



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Jim Brannon

Have you heard about the young man who had just received his driver's permit? He was eager to begin learning, so his father agreed to take him out in the family car to begin practice. The son opened the driver's door and got in the car. His father opened the back door and got in the car. "Dad," said the lad, "aren't you going to sit up front with me?" "No," said the Dad, "I'm going to do what you've done for the past fifteen years. I'm going to sit behind you and kick the seat."

Are there any individuals in your life that are acting in a manner that annoys, or perhaps offends you? Do you know anybody who is so obnoxious that they would "make a freight train take a dirt road"? We all do. So, how do we handle these people and the situations? Our culture says respond in kind, but we are God's kids, so what does He say?

Our study in Romans has challenged us to "live on Bible ground" and we have found that to be somewhat of a challenge. Bible ground says, "Never pay back evil for evil to anyone." (Rom. 12:17) Man, that verse has two of those absolute words: "Never....anyone". Can I get a witness that there ought to be a little exception in dealing with some people? Not from Bible ground!

Read a little further in Romans 12 and it says, "If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men" and "never take your own revenge". Then it seems to get ridiculous when Paul says, "But if your enemy is hungry, feed him; and if he is thirsty, give him a drink". He caps off his advice about how the believer should respond by saying, "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

I hope we have not allowed cultural wisdom to so influence us that we have lost faith in the notion that good will overcome evil. Evil can never conquer evil. You just end up with evil magnified!

The only real way to destroy an enemy is to make him a friend. That's "bible ground".....whether I like it or not!!



MEN'S MINISTRY

Cris Alexander

Throughout history, the most evil schemes began with a thought or idea, the Holocaust and the 9/11 terror attacks just to name two. The same thing happens on a personal scale as well. Satan plants a tiny seed in our unguarded thoughts and we water it, we entertain the thought, maybe even fantasize a little bit. And then, "...after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin" (James 1:15a).

The Bible commands us, "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life" (Prov. 4:23). It also says, "May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight..." (Prov. 19:14). The best way I can think of to do this, to guard your heart and make your thoughts pleasing to God, is to fill your mind with praiseworthy, godly thoughts. "... whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable... think about such things." If we do that, Satan won't find a single square inch of dirt in which to plant a seed.

Next month, the RBC Men's Group will start up our monthly breakfast and Bible study schedule, so plan on being with us the third Saturday of every month through May. See you then!



INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Jeanne Fruh

"Lord Jesus, you are my shield of faith. My self nature has been crucified with you, and the life I now live, I live by faith in you. I will resist the devil by being firm in the faith. Thank you for being a shield unto me. I put my trust in you, choosing to walk by faith, not by sight or circumstances. I will speak words of faith and I will ask in faith without doubting. Your Work is your power. Thank you, Father, that you are alert and active, watching over your Word to perform it." (Quote taken from *Becoming a Prayer Warrior* by Elizabeth Alves.)



YOUTH NOTES

Radu Pasca

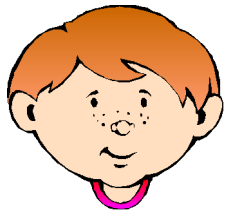
At the beginning of this school year I would like to take the opportunity to share with all the youth a nugget of wisdom. It's advice someone dear to me shared with me a while back when I was going to school... and it stayed with me throughout the years. My hope is that you would pay close attention so that you would benefit and be blessed by this wisdom, as well.

True wisdom is not copyrighted by the educated or the old in years. Wisdom can come out of the mouth of the simple and educated, the young and the old. I'm saying this because the person I'm about to quote does not have higher education, but they have "the school of life". Truth is, certain things can't be learned from books.

Throughout the school year and especially at the beginning of every school year my father would strongly encourage me to RESPECT MY TEACHERS. "They are human too," he would say, "and therefore they make mistakes. When that happens, make sure you still respect your teachers and give them a chance to make things right." Believe it or not, I happened to listen to my dad's advice. My teachers noticed and as a result, God granted me favor in their eyes.

My dear friends, based on God's word we must respect every authority He has placed over us. (1 Peter 2:13-14) Your teachers are an authority you must respect and honor. (1 Peter 2:17) This is a very practical way we as children of God can shine in the darkness.

For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. (1 Peter 2:15) Respecting your teachers is GOOD!



KIDSTUFF **Kathy Sanders**

This will be short this month because Ms. Kathy is so far "out of pocket" that

she's just about off the coat!

I will return from the UK shortly and will be actively pursuing ideas for children's programming on Sunday nights. We could certainly re-start MusicKids if anyone has an interest, or we can investigate other programs. If you have a suggestion - let me know!

As a last VBS wrap up, I'd like for everyone to know that between our VBS and the youth led VBS in Kremmling, our kids raised a combined total of \$980! A lot of them earned their offering money by doing odd jobs at home - everything from baby sitting to washing dishes to (my personal favorite!) scooping poop. All monies will be going to a maternal care home in Romania. Way to go kids!



AWANA

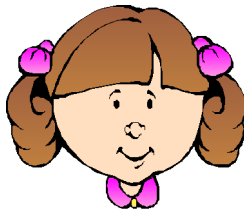
Cheryl & Steve

Can you believe that it is almost that time of year for Awana to start? Cheryl and I have been in the "Planning Phase" for our start up in September. First of all we wanted to let those of you know that we will have child care for those little ones that are not yet in Awana Cubbies. We are so grateful for those willing to care for those little ones! Thank You!

Please be in prayer for Awana this Fall. We do have a few "holes to fill". Could you help us out? We are looking for an adult helper with our "Sparks" (K-2nd Graders). If you could help, please let Cheryl or myself know. We also need a helper with our Truth and Training group (3rd-5th graders). They are all a great group of kids.

We are really in need of an adult to help with game time. This is a very important time for our clubbers. All the supplies and games are provided. Little preparation is required. We have helpers that are familiar with the games so don't think that you will be alone!

We will have Registration forms available at the end of August. More information on that later.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY **Julie Zgorzynski**

August is a break month for the Women's activities. We will meet again on September 10 at 9:00 for a Prayer Walk at the Aurora Municipal Building at Chambers and Alameda. Watch your bulletins for more details. Also, if you receive those Valu-Paks in the mail, there is a Le-Peeps coupon in there. Save it and we'll meet at Le-Peeps for lunch afterwards.

November 12 at 9:00 we will be packaging up the Christmas Child Boxes and military boxes. Start collecting goodies now for those boxes. There is a wants/needs list for the military on the magazine rack.

SECOR's food of the month for August is Canned Meats.

If you have any suggestions, we are always open to them. Please see Julie Zgorzynski, Laura Schafer or Peggy Livermore.

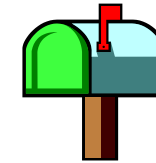
See you in September!!

Redeemer Baptist Church
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Redeemer Reflections

A Newsletter of Redeemer Baptist Church
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August 2011



Looking into the rear view mirror at July, we can see Radu and Tracy, along with ten youth, conducting VBS at the Gore Range Baptist Church in Kremmling, CO. This has become somewhat of an annual event for our youth mission team. The attendance reached 36. Our team provided all materials for the week, prepared their own meals and slept in the church. This is always a highlight for the kids in Kremmling each summer.

The last week of July our Builders for Christ mission team journeyed to Eau Claire, Wisconsin for a week of construction with the Jacob's Well Church. This was the second time our team has worked with this congregation. No injuries, and by most accounts, everyone "behaved"! The team all came back with tee shirts that read: "Work-Eat-Sleep-Repeat!" All said the food was great! A miracle considering who the chief cook was.

We received a little more money than we spent for the month and that's always a good thing. In negotiations with our bank concerning the renewal of our debt service and trust that the shenanigans taking place in Washington D.C. don't torpedo our economy into any worse shape than it already is.

As we face forward into August, schools are starting and parents are going through the annual stress of shopping for school supplies and clothes. I remember this was always a great time for me, as a youngster, 'cause I got new shirts, jeans and shoes. But I never appreciated the pressure my parents were under to purchase all this stuff for me and my siblings.

We will have our annual church family picnic/cookout and our youth will have their back to school BBQ at Cherry Creek Reservoir. Sandy and I will celebrate 48 years of marriage and grandson Brady will have birthday #2! "Papa" is going to have some new toys with which to play!!