



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Jim Brannon

Noted theologian Soren Kierkegaard once told a parable about a certain rich man who bought a team of outstanding horses. But the rich man's coachman was inept and undisciplined, and before long, you could hardly recognize the once proud horses. They were dull and drowsy; their pace inconsistent; their stamina gone. They developed strange quirks and bad habits.

In frustration, the rich man called for help from the King's coachman, who knew horses very well. The King's coachman worked with the horses for a short while, and when they became familiar with his voice, they were totally responsive to his commands. They held their heads high, their eyes were bright, and their pace once again became exquisitely beautiful. The potential was there all along. It all depended upon whose voice they heard directing their lives.

The undisciplined, dull, drowsy, inconsistent, lack of stamina, quirky, bad habits of a lot of folks can be accounted for by observing these horses. Who is calling the shots? Who is the boss of your life? To whom have you surrendered as the master of your life? If it is anyone but the Lord Jesus, look no further for the cause of your demise.

It is the quintessential act of foolishness for a person to ignore the advice and direction of the One who designed and created them. If you really desire some zest and power in your life, listen to, and obey Jesus. If you want purpose and meaning, fall in step with Christ's will for you. And, if you wish to see all of the potential with which God created you, blossom and flourish, allow Him to bring it to the surface. He is the designer/creator of us creatures and He wrote the "owner's manual". When all else fails, read the directions!!

On a purely personal note, as of this month, I will have served as Pastor of Redeemer longer than I have served any other church in my ministry. I have been blessed with wonderful, gracious congregations everywhere God has moved me. But I must say, He saved the best for last! I cannot express how grateful and appreciative I am of your love and support for me. Your initiative in shouldering the ministries of our church is unequalled. Your commitment to harmonizing preferences and not erecting false "tests of fellowship" is crucial to the development of our family spirit. You are a special people. I want you to know that I know it; and I don't ever want to take these blessings for granted. God bless all of you!!



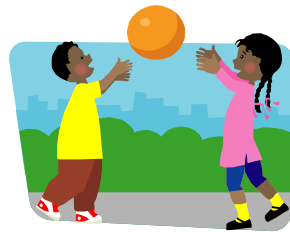
MEN'S MINISTRY

Cris Alexander

For the most part, we all probably want to do the "right thing," whatever that is. As Christians, we are commanded to do what is right. James 4:17 says, "Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins."

Sometimes what is good and right is clear cut, but other times perhaps it's not quite so clear. Sometimes what might seem right to us isn't, and vice-versa. Proverbs 14:12 says, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death." That verse should give us pause and make us think things through carefully as we make decisions in life.

We're going to spend some time looking at this issue and seeing what else Scripture has to say on the topic at our next RBC Men's Group breakfast and Bible study on Saturday, April 16. We'll eat at 7:30 and open the Word at 8:00, having you on your way no later than 9:00. See you there!



AWANA

Steve & Cheryl

As we wrap up the Awana year soon, keep us in prayer as Cheryl, myself and others prepare for next year. All of those who have been involved this year are committed to next year as well. Praise God!! We do however need at least two folks to consider working with our Truth and Training group (3rd - 5th graders). Could the Lord be calling you to help? We may also need others to help with our Sparks group (K-2nd grade). That group could easily grow very fast.

Also as a reminder, our last Awana store is later this month. Could you help to donate a few gifts for the kids to buy? We are looking for items with an outdoor theme. If you need any ideas contact myself or Cheryl. There is a box located outside the door to the sanctuary to collect items, Thanks!

We will have our awards service soon to bring our year to a close. The kids have done a great job and have "hidden" a lot of God's word in their hearts. Thanks to all that have been involved in Awana this year.

God Bless,



YOUTH NOTES

Radu Pasca

Phillips Craig and Dean have a song called "I Want to Be Just Like You". It's a song about a little boy who one night tells his dad that he wants to be just like him. The father understands the enormity of his role and starts praying. "Lord I want to be just like You, cause he wants to be just like me. I want to be a holy example for his innocent eyes to see. Help me be a living Bible, Lord, that my little boy can read."

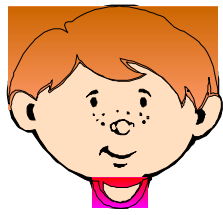
The words of this song have taken root in my heart ever since my little boy was born, almost two years ago. I am convinced that all dads want their children to become men and women of integrity and character; men and women who love Jesus Christ from the heart. It would seem though that sometimes we forget how crucially important our role is in that process.

As a young Christian I didn't know how to live the Christian life. Therefore, in those early stages I started imitating the behavior and habits of the significant adult Christians in my life. I am saying this to make us all aware that as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ we have the responsibility to live a life that mirrors God's so that his little children can grow to know Him for who He really is. That being said, how can we be just like our heavenly Father if we don't know what He is like? We can't. There is no way we can become like someone we don't know. But we will always be like the one we love, like the one with whom we spend time.

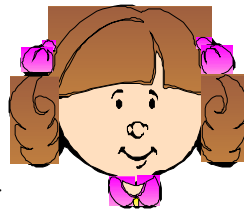
I am absolutely convinced that no father can be the best father to his children unless he learns from the best and perfect Father, God the Father.

How would you feel if your child came to you in the middle of an angry outburst when you are not acting much like a Christian and said to you, "I want to be just like you are right now"? The heart of any good parent would be crushed. Let's give our children, as well as others around us, a Christ like example worthy of looking up to.

It is said that each person influences about 250 people in their lifetime. Whether you realize who they are or not, you WILL have an influence on those who are looking on and into your life.



KIDSTUFF **Kathy Sanders**



Snow's gone, trees are starting to bud and Easter

is around the corner! Join us as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord at this year's Easter Celebration - Saturday, April 23 from 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM. Our event is for any age child up through fifth grade and we really encourage our parents to stay and help (and take lots of pictures!) Bring your Easter baskets and report to your regular classroom for a craft - after which we'll have a game or two, the Easter story with pastor and end with our traditional Easter egg hunt.

Church members, we need your help in accumulating lots of plastic eggs with a goody/candy inside (no nuts please) for the hunt. Over the next few weeks, bring your eggs and place them in the box provided outside of the auditorium doors.

If you are planning a summer vacation, do please mark June 27 - July 1 on your calendar for Vacation Bible School. This summer we're celebrating a week-long beach bash with Son-Surf VBS! I'm making staff assignments and will be passing out curricula soon.

I would just like to encourage parents in one other matter - if you're not involved in Sunday School at 9:00 AM on Sundays, I would like to personally invite you to come and bring your children! We're enlarging our children's classroom space. We have appropriate classes for all ages and teachers who work hard preparing to teach and spend quality time sharing God's love with your little ones. Come check us out....



INTERCESSORY PRAYER **Jeanne Fruh**

"The scriptures and experience are intended to encourage us to pray, but many Christians feel a vague reluctance to pray. This reluctance may be rooted in uncertainties in their minds. Uncertainty is the enemy of faith. It is better to face our questions squarely, to accept the verdict of scripture, and to move forward into the kind of prayer that pleased God and accomplishes His will."

(Quote taken from "The Doctrine of Prayer" by T.W. Hunt)



WOMEN'S MINISTRY **Julie Zgorzynski**

Mother's Day celebration preparation in progress for April 30th. "Things My Mother Taught Me" will be a great time of fellowship and sharing. Our precious men

will be cooking our breakfast, too! Watch the bulletin for more details.

RBC Crafters meet Saturday, April 4th at 9:30.

Cardmakers will meet Monday, April 6th at 6:30.

SECOR's food of the month is sauces for pasta.

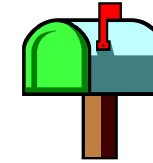
Let us rejoice and be glad!!

Redeemer Baptist Church
18800 E. Iliff Ave.
Aurora, CO 80013

Redeemer Reflections

A Newsletter of Redeemer Baptist Church
18800 E. Iliff Ave. Aurora, CO 80013
(303) 369-0763 www.rbcaurora.org

April 2011



Finally, after months of delay because of city beaurocracy, the playground is complete. It is a real addition to our children's ministry!

The most interesting development of this Spring season has been woodpeckers. The pesky birds have done extensive damage to the exterior of our building. They are migratory birds, regulated by federal agencies, so we can't just kill them. We have hired a "critter ridder" company to remove them and, hopefully, they have dealt with the birds. Many thanks to Garvin Collier, Norm Hadeen and Tim Jackson for the day they spent in the boom lift, fifty feet up, repairing the holes.

We have also completed the relocation of our preschool toddlers and the remodeling of the bed baby/creeper rooms. The nursery mothers area has also been completed. These changes will enable us to better minister to our little ones.

Last weekend we had our DiscipleNow experience. Thanks to all the host home sponsors, meal providers, transportation drivers, Radu and Tracy for a job well done. Angela and Jessica, your testimonies were very well prepared and presented!

We have a churchwide workday planned for Saturday the 16th following the Men's Breakfast. It is our annual Spring cleanup and fixup time. We need a bunch of folks to help inside and ourside. Nothing "heavy duty" so everyone can pitch in and help.

Rounding out our monthly activities will be our Children's Easter Party on the 23rd and a Tribute to Mothers on the 30th.

Saturday we set a record for high temp with 84 degrees. Sunday noon we were having a blizzard! Springtime in Colorado!