

2010 WEEKLY EMAILS from Rev. Mike Jones containing personal news and the weekly devotions published by numerous newspapers.

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From: [Mike Jones](mailto:Mike_Jones)
To: cdwyer143@yahoo.com
Subject: Weekly Devotion for 1-6-10
Date: Wednesday, December 08, 2010 1:26:48 PM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **January 6, 2010** Volume 21 Number 1

**Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones
Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
January 6, 2010**

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:
Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
Evening Worship- 6:00pm

**Wednesday- 7:00pm
Bible Study/Prayer Meet**

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

It is COLD in South Carolina! But that will not hinder the WARM welcome you will receive at Lebanon FWB Church tonight. Adult Bible Lesson on "Powerful Parenting Principles" that will help adults as much as children.

Church Board Meeting at 8:15pm (Supper will be provided). This is an important meeting before our Annual Church Business Meeting next Wednesday.

So far this week I have done several days worth of administration and visitation work for Lebanon (Remember Paul Kirven (Robert Kirven's Brother). they carried him to hospice Tuesday afternoon), prepared and mailed letters to denominational leaders inviting them to our State Meeting in February, worked on the year end report for Friends of India, worked on the year end report and contribution receipts for Minister Ministry, edited and load the rest of Pastor Mac's 2009 sermons onto our web site, while dealing with numerous issues concerning Paula's car wreck. So far 2010 has been an interesting year.

My Father in law is having another biopsy done in Columbia Wednesday morning to determine what is growing in his lung so I will need to get up at 4am. Because of that, I am sending this week's devotions Tuesday Night. Paula and I value your prayers.

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, January 5, 2010

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CONTINUOUS GIFTS

Christmas is a fading memory. The bills are coming in and many people find they not only ate too much in December, they also spent too much! So much for the “all year long Christmas spirit” everyone wanted to keep.

Let me give you a few suggestions for some Gifts that “keep on giving”. Give these gifts and you will find that the illusive spirit of Christmas is indeed possible all year long!

The First Christmas was about God loving the world enough to give His only begotten Son so give the gift of Love and find a joy this year you had not anticipated. The Son of God was given in order to provide forgiveness for the sins of mankind so add the gift of forgiveness to your list and wonder at the freedom you will feel when you are no longer bound by a spirit of anger and animosity.

The Angels and Shepherds proclaimed “Glory to God” at Christmas. Make the opportunity each day to find a way to glorify God in your language and your life and wonder at the blessings that will flow back to you as you bring blessings to others.

Finally, share with everyone this year that a Savior has been born so they can now face life with help and hope. Patrick Henry wrote in his will: “I have now disposed of all my property to my family. There is one thing more I wish I could give them and that is faith in Jesus Christ. If they have that and I had not given them one shilling, they would be rich; and if they have not that and I have given them the entire world, they are poor indeed”.

Give so that others may really live and make this coming year the best year you have ever experienced.

Minister Message for Wednesday, January 6, 2010

WHILE YOU ARE LIVING

A pig and a cow met in the barnyard. The pig lamented his lack of popularity. He complained that people always talked about the cow’s gentleness and kind eyes while always using the pig’s name as an insult. The pig admitted that the cow gave milk and cream but maintained pigs gave a lot more. “Why”, the pig complained, “we pigs give bacon and ham and people even pickle our feet. I do not understand why cows are esteemed so much higher than pigs.”

The Cow thought for a minute and then said, “Maybe the difference is that cows give what we have while we are still living!”

What are you giving “while you are still living?” I am thinking of a man who decided to designate the mission work

in India in his will so he could help build churches when he died. As he began to think about the needs, however, he decided not to wait until he died in order to do what needed to be done so he gave money that has already been used to build numerous churches in India. Hundreds of people worship in block buildings instead of searing sun or pouring rain because this man decided to do something while he was still living.

What a miserable time it is going to be for some people when they come to the end of life and find that instead of looking forward to treasures laid up in heaven their whole life has been spent accumulating possessions they have left to be fought over by ungrateful children and covetous tax collectors. Wouldn't it be much better to do some good "while you are still living" in order to enjoy what you have accomplished while you are anticipating your coming reward?

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:Mike_Jones)
To: cdwyer143@yahoo.com
Subject: Weekly Devotion for 1-13-10
Date: Wednesday, December 08, 2010 1:27:02 PM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **January 13, 2010** Volume 21 Number 2

**Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones
Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
January 13, 2010**

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:

Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
Evening Worship- 6:00pm

Wednesday- 7:00pm
Bible Study/Prayer Meet

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

Cancer Free! All of the doctors declared my father in law had cancer but when the test on his lymph nodes came back negative they decided to take a sample of the mass in his lung. Praise the name of the Lord it came back negative and the doctors now think he simply has a mass of infection in his lung. Excuse my English but Ain't God Good!

Although I had been preaching a couple of years before my ordination I began my 47th year as an ordained minister this past Sunday. Thank the Lord for allowing me the privilege of proclaiming His Word.

December was a good month of income for Friends of India and we appreciate the strong support we receive. God continues to do great things in India under Brother Carlisle's ministry and it is a joy to be able to assist that work.

I taught a course on how to use the Online Computer Study Bible yesterday for the Florence Minister's this coming Tuesday. I also have several Pastors that expressed an interest in having it presented in their church. And the Young Adult Class at Lebanon will be using my Revelation book as part of their study during the next quarter of Sunday School. God is blessing the ministry of Minister Ministry.

Church conference at Lebanon tonight as we elect a full time Youth Pastor, report about the great work going on in all areas of the Church Ministry, and hear about the progress on our new building. What a wonderful God we serve!

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Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, January 12, 2009

BOTH SMALL AND GREAT

When I look at the mighty accomplishments of some people I sometimes feel such a small and insignificant part of the Kingdom of God. Then I remember the way God uses small things and I determine to do the best I can where I am with what I have.

An old article from the "Sword of the Lord" newspaper declared that a flea can leap 200 times its length. A man would have to jump 1200 feet to jump the same proportionate distance. A housefly takes 440 steps in a half second in order to travel 3 inches. A man would have to run 20 miles a minute to equal this feat.

It also said that Turnip seeds, under good conditions, increase their weight 15 times a minute. In rich soil a turnip seed may increase its weight 15,000 times a day. It is said that there is no force more powerful than a growing squash. A squash 18 days old has been harnessed in such a way that in its growing process it lifted 50 pounds on a lever mechanism. Nineteen days later it lifted 5,000 pounds.

The Bible declares that God "will bless them that fear the LORD, both small and great." (Psalms 115:13). If I will be faithful to God and to His call on my life then God has promised to bless me in spite of the smallness of my accomplishments. That is not an excuse to do little but it sure is an encouragement to realize God will bless what I do with the same zeal that He blesses the accomplishments of "great" preachers. It is not the number of talents that God gives me but my use of those talents that God is judging. May I be faithful to do the "little things" well.

Minister Message for Wednesday, January 13, 2010

AMBASSADOR OR EMBARRASSMENT

Ambassador is a big word for a little girl but she had studied hard for her part in the Church play. Over and over she repeated on the way to Church, "I am an ambassador for the Lord". The play began and the little girl looked out at all those people looking back at her and her brain quickly "froze". Trying her best to remember what she was supposed to say she blurted out, "I am an embarrassment for the Lord" instead of

“I am an ambassador for the Lord”!

I can sympathize and emphasize with this little girl because many time I feel I am more of an embarrassment than an ambassador for the Lord! No, I am not going out and getting drunk or committing adultery or things like that. But sometimes I have to really work at showing “Christian nice” when the flesh is angry and irritated. And your perceived attitude is very important because a basis principle of life is “You can say ‘I love you’ a thousand times and people may or may not believe you but you can give the impression you hate someone and they will believe it instantly and forever”.

Every day my attitude and my actions point to the greatness of God or the failures of His servant. David wrote in one of his Psalms “Let not them that wait on thee, O Lord GOD of hosts, be ashamed for my sake: let not those that seek thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel.” (Psalms 69:6). May that be the prayer of every Christian this year as we seek to be Ambassadors, instead of embarrassments, for the Lord.

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:MikeHome@ministerministry.com)
To: MikeHome@ministerministry.com
Subject: Weekly Devotion for Jan 20, 2010
Date: Tuesday, January 19, 2010 10:49:27 PM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **January 20, 2010** Volume 21 Number 3

Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones
Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
January 20, 2010

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:
Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

We had a great men's meeting tonight. Our goal was to raise \$500 for a needy family and the last count was \$701 with more promised- Glory!

I have a Doctor's appointment early Wednesday so I am writing this after a very hectic Tuesday. This is a very busy week for me with many meeting and activities on my schedule for the remainder of the week. Tonight's message will be "The importance of Teaching People about Honor and Respect". An extremely important subject in our society today.

Princess Paula is "spring cleaning" this week as she cleans behind, under, and around everything in our house before she rearranges it in the room. May each of us do the same thing in our spiritual life as we renew our determination to clean what needs to be cleaned and change what needs to be changed in order to be great servants of a great God.

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, January 19, 2010

WORST THAN EXPECTED

A wife went to her family doctor and told him she was having trouble with her husband because he thought he was a refrigerator. The Doctor declared it a harmless delusion that would soon pass. "But Doctor," the woman said, "When he sleeps with his mouth open, the little light keeps me awake." Sometimes problems are deeper than they appear!

One of those "head scratching" verses in the Bible declares that the Heathen were worst toward God's people than God wanted them to be- *And I am very sore displeased with*

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the heathen that are at ease: for I was but a little displeased, and they helped forward the affliction. (Zechariah 1:15).

There are two way of interpreting this verse. It could mean that the ways of the heathen so tempted the people of God until the result was a worst punishment from God than God originally planned. It could also mean that God allowed the Heathen to be used to punish His people and the Heathen punished them more than God had intended. Either way it is a little “scary” to hear that punishment for God’s people went beyond God’s original plan.

In recent days I heard about a fallen preacher whose “besetting sin” (alcohol) was a possible contributor to his death. Over and over he had the opportunity to repent and change his life but he continued “playing with fire” until the heat stopped comforting him and ended up consuming him.

It was not the will of God that this preacher ended up perishing instead of being productive but when you dance with death there are times death decides to lead instead of follow. Sometimes when you allow sin a place in your life it is the light instead of the refrigerator you need to be concerned about!

Minister Message for Wednesday, January 20, 2010

TWISTED TRUTH

A fictitious story is told about a racing contest between the United States and the Soviet Union. Both governments commissioned their best engineers to produce the fastest automobile possible. After much experimenting and preparation, the day arrived for the contest. The American car won by inches. This was rather hard for the Russians to handle so their leading newspaper carried the following report: “Russia and the U S competed in a long awaited race yesterday. Both cars broke all former speed records. The Soviets came in second, and the Americans finished next to the last!”

Sometimes you can misrepresent the truth in such a way until the truth is no longer the truth even though it is still the truth! We recognize this in politicians who say things in such a way until a clear statement can be explained later in an entirely different way than the way it was originally expressed. We also recognize it in Church Members who proclaim a principle one way when it applies to others and another way when it applies to them!

A statement by the Apostle Paul to the Church at Corinth shows how such twisted truths will end- *Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man*

have praise of God. (1 Corinthians 4:5).

Paul declares that God will “bring to light the hidden dark things and expose the counsels of the hearts”. It is hard to twist the truth when the original motive and meaning are exposed. When this happens the truth will twist you instead of you twisting the truth.

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:Mike_Jones)
To: MikeHome@ministerministry.com
Subject: Weekly Devotion for Jan 27, 2010
Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 8:33:51 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **January 27, 2010** Volume 21 Number 4

Weekly Devotions from
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Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
January 27, 2010

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:
Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
Evening Worship- 6:00pm

Wednesday- 7:00pm
Bible Study/Prayer Meet

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

Tonight- Teens will have their first ARK (Act of Random Kindness) project. Adults Bible Study will be learning to love with works instead of words [I John 3:18] (10 Deeds to show Love to those around you. 40 ways to show love to your family. 5 truths to change your walk with God).

Not only will your kids learn the life changing word of God at Lebanon but they will see these principles put into practice. And, on a practical note, Lebanon Leaders undergo criminal background checks and take CPR classes in order to insure the physical well being of your child. Why would any family want to go anywhere but Lebanon?

This Sunday is **BUILDING FUND SUNDAY** with an offering Goal of \$25,000. No Sunday School so we can **begin at 10am** with a concert by the McNeills before Pastor Mac preaches at 11 and then the McNeills sing again before a church fellowship meal at 12:30 (No PM Service). This will be our last service with the wall up. It is supposed to come down next week as we begin preparing for the 500 people we expect on Easter Sunday (4-4-10).

I received the remaining information I needed at our Feasibility Study Committee Meeting Monday so I worked late Monday and early Tuesday and the 2010 State Digest of Reports is at the printers- Glory! It should be available on the SCFWB.com web site soon.

Got to go and take Paula's car to be repaired and pick up a rental (Glory). It is amazing how much 2 old people like us need 2 cars. Hope you have a great day and hope to I see you at Church tonight.

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

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Lessons for Living for Tuesday, January 26, 2010

SPIRITUAL PERSON

Rev. Earl Hendrix, one of the leading Free Will Baptist Pastors in South Carolina, published an article in his church newspaper in 1975 about the qualifications of a "Spiritual Person". It was so good until I kept it all these years so I can look over it from time to time to examine my own life. I realized recently that it might be beneficial to others also so I am sharing it with you.

The Positive Side of a Spiritual Person: He is led by, and filled with, the Holy Spirit. He studies God's Word and puts into practice the principles of God's Word. He communes with God daily through prayer and devotions. He is faithful in his love for, and his attendance at, Church. He is a soul winner and supports the efforts of his church to reach the world for Christ. He will be friendly, courteous, and joyful in his daily life.

On the Negative Side, a Spiritual Person is not critical of others, not a fault finder, not a back biter, not a gossip, not a busy body, and not a talebearer. He does not retaliate but forgives as he was forgiven. He does not tear down but seeks to build up.

The Apostle Paul told the Church at Corinth that he "could not speak unto them as unto spiritual people, but as unto carnal (Fleshly minded), even as unto babes in Christ." 1Co 3:1. This carnal fleshly mind and attitude is much too evident in many churches today as people seek to be self gratified instead of Spirit led. May God help us to determine to be Spiritual People who will daily be conformed into the image of the Son of God, Jesus Christ.

Minister Message for Wednesday, January 27, 2010

BREAKFAST

I realized I had made a mistake but it was too late to correct it so I asked God to cover for me. I was presenting a program at a local minister's breakfast recently and made the mistake of ordering breakfast. Before I arrived at the breakfast I remembered that I had given my wife my last five dollars the day before in order to get something to eat when she took her father to the hospital. I had planned to just skip breakfast- I'm fat so it would do me good to skip a breakfast.

When I arrived and was setting up the equipment for my presentation the waitress asked me if I wanted the special

today and I told her yes. It was only after she left that I realized I had ordered breakfast. That is when I had to ask God to come to my rescue.

The breakfast was good and the presentation went well. I greeted the people as they filed out and then began repacking my equipment wondering what I was going to do about paying for breakfast. Just as I was reminding God about His promise to care for me one of the preachers came back into the room and said, "Mike, I was about to forget. I wanted to buy your breakfast today." Is there a Glory anywhere in the house?

God is a good God and I am so very thankful to be one of His servants. Sometimes He has to work extra hard in order to help me with my stumbles and mistakes but, like a Rock, He is always there and always dependable. What a joy to see His hand at work and to experience once again His unfailing love.

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:MikeHome@ministerministry.com)
To: MikeHome@ministerministry.com
Subject: Weekly Devotion for Feb 3, 2010
Date: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 8:44:14 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **February 3, 2010** Volume 21 Number 5

Weekly Devotions from
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Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
February 3, 2010

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:
Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

On February 6th forty years ago I answered a very important question- "Do you take the woman you hold by the right hand to be your lawfully wedded wife?" and my life has not been the same since! Tonight in Bible Study we will ask an even more important question- in fact, it will be "The greatest question ever asked".

Remember Senior Lunch and Bingo at Noon and our monthly Board Meeting will follow Bible Study. Rejoice that the Wall is Down and we can now move pass 300 in attendance. Let's have 400 this Sunday just to see what it looks like!

As I was praying for the prayer requests of the pastors in India I rejoiced at how many of them listed people ready to be baptized. It is a great time to be a servant of a Great God. May He Bless you in a marvelous way today that you may be able to tell someone about Jesus, mighty to save.

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, February 2, 2010

DOING WHAT YOU DO

In the words of Clint Eastwood, "A man has to know his limitations!" A profound statement that has spiritual implications. Multitudes of people struggle in their walk with God because they think they are supposed to do everything that needs to be done. Unwilling to accept the fact that they are just one part of the body of believers they attempt to do everything and end up exhausted and discouraged. Look at these examples of good things that great spiritual leaders did not do.

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John did no miracles- *And many resorted unto him, and said, John did no miracle: but all things that John spake of this man were true.* (John 10:41)

Jesus did no Baptizing- *When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,) (John 4:1-2)*

God will provide everything you need in order for you to do what God has called YOU to do. It will be a great achievement in your life when you willingly accept God's plan and purpose for your life. Stop craving positions or crying over lack of provisions for something God did not plan for you to accomplish. Learning your limitations gives you tremendous potential to do what you are supposed to do instead of living with the frustration and failure of attempting things that God planned for someone else to do. When everyone does their part the Christian life is a thing of beauty.

One warning that must be recognized. Learn the difference between limitations God puts on your life and obstacles Satan puts in your path. The first you accept, the second you overcome. Blessed is the man who knows the difference.

Minister Message for Wednesday, February 3, 2010

RELATIONSHIP NEEDED

Multitudes of people falter in their work for God because they do not receive the reward or recognition they think they deserve. I have seen people who stopped coming to Church and stopped their work for God because someone at the Church failed to express love or appreciation to them in the way they expected. They did not get their hand shook, their back slapped, or their ears tickled in the way they wanted so they abandoned the wonderful fellowship of the family of God and began nursing their hurt in their shell of self pity at home. It was horrible to watch them as their heart shriveled and the light of life dimmed into the darkness of anger and despair.

Jesus went about doing good as He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and proclaimed the good news of a great God but He was *despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.* (Isaiah 53:3)

Sodium and Chloride can both be poisonous to the human body. Add them together in the proper proportions, however, and they become Salt which is necessary for the body. Hydrogen is extremely flammable and Oxygen is the fuel of fire but mix them together in the proper proportion and they become water which is used to extinguish fires. Do not allow Satan to use Pride and Self Pity to separate you from needed

relationships. The results can be disastrous.

There is coming a day when the righteous judge shall judge righteously and all the wrongs shall be made right. On that day you will be glad you remained steadfast and faithful to the work God called you to do.

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:Mike_Jones)
To: MikeHome@ministerministry.com
Subject: Weekly Devotions for Feb 10, 2010
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2010 7:59:25 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **February 10, 2010** Volume 21 Number 6

Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones
Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
February 10, 2010

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:

Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
Evening Worship- 6:00pm

Wednesday- 7:00pm
Bible Study/Prayer Meet

Contact Mike Jones

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

Last Sunday was a "God Thing" Sunday at Lebanon. On a week when removing the wall in the Sanctuary and moving offices from the soon to be home of Youth Pastor Chris and Emily Edwards occupied all the time we would normally spend in outreach, 274 people showed up in church on Sunday Morning- Glory! One new couple joined our church, another couple turned in their application for membership, and 3 new couples visited the "best Church in South Carolina" for the first time. And on Super Bowl Sunday Night 170 people came back to Church to worship our Great God. Nothing but God could account for something like that!

Another Blessing. One of the men in the Church has volunteered to use his air miles to purchase 6 tickets to the National Meeting in Oklahoma in July for Pastor Mac, Pastor Mike, Pastor Chris and their wives. This will save the Church hundreds and hundreds of dollars- Glory!

Tonight's Bible Study will be "How to Enjoy Life". Five Bible Principles that will change life from "ho hum" into Hallelujah.

The SCFWB State Digest of Reports is due back from the printer today. I hope to get it in the mail to our Pastors and Churches tomorrow. Our State Meeting is only 2 week away.

The verse God spoke to me in my devotions today was I Thess 5:24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it. God is Faithful. Allow Him to "do it" in your life today. You will be glad you did!

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

this week newsletter click on the link below and enter the necessary information. Thank you for the privilege of serving you.

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Lessons for Living for Tuesday, February 9, 2010

FAMILY ACTIVITIES THAT BUILD LOVE

My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. (1 John 3:18)

You can talk about love or you can do something about love. Here are 35 inexpensive activities that will help bring your family closer together:

1) Have devotions around the kitchen table 2) Attend a Church softball game 3) Plant flowers or a garden 4) Take a trip on a city bus 5) Play card and board games at home 6) Fly a kite 7) Take a nature walk or bike ride 8) Take a day trip to somewhere special 9) Visit the Library or Zoo 10) Go fishing 11) Make Homemade Ice Cream 12) Do a Bible people puppet show for the grandparents 13) Wash the car together 14) Carry homemade brownies to a shut in 15) Play catch or Frisbee 16) Camp out in the back yard 17) Go roller skating 18) Look thru the family album 19) Have an indoor picnic 20) Visit the State Capitol 21) Feed some birds 22) Visit a Planetarium, a museum, the local airport, a newspaper office, or TV Station 23) Create a Bible Quiz for your Sunday School Class 24) Clean out the garage or attic 25) Walk to a neighbor's house for a visit 26) Have a fast food progressive supper 27) Have a sing-along 28) Write to a missionary 29) Cheap choice children's night [Child decides what to do but it must be cheap] 30) Children teach parents how to text 31) Get pictures and information and pray for federal and state government leaders 32) Let the kids help you pay the bills one month (it will be eye opening for them!) 33) Start a saving account with your children 34) Have a hug family members day. 35) Start a family Prayer List and celebrate the answers.

Minister Message for Wednesday, February 10, 2010

PUTTING LOVE INTO ACTION

The Bible commands us to make Love real in conduct and in character: *Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily*

provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things (1 Corinthians 13:1-7). Here are 10 Actions that will help turn love from lips into life; and make a tremendous difference in people.

- 1) Replace words (Let me know if you need me) with actions (wash dishes / cut grass)
 - 2) Look for ways to encourage instead of criticize
 - 3) Share a meal, and a listening ear, with someone in need.
 - 4) Give Gift cards for gas and meals for no special reason.
 - 5) Email or text someone a "thinking of you" message
 - 6) Clean the house of the sick.
 - 7) Enter into a covenant with someone to pray for their spouse, children, or financial needs.
 - 8) Defend someone whom others are criticizing.
 - 9) Invite visitors at church to sit on your pew or move to their pew
 - 10) Turn off TV or Computer, tell your spouse they are more important than those things, and then rub their feet or scratch their back.
-

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:MikeHome@ministerministry.com)
To: MikeHome@ministerministry.com
Subject: Weekly Devotion for Feb 17, 2010
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 9:07:49 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **February 17, 2010** Volume 21 Number 7

**Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones
Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
February 17, 2010**

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:

**Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
Evening Worship- 6:00pm**

**Wednesday- 7:00pm
Bible Study/Prayer Meet**

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

Half of the Sanctuary now has walls that reach to the new ceiling and work is progressing well on the remaining walls. Our \$100,000 Media equipment package was ordered this week and I get emails about the plans for the new Family Life Center almost every day. Great time to be a member at Lebanon.

Sunday we begin at 10am (No SS) with a special singing by the McNeill Family and a special message by Pastor Mac. All our Offering will go to the Church Building Fund. We will NOT have a meal because of all the construction equipment and materials in the Sanctuary. We will have a PM Service with Youth Pastor Chris Edwards speaking.

In the six weeks I have before retirement I plan to speak about the Character of, and our commitment to, God. Tonight we will look at Serving God by joining God's Choir (Only a few are members of Lebanon's choir but all can join God's Choir).

Remember this Friday night is our big Youth Bowling Night. We have rented the Southgate Bowling Facility from 6-9pm so we can control the music and the attendance. We are inviting youth from all around our area. Contact Brother Chris Edwards at (843) 598-4410 or (843) 665-7605 for more info.

May "goodness and mercy follow you today" and may you feel the presence of God as strong in your life as I feel Him in my life right now- Glory!

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, February 16, 2010

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PAUL'S VISIONS

A vision is something your outer eye or inner heart “sees” that provides insight, motivation, or inspiration. The Apostle Paul had several “visions” that changed his life and directed his ministry.

Paul had a vision of a risen Lord that led to his Salvation (*And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.* (Acts 9:3-5)

Paul also had visions about his Service (*And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.* Acts 16:9), Support (*Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city.* Acts 18:9-10), Strength (*And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.* Acts 23:11), and Safety (*For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.* (Acts 27:23-24)

Paul's visions transformed him. May God give you “eyes to see” His plans for you and renew your life and spirit today.

Minister Message for Wednesday, February 17, 2010

GIVE ME TOO MUCH

It was a birthday party and one of the men was cutting and passing out birthday cake. Person after person would say, “Cut me a small piece. Do not give me too much.” Finally, the man's nephew came up for his cake and said, “Uncle Mac, give me too much!” Love that kid because that is just what I ask God, “Give me more than enough. Give me too much!”

I am not a greedy covetous person who begs God for too much in the way of physical blessings. I try to take the approach of the writer of Proverbs when he asked God to “give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my

God in vain.” (Proverbs 30:8-9). I try to be satisfied with what God is satisfied with me having.

I also try not to be proud or vain and ask God to give me too much in the way of position or privilege. I try to remember that “Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.” (Proverbs 16:18-19) My life goal is to help people; not merely to impress them.

The place I ask God for too much is in my relationship with Him. I want to be nearer and dearer to God every day. I do not want just a little bit of a relationship with God. I want “too much” of His Presence so that people will look at the Lord in my life and desire to know Him with all their being. That is when “too much” will be just enough.

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:MikeHome@ministerministry.com)
To: MikeHome@ministerministry.com
Subject: Weekly Devotions for Feb 24, 2010
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2010 10:39:04 PM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **February 24, 2010** Volume 21 Number 8

Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones
Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
February 24, 2010

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:
Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
Evening Worship- 6:00pm

Wednesday- 7:00pm
Bible Study/Prayer Meet

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

The SCFWB General Board of our State Association will meet Wednesday at 10:am at Evergreen FWB Church of Conway. The State Association will meet Thursday and Friday at Evergreen. I am the State Clerk-Busy Week.

Wednesday Night at Lebanon we will look at "Things we use to Replace God" and find that American Idols is more than a TV Show.

The Devotions I send each week are actually Newspaper Articles that are printed weekly in local newspapers. I have prepared this articles for 21 years and plan to continue even after I "retire". The news will not necessarily be about Lebanon each week but I will share how God is working in mine and Paula's life. If you want to be removed from our mailing list then simply do a "Reply" to this email and put "Remove from Mailing" in the Subject line.

God does extraordinary things in extraordinary ways because He is an extraordinary God. Join Him in His work today and let Him change you from "ordinary" into extraordinary!

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, February 23, 2010

CONSIDER SIN'S CONSEQUENCES

And they consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness: now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face. (Hosea 7:2)

God considers in wonderment the fact that men do not consider the consequences of Sin. Sin destroys Lives, divides

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Families, distresses God, and dooms a person to Hell. Sin produces rotten fruit, wrong rewards, a blemished testimony, and missed blessings. Sin promises you happiness but produces bondage, beatings, and burdens. Here are ten consequences to consider the next time you want to invite Sin into your life and activities.

- 1) Sin is never satisfied. One Sin leads to more sins- deeper and deeper you are drawn into its captivity.
- 2) Sin incurs God's displeasure and invites God's discipline
- 3) Time spend in sin is forever wasted
- 4) Sin widens its circle of impact to include those around the sinner
- 5) Sin limits your ability to serve God as you should
- 6) Sin blocks your Prayer Power- *If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:* (Psalms 66:18)
- 7) Sin leads a person to act like a fool- *Then said Saul, I have sinned: ...behold, I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly.* (1Sam 26:21)
- 8) Sin hardens your heart against others and against God
- 9) Sin brings God's punishment and earns God's wrath- *The Wages of Sin is death* (Rom 6:23).
- 10) Sin will find you out- *But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.* (Numbers 32:23). The consequences of Sin are certain- Thank God for the mercy and forgiveness that can be ours through Faith in Jesus Christ.

Minister Message for Wednesday, February 24, 2010

HOW TO ENJOY LIFE.

There are many "formulas" for happiness in the world today, Yet more and more people are enjoying life less and less. Here are 6 Bible principles for enjoying life that will work for you if you will work them.

- 1) **COMPLAIN LESS-** (1 Pet 3:10) *For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:* It is amazing how much more you enjoy life when you don't let your tongue get ahead of your brain.
- 2) **GIVE MORE-** *Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.* (Luke 6:38) Greed and coveting shrink the soul. Giving gives back more than you gave!
- 3) **LAUGH LOUD-** *Every man also to whom God hath*

given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God. (Ecclesiastes 5:19)

Rejoice in the blessings of God. Celebrate life.

- 4) **PRAY HARD-** *Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. (John 16:24)* Pray believing; receive with delight.
 - 5) **LIVE RIGHT-** *Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. (Heb 1:9)* You never regret doing right. Life is good when you are good.
 - 6) **DRAW NEAR-** *It is good for me to draw near to God: (Ps 73:28)* The heart is a restless hunter seeking only God. The good life is the God life.
-

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:Mike_Jones)
To: MikeHome@ministerministry.com
Subject: Weekly Devotions for Mar 10, 2010
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2010 9:35:18 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **March 10, 2010** Volume 21 Number 10

Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones
Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
March 10, 2010

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:
Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
Evening Worship- 6:00pm

Wednesday- 7:00pm
Bible Study/Prayer Meet

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

Time to "Spring Forward" this Sunday into Day Light Saving Time. Go to bed early Saturday Night and prepare for a big day of God's Blessings on Sunday- Pastor Mac and Pastor Chris have been at Bible Conference all week so they will be primed and ready on Sunday!

An adjustment week for me getting used to doing a few hours of work early in the morning and then taking 9 hours to go to Turbeville and help at the Book Store and then coming back and trying to work several more hours at Church and home. Thankfully, I am off today so I can try to get caught up on some Church work.

Tonight we will learn more about our Great God as we look at "Some things that weary, displease, grieve, and sicken God". A message that can make a difference in your life.

I received my India Visa today so I can now begin final plans for the mission trip to India on April 5th. Looking forward so much to seeing Brother Carlisle and our Indian people.

Talked with our workers at the Church earlier today and things continue to progress as we head toward our BIG DAY on April 4th. We are praying for God to save many people that day so come yourself and bring all your unsaved friends and family.

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, March 9, 2010

COMMITTED COMMITMENT

I was eating lunch with my nephew recently. Our conversation was about the need of "Commitments" in life and some way our conversation came to my needing to write a newspaper article. "Uncle Mike", he said. "You always have to write a newspaper article!" I laughed when I noticed my wife

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shaking her head “Yes!”

This is my 21st year of writing 2 newspaper devotional articles each week- that is 104 articles each year! I receive no compensation and very little acclimation and it gets to be really hard work some weeks but God put it in my heart and I will try to continue until God closes the door or tells me to stop.

The Apostle John summarized what I try to accomplish each week- *That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.* (1 John 1:3-4)

Sometimes writing is like an overflowing well and I cannot write the words on the page fast enough. Other times writing is like trying to get water out of a rock; you just keep hitting your head against that rock until the rock breaks and the water flows! Regardless, the water has to flow two times each week.

Talking about the articles helped my nephew understand a little about commitment. Commitment means stepping up to the plate and doing your best every time it is your turn to bat. Sometimes you hit a home run and sometimes you strike out but you always walk to the batter’s box when it is your turn. Even when God takes me out of the lineup and makes me a designated hitter I am committed to that kind of commitment.

Minister Message for Wednesday, March 10, 2010

CHARACTERISTICS OF FOOLS

The Bible declares that I am not to call a man a fool (Matt 5:22) so I am simply going to list 8 characteristics of a fool and let you “judge a tree by the fruit it bears” (Matt 7:20).
A Fool:

- 1) Walks a Wicked Way with no regard for God- *The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that doeth good.* (Psalms 53:1). Notice the remaining Corrupt Characteristics of a Fool.
- 2) Slanders Other- *He that hideth hatred with lying lips, and he that uttereth a slander, is a fool.* (Proverbs 10:18)
- 3) Mocks at Sin- *Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour.* (Proverbs 14:9)
- 4) Despises Instruction- *A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent.* (Proverbs 15:5)

- 5) Contentious- *A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes. (Proverbs 18:6)*
- 6) Meddlesome- *It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling. (Proverbs 20:3)*
- 7) Self Confident- *He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered. (Proverbs 28:26)*
- 8) Dishonest- *As the partridge sitteth on eggs, and hatcheth them not; so he that getteth riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool. (Jeremiah 17:11)*

There is, however, one “foolish” thing you should take heed to- *For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. (1 Corinthians 1:21).*

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:Mike_Jones)
To: MikeHome@ministerministry.com
Subject: Weekly Devotions for March 24, 2010
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 7:32:13 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **March 24, 2010** Volume 21 Number 12

Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones
Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
March 24, 2010

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:
Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

Tonight is the night to KNOW. The Adult Class will be in the Know about Present Projects and Future Plans before they learn some Knowledge God wants them to Know that they Know.

Just so YOU will KNOW: Easter Sunday (4-4) at Lebanon looks like this- 10:00am- Choir Cantata and Youth Program. 10:50 Easter Worship Service with special Music, a powerful message by Pastor Mac, and a Baptismal service as we celebrate our risen Lord and rejoice in our newly renovated Sanctuary. The biggest day (so far!) in the history of our Church. You certainly want to be here with all your family and friends.

Stop for a moment and ask yourself, "What does God want to do for me, with me, and in me today?" There are possibilities as big as God before you if you will simply walk, and work, with God. Let God make today one of the best days you have ever experienced.

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Mike@scfwb.com / (843) 687-4823

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, March 23, 2010

CROSS CHANGES

What makes you what you are? Why do you think, talk, and act as you do? Can you change? Should you change? Life questions that impact each of us.

Several factors determine who you are. The genes you receive from your parents, the language and culture you receive from your community, and the individual character

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traits you receive from God all combine to develop you into the person you are today. The color of your skin and the color of your eyes were passed down through your family line. Your primary language and your prejudiced world view were developed as you interacted in your family and community. Your personality traits have been sharpened or dulled by the contacts and conflicts you experienced as you traveled life's highway. A lot of things have combined to make you who you are.

Can you change? You can lose weight, color your hair, and learn another language. You can develop better manners and learn to look at people and problems from a different world view. You can educate your mind, train your voice, and improve your living conditions. You can become a better person but there are some things you cannot change.

You cannot change the sins of your past or the state of your heart. "Good People" with a good education, good manners, and nice homes molest children, commit adultery, and do harm to other people. Environmental and educational changes fail to transform the corruption of the human heart.

God knows all this so He provided a way to so drastically alter the state of the human heart until it was called being "Born Again". This is made possible by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And that is what the Easter story is really all about.

Minister Message for Wednesday, March 24, 2010

CROSS REACTIONS

Jesus hung on a cross, condemned to die because He (truthfully) claimed to be the Son of God. During His three years of ministry He had fed the hungry, healed the sick, raised the dead, and captivated the people with His teachings and parables. But He would not toe the religious establishment's "political line" so he was railroaded through the courts and sentenced to die by a "judge" who admitted he found no fault in him and was simply bowing to the pressures of the community leaders.

The reactions of people during the horrible hours Jesus spent on the Cross were amazing. Some Railed at Him- *And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, Save thyself, and come down from the cross.* (Mark 15:29-30). The word "railed" here is the Greek work for blasphemed and refers to someone talking with contempt about another. Jesus had given them only good things and now was dying for their sins and they rewarded Him with contempt. You would not do that, would you?

Some spectators gambled for his clothes (the "what is

in this for me” crowd). Some tried to give him vinegar to drink when he thirsted (the “let’s pretend to help but actually make it worst” crowd). Some people just waited for Him to die (The “let’s see if anything extraordinary happens that we can gossip about” crowd).

One man watched from a cross and was so impressed until he asked Jesus if he could be part of His Kingdom. Everyone reacts to the cross in some manner. I hope this man’s example will inspire your reaction.

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:Mike_Jones)
To: MikeHome@ministerministry.com
Subject: Weekly Devotion for Mar 31, 2010
Date: Wednesday, March 31, 2010 7:44:59 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **March 31, 2010** Volume 21 Number 13

Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones
Associate Pastor
Lebanon FWB Church
March 31, 2010

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:
Bible Study- 9:30am
Morning Worship- 10:30am
Choir Practice- 4:30pm
Evening Worship- 6:00pm

Wednesday- 7:00pm
Bible Study/Prayer Meet

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

Lebanon Church had a wonderful surprise for me last Sunday. They invited my family, my wife's family, and numerous friends for a special "retirement Sunday" and said a lot of really kind things about someone (I kept looking around to see who they were talking about!). After the service the Church provided a meal for my families and a great time was had by all. The most important thing to happen, however, was that someone accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior at the end of the service- Glory! Paula and I appreciate VERY MUCH all that was done for us.

My last Pastoral Sermon tonight will be about principles that have guided my life as I share "The greatest Truth in the Bible". Final preparation for the trip to India are very intense right now. Brother Todd Smith and I are supposed to leave early next Monday (April 5). How my heart longs to see Brother Carlisle and our people in India.

Arrive early This Sunday (Easter Sunday). We only have seats for 500! We begin at 10:00am with a Musical Presentation by our Choir and Youth. That will be followed by an Easter Message by Pastor Mac and a Baptismal service as we celebrate our risen Lord and rejoice in our newly renovated Sanctuary. You certainly want to be here with all your family and friends.

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Mike@scfwb.com / (843) 687-4823

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, March 30, 2010

this week newsletter click on the link below and enter the necessary information. Thank you for the privilege of serving you.

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EASTER RECONCILIATION

Easter is about the reconciliation of God and Man in order for the bond of fellowship to return to their relationship. In the garden of Eden God would come down each day in order to enjoy a time of fellowship with Adam and Eve. The disobedience of sin broke God's heart and broke this fellowship. God could not ignore this rebellious act so, like anyone who loves another, God immediately began to plan a way to restore His relationship with man. This is what the Bible, and human history, is all about. And this is why the Son of God ended up dying on a cross as a substitute sacrifice for all of mankind.

One of the primary principles of the universe is the sowing and reaping rule. Actions produce consequences. This is a wonderful positive principle but it is a horrible negative standard. Everyone wants to sow and reap bountifully when there is good involved but those same people want to sow and reap nothing when there is groaning instead of gold at harvest time! The Law of sowing and reaping remains steadfast, however, in bad as well as in good. That means the wages of sin are death no matter how much God loves mankind.

Jesus did not go to the cross as a grand gesture of love. The cross was the only way to pay our sin death and deliver believers from eternal separation from God. Easter is not about wearing new clothes to church; it is about becoming new creatures for God. Easter is not about hiding eggs; it is about finding new life in Christ.

Sin claimed man at a tree in the Garden of Eden. Christ claimed victory over sin and death on a tree at Calvary. God and man can once more walk together- Glory!

Minister Message for Wednesday, March 31, 2010

IT IS FINISHED

God always has a plan. Even before man sinned in the garden God had a plan to redeem mankind and restore him to full fellowship. As that plan came to its conclusion, Jesus could proclaim to His Heavenly Father- "I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do." (John 17:4). Later, as the blood dripped from his sinless body while hanging on a cross, Jesus could proclaim to a lost world- "It is finished" (John 19:30) and die with the full assurance that His job was complete.

The Apostle Paul came to a point in his life where he could look around at a world that desperately needed the Gospel he preached and yet proclaim with full confidence, "I

have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:" (2 Timothy 4:7). There was a world of needs still to be met but Paul could gratefully say to the God who had called and sustained Him that he had completed the task which God had set for him to do.

I began preaching the gospel at the age of 14 and for 48 years I have tried to faithfully proclaim the word of God and declare the wondrous works of God. Now I feel that I can say about the Pastoral part of my ministry, "It is finished." On Easter Sunday I plan to retire from the Pastoral Ministry and concentrate on Promoting the missionary heart of God, Preaching the infallible Word of God, and Writing about the glorious wonders of God. I have not finished the book of my life yet but I have finished this chapter. I am excited beyond words to see what God will do in the next chapter.

From: [Mike Jones](mailto:Mike_Jones)
To: MikeHome@ministerministry.com
Subject: weekly Devotions for April 4, 2010
Date: Sunday, April 04, 2010 9:36:26 PM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **April 4, 2010** Volume 21 Number 14

Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones

April 4, 2010

Lebanon FWB Church

Sunday Schedule:

Bible Study- 9:30am

Morning Worship- 10:30am

Choir Practice- 4:30pm

Evening Worship- 6:00pm

Wednesday- 7:00pm

Bible Study/Prayer Meet

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

501 with many decisions for Christ and 4
baptised- GLORY! God certainly did honor us at
Lebanon today. The music was great, the message was
powerful, and the plan put in place by the People to
park, promote, and make our visitors feel at
home seemed to work wonderfully.

Now I am Retired, Rejoicing, and getting Ready to
leave Monday Morning with Brother Todd Smith for 2
weeks in India with Brother Carlisle Hanna. We are
excited to see our people and God's work in India.

I will be unable to send a weekly devotion on April
14th but I will try to send those devotions and an
update when we return on April 17th. Please pray for
the family we leave behind and the friends we get to
visit.

The last words recorded in scripture by Mary, the
mother of Jesus, were, "Whatsoever he saith unto you,
do it" (John 2:5). May that be your desire and goal this
week.

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Mike@scfwb.com / (843) 687-4823

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, April 6, 2010

LIFE PRINCIPLES TO KNOW

It is not what we do not know that hurts us; it is what
we are certain of that is wrong! Here are some Life Principles
that I Know that God wants me to Know.

- 1) I know Salvation is through Faith in Christ- *These*

information. Thank you for the privilege of serving you.

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things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. (1 John 5:13). Salvation involves a Conviction Time, A Crisis Time, A Commitment Time, and a Confession Time that acknowledges your faith in Christ.

- 2) I know God is Dependable: *For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. (2 Timothy 1:12)*
- 3) I know I am special to God- Ps 4:3 *But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is godly for himself.*
- 4) I know God is Steadfast- Ec 3:14 *I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it. (Malachi 3:6) For I am the LORD, I change not;*
- 5) I know it is best to Serve the Lord- Ec 8:12 *Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God,*
- 6) I know that what I do for God means something in eternity- 1Co 15:58 *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord*

Minister Message for Wednesday, April 7, 2010

BACK TO BASICS

Here are a few things that will help you stabilize your Christian Life so you can recapture the joy and zeal you once had in your walk with the Lord.

Remember that you repented of your sinful nature and turned your life over to God. The three marks of true Repentance are:

- 1) Acknowledgement and Confession of wrong doing- Luke 3:7-10
- 2) Desire to abandon wrong actions- Luke 3: 11- 14
- 3) Willingness to make Restitution- Luke 19:8

Stop trying all the new “ideas” that sound good but do not produce Christian Joy and Growth. Billy Graham in his book “Guide for Christian Living” list 10 Rules for good Spiritual Health:

- 1) Read your Bible Daily
- 2) Learn the Power of Prayer
- 3) Rely constantly on the Holy Spirit
- 4) Attend Church Regularly

- 5) Become a Witnessing Christian
- 6) Let love be the ruling principle in your life
- 7) Be Obedient to God and His Word
- 8) Learn how to Meet Temptation
- 9) Be a Daily Genuine Christian
- 10) Live above your circumstances

Realize that you can and should live a victorious Christian Life. The Three enemies that Christians battle are The World System, The Desires of the Flesh, and the Accusations of the Devil but we know *we are of God and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in us, than he that is in the world.* (1 John 4:4).

Christianity is a great way to live. Get back to basics and let your life be an abundant life.

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Devotion for April 28, 2010
Date: Wednesday, April 28, 2010 10:54:14 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM

DEVOTIONS FOR **April 28, 2010** Volume 21 Number 15

**Weekly Devotions from
Rev. Mike Jones**

April 28, 2010

Contact Mike Jones

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST:

I returned from India with a virus in my head (head cold) and a virus on my computer at home. Both have made it difficult for me. I am feeling better and my computer has been reworked.

The trip to India was simply Great. God answered prayer all along the way and I appreciate those of you who prayed. It is wonderful beyond description to see what God is doing in India right now and I earnestly seek your prayers and support for Brother Carlisle's ministry that is reaching souls and building the Kingdom of God in a great way.

We are shipping Sunday School and VBS Literature from the State Book Store this week so it is a very busy time. My father in law was in the hospital for a week, my wife decided to share my cold, and a brother had surgery yesterday. Interesting time right now.

I will be speaking both services at First FWB Church of Myrtle Beach this Sunday (May 2). I will be at Black River on May 9th and at Beulah on May 16th.

Having to re work my computer has messed up my mailing list. If your receive this and you do not want to receive it then let me know. If you know of others who would like to receive these weekly devotions then tell them to send me their email.

God is Good. It is great to serve Him. May He do a special work in YOUR life today.

Preacher Mike Jones ps16:11

Mike@scfwb.com / (843) 687-4823

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, April 20, 2010

DO WHATEVER HE SAYS

The last words of Mary, the mother of Jesus, recorded in Scripture are at the beginning of the ministry of Jesus when she told the servants at the Wedding Feast, “Whatever He says to you, do it” (John 2:5). What a tremendous sermon in such a few words!

In the early part of my walk with the Lord a major emphasis of preachers and Bible teachers was the need of complete commitment and absolute obedience. I was taught that becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ meant denying yourself, taking up your cross, and following Christ (Matt 16:24). Christianity was not about how God could serve me but about how I could serve God.

Sadly, I have watched that change in recent years. Preachers now talk about God as a great “force” in the sky who exists only to provide people with Health, Wealth, and Success. Seldom is anything mentioned about sacrifice, service, and steadfast obedience. As a result, Christianity is now looked upon by many as just another motivational method or a better than normal “get rich quick scheme”. Because of this Christianity is no longer respected as a Moral Compass and a Transforming Truth.

Motivation to change comes from inspiration, desperation, or stimulation. People who are trying to build their kingdom instead of God’s kingdom know this and incorporate these methods into their messages. Biblical “God Change”, however, only comes from regeneration which is a supernatural work of a supernatural God and demands taking up a cross instead of taking up bigger offerings!

The Christian Life is best lived by those who determine to completely and absolutely obey the directions given by the Son of God, Jesus Christ. It is world transforming when the followers of Jesus determine that “whatever Jesus says to you, do it”.

Minister Message for Wednesday, April 21, 2010

EMPTY WINE BOTTLES

Sometimes Christians act more like water than wine and that is not the way it is supposed to be! During the first service of the early church the preacher (Peter) had to tell the spectators that his congregation was not “drunk with wine” because of the extraordinary events happening in the service (Acts 2:15). The Apostle Paul later told the Ephesian Church to

be so revolutionary in their behavior until it would resemble being “drunk with wine” (Eph 5:18).

The problem today is that many people are controlled by the wine of the world instead of the transforming power of the “wine of the spirit”. The “wine skins” of many Christians are empty and dry and their lives show forth the same emptiness and dryness.

Why does the “Wine” get out of the bottle? Two illustrations involving Jesus and wine give us some guidance: 1) At the Wedding Jesus attended in Cana the wineskin was empty because of the Demands of People (The crowd at the wedding was consuming more than expected or was larger than anticipated). 2) During a Sermon (Matt 9:17) Jesus declared that wine got out of the wineskin because of Damage to the Wineskin (The fermentation process demanded that New wine must be put into new wineskins or the old wineskin would burst).

Is that why you are acting like water instead of “wine”? Has the stress of dealing with people problems or the demands of daily life turned you into a leaking vessel instead of a bubbling believer? All Jesus had to do at the wedding was find some vessels willing to be filled and then allow the water in them to be changed into wine. Let it happen in your life today. It will change everything!

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, April 27, 2010

WASTE

Volcanic Ash had caused our flight from Delhi, India to Newark, New Jersey to take a route directly across Russia to a point 50 miles from the North Pole where we then headed down across Canada into America. It was a 15 hour flight with a completely loaded plane since so many other flights had been canceled. In the process of getting everyone on board my normal aisle seat had been changed to a window seat.

Now a 62 year old man who takes fluid pills was trapped on the inside of a three seat section with 2 other big men beside me. And to really make it interesting, our seats were directly against the wall of one of the toilets on the plane. In case you do not know, airplane toilets use air pressure to flush the toilet which meant that for 15 hours I heard a constant chorus of “whoosh” noise from the wall directly behind my head. It was an interesting flight!

I always try to learn something good from every situation so as I sat in misery for 15 hours listening to the “whoosh” sound behind me I began to think about Waste and its part in the plan of God. Two things immediately came to mind. Waste is a Necessary activity (God designed us to continually discharge waste from our body lest it “poison” us) and a Regular activity (ask a 62 year old man on fluid pills!).

All of us have things in our life that do not belong there (all have sinned and come short of the glory of God). It is necessary that we deal with these problems on a regular basis or they will “poison” us. Thank God that Jesus Christ provides the way to dispose of the waste of sin and make us clean again.

Minister Message for Wednesday, April 28, 2010

BLOCKING SNAKES

One morning while we were staying in India I noticed that the water was not draining out when I took my shower. I hated to trouble my host but felt he needed to know about the situation. He immediately knew that the source of the problem was a blockage at the screen wire placed at the end of the drainage pipe. He said it was a common situation and easily corrected.

Then he went on to explain the reason for the screen wire and the constant problem it presented. It seems that Kite Snakes like to swim through sewage and crawl into the house through the drain opening. Since Kite Snakes are very dangerous he preferred to unblock the sewage pipe on a regular basis rather than step on snakes in his bath room!

It is amazing to see the changes that are taking place in India. Advertisements and TV programs carry images that would never have been tolerated on my first trip to India 10 years ago. Someone took the “screen” off the sewage pipe and the “snake” has crawled into the house!

I think progress is a great thing and I am very happy to see improvements in the standard of living in India. Better roads, better water, and better food are all very positive signs. It saddens me, however, to see the morals of India headed down the same path that has corrupted America.

The good news is that I was able to meet with many men and their families who realize that Biblical Values are the only “screen” that will preserve the safety and purity they desire. These men realize that when the “snake” got into the garden it corrupted everything and they are determined to deny him entrance. May God give us men like that in America.

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Devotions for 5/5/10
Date: Wednesday, May 05, 2010 8:20:10 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTIONS

Rev. Mike Jones
Wednesday, May 5, 2010
Volume 21 Number 16

Greetings in the Name of Jesus, mighty to save;

It is a Great Day to serve a Great God. Most of the Sunday School literature has been mailed to our Churches from the State Book Store. Now I have to start on Graduation Bibles and more VBS. March thru May are the most busy months at the Book Store so I have not had the opportunity to do any writing yet (Sad). Paula and I are also staying with her dad, who is on oxygen and other medical equipment, most of the time during the week (No internet and, right now, no computer). Paula's brother stayed yesterday and today so Paula could come home in order to wash some clothes and take care of some needed business. Trying to keep up 2 households is proving a challenge but we know God always provides the strength and wisdom we need.

I will be speaking at Black River FWB Church of Andrews Tonight and Sunday while their Pastor (Jeff Cockrell) is in England receiving a degree. Looking forward to being with these great people. It is always great to be able to tell people about the wonderful works and the mighty words of our Great God.

I hope all of the Mothers have a special day filled with honor and love this Sunday and I pray many people will become children of the Living God this week. Sins are paid for, death is conquered. Spread the word!

Rev. Mike Jones
2434 Allen Road, Effingham, SC 29541
(843) 687-4823 Mike@scfwb.com

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, May 4, 2010

AUNTIE'S EXAMPLE

Missionaries to India, Carlisle and Marie Hanna, knew they were going to go to the Mission field before they were married. When they announced their wedding someone offered to buy the Wedding Dress for Mrs. Marie but she told them she hated to spend that much money in a dress that would only be worn one time and it would be helpful if they would contribute that money to their mission account instead.

Mrs. Marie then made herself a beautiful white dress that she wore on her wedding day; and for 10 years after her wedding on special occasions in her mission work in India. After 10 year the suit began to discolor so she dyed that suit navy blue and worn it for another 10 years!

In India, Mrs. Marie was always called "Auntie" by the local people; partly as a title of

respect and partly because her husband, missionary Carlisle Hanna, was called “Uncle” by the Indian People. The limited financial income of a missionary and the limited available resources of the poverty stricken area where she helped minister brought out all the fugal qualities and creative abilities of Auntie Marie. The people of India still talk about her skill, her resourcefulness, and, most important of all, her tremendous love and compassion.

Preachers are always looking for “hero” women for today’s mothers to emulate as we approach Mother’s Day. They will find few greater examples than Auntie Marie. She buried her first born child in India and now that is where she is buried. In between she helped her husband establish the greatest mission work in the history of our denomination and raised three wonderful children who love God and have a heart for God’s work. We would be blessed this Mother’s Day if many in our ranks would determine to follow Auntie’s example of Godly living and Christian love.

Minister Message for Wednesday, May 5, 2010

MOTHER MISTAKES

Not all mothers are perfect. The first mother (Eve) argued with the Devil when she should have been working with her husband and the world continues to pay the price. The mother of Ahaziah, a king in Israel, gave him wicked advice that led to the destruction of the nation- 2Chron. 22:2-3 *Forty and two years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Athaliah the daughter of Omri. He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly.*

Some mothers do not know the father of their child. Some Mothers have done things in their youth they greatly regret as they grow older. Not all mothers are Mayberry Moms.

Even morally acceptable Mothers sometimes limit their social acceptance and dishonor their personal example by their Attire, their Actions, their Attitude, or their Exclamations (Words). Just as everyone who carries the name “Christian” does not always bring honor to that name so everyone who bears the name “mother” does not always wear an apron and have baked bread waiting for the family every night.

Many Mothers today have to work outside the home where they are subjected to intense stress, temptations, and pressures. Their children are raised by day care centers, under budgeted school systems, and afterschool video games and talk shows. These Mothers do the best they can with the circumstances surrounding their life but many of them lay awake at night and weep over what is happening to their children and family.

Determine this Mother’s Day to pray for your mother and to show her you love her. Life has given her a tough assignment and she may not be perfect but she is your Mother and she deserves your help and encouragement.

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Devotion for 5-12-10
Date: Wednesday, May 12, 2010 8:59:07 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTIONS

Rev. Mike Jones
Wednesday, May 12, 2010
Volume 21 Number 17

Greetings in the Name of Jesus, mighty to save;

Pastor Mac will like today's "Daily Bread" message (listen at www.oddb.org) "Teamwork divides the effort and multiplies the effect". He likes talking about "team" and working together because dividing the effort and multiplying the effect is a necessary part of a growing church. Everyone has to be included in order for it to be a team but everyone has to do their part in order for the team to work effectively. I was always sickly and "four eyed" so no one wanted me on their team except as a water boy who brought refreshment to the main players so they could be successful for the team. That is why I determined years ago to be the best "water boy" I could be so the team could be the best team it could be. I hope each of you will find where you fit and do your part to build God's Kingdom today.

We will be journeying to Columbia Saturday to see my Niece Paige get married. She looks like an angel, sings like a song bird, and plays the piano and organ great. I am so sad she will live in a part of Columbia without a Free Will Baptist Church. She would have been a great asset to a FWB Church (Her home church is Tabernacle FWB Church of Coward, SC). We hope Paula's dad is going to be able to go. We should confirm the date for his cancer surgery next week.

When you are part of God's team you are part of an exciting eternal effort. Do something Great with God today.

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Lessons for Living for Tuesday, May 11, 2010

WEEDS AND WATER

The Word for Food and the word for Rice in India are the same word. Rice is an essential part of the diet of the Indian People for several reasons. It is easily grown in the climate and soil of India so it is abundantly available. It is easily prepared and goes well with the vegetables and spices that are also available in the area. And, although it is not the most nourishing food in the world, it satisfies the hunger cravings of people who must live on limited resources.

Water is an essential part of producing rice. Not only does water provide the nutrients needed by the rice but the flooding of the rice fields also kills the weeds that normally grow in overwhelming numbers along with the rice. These weeds would choke the rice to death if they were not destroyed.

Jesus told His disciples that he was the bread of life. Like rice to the Indian People, Bread is an essential part of many people's diet. In the same way, a relationship with Jesus is an essential part of a Christian's growth and development. "Junk food" may be tastier but it ends up harming the body instead of providing the ingredients needed to develop strong bodies for the Lord.

Jesus said that a relationship with Him would produce the "water of life" in our life (John 4:14). If a Christian does not allow this water to cover their life then the "weeds" of sin begin to grow and will eventually choke the life out of their life. Some people believe they can keep the "rice" weeded with their own efforts but a rice farmer can tell you that no matter how hard you work you cannot keep up with the weeds unless they are covered by the water. Remember that this week if you are tempted to skip your Bible Study time.

Minister Message for Wednesday, May 12, 2010

FEAR AND FAITH

Faith is Expectation that leads to Anticipation because of your confidence in the Promises and Power of God. Faith is not hoping God might do something; it is firm belief that He has already accomplished the task or confident expectation that He will do what He has promised He would do.

The foundation of Faith is the Word of God [So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17]. Faith is not "willing" or "wanting" something to happen so fiercely until you make yourself believe it will happen. Faith is trusting God to do what He has promised to do. It is not your will power but God's "word power" that produces results from Faith.

One of the biggest enemies of Faith is fear. When a sudden storm put their ship in peril of sinking and the disciples in panic awaken Jesus with a harsh reprimand ("Do you not care that we are about to perish?" - Mark 4:38) Jesus immediately calmed the storm and then told His disciples, "Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?" (Mark 4:40). Jesus wanted the disciples to know that fear and faith cannot abide in the same boat.

A man named Jairus came to Jesus and asked Him to heal his daughter. Before they arrived at the home word came that the daughter was dead. Jesus looked at Jairus and said, "Be not afraid, only believe" (Mark 5:36). Jairus believed the word of God over the fear in his heart and soon was hugging his living daughter with tears of joy and jubilation.

When God makes a promise or a pronouncement then you should never let fear over whelm your faith in God's Word. Do not be afraid, God is able and you can trust His Word.

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Devotions for May 19, 2010
Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2010 10:09:55 PM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTIONS

Rev. Mike Jones
Wednesday, May 19, 2010
Volume 21 Number 18

Greetings in the Name of Jesus, mighty to save;

Paula and I covet your prayers Wednesday as her dad has his cancer surgery (They will remove part of a lung). The Doctors have decided to try a method that will not cut him as much so it will improve his chances for surviving the surgery and also allow him to recover more quickly. The Surgery is taking place in Columbia and most of his family will be there. If the Surgery goes well then he is expected to stay for several days of recovery so we will be traveling a lot for the next few days.

I am supposed to speak at the AM and PM service for Mill Branch FWBC this coming Sunday. I am excited to share God's Good News with these fine people.

People keep asking me what I plan to do when I finally get to retire (My work at the Book Store work is scheduled to end by July 15th). One thing I will do is have time to help with all the email requests I receive- here are five samples from the last 24 hours: 1) Can I use your name as a reference (The person who asked is a good person and the answer is yes). 2) How do you deal with an elderly person who does not acknowledge God? (Tell them about Jesus, mighty to save). 3) What does the Bible say about Crowns? (Sent them the "crowns" section of my Revelation Study). 4) My husband and I are having serious marriage problems- Help (If you really love them then try as hard to win them back as you tried to win them originally). 5) I need all the information there is about India including pictures and I need it by Sunday (With all I have going on right now this one is going to be interesting). Retirement will mean I get to spend the time and effort I need to make life better for each of these people. And I get to write- Is there a Glory anywhere in the house?

Rev. Mike Jones
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Lessons for Living for Tuesday, May 18, 2010

FAMILY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

1. Tell your children how you and your spouse met and where you went on dates.
 2. Plan, and then take a vacation together.
 3. Memorize portions of the Bible together.
 4. Each Parent should write a special note to each child every month and put it in a place the child will find it unexpectedly (like in their underwear drawer).
 5. Pick a night each week in which no TV in the house will be turned on. Use that time to read a classic book (such as "Heidi") to the Children or to put together a picture puzzle.
 6. Pray as a family FOR each other and WITH each other each day.
 7. Eat Supper together as a family at least two nights each week, Designate a different person in the family each week to pick the menu for one of these meals.
 8. Say POSITIVE things about your church and its leaders to your family each week.
 9. Spend a night looking through old photos and putting them in albums
 10. Do something as a family for someone in need.
 11. Have a question and answer time as a family at least once per month
 12. Call or text your husband, wife, or children sometime just to say "I am thinking of you and hope you are having a good day".
 13. Praise your spouse or children in their presence to someone else.
 14. Have a clean out the closets day and then use the money from the family yard sale to do a family voted on activity.
 15. Make sure each person in your family knows how to become part of God's family.
- Your family will work if you work with your family. Make it a priority.

Minister Message for Wednesday, May 19, 2010

DEATH'S APPOINTMENT

Death is normally not a decision we make but a destination toward which we are headed. Each of us, as we journey down the Path of Life, has an appointment with Death. Death will come slowly to some, sickly to some, and suddenly to some but regardless of the method Death uses to claim us we will all have to keep Death's appointment- "It is appointed unto man once to die" (Heb 9:27).

Plan for the time you meet Death's appointment. Make sure loved ones know where you want to be buried, how you want to be buried, who you want to help bury you, and what you want to take place at your memorial service. If you do not leave instructions then someone will make decisions on the spur of the moment, under great stress, and the results may not be good (Trust someone who has been to a lot of funerals!).

Plan for after death with even more diligence than planning for death. Death for a Christian should not be feared any more that we would fear walking through a dark shadow- *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me* (Psalms 23:4) Death for a non believer is too horrible to contemplate.

Since Death is an appointment on everyone's calendar then everyone should plan on how they will face this appointment. "Hiding your head in the sand" and pretending death will never come does not benefit you or the people you love. The clock is ticking and every second brings you

closer to your appointment with death. When your calendar expires what will happen to you?

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Weekly Devotions for May 26, 2010
Date: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 7:01:16 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTIONS

Rev. Mike Jones
Wednesday, May 26, 2010
Volume 21 Number 19

Greetings in the Mighty Name of Jesus;

The Surgery for Paula's dad went as well as we could expect. He continues to have some complications (including the discovery of an *aortic aneurysm*) but we continue to trust the Lord. All of Paula's family are pitching in and she is able to be home a day or two at the time which really helps. Brother Todd Smith and his family are on vacation this week so I am having to be at the Book Store. This is when we are thankful that Andrew is staying with us now so he can help carry Paula back and forth to Columbia. We thank all of you for your prayers.

Several times this week God has manifested Himself in a marvelous way as I have sought counsel from Him or offered counsel to others. There are no words to describe the joy and peace that comes when God drops by for a visit and decides to give you a divine hug before He leaves but it sure does make a person home sick for Heaven. I can hardly comprehend what it will be like to be in His presence all the time. Just makes you want to shout "Glory!".

May you see God's power in your life, feel God's peace in your heart, and experience God's presence in your daily walk today. God loved you enough to die for you and I count it a privilege to call you Brother or Sister in the Lord.

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Lessons for Living for Tuesday, May 25, 2010

THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

The Psalmist declared that it was impossible to find a place in which God's Presence did not exist- Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there (Psalms 139:7-8). In the universal sense of God being everywhere this is correct but in the personal sense of maintaining a relationship with God there are many ways that people find themselves outside of the "presence of the Lord".

Sin causes people to fear God and hide from His presence - Ge 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

Sin can even lead a person to walk away from the pardon of God- Ge 4:16 And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

A Christian, however, realizes that the only source of complete Joy is being in the presence of the Lord- Ps 16:11 ... in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. That is why David's main prayer when he faced sin in his life was for God to "Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me." (Ps 51:1).

Eternity away from the presence of God! What an awful thing to contemplate. Yet that is what the Bible declares for those who reject God's love and forgiveness- Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; (2Th 1:9).

Minister Message for Wednesday, May 26, 2010

DECLARATION

Matthew Henry was a Presbyterian Minister who wrote one of the most popular Bible Commentaries ever published. First written in the early 1700s on a busy Pastor's schedule, its simple style and moral insight quickly make it a favorite of the common people. It is still in great use today and has been an invaluable resource to many in their study of God's word.

Matthew Henry's father, Philip, is given credit for the following declaration- "I take God the Father to be my God. I take God the Son to be my Savior. I take God the Holy Spirit to be my Sanctifier and Strength. I take the Word of God to be my rule. I take the people of God to be my people and I do hereby dedicate and yield my whole self to the Lord. I do this deliberately, freely, and forever".

We live in a day and age when "tolerance" makes it imperative that a person never make a definitive declaration about their Religious Beliefs. They can sing songs about what kind of burger they like and almost come to blows about the sports team they support but society now demands that they never believe anything enough to trust it as an absolute truth.

In this kind of atmosphere it is important that the people of God come back to a solid and unswerving declaration about their belief in God. It is fine to tolerate different music and worship methods but it is imperative that there be absolutely no compromise about God and how we come into fellowship with Him. Someone has wisely said that if you believe nothing for sure then it is for sure you really believe nothing. Do you believe enough to declare what you believe?

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Devotion for June 2, 2010
Date: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 10:12:23 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTIONS

Rev. Mike Jones
Wednesday, June 2, 2010
Volume 21 Number 20

Greetings in the Name of Jesus, Mighty to Save;

When Brother Chris decided to move into the Parsonage at the Church I had to take the material from 3 offices and several filing cabinets and pile it on the floor in my home office. Yesterday I had an unexpected day to stay home so I filled 3 trash cans with Bible Study handouts and sermon material and took them to the dump (I had offered them to preachers and no one wanted them). You can now see the carpet in several areas of my office (That earned a "Glory" from Paula).

Paula's Dad is supposed to come home from the hospital today. We appreciate your prayers. Looks like June will be another Life Schedule Change time for me. I will be training Matthew Deckard to take over as Book Store Manager in June. I will be helping some at Lebanon while Preacher Chris is away for the month of June on E-Team. And Paula's schedule will revolve around her dad's needs.

As I threw years of my life into a trash can yesterday I remembered Paul's words- "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as you know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (I Cor 15:58). God still has a plan and I still get to be part of it- Glory! May you see fruit from your labor this week and may God shower down blessings on your life.

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Lessons for Living for Tuesday, June 1, 2010

RECIPROCAL RETURN

Three times in Scripture Jesus tells us that if we do something then it will be "measured back to us". This Reciprocal Return is a very important principle in life.

When we JUDGE others we can expect to be judged- *For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.* (Matthew 7:2). Expect others to use the same judgment standards to judge you that you use to judge them.

When we GIVE as we should we can expect to receive in return- *Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.* (Luke 6:38). Throwing your resources away leaves you broke. Generously giving your resources as

God directs will enable God to bless them back to you.

When we really HEAR the truth then that truth will transform us- *And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.* (Mark 4:24). In the Amplified Bible this verse is translated- “And He said to them, Be careful what you are hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you, and more [besides] will be given to you who hear.” Those who “have ears to hear” the truth will find the “Truth will set them free”.

With what measure you mete (give), it will be measured to you again. A life changing principle.

Minister Message for Wednesday, June 2, 2010

SHARPEN BLADES

Looking over my freshly cut lawn I noticed that in several places the grass looked bruised on the top. I knew immediately that this meant the blades on my lawn mower were becoming dull so I took them off and had them sharpened. What a difference! The mower struggled much less in dense grass and the cut grass looked even and beautiful. A sharpened blade made a lot of difference.

If you are bruising people instead of blessing them as you interact with them; or if you are struggling with the tough areas of your relationships, then you might need to look at “sharpening your blades”. You will be amazed at how much better life will be.

Take time to talk WITH your friends and family instead of talking AT them. The Bible declares that “Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend” (Proverbs 27:17). It is often very revealing how self centered we have become or how “grumpy” we are acting when we engage in a little friendly conversation or family dialogue.

Another way to “sharpen your blades” is to determine to spend time in God’s Word each day- “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart” (Hebrews 4:12). The word of God will bring comfort to our hearts but it will also pierce the self shield we try to hide behind and help us to face areas in our life we desperately need to deal with.

As you go through life today are you bruising or blessing? Might need to get your blades sharp.

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From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Devotion for June 9, 2010
Date: Wednesday, June 09, 2010 7:52:31 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTIONS

Rev. Mike Jones
Wednesday, June 9, 2010
Volume 21 Number 21

Greetings in the Name of Jesus, Mighty to Save;

Over 190 Students at VBS last night- Glory! My father in law walked around the grave yard beside his home yesterday instead of lying in that grave yard- Glory! Matthew Deckard is a bright energetic young man who is learning the operation of the Book Store very quickly so when I had to leave early yesterday in order to pick up some emergency needed parts for Lebanon I could leave with good assurance he could handle the rest of the day by himself- Glory! Brother Hemant Patel gave a good devotion at our minister's breakfast yesterday and then gave me some information that may prove very helpful in transferring funds to India- Glory!

Today is a day to remember and practice a great principle: "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things and for thy pleasure they are and were created" (Rev 4:11). God made us for His Pleasure. May we fulfill our creation purpose today.

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Lessons for Living for Tuesday, June 8, 2010

TEACHER TRUTH

Many Churches are using every teacher they can “scrounge up” right now to work in VBS or to substitute for Sunday School Teachers on vacations. With that in mind I thought I would share a Teacher Truth to help these “subs”.

Always make the main thing the main thing. A basic Bible Truth- Believe and you are not condemned. Believe not and you are already condemned (John 3:18). The ultimate goal of every teacher of the gospel is to change their student’s heart by bringing them to Faith in Christ.

Use your testimony frequently. Evangelism is simply one beggar telling another beggar where he found bread. Paul’s primary method of teaching Salvation was to give his testimony about his encounter with God and Peter wrote that we were to - *Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you* 1 Pet 3:15.

Use the Truth skillfully. Faith comes when God’s Word is correctly presented. Paul told Timothy he was to study to demonstrate his skill in rightly discerning the meaning of God’s Word (II Tim 2:15). Study is hard work and it takes time but in the teaching of every class someone must suffer. If the teacher does not suffer in the preparation of the lesson then the pupils will suffer in the

presentation of the lesson.

Depend on God completely. Prayer is a vital part of preparing to teach. To try to do the work of God without the power of God is like trying to empty the ocean with a pitchfork. You will work hard but accomplish little.

Jesus was a Teacher. Let His example lead you to do a great work for God with the souls that are entrusted to you.

Minister Message for Wednesday, June 9, 2010

PENDULUM PRINCIPLES

For a long time I had it on my desk but church children kept coming into my office and playing with it until finally it ended up broken. It was a simple little contraption with 5 metal balls hanging by strings attached to a metal frame. When you lifted the end ball and let it drop it would swing down and strike the next ball in line. Energy was then transferred through the balls to the ball on the other end which would then swing into the air. When that ball came back down then the process was repeated in the opposite direction. Back and forth the balls would swing simply because one ball was put into motion.

I liked to use this 5 ball pendulum as an example when I talked to people about the results of their actions. It would help them to see how their wrong actions could impact people in ways they seldom anticipated. The Bible declares that “The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation” (Numbers 14:18). The consequences of sin can be transferred through several generations before it breaks forth into the open but when it does you realize you did not “get by with it” after all.

Thankfully, this principle also works for good in your life- “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom” (Luke 6:38). No good deed ever goes unrewarded.

Your actions impact others. Will your deeds today transfer good or evil into their life?

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Devotions for June 16, 2010
Date: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 10:03:48 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTIONS

Rev. Mike Jones
Wednesday, June 16, 2010
Volume 21 Number 22

Greetings in the Name of God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ;

Happy Father's Day. I am not a Father but I greatly respect those who are. I pray God will bless your life and help you to feel extraordinary love and appreciation on your special day.

Since Pastor Mac is on vacation and Brother Chris is away on an E-Team trip I get to share some pictures and information about my recent trip to India during Prayer Meeting at Lebanon tonight. I also had the privilege of sharing some information about our India work with the Low Country Church in Charleston this past Sunday.

I was reading in my devotion today that the "Divine Power of God has given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Christ" (2Pet 1:3). May God help us to lift up Jesus, mighty to save, who not only died on a cross but was also resurrected from the dead by the power of God. We have no other message. We need no other message! May the grace of God and the goodness of His love abide in your heart and home this week.

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Lessons for Living for Tuesday, June 15, 2010

FATHER PRINCIPLES

As we celebrate Father's Day this Sunday and bring honor to those who give their time and energy to leading their family I thought it would be good to review some basic father leadership principles. I will begin with some negative principles and end with some positive applications.

It is hard to convince your children that attendance at church is really important when you spend most of your time on Summer Sundays at the lake or beach (Everyone is encouraged to take a vacation but vacation should not last all summer long!).

It is hard to convince your children that the ministry of the church deserves priority in their life when you allow them to put practicing or playing ball ahead of church attendance.

It is hard to convince your children to respect the leaders of the church when you constantly criticize the actions and guidance of those who give their time and energy to do the work of God at the house of God.

It is easy to talk to your family about God when they see you walking and talking with God each day. It is easy to get your children to trust God with their life when they hear daily prayers to God for provision and then celebrate with the rest of the family when God provides the items or finances that were the object of prayer.

A dog can produce puppies that turn over trash cans, bark at everything they see, and senselessly die on the highway chasing cars. A father is privileged to be entrusted with children who can become great warriors and workers for God. Dogs do what comes naturally. Dads know their need of the supernatural. Dogs die without hope. Dads expect to celebrate eternity with their family. Do not be a dog, be a dad.

Minister Message for Wednesday, June 16, 2010

PARENT PRINCIPLES

Sometimes Fathers must feel like the man who said, "I would ask my boss to pay me what I am worth but I could not live on that small of a salary!" Mothers are showered with love and adoration on Mother's Day while Dads are told on Father's Day to work harder and be better! I do not want to add to that trend so I am going to give three Parent Principles that apply to both Mom and Dad.

First, know who rules your life. Look at who is sitting on the throne of your heart because that will determine your actions, your attitude, and your eternity. Make sure the King of kings is ruler of your life.

Second, recognize who guides your going. The devil does not mind a person professing Christianity as long as they do not practice their profession. When you live in a Kingdom you give allegiance to the King, you adhere to the Laws of the kingdom, you have access to the benefits of the kingdom, and you are assured of the protection of the kingdom. Are your decisions and activities based on Kingdom principles?

Finally, be real in your religion. Do not be "righteous just for rewards". You know what I am talking about; "Lord, if you will heal my child then I will read my Bible each day" or "If you will give me this job I am seeking then I will come to church each week". You can fool some people but your family knows when you are simply playing a game.

Have no reservation about your reservation. Do not make God sick with lukewarm living. Be genuine in your godliness. Three principles that will help Moms and Dads.

No virus found in this message.

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Devotion for June 23, 2010
Date: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 11:17:38 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTIONS

Rev. Mike Jones
Wednesday, June 23, 2010
Volume 21 Number 23

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ;

When I returned from India I had to change my computer to windows 7. During the change over I forgot to add one of my main email accounts (I have 12 email addresses I have to check for various organizations and web sites). I added that account today and then had to sort through 2000 emails that were back logged on the server.

I also found out that brother A C Allen wants me to teach Revelation to the adult SS Class at Lebanon while he continues to recover from his hospital stay. This will work good for me. I finish up at the Book Store next week and my plans were to re-write and republish my Revelation notes as my first project. I started working on that this morning and the Notes for this Sunday's Lesson can be found at www.lebanonfwb.com under Bible Study Lessons. Been a busy morning.

Paula has been at her dad's since Sunday. I leave shortly to pick her up in order for her to spend the night at home and be ready for her regular Doctor's appointment tomorrow. Her dad continues to improve physically and we thank you for your prayers.

Pray for Brother Carlisle as he makes final preparation to return to the States the middle of July. He will return to a very busy schedule with the National meeting and then a number of area rallies with several of our Pastors from India who are coming with him. Pray for God to give him strength and empower the services.

Revelation is about the "end of the beginning". That is the way I am looking at this time in my life as I close one chapter in my life with the expectation that the next chapter will be even more exciting and wonderful in my walk with the Lord. What a great privilege it is to be a child of a Great and Wonderful God.

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Lessons for Living for Tuesday, June 22, 2010

MINUTES

1) Make your Minutes meaningful- *Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.* (Ecclesiastes 11:9).

One day you will be required by God to give account of what you have done with your life. If you have wasted your time, your talents, and your treasures then you will miss the joy that life is supposed to bring and you will be ashamed when you face God.

2) Make memories of your minutes- (Psa 90:12) *So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.* Do not allow the rut and routine of life to sap your strength and steal your joy. Take time to listen to birds sing, children laugh, and God whisper. Ten years from now your wife will not care that you made it home ten seconds early by driving like a maniac through traffic; but she will remember that you took time to pick a flower and bring it to her.

3) Remember that every minute you are closer to eternity- (1 John 2:17) *the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.* Take a minute to read God's Word; it is an eternal book. Take a minute to talk with God. He cares what is happening to you now and He is trying to build an eternal relationship.

Make your minutes matter, Make your minutes into memories, and make your minutes meaningful for eternity. Then life will be good and you will be glad.

Minister Message for Wednesday, June 23, 2010

NO EXCUSES

As soon as someone gets caught doing something wrong they begin to make excuses. Here are four common excuses that will not excuse you.

1) God does not understand the pull of my temptation- (Heb 2:18) For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. (Heb 4:15-16) For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

2) My temptation is different from what anyone else must face- (1 Cor 10:13) There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man:...

3) My temptation is stronger than I am- (1 Cor 10:13) ...God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

4) My temptation is because God made me this way- (James 1:13-14) Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed

The Devil CAN NOT make you do it and God WILL NOT make you do it. That leaves the finger pointing directly at YOU. You are going to be tempted. But you CAN endure the temptation and come out victorious. Or you can give in to sin, blame someone else; and still end up suffering the consequences.

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Devotion for June 30, 2010
Date: Wednesday, June 30, 2010 12:00:50 PM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTIONS

Rev. Mike Jones
Wednesday, June 30, 2010
Volume 21 Number 24

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ;

Unemployed! I have finished my tenure at the SCFWB Book Store and I no longer draw a salary from anywhere. It is going to be "interesting" to live off Social Security benefits but I am excited to see how God meets our needs. It is wonderful to have such a great God to depend upon.

I am still the SCFWB State Clerk. We had our meeting to plan the 2011 State Meeting yesterday and I am working on getting information concerning that meeting to the right people today. I am also Secretary- Treasurer of Friends of India and there is much work to be done to continue to help our growing work in India. I also still write 2 newspaper articles each week and oversee the many ministries of Minister Ministry. Lots to do but hopefully at my schedule now- Glory!

Paula's dad is scheduled for more surgery on July 28th. Right after we return from the National Association in Oklahoma. We continue our look at the Book of Revelation in the Adult Sunday School Class at Lebanon this Sunday. We will be looking at 2000 years of Church history this week. Hope you can join us at 9:30am. Notes are available at www.lebanonfwbc.com under Bible Study.

I slept until 9:30 this morning- Glory! Is this what Heaven will be like? Nothing to do but serve God and glory in His Glory! To live is Christ, to die is Gain. Why would anyone not want to be a child of God? May God's Love and Peace fill your soul today.

Mike Jones, Mike@SCFWB.com
2434 Allen Road, Effingham, SC 29541
(843) 687-4823

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, June 29, 2010

THE SATAN SYNDROME

The term *syndrome* is used to refer to a set of detectable characteristics that lead to a conclusion. Surprisingly, there are sometimes "detectable characteristics" of Satan's personality in otherwise good people that lead me to conclude that they may have the "Satan Syndrome".

Satanic characteristics are clearly seen in the following scripture- "How art thou fallen from

heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.” (Isa 14:12-14). Note these same characteristics in some people’s thought patterns.

Some people doubt God because He does not cure all sickness or solve all problems and it is obvious to them that this is the proper way for a good God to govern. Basically, they are saying they know better how to run the universe than God! Can you hear Satan saying, “I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above God”?

Other people are not satisfied unless they have enough riches and resources until they can be the “god” of their own life. They do not want to trust God and live by faith. They think they must be “master (god) of their own fate” (“I will be like the most high”).

I am not saying these people act like the devil with horribly wrong actions. I am simply declaring that they are showing the same thought patterns that led to Satan’s rebellion and fall; which makes the “Satan Syndrome” something to be taken seriously.

Minister Message for Wednesday, June 30, 2010

JOHN 316 LOVE

What is love? Is it a couple in a rumbled bed? Is it a salutation over the phone, “love you, bye”? Is it a marriage commitment that disappears when one person stops liking the attitude or actions of the other person? Few seem to know what Love is but everyone from presidents to paupers desire Love.

Love is described in John three sixteen in such a marvelous way until this verse has become a favorite of children and adults alike. This is what it says, *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.* (John 3:16). This is what it means.

Love is not just a feeling you enjoy, it is a life defining characteristic. Mankind had no merit or worth that God needed but Love was such a part of God until the man who said “God so loved” later said that *God is love* (1 John 4:8).

Love transcends all natural barriers- “God so loved the world”. Love is not limited to people who look like, talk like, or act like you do. Love moves others into your circle of concern.

Love is sacrificial in nature- “God so loved until He gave”. Love moves us to give up, give in, or give away in order to benefit the ones we love.

Love does not require works we cannot perform or money we do not have. Love makes it easy for those who are loved to receive love - “That whosoever believes”.

Love brings us out of rejection into relationship - “Should not perish, but have eternal life”.

Love says, “Trust me and I will change your life”. May you recognize and receive this great Love of God today.

No virus found in this message.

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Weekly Devotion for July 7, 2010
Date: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 9:36:15 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTION

REV. MIKE JONES

2434 Allen Road / Effingham, SC 29541

Mike@SCFWB.Com / (843) 687-4823

Volume 21 Number 25 / July 7, 2010

Greetings in the Name of Christ:

What a Great Joy to be able to communicate how God is blessing in my life. I really like being "retired". My days are still completely full but it is a joy beyond words to have a little control over what I do. I just try to find out where God is working each day and then plan my day around walking in His shadow.

This coming Sunday we study about the "Rapture of the Church" in the Adult Bible Study Class at Lebanon. Hope you can join us. The Notes for this lesson are at www.lebanonfwb.com under Bible Study (Note 2 parts).

Missionary to India, Carlisle Hanna, is due to arrive in Charleston on Tuesday, July 13th (With Pastor Ronen and Saifal). Please pray for the Lord to give great mercy and ease during this travel time.

Someone will look at you today and see God- or not. May your walk, your words, and your works all point people to the grace and love of our Great God.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, July 6, 2010

NO KING

In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.
(Judges 21:25).

A basic principle that needs to be learned by families, churches, and countries is this: "When no one is in charge then everyone will seek to be in charge and the results will be chaos". (See above verse).

God is a god of order. The Bible declares in Genesis 1:2 that when the world was without form and void ("without form and void" are both words describing unorganized chaos) that God created order and system. God likes His world to be in order.

Paul told the Corinthian Church that confusion about worship in the church was clearly not of God - "God is not the author of confusion" (I Cor 14:33). God likes His Church to be in order.

James stated to believers that conflict and confusion in their personal relationship was an evil thing - "For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work." (James 3:16). God likes people's relationships to be in order.

When Jesus found it necessary to feed 5000 men with a little boy's lunch His first instruction was for the disciples to organize the crowd into groups of fifty in order to make it easy to serve each person and to ensure that everyone had an equal opportunity to receive food (Luke 19:13-17). God likes His work done in an orderly fashion.

Over and over I have seen families and churches dissolve into chaos because parents or pastors refused to make the hard choices demanded of a leader. And if there is a leadership vacuum then someone will appoint themselves king who should not be king.

Minister Message for Wednesday, July 7, 2010

IS GOD IN YOUR RELIGION?

Many people seem to embrace religion without embracing God. It does not make a person a Christian because they feel an overwhelming need to be forgiven, or because they want to escape the wrath of God, or because they desire a better place to live when they exit this world. I imagine that even the demons would desire these things if they could obtain them without the need of renouncing self and bowing in submission unto God.

To most people Christianity is testifying to a "belief" that Jesus Christ died for their sins which resulted in the opportunity for them to become a child of God by their "faith" in this event. Like the demons James talks about (James 2:19), the "faith" of these people does not produce allegiance and obedience to God. They are pacified with the declaration that their sins are forgiven and they are on their way to heaven but they develop no real desire for fellowship with God. They are willing to "pay their dues" each Sunday Morning by attending a church service but they had better be released from that "torture" by noon so they can beat the crowd to the restaurant and get back home in time for the afternoon's sporting event or the preacher will face condemnation as they go out the door and he will be "roasted" at dinner.

All this time God is waiting for someone to become aware that the sermon and the songs were all supposed to bring people to Him. How His heart must ache as He sits lonely again in the sanctuary hoping someone will notice Him. But everyone is so busy worshiping "faith" until they have no time for the God who is the author and finisher of that Faith.

No virus found in this message.

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: [Mike Jones](#)
To: [Wisdom Weekly](#)
Subject: Weekly Devotions for July 14, 2010
Date: Wednesday, July 14, 2010 8:25:39 AM

WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTION

REV. MIKE JONES

2434 Allen Road / Effingham, SC 29541

Mike@SCFWB.Com / (843) 687-4823

Volume 21 Number 26 / July 14, 2010

Greetings in the Name of Christ:

His flight was delayed for 7 hours but it was still a great joy to be able to see the safe arrival of Missionary to India, Carlisle Hanna and Pastor Ronen and Pastor Saifal. They are very tired and their luggage was lost in all the plane swaps but they will get a couple of day's rest before leaving for the National Association of Free Will Baptists in Oklahoma City.

Paula and I (and the Lebanon Preachers and their wives) will leave Sunday for the National. Rev. Eddie Carter will speak both services at Lebanon (Looking for God to greatly bless). The National services can be viewed live at www.nafwb.org.

Have to leave to help Paula take her dad to another Doctor's appointment (Think he may have a blood clot). Thanks for your prayers.

God is looking for someone to Love Him with all their heart and serve Him with all their life. Determine to be that person today. It will make for a Great Day!

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, Tuesday, July 13, 2010

ANGEL MESSAGE

If God sent an angel to speak to the Church you attend this Sunday what do you think would be in the message? The Angel Message to four of the seven churches that received the last written communication from God was to “Repent” (Messages to the Seven Churches in Revelation two and three).

When Jesus began His preaching ministry He did not begin by a great display of miracles. His opening salvo of sermons was, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matt 4:17).

Repent means to “Turn from your self guided ways and begin again to follow God’s plan for your life”. Normally, Repentance begins with a renewed knowledge that we have committed wrong actions or developed wrong attitudes. This knowledge condemns our heart because we realize our actions and attitudes have hurt God and those within our circle of influence. Not wanting to continue to do wrong we “turn away” from our wrong actions and seek to do right things.

God called the Revelation Churches to repent of Leaving their first love {Ephesus- 2:4-5}; Compromising Religious Principles and moral purity {Pergamos- 2:14-16}; Halfhearted works for God {Sardis- 3:1-3}; and Lukewarm living resulting from over confidence in riches {Laodicea-

3:16-19}. These are not normally the subjects that Pastors “rail against” in their Sunday Morning Sermons. Which could be the reason so many people leave Church with the same spiritual enthusiasm they had when they arrived!

If an Angel visited your church this Sunday would he see the same zeal in Love for God and Living for God that was once a part of Church worship? Or would he stand at the end of the service and say, “God’s message to you today is to Repent”?

Minister Message for Wednesday, July 14, 2010

HEARING WITH THE HEART

“When we hear God’s Call and respond appropriately, there will be no limit to what God can and will do through His people” (Henry Blackaby).

Over and over when Jesus told important information to the crowds that followed Him He would end with the statement, “He that has ears to hear, let him hear”. Jesus wanted people to know that this information needed to be heeded as well as heard.

When I was a Pastor I would listen in utter amazement as people would come to me after a church service and say something like this, “Preacher, when are you going to schedule a revival at the Church? We have not had one in a while and I think it is time we put one on the schedule”. The amazement was the fact that the upcoming Revival (scheduled to begin the next Sunday) had been announced in the Bulletin, from the pulpit, and on the announcement slide presentation for the three weeks prior to this Sunday and had been really pushed in all of these outlets on this particular Sunday! And these people had been at all of these services!

Maybe the reason so many churches are powerless in their ministry and ineffective in changing their community is because they hear the Word of God each week but never really hear the Word of God! They see the preacher moving his lips but they do not hear the words coming out of his mouth so they drift through another week doing the “best they can” when God wants them to do something divinely empowered that would change their world.

When we hear God’s voice in our heart there is no limit to what God can and will do in our life. Try really listening this week.

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From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for July 21, 2010
Date: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 2:09:24 PM



WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTION

REV. MIKE JONES
2434 Allen Road / Effingham, SC 29541
Mike@SCFWB.Com / (843) 687-4823
Volume 21 Number 27 / July 21, 2010

Greetings in the Name of Christ:

The Doctor said the procedure he did on my father in law Tuesday could not have gone any better. Thank you for your prayers. This was an "all or nothing" procedure and we praise the Lord it went well and the aneurysm has been sealed.

As many of you know, the blood clots in his leg and the need to proceed with the procedure on my Father in Law kept Paula and I from attending the National Association. This was a very delicate time and we did not feel we could be absent.

I have several speaking engagements scheduled for August and Brother AC is well enough to begin teaching his class again so I will finish up our Study in Revelation this coming Sunday. We will cover MUCH very interesting material [including looking at 3 heavens and 4 hells] so I hope you will join us at Lebanon at 9:30am in building A.

There are 2 Life Changing Statements every person needs to make- 1) I am a sinner before God. 2) I surrender to God. May God help you today to acknowledge your need and then claim God's pardon and power by trusting Him with all your heart.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Sun, Aug 1 MJ 63rd Birthday Celebration
Sun, Aug 8 AM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
PM Joint Mission Conference at Lebanon with Missionary Carlisle

Hanna

Sun, Aug 29 AM / PM Preach at Black River FWBC, Andrews
Sun, Sept 12 Speak at 50th Anniversary Service at Grace FWBC, Lake City
Sun, Oct 10 Speak at Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, July 20, 2010

PAUL'S MENTORS

I have been extremely blessed to be associated with many positive people who have helped shape my character and my conduct. I have rubbed shoulders with leaders in my denomination and with many home and foreign missionaries. In my formative years I received encouragement to write from the Poet Laureate of South Carolina and developed a Biblical Life Principle from a second grade school teacher. The Lord knew I needed a lot of help and He has sent some of the best people in the world into my life to guide and develop me!

Remembering the mentors in my life led me to look for mentors of great men of the Bible. One of the greatest personalities in the Bible is the Apostle Paul so I began to look for people who helped shape his life and make him into such a great worker for God. Three people of influence are immediately evident in Paul's life.

I believe that Stephen, the Deacon whom Paul helped to execute, had a tremendous impact on Paul's life. As Paul listened to Stephen preach and then die with forgiveness and faith on his lips, I believe Paul was profoundly influenced.

Ananias, the Disciple who came to Paul and led him to faith in Christ helped shape Paul's theology and character. Ananias was willing to help someone shunned by others to see Christ and that became the theme of Paul's ministry.

Barnabas, the Dedicated follower of Christ, came to Paul at several critical times in his life and used his influence to introduce Paul to the right people and to point Paul in the right direction. Without the help of Barnabas Paul's ministry would have been much different.

Take time today to thank God for the positive people He has brought into your life. You owe them more of a debt than you may realize.

Minister Message for Wednesday, July 21, 2010

EPAPHRODITUS

"Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants. For he longed after you all, and was full of heaviness, because that ye had heard that he had been sick. For indeed he was sick nigh unto death: but God had mercy on him; and not on him only, but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. I sent him therefore the more carefully, that, when ye see him again, ye may rejoice, and that I may be the less sorrowful. Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness; and hold such in reputation: Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me." (Philippians 2:25-30)

Coming into a relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ is a life changing experience. Take the case of Epaphroditus found in the book of Philippians. He came from a pagan background (His name means "devoted to Aphrodite", the pagan god of sex) and his mentor (Paul) was presently living in a jail cell in Rome. He had every reason to be less than the best but notice how Paul described him.

He was a "brother" (part of the family of God because of faith in Christ), a "companion in labor" (co-worker in the ministry), a "fellow soldier" (active in the fight against evil), a "messenger" (trusted with a very important communication task), who "ministered to Paul's wants" (Willing to serve those in need). He also had great compassion ("longed after you") and a worthy reputation.

May the Lord give us communities filled with Christians like Epaphroditus!

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for July 28, 2010
Date: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 11:05:28 AM



WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTION

REV. MIKE JONES
2434 Allen Road / Effingham, SC 29541
Mike@SCFWB.Com / (843) 687-4823
Volume 21 Number 28 / July 28, 2010

Greetings in the Name of Jesus, Mighty to Save;

God's directions are always accurate, His timing is always perfect, and His orchestration of details is wonderful to behold. What a great and mighty God we serve.

I have been able to help several ministers and missionaries this week in addition to all the other ongoing projects I am attempting to complete. It has been amazing to see how things I studied or worked on were exactly what God needed when different situations presented themselves. God is so amazing.

I turn 63 Sunday. Missionary to India, Carlisle Hanna turns 81 Tuesday. I tell him I am just an old man getting older while He is a great man getting greater. Be sure to remember him with your prayers and a card of encouragement.

I pray you have a great week serving a good God who is able to do exceedingly above all you can ask or think!

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Sun, Aug 1 MJ 63rd Birthday Celebration
Sun, Aug 8 AM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
PM Joint Mission Conference at Lebanon with Missionary Carlisle

Hanna

Sun, Aug 29 AM / PM Preach at Black River FWBC, Andrews
Sun, Sept 12 Speak at 50th Anniversary Service at Grace FWBC, Lake City
Sun, Oct 10 Speak at Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, July 27, 2010

CELEBRATE TODAY

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you

can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." (John Wesley)

"As yesterday is history, and tomorrow may never come, I have resolved that from this day on, I will do all the business I can honestly, have all the fun I can reasonably, do all the good I can willingly, and save my digestion by thinking pleasantly" (Robert Louis Stevenson)

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof". (Jesus Christ- Matthew 6:33-34).

Are you tired of reaching the end of each day feeling joyless and listless? Do you look in the mirror while you are brushing your teeth at night and say, "Surely, life was meant to be better than this"? Does life seem like a slippery slope of despair instead of a joyous journey of discovery? Here are a couple of suggestions to ensure a better day.

Stop looking at the agony of your day and begin looking at the author of your day- *This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.* (Psalms 118:24). There is no circumstance or situation in your day that God is not aware of and has made adequate preparation for you to handle. You can be a "whiner" or you can be a Winner today; your choice.

Begin looking at the opportunities instead of the obstacles in your day. You walk with a great God who is able to do great things in your life. Expect the extraordinary and rejoice in the miraculous; and have a great day today.

Minister Message for Wednesday, July 28, 2010

TOMATO SANDWICH

After my nephew came to live with my wife and I he came home one night and asked what we had eaten for supper. I told him my wife and I had eaten lunch that day so we had just eaten a tomato sandwich for supper.

"Tomato sandwich", he said. "That is just a vegetable wrapped in bread!" "True" I told him, "but when you put mayo, salt, and pepper on it then it becomes a gourmet delight!"

Fast forward a couple of months. I had just picked up my wife from staying with her sick father. When we arrived home I asked my nephew if he had eaten any supper yet and he replied, "Yes. I was not very hungry so I just ate a couple of tomato sandwiches!"

With due respect to my friends from up north; I often ask when someone begins to question why a person does certain things, "Why do Yankees talk like Yankees?" The answer, of course, is because they spend so much time with other people who do not speak the language of the South.

The first two verses of the first Psalm declare, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth 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."

Eventually, a person will begin to take the characteristics of the people he spends time with. When you sing the world's songs, watch the world's shows, and talk the world's slang, you will eventually begin to think the way the world thinks.

By the way, did I tell you my wife and I sometimes eat tomato

sandwiches?

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From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for August 4, 2010
Date: Wednesday, August 04, 2010 11:21:20 AM



WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTION

REV. MIKE JONES
2434 Allen Road / Effingham, SC 29541
Mike@SCFWB.Com / (843) 687-4823
Volume 21 Number 29 / August 4, 2010

Greetings in the Name of Jesus, Mighty to Save;

I had a great Birthday celebration with family and friends and I appreciate all the kind comments people wrote on the wall of my Face Book. I even got to preach on Sunday Night at Lebanon FWBC. We serve a wonderful and great God.

A Busy week this week. I helped Lebanon with some work on Monday and helped distribute Sunday School Literature all day Tuesday at the SCFWB Book Store. I speak at Prayer Meeting tonight at Lebanon and we hope to complete distribution of the Fall Quarter Sunday School Literature on Thursday. Matthew Deckard is doing a great job as Book Store Manager and I appreciate his hard work.

Hope to pick up Princess Paula today so she can stay a few days at our home. First have to take her dad for another Doctor visit.

Remember that Missionary Carlisle Hanna and 2 of our India Pastors will be speaking at Lebanon on Sunday Night at 6:00pm. We hope to have a full house and be greatly blessed of the Lord. Last weekend's rally in the upstate was a great success and I thank the Lord for everyone's cooperation and support.

This is the day the Lord has made. Let's do something great for God as a way of thanking Him for His goodness.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Sun, Aug 1 PM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
Wed, Aug 4 Speak at Prayer Meeting at Lebanon FWBC
Sun, Aug 8 AM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
PM Joint Mission Conference at Lebanon with Missionary Carlisle Hanna
Sun, Aug 29 AM / PM Preach at Black River FWBC, Andrews
Sun, Sept 12 Speak at 50th Anniversary Service at Grace FWBC, Lake City
Sun, Oct 10 Speak at Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, August 3, 2010

EAGLE EXAMPLE

The Bible uses Eagles as two extremely different examples. The Eagle is first used as an example of reaching your maximum potential- *But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.* (Isaiah 40:31)

Secondly, Jesus uses the eagle as a buzzard gathered around a corpse waiting for it to become stinking decaying flesh- *For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together.* (Matthew 24:28)

One Eagle was majestic and magnificent as it soared through the sky toward heights of glory. In fact, the prophet Ezekiel and the apostle John both used the Eagle as one of the four symbols of the "beast" representing the 4 characteristics of God- *And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.* (Revelation 4:6-7). The other Eagle was despised as a symbol of death and decay. What a contrast!

God has given each of us the opportunity to be an "Eagle". God has declared that by being born again through faith in Christ we can become a child of God and develop the best qualities of the Eagle. On the other side of the "eagle coin" we can reject God's offer and find ourselves hanging with the crowd that flies in circles seeking decay and rot. What kind of Eagle will you be today?

Minister Message for Wednesday, August 4, 2010

HOW TO SHARE A DREAM

I am surprised at the number of Churches who seem to think the reason for their existence is to "meet, greet, eat, and get through with the sermon as quickly as possible". Everyone pretty well expects that each Sunday the same crowd will show up to sit in the same pews where the same songs and sermons will produce the same results week after week. I just do not believe that this is what Jesus suffered and died for!

Pastors need to remember the old adage about growth, "Have a dream, tell the dream, and then do the dream". Without a guiding dream, a church or an individual will simply drift from one week to the other with no destination in mind and no victories to celebrate. I know it takes courage to share a dream but remember that sometimes silence is golden; but sometimes it is just yellow.

When Moses needed to move the children of Israel from Egypt he used several principles in sharing his dream. He reminded the people about the pain and problems they faced if they remained in Egypt. Then he told them he wanted to take them to a land flowing with milk and honey where they could enjoy freedom and growth. Then he invited them to join him in this journey. Finally he let them know he would be with them to help them

overcome any problems they encountered as they moved forward in the fulfillment of the dream.

Christianity is about setting captives free and helping them get to the Promised Land. It is about seeing God feed you and watching God fight for you as you journey. Share that dream and watch your church bloom with vitality this Sunday.

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From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for August 11, 2010
Date: Wednesday, August 11, 2010 10:17:45 AM



WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTION

REV. MIKE JONES
2434 Allen Road / Effingham, SC 29541
Mike@SCFWB.Com / (843) 687-4823
Volume 21 Number 30 / August 11, 2010

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ;

Is there a "Glory" anywhere in the House?

Offering at Florence Area Mission Rally (Lebanon) Sunday Night was \$39,000 (Glory!). Offering at Darlington Area Mission Rally (Southside) Tuesday Night was \$8,000 (Glory!). Thank you for helping Friends of India continue to help the work in India reach souls for Christ.

Paula and I had a special need that we took to the Lord in Prayer yesterday - later in the day someone said God had put us on their heart and gave us a check for \$1000 (Glory!).

Minister Ministry had several projects that had been put on hold because of lack of finances. I told God yesterday that these projects needed to be completed. A check arrived yesterday for \$10,000 for Minister Ministry- Is there a Glory anywhere in the House?!

Ain't God Good!!! Praise Him and serve Him this week.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Sun, Aug 1 PM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
Wed, Aug 4 Speak at Prayer Meeting at Lebanon FWBC
Sun, Aug 8 AM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
Commission Service Service- Neil/Mandi Morgan (Horse Branch)
PM Joint Mission Conference at Lebanon with Missionary Carlisle Hanna
Tues, Aug 10 Florence Area Minister's Breakfast with India Pastors
Tues, Aug 10 Luncheon for India Pastors at FWB Children's Home Turbeville
Tues, Aug 10 Darlington Area Mission Conference with India Pastors (Southside)
Wed, Aug 11 Conway Area Mission Conference with India Pastors (Evergreen)
Sun, Aug 15 Mission Services with India Pastors / Carlisle Hanna (Horse Branch)
Mon, Aug 16 Charleston Airport for departure of India Pastors (11am) Morgans (4pm)
Sun, Aug 29 AM / PM Preach at Black River FWBC, Andrews
Sun, Sept 12 AM Speak at 50th Anniversary Service at Grace FWBC, Lake City
Sun, Sept 12 PM Missionary Service with Bobby Geneva Poole at Lebanon
Sun, Oct 10 AM Speak at Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, August 10, 2010

CORRECT CHANGE

Our Relationship with Christ produces changes in us but changes in us do not produce a relationship with Christ. Just because we stop doing some things and begin doing other things does not make us a child of God. A man can stop seeing other women, move in with his girlfriend, and begin doing all the social and sexual activities of a married couple but that does not make them married. The Bible declares that you must be "Born Again" in order to join God's family and this can only take place by repenting of your sins and placing your faith in God's pardon and provision- *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.* (Ephesians 2:8-9).

A relationship with Jesus Christ sets us free from the burden of Sin's debt and the bondage of Sin's captivity. This relationship should make you, like me; pray each day that God would make you Pure, Passionate, and Productive for the Kingdom of God. This relationship can only begin, however, when it begins. I cannot bypass the "birthing process" and go directly into the living like a child of God life style.

The Bible declares that if we try to get into God's House by any means except the Door (Jesus Christ) then God sees us as a thief and robber- *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.* (John 10:1)

What a horrible thing it would be if you stood before God and He declared you a thief instead of a son because you had lived a good life but were never born again!

Minister Message for Wednesday, August 11, 2010

DISCIPLE DEFINED

"A disciple is a person who has made a commitment to Jesus as Lord and Savior; who is learning and following His teachings; who is identified in a meaningful relationship with the Body of Christ, the Church; and who participates in its mission of spreading the Gospel" (Win and Charles Arn in "The Master's Plan for Making Disciples").

Discipleship is first of all about commitment- *And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.* (Luke 14:27). A person should seriously consider the kind of commitment he is making when he accepts Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. If you are not willing to pay the cost, do not make the commitment. This is not a commitment to make in the heat of emotions or under the pressure of family or friends. Although both of these can have a part in pushing a person toward a commitment to Christ, they should never be the primary reason a person forsakes the broad way of the world and begins to walk the straight and narrow with Christ. The primary reason must always be an awakening to the horror of sin's power and a belief that the shed blood of Christ can repay the debt of this sin and break sin's bondage.

Discipleship is also about relationships. A life changing relationship when you welcome the Holy Spirit into your life as Comforter and Helper. A priority changing relationship when you take your place of service in the body of Christ.

Finally, Discipleship is about sharing God by sharing the Good News about God's Son, Jesus Christ. A disciple will naturally talk about the message and the Master that he has committed his life and energy to follow.

No virus found in this message.

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for August 18, 2010
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2010 6:33:48 AM



WEEKLY WISDOM DEVOTION

REV. MIKE JONES
2434 Allen Road / Effingham, SC 29541
Mike@SCFWB.Com / (843) 687-4823
Volume 21 Number 31 / August 18, 2010

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ;

Busy week this week. Monday at Charleston seeing the India Pastors and Neil/Mandi Morgan off to their mission fields. Tuesday was Lake City Monthly Minister's Meeting and then letters to the SC Parole Board about the up coming parole hearing for the man who attacked Paula (Have to do this every 2 years in spite of the fact that he received 3 concurrent life sentences). Also included were Friends of India Financial reports, updated reports to Social Security about my income (They want to be sure I am not earning any money they do not know about!), work on my weekly newspaper devotions, and taking Paula back to her dads on Tuesday.

Counterbalancing my study on "cremation" for my book on dealing with death by researching for a sermon and devotional article on "Party time in Heaven" (What brings joy to angels). It is such a joy to be able to serve the Lord each day. I pray the Lord will give you the opportunity to do some thing great for Him today.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Sun, Aug 1 PM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
Wed, Aug 4 Speak at Prayer Meeting at Lebanon FWBC
Sun, Aug 8 AM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
Commission Service Service- Neil/Mandi Morgan (Horse Branch)
PM Joint Mission Conference at Lebanon with Missionary Carlisle Hanna
Tues, Aug 10 Florence Area Minister's Breakfast with India Pastors
Tues, Aug 10 Luncheon for India Pastors at FWB Children's Home Turbeville
Tues, Aug 10 Darlington Area Mission Conference with India Pastors (Southside)
Wed, Aug 11 Conway Area Mission Conference with India Pastors (Evergreen)
Sun, Aug 15 Mission Services with India Pastors / Carlisle Hanna (Horse Branch)
Mon, Aug 16 Charleston Airport for departure of India Pastors (11am) Morgans (4pm)
Sun, Aug 29 AM / PM Preach at Black River FWBC, Andrews
Sun, Sept 12 AM Speak at 50th Anniversary Service at Grace FWBC, Lake City
Sun, Sept 12 PM Missionary Service with Bobby Geneva Poole at Lebanon

EVALUATING THE ENEMY

The devil seeks to deceive the unsaved, divide the church, and devour the new Christian. Jesus said that Satan *was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.* (John 8:44). Based on this statement, Jesus thought the devil was dangerous, deceitful, and a degenerate. And this from a God who is described as love!

D L Moody, the great evangelist, said this, "Now it seems as if there are three wiles of Satan against which we ought to be on guard. In the first place, he moves his entire kingdom *to keep us away from Christ*. If we come to Christ then he devotes himself to get us into *Doubting Castle*. If, in spite of all this we come to Christ and have a clear ringing witness for the Son of God, Satan will do all he can to *blacken our character* and tarnish our testimony". This great preacher of the Gospel did not sound as if he wanted to "peacefully coexist" with the devil!

The Apostle Peter described the devil as *a roaring lion walking about seeking whom he may devour* (I Pet 5:8). Peter evaluated the enemy as a dangerous opponent whose main intent was to devour and destroy.

Christians must never forget that they are at war with a fierce foe who is out to corrupt your morals, pollute your mind, and claim your soul. The battle is brutal and the enemy is vicious but never forget that "greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world" (I John 4:4). Rest in, and rejoice in, that fact.

Minister Message for Wednesday, August 18, 2010

HELP IN HARDSHIP

Here are 7 attributes of God that should bring peace and stability to your life in time of trouble. Remember, Faith is like a muscle. The more you use it the stronger it becomes.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->1) <!--[endif]-->The Integrity of God is trustworthy- You can count on God to always make the right choice at the right time. *He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.* (Deuteronomy 32:4)

<!--[if !supportLists]-->2) <!--[endif]-->The Power of God is unstoppable- *For with God nothing shall be impossible.* (Luke 1:37)

<!--[if !supportLists]-->3) <!--[endif]-->The Faithfulness of God is legendary- *Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;* (Deuteronomy 7:9)

<!--[if !supportLists]-->4) <!--[endif]-->The Stability of God is Rock

Solid- *For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.* (Malachi 3:6)

<!--[if !supportLists]-->5) <!--[endif]-->The Character of God is without blemish- *The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.* (Psalms 145:9)

<!--[if !supportLists]-->6) <!--[endif]-->The Wisdom of God is beyond comprehension- *O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!* (Romans 11:33)

<!--[if !supportLists]-->7) <!--[endif]-->The Love of God is eternal- *For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.* (Romans 8:38-39)

No virus found in this message.

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From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for August 25, 2010
Date: Wednesday, August 25, 2010 7:00:56 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 32
August 25, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

I get to preach AM and PM at Black River FWBC, Andrews this Sunday. What a joy to be able to share the word of God with these fine people. (Pastor Jeff Cockrell will be away re-establishing a child in college).

My brother, Ronnie, taught a very good Sunday School lesson at Grace FWBC, Lake City for an OLD man (He turns 65 this Friday). It was a joy to have to hunt for a seat because of the large attendance. Keep up the good work, Pastor Carroll.

I hope to finalize the purchase of a heavy duty printer this week so I can begin publishing some books like Revelation. My goal is to have several books available by the first week in September.

In my devotion today Paul said men could deny God by their works. I want what I do in retirement to glorify God instead of deny Him. He is a GREAT God and it is my greatest joy to be His servant, obey His will, and do His work. May you feel His presence and see His power at work in your life today.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Sun, Aug 1 PM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
Wed, Aug 4 Speak at Prayer Meeting at Lebanon FWBC
Sun, Aug 8 AM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
Commission Service Service- Neil/Mandi Morgan (Horse Branch)
PM Joint Mission Conference at Lebanon with Missionary Carlisle Hanna
Tues, Aug 10 Florence Area Minister's Breakfast with India Pastors
Tues, Aug 10 Luncheon for India Pastors at FWB Children's Home Turbeville
Tues, Aug 10 Darlington Area Mission Conference with India Pastors (Southside)
Wed, Aug 11 Conway Area Mission Conference with India Pastors (Evergreen)
Sun, Aug 15 Mission Services with India Pastors / Carlisle Hanna (Horse Branch)
Mon, Aug 16 Charleston Airport for departure of India Pastors (11am) Morgans (4pm)
Sat, Aug 21 Represent Friends of India at Eastern Conference Meeting (Hillside, Florence)
Sun, Aug 29 AM / PM Preach at Black River FWBC, Andrews
Sun, Sept 12 AM Speak at 50th Anniversary Service at Grace FWBC, Lake City
Sun, Sept 12 PM Missionary Service with Bobby Geneva Poole at Lebanon
Sun, Oct 10 AM Preach at Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, August 24, 2010

PRAYER PROMOTION

During my 40 years as a Pastor I recognized the tremendous importance of Prayer very early in the ministry. I realized that prayer in my life and prayer in the daily lives of the congregation were vital for spiritual growth and power.

Knowing that prayer is important is one thing but getting people to actually pray is sometimes a more difficult undertaking. Here are some of the ideas I used in my ministry to help people remember to pray and to make those prayers more effective.

One church of which I was the Pastor had 168 members. The month of this promotion had 30 days. I made up a calendar with 6 names on each day and asked people to pray for those six names on their appointed day. This system gave two extra days in the month (168 divided by 6 equals 28). On the middle day of the month I asked people to pray for family, church, our nation, our missionaries, and the unsaved. On the last day of the month I asked everyone to praise God for His blessings and for the great work He was going to do in the lives of the people we had prayed for that month.

At another Church I gave each family a Prayer Book I had made up that taught them how to pray. Also included were pages for specific prayer needs and then a place to record how God answered those needs. It was amazing to hear people rejoice in answered prayer once they began keeping a record of their prayers.

Prayer works if you work at prayer. Find a prayer plan that works in your life this week and get ready to see marvels and wonders as you stop talking about prayer and actually begin to pray.

Minister Message for Wednesday, August 25, 2010

GOD'S PROVISION

My wife and I knew when I retired from Pastoral Ministry that we would be "financially challenged" but we believed the same God who led us to this decision would also care for us in the decision. We try to live as prudently as possible and then expect the Lord to bring in extra when needed.

Part of the reason I "retired" was to spend more time working on "Minister Ministry" (a ministry of writing books and providing materials to help Christians and Ministers) and to devote more time to helping the ministry of "Friends of India" (An organization seeking to help support and continue the ministry of Missionary Carlisle Hanna in India). I try to work hard and do all I can but many aspects of these ministries require funds in order to function.

Recently someone asked to talk with me about a burden God had placed on their heart. When I met with this individual they said God had led them to give \$1000 to help Paula and I. They also felt led to contribute \$10,000 to the ministry of "Minister Ministry" [Is there a Glory anywhere in the house?!] What an overwhelming display of the provision of God.

My wife and I have always believed that tithing was part of God's plan so we have always paid tithes personally and have tried to make sure any church we served also paid tithes of their income. Believing that God honors

generous giving then the tithe from this gift was \$1,500- which is what was needed to buy a much needed Motorbike for a pastor in India.

The morning this transpired God laid on my heart to pay for the breakfast at our monthly minister's fellowship (\$110). Obeying God with money I hardly had led to a 100 fold increase. God is so good!

No virus found in this message.

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From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for September 1, 2010
Date: Wednesday, September 01, 2010 7:15:09 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 33
September 1, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

The Board of Friends of India will meet this Friday. Pray that God will give us the wisdom and wealth needed to continue to assist God's great work in India.

The sun has just risen. It is 70 degrees outside. I could be sleeping but I lay in bed thinking about all the exciting things I could do for God today and just had to get up, spend some personal time with God, and then get started. I feel so sorry for unsaved people who wearily get up to another dreary day. If they could only know the joy we know as Christians!!

I pray your day will be filled with beauty and blessings. I pray you will have great joy in your journey. And I look forward to the day we can worship together around God's throne where we shall finally be able to see Him face to face whom so long we have known heart to heart.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Sun, Aug 1 PM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
Wed, Aug 4 Speak at Prayer Meeting at Lebanon FWBC
Sun, Aug 8 AM Preach at Lebanon FWBC
Commission Service Service- Neil/Mandi Morgan (Horse Branch)
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Tues, Aug 10 Darlington Area Mission Conference with India Pastors (Southside)
Wed, Aug 11 Conway Area Mission Conference with India Pastors (Evergreen)
Sun, Aug 15 Mission Services with India Pastors / Carlisle Hanna (Horse Branch)
Mon, Aug 16 Charleston Airport for departure of India Pastors (11am) Morgans (4pm)
Sat, Aug 21 Represent Friends of India at Eastern Conference Meeting (Hillside, Florence)
Sun, Aug 29 AM / PM Preach at Black River FWBC, Andrews
Fri, Sept 3 Friends of India Board Meeting, Charleston
Tues, Sept 7 Florence/ Darlington Area FWB Minister's Meeting
Sat, Sept 11 TM Jones Family Reunion
Sun, Sept 12 AM Speak at 50th Anniversary Service at Grace FWBC, Lake City
Sun, Sept 12 PM Missionary Service with Bobby Geneva Poole at Lebanon
Sept 18-26 New England Trip with Princess Paula
Oct 1-3 Retirement Celebration for Florida Friend, Bratt Florida
Sun, Oct 10 AM Preach Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, August 31, 2010

MOTIVATIONAL TIDBITS

Sometimes a little saying can be a great source of motivation. Here are some "motivational tidbits" that I have collected in recent years.

Do not Die Dead (Non believers are described as "dead in trespasses and sins" in Ephesians 2:1. Please do not die as a non believer!).

Serve God Boldly. And another tidbit like it- serve Christ with the same zeal, dedication, and devote you used when you served Satan.

Changed people change people. The world will want what you've got when you've got something the world can see they should want. I am God's project and God never fails.

Obedience is learned through obeying. Life is a battleground, not a playground. Spiritual growth occurs when we cooperate with, and trust God in, our circumstances. A star is best seen at night. What you are is God's gift to you. What you make of yourself is your gift to God.

Sin never elevates; it always degrades and defiles. Sin leads from the plenty of the Father's house to the poverty of the Hog Pen.

A song I heard one time said "My heart is God's home, His Temple, and His throne." May I make God at home in my home. May I yield my spirit to the Spirit so the temple of my being will be a place God delights to come for praise and worship? And may I enthrone God on the throne of my heart to such a degree until the King of kings will have complete control of every fiber of my being.

One final tidbit- A follower of God should be a fisher of men, not a caretaker of an aquarium. Tell the good news gladly so men will gladly hear the good news.

Minister Message for Wednesday, September 1, 2010

THOUGHTS

I collect Thoughts. I read a lot and listen to a lot of sermons and speeches. Often the speaker will say something that I will translate into a brief sentence or he will express some thought that I want to meditate on more fully. Here are some of those thoughts from some notes I recently scanned before I disposed of them.

Do not take yourself so seriously; no one else does. What other people think of you is none of your business. If a relationship has to be secret, you should not be in it. Time heals almost everything. Give time, time. Faithfulness matters; no matter how you feel, get up, dress up, and show up. Hold yourself responsible to a higher standard than anyone else. Never excuse yourself.

A young man once told a preacher, "I do not think I am a sinner". The preacher then asked him if he would be willing for his mother and father to know all he had done or thought. After a moment, the young man replied, "No, indeed. I certainly would not have them know for the entire world. I guess I am

not as perfect as I thought!"

"If God is your Partner, make your plans big" D L Moody. "If you do not know where you are going you will likely end up somewhere else" Yogi Berra. "The road to the next level is always up" John Maxwell.

And a final thought that motivates me to work when the body is tired and discouragement sets in because of the actions and attitudes of people I am trying to help: The problem is not the darkness; the problem is that the light is not shining as it should.

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Subject: Devotion for September 15, 2010
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newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 35
September 15, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

Life interrupted. Had a week full of planned work but all day Monday was spent in Doctor offices because it appeared my father in law had another blood clot. Thankfully, only fluid and age. Tuesday I had to take him back to Florence all day for other things he needed because my wife was helping her sister.

Good news is I got to read over half of my brother Monet's new book "Rehoboth" [Interesting book] and work on an article / sermon ("The Birth of Death") for my book on Death. God always has a plan and I get to be part of it!

Today I need to catch up on work for Friends of India, Lebanon, Minister Ministry, the SC State Association, and Princess Paula. Isn't it great that God can still use a fat, bald, blind, old man to do something in His kingdom! He is such a GOOD GOD and I love Him so much. May His Love and Peace fill your life today.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Fri, Sept 3 Friends of India Board Meeting, Charleston
Sat, Sept 11 TM Jones Family Reunion
Sun, Sept 12 AM Speak at 50th Anniversary Service at Grace FWBC, Lake City
Sun, Sept 12 PM Missionary Service with Bobby Geneva Poole at Lebanon
Tues, Sept 14 Florence/ Darlington Area FWB Minister's Meeting
Sept 18-26 New England Trip with Princess Paula
Oct 1-3 Retirement Celebration for Florida Friend, Bratt Florida
Sun, Oct 10 AM Preach Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway
Sun, Oct 17 AM Preach Home Coming at Jefferson Road FWBC, Sumter
Oct 24-30 Trip with Paula's Dad and family
Nov 7 AM Preach Home Coming at New Prospect FWBC, Johnsonville

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, September 14, 2010

CONTACT OR CONTAMINATION

One of the great challenges people in the medical profession face is to be in constant contact with disease and yet not become contaminated by the

disease. I know that the constant chore of putting on new clean gloves and constantly keeping areas sterile gets tedious and wearisome but I know hospital patients greatly appreciate the fact that they are not exposed to potentially harmful materials and instruments.

Christians feel the same way about sin that medical professionals feel about disease. Jesus knew that we had to be IN the world but He did not want us to become OF the world so He declared, "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil" (John 17:15). In other words, keep them in contact but deliver them from contamination.

My situation has changed in recent months and I have probably watched more TV at night (I still cannot bring myself to waste time with TV during the day) in the past month than I did in the previous six months. It astonishes me the things that people find "funny" and entertaining. But my venture into "TV Land" has given me great insight into the reasons behind the moral and language decline in America. People have become so anxious to play with the "disease" until they have forgotten it brings sickness!

The Bible declares that we can be sure our sins will find us out (Num 32:23). People in America are being "found out" in their deadened conscience, in their defiled character, in their dirty conversation, and in their despicable conduct. The boat is not just in the water but the water is filling the boat. Someone throw out a life line before it is too late!

Minister Message for Wednesday, September 15, 2010

GOALS THAT WORK

Sometimes it is good for Parents and Pastors to step back and re-evaluate their purpose and plans. It is easy to do things the same way for so long until all your actions and advice become a life limiting rut. And a rut can become nothing but a shallow grave!

Take the time to look at what you are trying to accomplish in the lives of the people entrusted to your care. While basic foundations and principles always remain the same it is good to remember that if you do what you have always done then you will get what you have always got.

Here are Four Goals that have helped shape my life and ministry. 1) I want everyone to accept Christ as Savior and become a child of God. 2) I want everyone to understand Scriptural Principles so they are constantly learning to talk about the Lord and include Him in their thoughts and plans? 3) I seek to get people to participate in Church community and Christian conduct by encouraging them to regularly read the Bible, pray for God to work in their life, and become involved in Church attendance and activities. 4) Finally, I want people to commit to living out Christian values in daily life. Are they becoming less of a gossip and critic? Are they aware of sin's nature and consequences?

I have taught these values for so long until it becomes easy to dull people into sleep instead of stirring them into action with the most important information they will ever hear! Just as it is easy for a parent to constantly see the wrong their children are doing instead of teaching them the right you want them to do. May God help us to make our message so meaningful until we constantly see its impact on those we lead.

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for September 29, 2010
Date: Wednesday, September 29, 2010 7:21:04 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 37
September 29, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

3500 miles in 8 days. We saw the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, the Statue of Liberty in New York, and Paul Revere's Home in Boston. We saw covered bridges and beautiful scenery in Vermont. We climbed a mountain where the strongest wind gush in the world was recorded, visited the first FWB Church, and toured a Shaker Village in New Hampshire. We marveled at the coast of Maine and ate lobster fresh from the boat. And we got drenched by the waters of Niagara Falls. What a great land we live in and what a great God we serve

Paula has been with her dad all week but she is supposed to come home Thursday in order for us to prepare to leave early Friday Morning for a special celebration in Bratt Florida Friday Night. We hope to be able to worship with the great people of Shiloh FWB Church on Sunday Morning.

God blessed so that I had an article on Pastoral Appreciation published in the Georgia and South Carolina paper last week. God continues to open doors and I appreciate opportunities to work for Him. Life will soon be past. Only what is done for God will last. May we hear a "well done" instead of a "not done" when we see Him face to face whom so long we have known heart to heart.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Oct 1-3 Retirement Celebration for Florida Friend, Bratt Florida
Sun, Oct 10 AM Preach Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway
Sun, Oct 17 AM Preach Home Coming at Jefferson Road FWBC, Sumter
Oct 24-30 Trip with Paula's Dad and family
Nov 7 AM Preach Home Coming at New Prospect FWBC, Johnsonville

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, September 28, 2010

RECOGNIZE GOD

We live in a world filled with information. World events and problems are broadcast into our homes, phones, and computers as soon as they happen. We know a lot more than I want to know about celebrities and people who are

willing to do almost anything in order to be famous. Surprisingly however, people seem to know less and less about God and His plan for this planet.

Do not get me wrong. People know more than they have ever known about the "gods of this world" and the wacky ravings of false prophets and weird preachers. The problem is that the real and true God is hidden by the trash and tumult emanating from these false gods and prophets. As a result, God is looked upon by some with disdain instead of delight.

Part of the reason for this confusion is that most Churches now teach and preach much more about prosperity and inner happiness than they do about who God is and how to have a real relationship with Him. Think of it this way, if I only talked to you about the wonderful food my wife prepares then you would only think of her as a cook instead of realizing all the other amazing attributes she possesses.

People need to know about man's ruin, God's redemption, Christ's return, and their eternal residence. They need to understand that God loves them enough to spank them as well as spoil them. They need to be aware that their desires are not necessarily God's delights. They need to recognize there are some things they believe are right but God declares them wrong. Most important of all, they need to recognize the true God among all the clutter of information they are receiving. That would be good news for everyone!

Minister Message for Wednesday, September 29, 2010

ETERNAL LIFE

Ask the average person about eternal life and they will talk about Heaven where they will worship God and visit with family and friends forever. Ask Jesus about eternal life and He will say, "This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." (John 17:3). Jesus defined eternal life as a presence instead of a place.

Please do not take that statement as an endorsement of a "mystical Heaven" or as a declaration that there is no glorious place with streets of gold and mansions built by God for His children. Certainly, Heaven is real and it will be the dwelling place of the people of God for eternity. The point I am trying to make is that eternal life is not a destination you seek to attain but the presence of God you learn to enjoy.

Jesus declared that the "Kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17:21). The Apostle Paul declared that your body was the temple of the Holy Spirit (1Cor 6:19) and if the Spirit did not dwell in you then you did not belong to God (Romans 8:9). God is dwelling with the Christian NOW. We do not have to wait until the end of our journey before we enjoy being with God.

If God is inside you then there is no temptation you cannot overcome, no problem that God can defeat that you cannot defeat, and no obstacle that God cannot give you the wisdom and ability to overcome. The average Christian fails in these areas because He thinks about God as a distant destination instead of a present presence. Do not make that mistake in your life.

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From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for October 6, 2010
Date: Wednesday, October 06, 2010 7:17:47 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 38
October 6, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

Several items of prayer for this Sunday:

I will be speaking at Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWB Church,
Hemingway

Lebanon begins revival with Rev. Rickey Evans Thursday thru Saturday
and will be having Home Coming on Sunday (anticipating 600-800 in
attendance Sunday).

Mill Branch FWB Church, Johnsonville, will be receiving their annual
Travis Poston Memorial Offering to be used to purchase land in India. This is a
big help so pray that God will do a mighty work.

Been an expense week so far- new dryer and several other unexpected
expense items but I am just a "bird brain" (Jesus said the birds did not worry
and neither should I- Matt 6: 26).

Life is full of obstacles and opportunities. Try to turn your obstacles
into opportunities and make sure you never turn you opportunities into
obstacles. Peace, Joy, and Love to you this week.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Oct 1-3 Retirement Celebration for David Johnson, Bratt Florida
Sun, Oct 10 AM Preach Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway
Sun, Oct 17 AM Preach Home Coming at Jefferson Road FWBC, Sumter
Oct 24-30 Trip with Paula's Dad and family
Nov 1-2 Help distributte SS Literature for SCFWB Book Store
Nov 7 AM Preach Home Coming at New Prospect FWBC, Johnsonville

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, October 5, 2010

WHEN THE ROAD DISAPPEARS

After a long day of travel and tourist activity we were headed through
Pittsburg toward home. Suddenly, our GPS told us to take a different interstate
highway. In the middle of traffic and with a split second to make a decision, I
told my brother in law who was driving to obey the GPS. After we were settled
onto the new road we pulled into an exit in order to figure out where we were

going. It appeared the GPS was taking us wrong so we looked at a map and saw the road which we had exited on led through town back to our original interstate.

We decided to take this road and get back on the original course. Bad decision! Road construction everywhere and people leaving a Pittsburg Pirates ball game made it extremely difficult to drive at night in Pittsburg. I was driving now and my passengers were trying to make some sense of the map and the street signs in Pittsburg. In the middle of bumper to bumper traffic traveling at high speed the road suddenly split into two directions, neither of which had the number of the road we were traveling in order to reach our destination! I will not bore you with the details of wandering lost through the streets of Pittsburg late at night.

Later I was talking to some people about their relationship with God and it was obvious they were simply traveling life's highway hoping things would come out good. What a horrible thing it is going to be when they reach a point in their life when the road they are traveling simply ends without warning. Wandering the streets of Pittsburg is nothing compared to wandering in eternity without God.

Minister Message for Wednesday, October 6, 2010

MONGOOSE MISTAKE

Rev. Chris Edwards, youth pastor of Lebanon FWB Church in Effingham, recently shared a story with me he had learned while on a mission trip to the Virgin Islands. During the days when the island was mainly plantations the plantation owners wanted a way to deal with the huge rat population that was devouring their crops. Someone suggested that they import some Mongoose onto the island so the Mongoose would eat the rats and solve their problem.

Two mistakes soon became evident. First, the Mongoose hunts during the day and the rats came out at night. Second, because of their thick fur and quick reflexes the Mongoose can enjoy eating snakes just as much as hunting rats and snakes come out during the day. Soon the snake population of the Virgin Islands was down to almost nothing and, since the rats had no natural predator, the rat population greatly multiplied. Now, when you arrive in the Virgin Islands someone will shake a palm tree and let you see all the huge rats scurrying around in the top of the tree.

Sometimes the pain or aggravation of life is so intense until we think that a "Mongoose" (drugs, alcohol, sexual affair) will solve our problem but we end up destroying the wrong things and find ourselves living with the very rats we had hoped to destroy. We thought our way was best but we must realize that God works ALL things (including pain and problems) together for the good in our life.

For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. (Proverbs 1:29,31).

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for October 13, 2010
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2010 10:39:29 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 39
October 13, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

I will be speaking at Home Coming at Jefferson Road FWB Church, Sumter this Sunday. Looking forward to being with this great church again.

Very important Friends of India meeting this Friday. God continues to do a great work in saving souls in India and we want to do all we can to support what God is doing.

Suddenly this week several situations which I was trying to assist turned from casual to crisis. Now life changing decisions are being made. What do I do? Listen to the first verses in my devotional reading today- (Isaiah 44:1-2) Yet now hear, O Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen: Thus saith the LORD that made thee, and formed thee from the womb, which will help thee; fear not... God made me, God chose me, God will help me- Is there a Glory anywhere in the House?

May you love the Lord with all your heart and serve the Lord with all your life this week.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Oct 1-3 Retirement Celebration for David Johnson, Bratt Florida
Sun, Oct 10 AM Preach Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway
Fri, Oct 15 Friends of India Board Meeting
Sun, Oct 17 AM Preach Home Coming at Jefferson Road FWBC, Sumter
Wed, Oct 20 Preach at Lebanon FWB Church
Oct 24-30 Trip with Paula's Dad and family
Nov 1-2 Help distribute SS Literature for SCFWB Book Store
Nov 7 AM Preach Home Coming at New Prospect FWBC, Johnsonville

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, October 12, 2010

DOUBLE HONOR MINISTERS

October is traditionally Pastor Appreciation month in many churches. October became a time to show appreciation to Pastors because in past years when the crops were gathered people wanted to share some of the blessings of

their harvest with the man of God who was laboring in their midst. Most people no longer farm but October is still a good time to remember, and honor, Pastors for their sacrifice and service.

When the Apostle Paul was writing to Timothy about the responsibilities and duties of a Minister he included the fact that "the elders that rule well should be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the word and doctrine" (1 Timothy 5:17). Two things immediately stand out about a good minister- His leadership (rules well) and his labor (in the Bible and in basic beliefs). Paul declared that these characteristics deserve double recognition.

The word "honor" in this verse is a Greek word meaning something of value or something that demonstrates high regard. This should give you some ideas about ways you can show proper appreciation to your Pastor- Something of value such as a bonus, a raise, or an increase in retirement benefits and / or something that demonstrates high regard such as a Plaque or words of encouragement and praise via email, text, phone, letter, or testimonies.

Some Pastors are lazy and some are lukewarm. Paul declared, however, that a Pastor who was doing a good job was worthy of "Double Honor". I will let you decide if your Pastor is someone who is laboring in the word and doctrine. If he is then you should double the honor you bestow on him and let him know what a blessing it is to have him as your spiritual leader.

Minister Message for Wednesday, October 13, 2010

PAUL REVERE HELP

Did you know that Paul Revere had to have help? When we visited the "Old North Church" in Boston, Massachusetts recently to observe where the two lanterns were hung signifying that the British were coming by sea we found that the bell tower of the church is barely accessible and has no window. In order to give the signal a lantern had to be waved at two separate windows in the eve of the church directly below the bell tower. Historians believe Paul Revere actually had two friends who waved the lanterns from the two windows so he could see the signal across the river and sound the warning.

The mission undertaken by Paul Revere was important and provided a needed warning to the people. In the same way, the work of a good Minister of God is important as he insures that the light shines so people will know how to avoid the enemy and live for God. And, like Paul Revere, the Minister of God needs help if he is to do his job correctly.

Every church needs a good Minister full of spiritual insight, standout inspiration, and solid integrity. But a good church is not a "one man show". If the light is to shine as it should then the Minister needs help from his congregation. I am firmly convinced that the people God leads to a church are needed by that church in order for it to function as it should. Sometimes I feel like it is not an exaggeration to say that there are a thousand things that need to be done in a church. If I am close to being correct then everyone should be able to "find a window" this week and do all they can to make sure the message of the light gets to everyone..

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for October 20, 2010
Date: Wednesday, October 20, 2010 7:55:04 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 40
October 20, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

My brother in law had put down the wrong dates so we will be taking Paula's dad to the Mountains this week (Tues - Fri). God always has a plan (This is supposed to be the best week to view foliage).

Since I am no longer directly involved in a church I am able to focus more attention on Minister Ministry (We gave away many Bible CDs and books recently and the revised edition of "Revelation" is now ready). God has rewarded this with another substantial gift which will enable us to do even more- Glory!

Paul said his expectation and hope was that he would be ashamed of nothing in his life (Phil 1:20). Let that be your prayer and goal today. It is a great time to be a Christian. May you find wonderous joy in your journey.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Oct 1-3 Retirement Celebration for David Johnson, Bratt Florida
Sun, Oct 10 AM Preach Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway
Fri, Oct 15 Friends of India Board Meeting
Sun, Oct 17 AM Preach Home Coming at Jefferson Road FWBC, Sumter
Oct 19-23 Trip with Paula's Dad and family
Oct 27 Speak at Prayer Meeting at Lebanon FWB Church
Nov 1-2 Help distributte SS Literature for SCFWB Book Store
Nov 7 AM Preach Home Coming at New Prospect FWBC, Johnsonville

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, October 19, 2010

DIVINE MANIFESTATIONS

And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them: (Matthew 15:30)

One of the most marvelous examples of the deity of Christ is found in this verse. Here Christ is shown to have not only restorative powers but also creative powers. Jesus does not simply restore to wholeness people who were lame, blind, and dumb but He also healed those who were maimed.

The word for maimed here is the same Greek work that is used later by Jesus when He said, *Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire* (Matthew 18:8). "Maimed" in this verse refers to a missing part of the body so we have no reason to believe it does not also refer to a missing part of the body being replaced when the Bible declares Jesus healed the maimed.

The scripture declares in this verse that, in addition to restoring missing parts of bodies, Jesus also healed people who were unable to walk (lame), unable to see (blind), and unable to talk (dumb). This is not a charismatic leader using positive thinking or suggestive mind games in order to get someone to "claim" healing. This is the Son of God using divine power to heal and restore bodies.

His works and his words proved that Jesus was the Son of God who could create divine changes (both physical and spiritual) in a person. Let Him produce those changes in you today.

Minister Message for Wednesday, October 20, 2010

MAGNIFICENT MANIFESTATIONS

In Isaiah 44:24 God talk about two of His creative miracles- People and Places: *Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;* (Isaiah 44:24).

Recently I had the great privilege of touring the mountains of Vermont and New Hampshire and driving along the magnificent coast of Maine. View after view was simply breath taking as I marveled at the variations in landscape put on display by God. As I watched my brother in law take a picture of his beautiful wife (that should get me an extra piece of pie when I visit them again!) against the backdrop of the rugged Maine coast I thought about the creative genius of God in the varying manifestations of man (or woman in this case) and nature. God could have created every place and every person the same but He went to a great deal of trouble to make each person and each location wonderfully different.

I am not completely sure how God intervenes in the miracle of birth and the magnificence of nature's development to ensure that the world is not a dull drab place filled with the same dreary scenery and "cookie cutter" people but it is obvious that God is a powerful God with a creative nature that is "out of this world". I sure am glad I am one of His children..

No virus found in this message.

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for October 27, 2010
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2010 6:31:26 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 41
October 27, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

I will be speaking tonight (7pm) at Lebanon. Tonight's message is "How to survive when the Anchor does NOT Hold!" . I have been aboard a ship several times when the anchor did not hold and I can tell you it is a scary time.

God does not fail but sometimes people do- she said she would love you forever but her definition of forever was only 6 years. Your job was a life time employment until the recession came. You thought it was a cold making you feel so bad until the doctor looked you in the eyes and said the other "C" word. The rock is always steadfast but sometimes your anchor does not reach the rock!

Mr. James Padgett is walking through the valley of the shadow at hospice. His journey could end today. Pray for Mrs. Mildred and the family.

We received some more donations to Friends of India this week. The present economic situation means much work and many churches in India would not have been built without the support from Friends of India. Thank you for your prayers.

God is good. We get to be His Children- Glory!

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Oct 1-3 Retirement Celebration for David Johnson, Bratt Florida
Sun, Oct 10 AM Preach Home Coming at Poplar Hill FWBC, Hemingway
Fri, Oct 15 Friends of India Board Meeting
Sun, Oct 17 AM Preach Home Coming at Jefferson Road FWBC, Sumter
Oct 19-23 Trip with Paula's Dad and family
Oct 27 Speak at Prayer Meeting at Lebanon FWB Church
Nov 1-2 Help distributte SS Literature for SCFWB Book Store
Nov 7 AM Preach Home Coming at New Prospect FWBC, Johnsonville

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, October 26, 2010

MISPLACED GOD

Recently I listened as a Pastor told about how the church where he ministered had suddenly grown stagnate and beset by all types of problems. I

listened to him talk about failed programs and people problems as he tried to figure out what had gone wrong.

When he finally ran out of breath I took the opportunity to ask him a simple question, "Can you name two things that have happened at your church in the past month that can only be attributed to the work of God?" After a few moments of awkward silence I placed my hand on his shoulder and said, "Friend, you have misplaced God and things will not improve until God is invited to work in your church again."

Mary and Joseph became so busy with church activities until they lost Jesus and did not even realize it until they had traveled a day's journey without Him (Luke 2:44-45). Samson became so pleasure driven until he did not realize the power of God had departed from him. When he tried to go out and do the things that he had done before he was defeated and mocked (Judges 16:20). The children of Israel refused to obey God's orders to conquer the Promised Land so God told them they would be punished by wandering in the wilderness for forty years. Seeking to do too late what they should have done earlier, the children of Israel decided to go into the Promised Land but Moses said, *Go not up, for the LORD is not among you;* (Numbers 14:42). Defeat followed because they tried to do God's work without God's Presence.

If things are not going as they should in your church, or in your life, then you need to look for God. If you cannot find Him then you have found the source of your problems.

Minister Message for Wednesday, October 27, 2010

HELP DURING LEADERSHIP CHANGE

How is a church to cope when a popular Pastor resigns or dies? Here are some principles that will help during leadership changes.

Keep your eyes on the Goal- Times like this show how many people were worshipping the Pastor and how many were worshipping the Lord. People's actions will reveal if your church was built on the charismatic personality of a man or if it was founded on the Rock which will not allow even the gates of hell to prevail against it (Matt 16:18).

Rest in God's care and provision. Do not let the suddenness of the situation shake your faith in God's Plan. No circumstance or situation takes God by surprise.

The Disciples faced a leadership change when Jesus ascended to Heaven and left the Disciples on earth to build His church. Their actions are a good model for us during a leadership change.

First of all, they stayed together (Acts 1:12-14). They realized they needed each other now more than ever. Secondly, they took care of necessary business so order and structure could continue (Matthias was elected to replace Judas {who was the treasurer}).

Thirdly, they spent a lot of time in prayer and supplication as they awaited direction from God- *These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication,* (Acts 1:14)

Finally, they did not start anything until God gave them clear direction through the coming of the Holy Spirit. Because of this their preaching and teaching brought community transforming results- *Then they that gladly*

received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. (Acts 2:41)

The first church grew greatly after the loss of its leader. May you witness the same results..

No virus found in this message.

Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for Nov 3, 2010
Date: Wednesday, November 03, 2010 7:49:27 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 42
November 3, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

The change that came to America is now being changed! Please remember our nation in prayer that God would be glorified in His people and in America's policies.

I will be speaking Sunday morning at New Prospect FWB Church, Johnsonville (Home Coming) on "Expectations"- everyone has them, including God.

Sunday Night I will be speaking at Lebanon on "Being the Best". Good enough is not good enough when you are partners with a Great God.

A local church sign reads, "Fans of Jesus wear a cross. Followers of Jesus bear a cross". Are you a Fan or a Follower?

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Nov 1-2 Help distribute SS Literature for SCFWB Book Store
Nov 7 AM Preach Home Coming at New Prospect FWBC, Johnsonville
Nov 7 PM Preach at Lebanon FWB Church, Effingham
Nov 9 Charleston for departure of Missionary Carlisle Hanna and Don Hanna for India
Nov 11 Speak at Retirement Celebration by True Life conference for Rev Phil Lemmons and Rev Eddie Hinson at Rock Hill

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, November 2, 2010

DIVINE INTERVENTION

A Miracle has been described by several commentaries as "a divine intervention displaying the power and goodness of God". "Intervention" means that God overrules the normal laws or circumstances of nature in order to show His power and His love. We are facing a crisis time in America. Morals are down, money is scarce, and many are depressed. We need a "divine intervention" in the people and politics of America.

The authority to govern a people derives from "divine intervention" - *Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.* (Romans 13:1)

The ability to rule is based on "divine intervention"- *...to the intent that*

the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men (Daniel 4:17). And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will (Daniel 4:32).

Due to this recognition of the need of "divine intervention" in the government of a people then they should pray constantly for their leaders- *I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty (1Timothy 2:1-2).*

God is still a miracle working God who is able to turn America back to goodness and greatness. May we be faithful in doing our part in this "divine intervention".

Minister Message for Wednesday, November 3, 2010

PRAYING FOR MINISTRY

Christians are people of prayer. Sometimes, however, their prayers become rituals and forms instead of dynamic interchanges with a divine and all powerful God- note the difference between someone praying a church dismissal prayer compared to that same person's prayers over a very sick child. This is why we need to take a fresh look at our prayers for the church we attend and the ministry in which we are involved.

Newspaper editors like news articles to revolve around six essentials- who, what, when, where, how, and why. Your prayers concerning God's work should ask the same questions.

Who are you asking God to bless? Do you pray for the education, children's ministry, and musical personal as well as the pastoral staff? Do you pray for the people in the church who irritate or antagonize you with the same zeal you pray for your family and friends?

Why should God bless your church? Is there a reason God should do something special in your church instead of doing it in a larger church down the road?

What should God bless about your church? What is God doing in your church that needs to continue and expand? What are you doing in your church that needs to cease or adapt to God's plan?

How should God Bless your church? Does God need to move in the preaching, the music, or the character of the people?

Where should God begin to bless in your church? If God gives a supernatural moving of His Spirit and twenty five new people come into your church and accept Christ as savior next week is your church willing and able to handle this influx?

When should God begin to Bless? God is ready now; are you?

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for Nov 10, 2010
Date: Wednesday, November 10, 2010 7:16:40 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 43
November 10, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

Honor a veteran this week. They put themselves in harm's way to keep you and your family from harm.

Pray for Carlisle and Don Hanna as they arrive in India today to continue winning souls and training Christians. Friends of India sent money with them to build one church, expand another church, and provide help to Pastors and the Boy's Home Hostel Ministry.

Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. (Hosea 10:12). "Fallow ground" means ground not yet cultivated. What new thing is there in your life that God wants to use? Great adventures await those who are willing to walk in a new path with the Lord.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Nov 1-2 Help distribute SS Literature for SCFWB Book Store
Nov 7 AM Preach Home Coming at New Prospect FWBC, Johnsonville
Nov 7 PM Preach at Lebanon FWB Church, Effingham
Nov 9 Charleston for departure of Missionary Carlisle Hanna and Don Hanna for India
Nov 11 Speak at Retirement Celebration by True Life conference for Rev Phil Lemmons and Rev Eddie Hinson at Rock Hill
Nov 14 Speak at AM Service and Show India Slides at PM Service for Mt Olivet Church, Pinopolis, SC

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, November 9, 2010

3 ANTS

Sometimes people go on picnics and let 3 ants spoil the day for them and for everyone else. I heard of a situation recently where the Pastor delivered a church changing message about the future of the church and its impact on the community. Several people noticed one of the members in the church weeping after the message and thought, "This message must have greatly stirred their heart so that their emotions are overflowing".

Finally someone asked this person the reason for their tears. The person replied "Did you not see that the person who gave the announcements at the end of the service did not have his shirt tail completely tucked in!" Sometimes a person's preoccupation with 3 ants can spoil the picnic for everyone.

I am a detail person. I believe God is not the author of confusion (1Cor 14:33) so I want things to be done decently and in order (1Cor 14:40). I am also a devoted Christian who believes that when God shows up in a special way in a service then you slip your bulletin under your Bible, follow God's order of service, and enjoy the moving of the Spirit instead of worrying about shirt tails.

In case you would like to know the "rest of the story". The man with the shirt tail problem had been leading Children's Church that day. While this member was sitting in a comfortable pew (supposedly) listening to a powerful sermon this man had been very actively leading singing, playing Bible games, and participating in children's activities. I told him it was a wonder to me he still had a shirt on that needed to be tucked in!

When you attend Church this week you can look for 3 ants or you can enjoy time with God. Just remember, what you look for will determine what you find.

Minister Message for Wednesday, November 10, 2010

CHARACTER CORRECTION

Recently, during a heavy rain storm, I noticed that water was gushing with great force from one of my carport gutter pipes but hardly any water was coming from the gutter on the other end of the carport. Something was obviously wrong so I got my ladder out after the rainstorm and checked the gutters. Sure enough, the gutter with little water coming from it was covered with a broken piece of roof shingle.

One of the reasons I had been watching the water gush from the gutter during the rain storm was the fact that I was taking a break from my work of trying to develop a way to help Christians defeat habits and character flaws that blemish their testimony. I believe these tainted testimonies are the number one problem in the church community today. The world finds it difficult to accept the God we proclaim after they see how He is expressed in the anger, gossip, and hypocrisy prevalent in the lives of so many church members.

When Jesus was talking to a woman who was unable to maintain lasting loving relationships he said to her, "whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:14). In other words, the peace you are seeking is not found in passionate pleasures but in allowing the life of Christ to flow through your life.

Can you see it? When people revert back to old habits and passions it is because something is blocking the flow of God in their life. Unstop that blockage and you change that person!

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for Nov 17, 2010
Date: Wednesday, November 17, 2010 7:21:07 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 44
November 17, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
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843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

I try to work on a sermon each week even if I have a Sunday (like this Sunday) when I do not have a place to preach. Maybe someone who receives this can take the outline and use it to bless and challenge a congregation.

THREE THINGS YOU DO NOT KNOW

- 1) Your own heart- *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?* (Jeremiah 17:9)
- 2) The impact of your life on God's plan- *Es 4:14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?*
- 3) The end of your life- *Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.* (James 4:14) (I have a sub-sermon under this about "When God puts Himself on your agenda" about the people God declares He will bring into judgment that day /night).

The good news is that even if I do not get to preach this week I got to lead a man and a woman to repent and renew their walk with the Lord Tuesday.
Ain't God Good!

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Nov 1-2 Help distribute SS Literature for SCFWB Book Store
Nov 7 AM Preach Home Coming at New Prospect FWBC, Johnsonville
Nov 7 PM Preach at Lebanon FWB Church, Effingham
Nov 9 Charleston for departure of Missionary Carlisle Hanna and Don Hanna for India
Nov 11 Speak at Retirement Celebration by True Life conference for Rev Phil Lemmons and Rev Eddie Hinson at Rock Hill
Nov 14 Speak at AM Service and Show India Slides at PM Service for Mt Olivet Church, Pinopolis, SC
Nov 16 Lake City Area FWB Minister's Breakfast

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, November 16, 2010

CONTINUE OR CONQUER

When sin comes into a person's life there are two things that happen; the person looks for a way to continue in the sin and to cover over the sin. When Eve ate of the forbidden fruit she wanted to continue in her sin so she immediately attempted to gain "social" approval for her sin by asking her husband to join her in her sin. Then she and Adam looked for a way to cover over the sin and fig leaves suddenly became fashionable.

Temptation is a common problem- *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man:* (1 Corinthians 10:13) Mankind inherited a sin nature from Adam and every person has to contend with the tendency to temptation.

Temptation is a varying problem- *every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.* (James 1:14) One man's worm may be another man's bait! Sinful activities that may have no pull at all on your neighbor may be a source of tremendous temptation to you (I have absolutely no desire to drink alcohol but other people fight a daily battle with the desire to drink).

Temptation is a conquerable problem- *God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it* (I Cor 10:13). God always provides a way to not only get away from the temptation but to also endure the pull of the temptation.

You can continue in sin, try to cover up sin, or conqueror sin. Only you can make the decision about what you will do when temptation knocks at your door.

Minister Message for Wednesday, November 17, 2010

MOVING A CITY

And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? (Matthew 21:10). [The word "moved" in this verse literally means "To Rock". When Jesus came to Jerusalem He "rocked the city"!]

The word "moved" in this verse is the same Greek work for "quake" used in Matthew 27:51- *And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;*

This same thought is used in Acts 17:6 - *And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also.*

The Presence of Jesus in a City "moved the city", the Death of Jesus on the cross "rocked the earth", and properly proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus "turned the world upside down". When Jesus is practiced as He could be and proclaimed as He should be then He is impossible to ignore.

If your idea of Christianity is a group of old people scattered around a nearly empty auditorium singing "Amazing Grace" slightly off key then you do not have a clue about what real Christianity is all about. Christianity is not simply a righteous resolution to try to do better; it is a dramatic life changing decision that impacts you and the world around you. It changes demons

possessed men into disciples (Mark 5), promiscuous people into preachers of the gospel (John 4), and lost sinners into children of God.

Ask Jesus into your heart today. He will "rock your life" and turn your world upside down. You will find that Christianity is the adventure of a life time; and beyond.

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Version: 10.0.1170 / Virus Database: 426/3305 - Release Date: 12/09/10

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for Nov 24, 2010
Date: Wednesday, November 24, 2010 7:29:02 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 45
November 24, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

I am THANKFUL for YOU. God has blessed me with many friends and a wonderful family and I praise the Lord for the privilege of sharing with you each week. I am thankful to finally be "retired" and have time to do some things that have been on my heart for a long time- I am so excited about numerous projects I have under way that I believe will make a difference for the cause of Christ in the days to come.

God calls us, Christ saves us, the Holy Spirit energizes us, Angels minister to us, and the Devil fears us. Only Heaven will be better than this!

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Nov 1-2 Help distribute SS Literature for SCFWB Book Store
Nov 7 AM Preach Home Coming at New Prospect FWBC, Johnsonville
Nov 7 PM Preach at Lebanon FWB Church, Effingham
Nov 9 Charleston for departure of Missionary Carlisle Hanna and Don Hanna for India
Nov 11 Speak at Retirement Celebration by True Life conference for Rev Phil Lemmons and Rev Eddie Hinson at Rock Hill
Nov 14 Speak at AM Service and Show India Slides at PM Service for Mt Olivet Church, Pinopolis, SC
Nov 16 Lake City Area FWB Minister's Breakfast
Dec 14 Florence / Lake City Minister-wife Christmas Supper. 7pm at Hornes in Florence
Dec 26 Preach AM and PM at Black River FWB Church, Andrews, SC
Dec 29 Preach Prayer Meeting at Black River FWB Church, Andrews, SC

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, November 23, 2010

PRAISE FOR MINISTERS AND MINISTRY

Recently I had the privilege of visiting a church where I had previously been Pastor. During the service I watched the children and grandchildren of the congregational core when I was the Pastor of this church perform leadership task in the service. What a tremendous spirit of praise and thanksgiving filled my heart as I watched these previously winny babies and rebellious teenagers fulfill their positions as men and women of God.

The next night I drove 300 mile in order to share a thirty minute message with a church conference as they honored two ministers who were retiring from active pastoral ministry. As Pastor after Pastor stood and testified about the blessing to their life and ministry by these two ministers I thought to myself what a blessing it would be if the nightly news could share the good things about these faithful servants of God instead of their usual reporting about the faults and failures of a fallen minister.

God still has churches that are impacting generation after generation by proclaiming and practicing Bible truths and principles. Sunday after Sunday these body of believers meet to worship God, to educate one another in the word of God, and to listen to a man of God proclaim a life changing message from God.

And all over this country men are still answering the call of God to a life of sacrifice and purity in order to publically proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. Most of the time their wages are low and their labor is hard but the fire of God burns in their heart so each week they faithfully do their job for God.

Thank God that the church of God and men of God are still making a difference for God.

Minister Message for Wednesday, November 24, 2010

WHEN THANKS WHITHER

Be ye ashamed, O ye husbandmen; howl, O ye vinedressers, for the wheat and for the barley; because the harvest of the field is perished. ... even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men. (Joel 1:11-12)

Famine and desolation in the land because joy was "withered away" among the sons of men. What a reveling revelation about what happens when joy and thankfulness "dry up" from the lips and the lives of godly people.

The ROOT Hebrew word for the phrase "withered away" means to be ashamed, confused, or disappointed. What an apt description for the explanation of why people cease to be thankful. People stop praising when they are ashamed of the way they live, when they are confused by the attitudes and actions of others, or when they are disappointed about the circumstances in which God has placed them.

The RESULTS of this drought of thanksgiving can be catastrophic. In his great sermon about the downward spiral of the morals of mankind in the first chapter of Romans Paul lists a departure from thankfulness as one of the primary problems. When people stopped glorifying God with their thanks (Rom 1:21) then sinful actions and attitudes led them into greater and greater depths of depravity.

The REASON anything begins to "wither away" is the lack of a continuous supply of moisture. Heat from above and hardness from the ground below (Mark 4:5-6) brings drought and despair. A right relationship with God brings showers of blessings into our life which overflows into a needy world through our thankful lips.

Do not let Joy wither away from your life. Let the praises of God rain from you lips.

From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for December 15, 2010
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 6:49:34 AM



newsletter

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December 15, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

We had a good Florence / Lake City Area Christmas Supper on Tuesday Night with 42 present and a good time of fellowship. Several (including Princess Paula) were sick and unable to attend but God moved in our midst and it was a joy to be able to honor these men of God and their spouses.

Paula's dad celebrates his 91st birthday Saturday. God has been good to this godly man.

Wishing you Happiness within your home, Love within your heart, and Joy within your life. Remember to make a Soul your Goal this Christmas. Give the gift of the gospel and make this the best Christmas someone has ever had!

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Dec 26 Preach AM and PM at Black River FWB Church, Andrews, SC
Dec 29 Preach Prayer Meeting at Black River FWB Church, Andrews, SC

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, December 14, 2010

THE CHRISTMAS WORD

(John 1:1,14) *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

When God wanted to talk "People" He sent a person! Man's sinful rebellion had brought different dialects to the earth (Gen 11). How could God communicate to all these different languages and cultures? God knew the only way was to speak to hearts instead of ears; so God, the Word, was made flesh and dwelt among men.

This means that Christmas is not just a celebration; it is a communication. It is God talking about the three things that most need to be talked about in any language or culture: Love, Redemption, and Hope.

Love for man caused God to leave the comforts of Heaven and come to the cruelty of earth. Love beyond expression. Love beyond comprehension. Love that could only come from a God who is Love.

Redemption is the reason Love acted. God's Love was not some mushy sentiment meant to make us feel good. He knew we were slaves to sin, captives to corruption, and bound for Hell. So His love brought Him to earth to die as our Redemption.

Because God's Love was demonstrated and His Redemption was manifested then our heart hears Hope and shouts for joy. No longer must we labor each day attempting to be "good enough" for God. The "Word" has arrived from God proclaiming the truth of Grace!

What a Word God gave us at Christmas! Let Him sing, "Joy to the World, the Lord had come" to your heart today.

Minister Message for Wednesday, December 15, 2010

CONSEQUENCES

Two young lions went to the same water hole to quench their thirst. Arriving at the same time they fell into a heated argument concerning who would drink first. Soon they became so angry until a fight broke out. Ceasing their strife for a moment to catch their breath they looked up and noticed a flock of vultures hovering overhead waiting for the loser to fall. They decided to both drink and then go their way. Sometimes it is helpful to stop and look at the consequences of our actions.

What will the consequences be if Christmas turns into a mad rush to purchase gifts instead of a celebration of the gift of God's Son to be the savior of the world? What will people think about the importance of Christmas if churches start scheduling all their Christmas Celebrations at the beginning of December in order to get them "out of the way" before everyone gets involved with all their personal Christmas plans?

What will the effect be on young people if Christmas becomes all about getting every gadget and game they desire instead of about celebrating the fact that God's Son loved the world so much until He gave up everything in order to demonstrate God's concern and compassion for a lost and dying world? What will our anticipation of Christmas develop into if all we think about is spending money we do not have to buy presents that people do not need in order to keep up a gift giving social standard that started like a snowball and how has become an avalanche of stress and debt?

Maybe it is time we started following the star to the manger instead of the crowd to the mall. Then we might see angel wings instead of buzzard wings overhead.

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Subject: Devotion for December 22, 2010
Date: Wednesday, December 22, 2010 8:46:15 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 49
December 22, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

I will be speaking at Black River FWBC this Sunday Morning: "Saving a Generation" - *There arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel...and they forsook the LORD God of their fathers... and whithersoever they went out, the hand of the LORD was against them for evil* (Judges 2:10-15). Sunday Night- "How to be the great person God wants you to be".

Friends of India received another \$5,000 to help build the restraining wall for the Immanuel Church in Kotigiri, India this week- Glory! Missionary Carlisle Hanna and the India Pastors are extremely busy with Christmas week activities- your prayers are very important.

MERRY CHRISTMAS. May you feel His Presence, receive just the right present, and Rejoice that a Savior has been born.

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Dec 26 Preach AM and PM at Black River FWB Church, Andrews, SC
Dec 29 Preach Prayer Meeting at Black River FWB Church, Andrews, SC

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, December 21, 2010

GRACE AND TRUTH

For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ (John 1:17).

You cannot say that God did not give man ample opportunity. For thousands of years God allowed mankind to seek with all his wisdom and might to be right with God by living under the guidelines of the law. Throughout the world great men of wisdom would arise and enlist many to follow them by the wisdom of their words and the austerity of their lives. Yet, no matter the language or the learning of the religious leader, mankind remained sinful and morally bankrupt. In fact, when God directly declared His law to Moses on the top of a mountain it ended up being broken before Moses could reach the bottom of the mountain!

Paul saw the futility of attempting to be righteous by keeping the law

and declared *the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith* (Galatians 3:24). It was only because Jesus was willing to die in order to fulfill the law's demands that mankind could finally come into a right relationship with God. That is why John declared that "Grace and Truth" came by Jesus Christ.

The Grace of God displayed by Jesus persuades us by its exhortations, instructs us by its examples, frightens us with its warnings, excites us by its miracles, enlightens us by its wisdom, and saves us by its mercy. The Truth of God declared by Christ teaches us we need a mind with a sincere fear of God, a heart with a genuine love for God, and a life "zealous of good works" for God.

Jesus came so we could stop trying to do right and start trusting in His Righteousness. Learning that fact will make this a very Merry Christmas indeed.

Minister Message for Wednesday, December 22, 2010

DEITY DECLARED

No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him. (John 1:18)

The picture that most people have of God is that of some gentle grandfather who invites everyone to sit in his lap and would never hurt a fly. In reality, God is such a holy and pure deity until it would actually kill a person to behold Him in His pure state- God said (to Moses), *Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live* (Exodus 33:20).

How are we then to really know God and develop a vibrant relationship with Him? The answer was simple for God; He sent His only begotten Son to earth in human form in order that He could display His power, His precepts (guidelines), and His passion for a lost and dying world. Jesus was born in order for God to show God to the world!

The birth of Jesus demonstrated the confidence God had in mankind as he entrusted a virgin girl and a small town carpenter with the total care and education of His Son. The birth of Jesus displayed the commitment of God to doing exactly what He had declared through the messages of His prophets- a virgin would be with child, which would be born in Bethlehem but would be raised in Nazareth. The birth of Jesus declared the conditions of relationship between God and man had not changed since original sin in the garden; a sacrifice only God could provide was required.

Jesus came to declare God. Listen to what He has to say as He reveals God's heart and invites you into God's home.

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From: mike@scfwb.com
To: [Weekly Wisdom](#)
Subject: Devotion for December 29, 2010
Date: Wednesday, December 29, 2010 8:08:12 AM



newsletter

Vol 21 / Number 50
December 29, 2010

Rev Mike Jones 2434 Allen Road
Effingham, SC 29541 Mike@scfwb.com
843-687-4823 <http://www.ministerministry.com/>

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus;

Next week begins my 22nd year of writing weekly devotional articles for local newspapers. Two articles a week equals 104 articles a year (I will let you do the math on the total number written). God has blessed that, in addition to the newspaper readers, many articles have been printed into books, reprinted on the back of bulletins, or widely distributed via email. I praise the Lord for the privilege He has given me.

Sunday was a snow day and I ended up preaching to a family gathering instead of a church congregation. After all the wonderful Christmas food we had eaten all I had to do was mention gluttony and the "altar" filled right up!

Because of your generous giving Friends of India was able to contribute nearly \$150,000 to the work of God in India in 2010- Glory! Numerous churches were built and many aspects of the ministry in India were subsidized. Thank you for your support.

To live is Christ and to die is gain. I know not what the future holds but I know who holds the future and every day our walk brings us closer to His house. One day soon He will invite me in for dinner. I can hardly wait! .

Rev. Mike Jones ps 16:11

Mike Jones Schedule:

Dec 29 Preach Prayer Meeting at Black River FWB Church, Andrews, SC

Lessons for Living for Tuesday, December 28, 2010

COMMIT TO CHANGE

God did not call me into the ministry in order to change people. He called me to tell them about Jesus who is able to change them. I can persuade them of the need of change, point them to the power of God to assist them in changing, and provide principles that will help them change but only their commitment to work with God can produce real and lasting change.

God forgives our sins in a moment but He develops us into Christians in a lifetime as we allow Jesus to live out His life in us. God does not make us into "righteous robots" who cannot do wrong. He fashions us into New

Creatures who yearn to do right and who are transformed into Christ like people because they grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

The new creature you will become is a destination you are journeying toward because of a decision you made. That decision changes who is in charge of your life and gives you new priorities and life principles which will produce different actions and attitudes in your life. The struggle of the Christian life is learning to walk the narrow way under God's direction instead of following the broad way to destruction urged upon you by selfish desires and Satanic deceptions.

This means you need to commit to regular attendance at a Bible Teaching Church where you can get weekly instructions on how to live the joyous Christian life. Living with God, and for God, is the most exciting life possible. May this be the year you quit looking for a quick fix and commit to growing in the abundant life through a constant relationship with Christ.

Minister Message for Wednesday, December 29, 2010

PASTOR PLEA

If I could encourage Pastors as they prepare for a new year of ministry I would share these desires.

Give me a message from God that will stir my heart instead of tickle my ear. Do not just tell me how to be alive; show me how to have a life. Do not encourage me to survive; show me how to really thrive as I walk with God.

Do not ask me to spend my time and energy trying to manufacture a ministry of success and popularity for you. Enlist me to help build the kingdom of God as we prepare for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ and as we develop into the people God intended us to become. Stop simply telling me how bad I am and challenge me to do great things for a great God.

Teach me that the Abundant Life is not a script I follow but choices I make; and then show me how to make the right choices. Hundreds of voices reverberation at me each week demanding that I buy certain products, wear certain clothes, and escape from reality within their music or movie. Help me to hear the voice of God in the midst of this den of distraction so I can walk with God each day.

Life is scary right now. Each day is a struggle to survive financially, mentally, and emotionally. Politicians are posturing, terrorist are threatening, and job security is a thing of the past. Even at church I sometimes find conflict and change instead of peace and stability- Help!

If God has called you to make a difference then start by making a difference in me. Show me God and I will follow.

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