then I asked, "Lord, why that far?"

And He said, "Because, dear child, I love you." Then the Lord tucked me back in bed and said, "Good night."

I shouted out "Lord, I love You so much."

And the Lord said, "I love you, too." Then He went back.

I had a tear rolling down my cheek because I was shown I was loved by the King and Maker of me -- no matter what I do!

Peace in the Storm

By Herb Miller
Currently serving in Iraq

My family and I are in the midst of a storm. At times we are sad. At times we've worried. We have searched our hearts, and we are at peace. Why? Because we are certain that Jesus is in the storm with us. This "storm" I refer to is at its core spiritual. It manifests itself in tangible events and through people. This "storm" is persistent, and may get worse before it gets better. The future is uncertain.....the outcome is NOT! The Lord will see us through safely. Any suffering for Him is ultimately for His glory, and our reward by far exceeds the cost. How do you receive this peace?

For the believers committed to abide in Christ: STAY PUT. Examine your heart. Wait on the Lord, continue your mission and press on!
Isaiah 40:29-31

For those who do not know Jesus: Your storm is different – the core of your storm is GOD HIMSELF. What do you do? Let Him win. It is because of His mercy that you are even reading this. Trust that Jesus loves you so much that He suffered and died for you. He rose from the dead and He wants to give you a new life! Give up your way. Ask Him to take over. There will still be storms, but you will be saved and have peace in the storm.
Romans 5:1-8

To the confused: you may be a carnal Christian, WAKE UP! Humble yourself. Pick a side. Choose the Lord. At any moment I or any of us will revert to our "old selves" if we take our eyes off the Lord. Please stay in fellowship. Get in the Word. Trust in the Lord, not your feelings. Peace is not the way we feel, it is communion with the ONE who controls the storm. This storm is stronger than you, but it pales in comparison to your Father who loves you! He will see you through! You are not alone. HE IS FAITHFUL. The sad thing is we may miss out on a blessing and also hurt our witness if we are not faithful
Romans 7 & 8

REJOICE! Don't wait until the end of the journey to celebrate! Let's trust the Lord. Let's pray for others in His church and not focus on the storm. Let's focus on OUR REDEEMER.
Philippians 4:4-8

Visit our Website
www.CalvaryChapelSavannah.com

Tell your family and friends about our church website at

<http://www.calvarychapelsavannah.com/media.php>

where you'll find all of Pastor Dan's recent Wednesday night and Sunday morning messages.

We also have video of his Sunday messages online at
<http://www.calvarychapelsavannah.com/video/>

Trumpet Call Editors

Pastor Dan & Susie Tuttle
Susan Maxon

Nameplate Design

Sean Maxon