

viewed him with a rebellious heart. He littered my path with trials.

Rarely did he seem to be close. He had too many rules that I could never follow. I seldom took the time to be around his people. When I looked back at the sad times, instead of seeing a God who got me through them, I saw a God who refused to stop them.

It took a long time to realize that it was me who had changed through those years, not my God. He was as powerful and faithful as always. However, I was far from that innocent, little girl.

Too often, we lose sight of the God of our youth. We view him through selfish and shattered hearts and allow our bond to crumble. We neglect to pray, abandon the Word, and walk away from the Father who loves us dearly.

Don't limit God to your strength, your trials, your victories, or your failures. Don't assume that he's only on your side during the good days. Quit listening to the Devil when he tells you that God is trying to trick you, hurt you, or keep you out of Heaven. Believe with all your heart that your God is rooting for you.

Take off the brokenness that you view God through and get to know him. Introduce yourself to his son. Grasp the fact that Christianity really is about relationships (Matthew 22:37-40), and obey his Word, not out of guilt but because of love.

Isn't it time to rediscover God? Come home and don't be surprised when he runs to meet you. My God did.



Bring them to him

By: Stan Mitchell

“As we gather around the Lord's table,” the sincere speaker tells us, “let us clear our minds from all the affairs of the world.”

Well, he's right. And he's wrong.

He's right. When we worship we need to remove from our minds the secular and the mundane, the driftwood of our daily lives: television programs, sports teams, the joke told at last night's dinner, things harmless in their own way, but not spiritual, and things harmful because they are sinful.

We need to clear our minds of all that.

He's wrong. There's more. We should bring to the Lord's table our problems, our fears, our guilt. Here, in this safe place, we can lower our burdens gently to the ground and leave them there. This is exactly what we should bring to the cross; where else could the burden be rolled away, but at the cross?

He invites us to do that:

“Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls” (Matthew 11:28,29).

Just be sure not to pick those burdens back up and take them with you when you leave!

AM I LIVING FOR JESUS?



1. Have I obeyed the gospel of Christ? (I Cor. 15:1-4, Acts 2:36-38).
2. Am I making an honest effort to win the souls of others to Christ? (John 15:1-8; Pro. 11:30).
3. Do I take time daily to study God's Word and pray to Him? (Acts 1:17; I Thess. 5:17-18).
4. Do I attend all services of the church including Bible classes and do I arrive on time? (Heb. 10:24-31).
5. Do I give generously on the first day of each week? (I Cor. 16:1-2).
6. Do I use the talent I have to glorify God? (Mat. 25:14-30).
7. Do I love God with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength? (Mat. 22:37-40).
8. Am I involved in doing what needs to be done or do I just complain about what others do? (I Cor. 15:58).
9. Am I serious and sincere? Do I participate or do I feel good as a spectator? (John 4:23-24).

10. When there is a choice to be made between some worldly pleasure or service to Christ, do I gladly put the Lord first? (Mat. 6:33).

11. Am I trying to live better than the world? Dress better? Talk better? Act better? (Mat. 5:13-16).

12. Am I always looking for opportunities to serve others with kind and helpful deeds? (Gal. 6:10).

13. Am I willing to forgive others? (Eph. 4:32).

14. Do I think right, keep right attitudes and say only up building things? (Phil. 4:8).

15. Do I really want to go to heaven? (Rev. 2:10).

Now is the time to be serious about eternity. Tomorrow may be too late. Are you ready for the judgment day?

-selected (Christiansburg, VA Church of Christ Bulletin)



We would like to take this time to welcome you to the Rich Creek, Virginia Church of Christ. You are our honored guest and we hope you will come back and be with us again! If you have any questions, please feel free to ask at any time.



We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to David Barkley for teaching our bible class and to Joey Barkley for holding our Fall Gospel Meeting. We appreciate all of the brethren from Tennessee for taking time out of their busy schedules to hold all of the Gospel meetings in our area. We would also like to say thank you to their congregations for giving them the time off so they can come to hold the meetings. Finally, a big "thanks" goes out to Danny Sain for organizing the gospel meetings in our surrounding communities. We want the Elders and members of the Leoni Church of Christ to know how much we appreciate them supporting this great work.

Prayer List: **Cancer:** Kenneth Dunn; Rhonda Bogus; Rick Campbell; Debbie Boggs; Lowell Crumfield & Barbara Hill; Tammy Hodges; Barbara Francis; Jeff Wiley Hamilton. **Health problems:** Virgil Steele; Donald Rife; Eugene Holdren; Steve and Pam Poorman's-daughter; Glenna Dempsey; Marlin Harles; Hazel Farr & JR Farr; Jean Walden; Kara Christian; Gary Durham; Rex "Jimmy" Backus; Dosie Branscome & Katie Hensley. Arnold Dempsey; Ken McWilliams; Gene Booth; Wanda Rowe; Diane Haleston; Billy Myers; Zack Holland; Mini Mills; **Strokes:** Richard Clement; Amanda Lance. **Other:** Shelby Lindsey-fibromyalgia; Kyle Hockenberry-recovering from military injuries; Betty Bailey-not eating; Brooke Family, Ken McWilliams friend Wolf - eye problems; Junior Taylor-is not doing well; David Carrico-Leukemia; Lura Durham-dizziness; Ken McWilliams friend Wolfson and his wife were involved in a bad car accident; Shelia Gates-fractured her knee; Robin Hodges; Betty Scott- tests; Hazel Anderson-fluid around her heart; Blake Morris-recovering from Eye surgery; Debra Lagos-issue with her pregnancy; Justin Begil's nephew Payton -meningitis; Hazel Lowe pneumonia; Steve Mullins-waiting on test results on his heart. Whitney Lockman-health problems; Edna Roberts-tumor on thyroid; Kimberly Redden -Spots on lungs; Christine Asbury-back surgery on November 7; David Allen-surgery on his neck; Barbara VanoverCarr-walking pneumonia; Caleb Hill -foot and mouth disease; Travis Durham-back problem and pneumonia; Gene Myers-breathing problem; Edsel Forrest-bronchitis; Ethan Oliver -Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia. **Alzheimer's:** Zella England; Mary Lou Thomas, & Leo Hamby. **Nursing home:** Peggy Barie is in the Loving Hands Adult Care; Ethel Pitzer- Country View Assisted Living; Franklin Fletcher **Military:** Zachary McConnell. .



Graig Morris
10/30
Carrie Ray
10/30
Charity Ray
11/02
Don Davis
11/14

Travis Durham 11/16
Evelyn Scott 11/21
Ruby Biter 11/25
Nigel Maxey 11/29



Russell and Wendi
Woodrum
11/11

The North Beckley Church of Christ will be having a Ladies Day on November 5, 2011 at 9am to 1:30pm

Mailing Address:
211 Church Street
Rich Creek, VA 24147
wwwjd@exhorter.com

Preacher:
Roger Hazelwood:
Cell: 304-324-7799
rlh90@comcast.net

Services:
Sunday:
Bible Study: 9:30 AM
Worship: 10:30 AM
Evening: 6:PM
Wednesday: 6:PM

Serving Communion:
Don Davis
James Asbury
Gary Jones

Attendance:
October 23, 2011
A.M. Worship -36
P.M. Worship -15
October 26, 2011
Wednesday: 14

Contribution: \$ 386.00

TV Programs on Sunday
In Search of the Lord's
Way 7:30 am
INSP Channel

The Gospel of Christ
10:am CW Channel
www.wvacofo.com

Free Private Home :
Bible Studies & Lessons!
Video Lessons & Tracts!
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Church of Christ



Exhorter October 30, 2011



My God By: Paula Harrington

When I was a child, my God was great. He made the rainbows, sunsets, and filled the puddles so I could splash through them. And he did it all for me. My life was consumed with him and his people.

When my father died, God whispered that everything would be alright. I hardly remember a night that went by that we didn't talk until I fell asleep. Although he never answered the whys or how comes, he promised to always be near.

Not once did I ever doubt his love for me. He was reliable and true. He was bigger than my problems and held my life in his hands. He cried along as I wept and sang over me as I played. Trusting him came naturally but that was when I was a kid.

As I grew older, my God changed or at least I thought he did. I refused to see him as he was and instead