

Rejoicing From the Hills

"The little hills rejoice on every side."

-Psalm 65:12b-

Vol. 26, No. 1

A Publication of the North Hills Bible Church

January, February, March 2018

2018 Theme Standing In Grace



God used Simon Peter to write two letters to Christians in a time of great turmoil. The Romans had destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple, and they brought the nation of Israel to an end, dispersing the Jews who survived to nations around the world. The Christians who had been living in Jerusalem at the time, appear to have largely moved to the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia where Peter sent his letters to encourage them.

Standing is an image that God uses in the New Testament to describe the steadfastness believers should have in being faithful to Him in spite of the circumstances of life in which they find themselves. Paul used the term a number of times. For example, 1 Corinthians 16:13 *Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.* And, Ephesians 6:13 *Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

At the end of Peter's first letter, he makes the case that we are to stand in the true grace of God. *By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand* (1 Peter 5:12).

During the year 2018, we will be studying Peter's two letters. We will examine what Peter means by true grace and we will be looking at the variety of contexts in which he says believers must stand in this true grace. We will examine times we need to stand properly within the church. We will examine times we need to stand properly in the world outside the church. We will see forces of ungodliness against which we must stand and we will see the characteristics of godliness in which we must stand.

As the world around us sinks deeper and deeper into turmoil, it is more necessary than ever that we as Christians understand the nature of the true grace of God and the impact God intends it to have in making us steadfast, unmoveable, and always abounding in the work of the Lord. 📖

Please View Our Website

Please view some more pictures of our church activities on our website at www.northhillsbiblechurch.org and click on the "Resources" link and find "Current Issue". On our

website you can also see our current announcements, download literature and sermons, get our contact information and learn all about us.

Congregation Meeting January 28

The annual congregation meeting will be held Sunday, January 28 after the morning service. If the weather is bad it will be held the following Sunday.

The agenda will consist of accepting the budget for 2018.

Ladies Missionary Project

Our church ladies and teen girls will again do a project for our missionaries. We will meet in the fellowship hall to get a mailing ready for Servant's Heart Camp.

The date for this winter project is Saturday, February 17 at 10:00. If the weather is bad we will meet the following Saturday.

Time will be spent in prayer for all of our missionaries and then we will have lunch together and continue our fellowship as we enjoy the dish each lady brings to share.

Video Bible Classes

Robert Congdon is providing video Bible Classes on the internet. He has invited Pastor Moss to partner with him in this endeavor. Brother Congdon can be seen teaching on subjects of prophecy and Calvinism. Pastor Moss can be seen teaching on Angels. For those with low Internet speeds, you can view a low definition signal at <https://youtu.be/YAL6zuSkBOE> and for those wishing high definition video, go to www.CMI-TV.org.

A GOSPEL MESSAGE FOR YOU

Have you asked Jesus Christ to save you? If not, will you accept Him as your Saviour now? The following will explain what you need to do.

1. **ADMIT THAT YOU ARE A SINNER.** The Bible says, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23
2. **KNOW THAT GOD HAS ALREADY PROVIDED FOR YOUR SALVATION.** "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
3. **KNOW THAT YOU CANNOT SAVE YOURSELF.** "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us." Titus 3:5a
4. **REPENT OF YOUR SIN.** "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of." II Corinthians 7:10. "Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3
5. **ASK JESUS CHRIST TO SAVE YOU.** "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be **SAVED.**" Romans 10:13. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be **SAVED.**" Acts 16:31
6. **CONFESS JESUS BEFORE MEN.** "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead thou shalt be **SAVED.** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:9-10

If you have any questions or would like further spiritual help, please contact us at the North Hills Bible Church. Our phone number is 757-1316.

Library News

by Brenda Hamme, Librarian

New to the library is a book for young children, **God Gave Us Sleep**. Little Cub is having so much fun she doesn't want to stop for bedtime. Mama patiently answers her child's questions as she puts her to bed, explaining the importance of work, play, and rest. As they also talk through some of the fears that come with nighttime, Little Cub learns that God gave us sleep as a vital gift.

Also new from THE IMAGINATION STATION series are three books which take cousins, Patrick and Beth, back in time to the American Revolution:

The Redcoats Are Coming!
Captured on the High Seas
Surprise at Yorktown

In the NO LOOKING BACK SERIES from the **Jonathan Park Audio Adventures**, the Park and Brenan families face challenges in the Hidden Cave, at the Buchanan Ranch, on the museum construction site, during an all-girls' road trip, inside a scary mansion, and through false accusations. The CD albums in this series include:

Dangerous Dissension
A Close Call
The Talking Picture
The Blazing Star

In the second INCREDIBLE CREATURES SERIES DVD, **Incredible Creatures That Defy Evolution II**, Dr. Jobe Martin explores how certain birds can navigate over thousands of miles of ocean and never get lost, how fireflies and glowworms can create pure light that generates no heat, how great whales can dive to the bottom of the ocean without the pressure causing them to implode, and how some creatures can be cut in half and still regenerate themselves, even grow a new head!

Rejoicing From The Hills

A publication of
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Our Purpose

Soul winning at home and abroad
Bible teaching conducive
to Christian Living

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Honoring the Body God Created

What is man? The answer to this question is vital to the manner in which a person treats his human body. If a person believes that God created him, he will respect his body as gift to be nurtured, cared for, kept clean, and as healthy as possible. If a person believes God had nothing to do with his existence, he will look at his body as a self derived personal possession to use or abuse as he pleases. Unfortunately, too many people fall into the latter category and dishonor the bodies God gave them for life here on earth. In this article, we will examine the ways in which men dishonor their bodies and then examine the ways they ought to honor them.

The Ways In Which Men Dishonor Their Bodies

1. Dishonoring the body results from refusing to acknowledge God and indulging in ungodly activities.

According to Romans 1:21-24, men knew God but refused to glorify Him as God. They became unthankful for the life God had given them and for the promises God had made to them. Their imaginations were filled with vain and empty thoughts, causing darkness to prevail in their hearts. They declared themselves to be wise but in doing so, they became fools. In their foolishness, they made gods for themselves of men and birds and all kinds of animals. The glory that should have been God's as the creator, they gave instead to the things God created. God then released them to their own folly and gave them up to uncleanness. God never forces a man to do something against his own will, and if a man does not want to acknowledge God, God allows him to pursue the lusts of his own heart and inevitably to suffer the consequences.

In man's pursuit of his folly, he will dishonor the body God gave him by indulging in things that were never intended for it in creation. In the following verses in Romans chapter one (verses 25-32), God describes the lusts of God-rejecting men's hearts which result in dishonoring the body God gave them.

- They worship and serve creatures.
- They change the natural use of their bodies.
- They burn in their lust one toward another,
men with men and women with women.
- They work that which is unseemly (shameful).

- They do those things which are not convenient (appropriate or fitting).
- They are filled with unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness and maliciousness.
- They are full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, and malignity (bad character).
- They are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, and disobedient to parents.
- They are without understanding, covenant breakers (without integrity) and without natural affection.
- They are implacable (stubbornly disagreeable).
- They are unmerciful (uncaring for the plight of others).
- They know the judgment of God and they know that they which commit such things are worthy of death, but they don't care.
- They obstinately do all the things that make them subject to God's judgment and to death and they take pleasure in everyone who participates with them in these disgraceful activities.

All of these things have the potential of doing harm to their physical bodies along with the damage they do to their souls. The result is that in all of these ungodly activities men dishonor the bodies God gave them. The consequence is that they receive in themselves that recompense (wages or payback) of their error which was meet (appropriate) (Romans 1:27). When men abuse their bodies by doing things with them and to them that God never intended to be the natural use of them, there will be physical consequences: disease, decay, damage, disfigurement, and death.

2. Dishonoring the body is manifested in how people alter their appearance from how God made them.

This is not a matter of personal grooming, which is part of the responsible care and management of one's health. Rather, this is a matter of defacing the beauty of God's creation.

Cosmetic surgery has become a very popular thing these days. People are not happy with the way God made them look, and so they ask a surgeon to alter their appearance, whether it be their nose, or chin, or cheek bones, or any of a number of other body features. They think they can improve upon God's choices for their personal appearance (Psalm 139:15-16). Many times, the result is a horrible distortion of what was, and they look worse instead of better.

Another device being used today to alter a person's appearance is Botox injections. Botox can be used for appropriate medical purposes such as strengthening lazy eyes and relaxing muscles in the face. However, overuse or misuse of Botox can produce some awful results. Many Hollywood celebrity women use botox injections merely as a cosmetic enhancement of their facial features, but for some it has turned out very badly. Some women who had what was considered attractive faces ended up looking anything but attractive. If only they had been content with the way God had made them, they could have saved themselves a lot of anxiety.

Another device people use to alter their physical appearance is tattoos. This has become even more popular among women these days than among men. There is only one verse in the Bible that makes reference to tattoos. It is in the law of Moses and it forbids the Israelites to "print any marks" upon them. It is Leviticus 19:28 *Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am the LORD.* Such things were associated with idolatry and ungodliness. While we are not under the law, but under grace, we can still profit from all Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16). Before a Christian gets a tattoo, they should ask themselves some important questions. Are you doing this to fit in with the world? Are you doing this because you think it will draw attention to yourself? Are you doing this because you think it will make you more attractive? Is this really the will of God for you? Will God be pleased with the altering of your physical appearance by printing marks on your body? When people see a tattoo on your body, will people think, "Oh, that is a godly person." Or will they think, "Oh, that person is one of us – a person of the world."

Still another device people use to alter their physical appearance is body piercings. It is true that people in Bible times did have body piercings including such things as ear and nose rings. But just because something is mentioned in the Bible does not mean that God actually approves of it. Earrings for women may seem innocent enough, but what about earrings for men and nose rings and nose jewels and multiple body piercings?

Let's consider the matter of nose rings. Genesis 24:22 is one of the Bible's notations of earrings. The Hebrew word used in this verse and translated "earring" is Strong's number 05141, *nexem*. Hebrew Lexicons (dictionaries) say that this word means "a ring" and can refer to either a nose ring or an ear ring. However, the

translators of the King James Bible consistently translated the word without any reference to the nose. This word is used 17 times in the Old Testament. 14 times it is translated "earring." 3 times it is translated "jewel." Isaiah 3:21 mentions "nose jewels," but in this case the word nose has a separate Strong's number (0639) from the word "jewels" (05141). This is a clear indication that Isaiah did not want us to think of an earring by the use of 05141 alone, and therefore used the separate word for nose so that we would understand specifically what he was referring to. Proverbs 11:22 mentions a "jewel" (05141) of gold in a swine's snout, which if girls want to look like pigs, I suppose it would be something to do. (But here again, the word "snout" [0639] is separate from the word jewel [05141]). Ezekiel 16:12 mentions a "jewel" (05141) on the forehead. This was a jewel which hung from a ribbon around the head, and the jewel ring would hang upon the forehead down to the top of the nose. It was not attached by a body piercing. It is highly inappropriate to use any of this as justification for the kind of body piercings that seem to be popular today.

Earrings and nose jewels are only mentioned in the Old Testament, never in the new Testament. In the new Testament, there is only the mention of the wearing of gold without specifying how. The fact that the Bible mentions wearing earrings and nose jewels does not necessarily mean that God approves of it. 2 Kings 6:28-29 talks about women eating their children to survive, but that does not mean God would want us to do the same thing. Just because something is mentioned in the Bible does not mean it is something which we should do in our Christian lives.

With regard to the reference to nose jewels in Isaiah 3:21, it is in regards to God's judgment of Jewish women for their worldliness. The full passage includes verses 16-26. It describes a list of things God will take away from these women which includes their nose (0639) jewels (05141). Verse 16 says that this is because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet. The implication is that these are worldly women who have forsaken their spiritual heritage in the law of God. Why does God take all these things away from them, including their nose jewels? Because they are all part of their worldliness that has distracted them from the spiritual character God intended for them to adorn.

Both men and women apparently wore golden earrings in Bible times. Both men and women wear earrings today. When I was a child, if a boy had come to school wearing an earring, he would have been harassed and teased for being a sissy. Of course, today that is not politically correct and would be considered bullying. But with the feminization of our society, one must wonder why men think it is appropriate to wear earrings. Most men today who wear earrings probably would not think of themselves as succumbing to feminist influences, but the subtleties of societal pressures can mislead many well meaning people.

As far as multiple body piercings is concerned, anything that distorts one's physical appearance from God's original design for them cannot be pleasing to God. For any alteration to one's appearance that tends to draw attention to their outward man hinders people from seeing the character of a person's inner man. Or perhaps, the alteration of one's physical appearance, whether by cosmetic surgery, Botox injections, tattoos, or body piercings, does reveal something about a person's character.

The Ways In Which Men Honor Their Bodies

In the context of instructions to husbands and wives in Ephesians chapter 5, we find an interesting principle regarding how one should treat his body.

Ephesians 5:29

For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

I suppose there are those whom you could say have hated their bodies, but this is in reference to the normal respect a human being shows for himself and the body he has been given. We take baths to keep our bodies clean. We eat food regularly to keep our bodies nourished. We groom our bodies to keep ourselves presentable. We do all of this because it is normal for a person with appropriate self-respect to take care of his body in a reasonable fashion.

For believers, however, the care and use of our bodies goes beyond just the normal self-respect level. There are numerous places in Scripture that instruct us about this very matter.

1. When Christ purchased us with his blood, He purchased all of us, spirit, soul, and body.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which

ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

We were bought with the price of the blood of Christ. It was the price of redemption from sin and death and hell. At the time of our regeneration, our spirit is born again. But our spirit is not all that is transformed by the redemption that is ours in Christ. The promise is that in the resurrection, our bodies will also be redeemed in that they will be glorified and the adverse effects of sin will be totally removed from our physical beings. Then, we will have bodies like unto Christ's glorified body (1 John 3:2). In the meantime, our bodies as they are now are the temple of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit dwells in our physical bodies in the church in the same way the glory of God dwelt in the temple of Jerusalem in the Old Testament. And the presence of God in our bodies gives them a significance far beyond being an earthly creature. We therefore have a duty to do whatever we can to glorify God not only in our spirit but in our body as well.

2. Because we are part of the spiritual body of Christ, our physical bodies are for the Lord.

1 Corinthians 6:13, 15

Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.

Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.

Because we are in Christ and because the Holy Spirit is in us, our bodies have been designated as instruments for the Lord (Romans 6:12-13). It is therefore inappropriate for Christians to allow their bodies to be instruments of immoral activity.

3. We are to be holy both in spirit and in body.

1 Corinthians 7:34

There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

This particular verse refers to celibate single women who ought to exhibit purity in both body and spirit as they serve the Lord. Promiscuous single women cannot at the same time serve God honorably.

But single women are not alone in this requirement. All believers should use their bodies in ways that physically reflect the spiritual character of their position in Christ and the residence of the Holy Spirit within them. Thus repeating 1 Corinthians 6:20, *For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

4. We are expected as believers to exercise restraint to avoid spiritual damage by the flesh.

1 Corinthians 9:27

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

To keep under my body and to bring it into subjection means that I insure that the desires of my flesh do not dominate the will of my spirit, but that the exact opposite is the rule of my life. If the will of my spirit, which is to do the will of God, controls the activities of my body, I can avoid those sinful activities that would destroy my Christian testimony.

5. We may be called upon to experience some physical suffering for Jesus sake.

2 Corinthians 4:10

Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

We must acknowledge that throughout history, the people of God have at times suffered tremendous persecution and even martyrdom. A person who is unwilling to suffer physically for Christ may compromise his faith in order to preserve the comfort of his physical body. A believer, however, must consider physical comfort to be less important than the testimony of Christ.

6. We will be held accountable for all the things we do in our bodies.

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Every member of the body of Christ will some day stand before the Lord and be subjected to an accounting of his activities as a Christian on earth. There is no punishment handed out at this judgment seat, only reward or the loss of reward (1 Corinthians 3:11-15). But the accounting that will take place there includes everything that a Christian did in his body while living on the earth. Thus, our physical activities, or the way we use our bodies, has a bearing on the reward we will receive in heaven and the glory we may give to the Lord who saved us.

7. It should be our desire that, no matter what, Christ will be magnified in our bodies.

Philippians 1:20

According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.

The word magnify means to make conspicuous. The idea is that whether in the manner in which we live in this physical world, or in the manner in which we die physically, we should do all we can to insure that the most visible thing about our lives is the Lord Jesus Christ, not ourselves, and certainly not our bodies.

8. We should cooperate with God who desires to preserve our whole being – spirit, soul, and body – blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are told that we ought to follow holiness without which no man shall see the Lord (Hebrews 12:14). In the Psalms this is expressed by the terms “clean hands” and a “pure heart” (Psalm 24:4). The heart refers to the inner man, the spirit within, while the clean hands refers to the outer man, the physical body. While it is true that in the resurrection we will receive glorified bodies, God works in us now, as believers, to prepare us spiritually and physically to stand in His presence.

9. There are things that are needful for the body, and we should see that these things are provided.

James 2:16

And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things

which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

While this is referring to helping others with those things that are needful to the body, we have here an interesting reference to the importance of properly caring for the health of our bodies. A truly spiritual person does not neglect the basic care of his physical being but provides those things which are needful.

10. Even the words we speak have the potential of physical consequences.

James 3:6

And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

Angry, nasty, vulgar, offensive speech reflects upon the character of a person's inner man. But according to this verse, such words being regularly spewed out of one's mouth can have an adverse effect on the whole body. An angry, bitter, grumbling person is likely to be a physically unhealthy person as well.

11. How we present our bodies to public view should reflect an inner character that is pleasing to God.

There are two passages of Scripture that address the matter of how we dress our bodies. In both cases, we are instructed that our outward adornment is to reflect an inner character of godliness.

1 Timothy 2:9-10

In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

1 Peter 3:3-5

Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:

The 1 Peter passage clearly shows that even for Old Testament women, an inner godly character stood in contrast to a gaudy adornment of their outward appearance. The point is, what we choose to wear on our bodies should not be the first and only thing that attracts people to us. We should dress our bodies as believers in such a way that invites someone to see first and foremost our countenance by which we may communicate a godly character.

What about burial?

Many Christians are asking the question today about the appropriateness of cremation. This is a very personal choice and many times it is made on account of financial considerations. This seems reasonable enough. It is much less expensive to cremate a body than to have it buried in the traditional manner. There is no verse of Scripture that directly addresses this subject. We are left to observe the testimony of saints in the Bible. Without exception, saints in the Bible provided an honorable burial for the bodies of their loved ones. This is something to consider.

Conclusion

Many people today think that the presentation of our outer man is unimportant because God looks on the heart. This comes from a statement made by God Himself to the prophet Samuel when he was examining the sons of Jesse to anoint one of them as the next king of Israel. Samuel thought the oldest son, Eliab, must be the one because of his physical appearance. God said however, *Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.* (1 Samuel 16:7) The point of this though is not that our bodies are unimportant. On the hand, God indeed can look beyond a person's outward appearance which can be deceptive and see the true nature of a person's heart. However, the other point is that man can only see our outward appearance. And if they are to have a proper impression of who we are in Christ, it is incumbent upon us to provide a physical presentation of our bodies that shows how much respect we have for God and for the price Christ paid to save us from sin and death and hell. As Christians, our bodies are for the Lord: not for ourselves and not for the world. As we care for our bodies, feed them, clean them, groom them, and dress them, let us be most concerned about making them as useful as possible for the glory of God. 📖

Missionary News



From
Around
The World
and
Here at Home

Child Evangelism Fellowship

By Lisa Garlick, Director of

(CEF) of York County

Moises & Rosa Campos

Castellar del Valles, Spain

Men's Fellowship at Camp Ebenezer

More than 30 men from different churches had a refreshing time of prayer, communion and Bible preaching. Moises spoke about walking in the light of the Lord in a time of darkness.

Ladies Retreat

After several months of planning and praying, we had our Ladies Retreat. Under the theme of "Trusting God", 43 women met for two days to study the Word of God and to have a precious time of fellowship. Everyone was refreshed and encouraged, and they told us to repeat it again next year. It was a tremendous joy to see both young women and great-grandmothers praying together and sharing their burdens.

The Caravaca family are helping us in Castellar.

Their daughter, Esther, was baptized in Hebron Valley Church, since we don't have a baptismal pool yet. Several unbelievers and many relatives and friends were present, and they could hear a clear evangelistic message.

About the work in Castellar

The Lord is giving us good meetings and we are very thankful for the opportunity of serving Him in this town. We are anticipating the blessings that God has in the near future.

What a blessing to lead a child to Christ! Katie shared the counseling cards with a child during interview time. The boy had tears in his eyes before praying to receive the Lord.

"I know you!" said a 21 year old gal who came into the tent with her 19 year old boyfriend.

"How do you know me?" I asked.

"I came here in 2000, and I was at your table."

"Are you sure it was me?" I asked her twice.

"Yes, it was you!"

She would have been four years old at the time. That was 17 years ago that she trusted the Lord! What a God moment! Her boyfriend prayed to receive the Lord and signed up for a correspondence course and received a New Testament!

One day after a little girl prayed to receive the Lord, she said, "Now I can ask God to help me at school when I get bullied!"

A 34 year old African American mom came into the tent. She seemed so serious and didn't show much emotion. She had a very young child with her. After hearing the Wordless Book, she bowed her head and prayed, and then looked up and laughed and said, "I feel great!" with real enthusiasm. What a blessing!

An eleven year old wanted us to paint a skull on her face, but we said we don't paint skulls. We paint flowers, butterflies, etc. After she heard the Wordless Book she prayed to receive the Lord.

As you can see the fields are truly white unto harvest. Please pray for a very fruitful Good News Club ministry during this school year.

Peter & Rosa Pinyol

Castillebisbal, Spain

Evangelism

In November we had an evangelism activity. We bought "Christmas" brochures and prepared music CDs with a message to give to our neighbors. We continue trying to reach the surrounding villages. If you would like to collaborate "adopting" a town you can help us in the purchase of brochures or production of CDs. Pray for the contacts and the evangelistic effort we have in the town of Tarragona.

Salvation

These are the names of those to whom we have been talking about Christ. Please pray for their salvation: Pablo Vela, Andrea, Valentin, Xavi, Dina, Marco, Blanca, Angels, Miquel, Andreu, Toni, Lozano, Antonio, Ramon, and many more.

Bible Institute and Emol (Escuela Ministerial Online)

The Lord has blessed us a lot in a new course of our Bible Institute and work through EMOL (Online Ministerial School). There are already three churches and twelve students who are following our online course plus the nine students in our class. Right now we have students from Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, USA, Spain and Peru that are following us through the internet.

Cancer Total Recovery

I have given away all the books I had of "In the Valley of Shadows". I need to make more copies and I keep contacting people who have walked or are walking in this valley. Thank you all for the help in printing and giving these books.

Bible Revision

Exodus is the last book that we are reviewing and working together with the reading committees. Keep praying for this project and for us so that the Lord will give us direction and wisdom.

Ministry of Children and Youth

The Lord gave us an extraordinary time in the Mini-Camp. In total there were 20 souls who participated in that camp where they learned the history of the Reformation. I have never seen children so interested in hearing about the past! We also had a Youth

Retreat where I preached about "The Purity of Joseph in Egypt". Keep praying for these children and young boys and for our ministry to them.

Our Heart

I do not want to just share activities. Behind everything that we do is our heart, our love for the Lord and His Word, our love for the lost souls and especially for the Catalan people. My greatest need is to continue in a growing communion with the Lord and to live for His glory. Thank you for praying for that need, and thank you for helping us to fulfill our call.

Donald & Karen Kilmer

To the Zulu's in South Africa

One of the privileges we have here in South Africa is that we get to go to the public schools and tell them about Jesus! Before starting classes the schools have an opening assembly where the students gather for announcements and prayer. In one school there are over 1000 students. In one week I get to preach to thousands of young people at school assemblies.

One morning I went to preach at a school and the weather report was calling for rain. When it rains there is no opening assembly. The school doesn't have a large hall, and so when the student body meets they stand outside in the open between class rooms. When I got up in the morning it was only cloudy, so I drove to the school. When I got close to the school it started to rain, but soon stopped raining. I prayed, asking the Lord to hold the rain long enough for me to preach to the students. After getting to school it started to rain again and thunder was rumbling all around us. However, it soon stopped and when the bell sounded for school to start the students gathered outside. I preached to them and then they went to their classrooms. I got in my car and left and went no more than ½ mile when it started to rain and continued to rain the whole day.

Pray for God to draw people to His truth as we teach, preach and witness in schools and various communities.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Church Banquet

As always, there was an abundance of good food which was served family style. We thank Buck and Cindy Smith for preparing a home-style meal including roast beef, baked potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, fruit cup and brownies and ice cream for dessert.

It was so enjoyable to sit around the table with the festive decorations, and fellowship as we celebrated Christ's birth. Each place setting had a candy cane and a word search puzzle of Christmas verses.

We had the privilege of special music by Hannah Wertz on the violin. All joined in singing several Christmas carols.

The speaker was Nathanael Moss. His challenge to us was to recognize the Truth, as Anna and Zacharias did when they saw Jesus in the temple, and be the one to share it with others this Christmas season.

Christmas Eve Candelight Service

It was a lovely evening with musical specials on the piano, flute, cello and various groups singing. The congregation also enjoyed singing many of the favorite Christmas carols, and then Pastor Moss gave a Christmas message.

The evening was concluded with each person in attendance having a candle of their own. The lights were turned off and only one candle was lit. From that one candle a few more were lit by the teens. Then the teens went down the aisles and lit one more at the end of each pew. The candle at the end of the pew was used to light the other candles in the row one by one, till all the candles were lit. As this was happening the song *Silent Night* was sung. What a great illustration of how much brighter our world would be if we each let our lights shine for the Lord.

Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins

The homeschool group brought joy and Christmas cheer to some of our church shut-ins as they dropped in and sang Christmas carol favorites to those who can't get out and enjoy the season as we can. They visited some nursing homes. In the nursing homes there are other people who can hear the carols being sung, and it is a blessing to them as well. The older people especially love to see the children.

The homeschoolers made homemade Christmas cards to send to the shut-ins they didn't get to carol to, and each of the children signed their names to the cards before being mailed.

Sunday School Class Christmas Program

For our children's program the children present things they have been learning in class since May when we had our Children's Program. Some of the verses and songs presented this time had to do with Christmas and some did not. It is always a pleasure to see and hear what they have been learning in class.

Preschool

These little 2 - 5 year olds amazingly had memorized and quoted all of the 10 Commandments in addition to Luke 2:11 which tells that a Savior was born in the City of David. They also used the letters in the word J-E-S-U-S to tell us about Jesus coming to save us from our sins, and how glad we are that He came as a baby so long ago. They sang *Praise Him in the Morning, How did Moses Cross the Red Sea, Here We Come to Bethlehem, and Glory Angels Sang*.

Primaries

The 1st - 3rd graders had memorized Matthew 2:1-11 which tells about the Wisemen coming to see Jesus in Bethlehem. As the girls took turns reciting the passage, Daniel changed hats to represent what was being quoted. He was a wiseman, King Herod, Chief Priest, and the boy Jesus. The emphasis for the rest of their part of the program was living a life which is a living testimony for the Lord by our attitudes and the way we live our life.

Juniors

The 4th - 6th graders had their part of the program called G-O-S-P-E-L, where they did something for each letter. They sang *Good Christian Men, Rejoice, Ring the Bells, I'll Live for Jesus*, and a song named *Christmas*. They quoted Philippians 4:4-13 which they memorize this last quarter. They acted out the story of Philip and the Ethiopian taken from Acts chapter 8, which was one of the stories they learned in class.

Please see pictures of our church activities on our website at www.northhillsbiblechurch.org and click on the "Resources" link and find "Current Issue".

Adult Christmas Program

On December 17 during the morning worship service the adults presented us with a variety of music along with narration. The theme was "A Child Is Born, A Son Is Given".

After two songs by the congregation, the narration began and was then interspersed with songs by the choir including: *O Holy Night, Silent Night, Born in a Manger, Dear Little Stranger, Born to Die, Down from His Splendor, Joyful We Adore thee, and King of My Life I Crown Thee Now.* Piano and flute accompanied the choir.

The message by Pastor Moss entitled "A Child Is Born, A Son Is Given" emphasized how Jesus was God and man and retained both identities - His humanity and his diety. The Messiah is called the Son of David expressing His humanity. Isaiah said, "Behold your God" expressing His diety. Luke 2 says they found the babe = humanity. In Matthew He is called the King of the Jews, it says they saw His star and were come to worship Him = diety. In John it is recorded that Jesus said, "Before Abraham was, I am." expressing that he is the eternal Son and God and the pure sinless Son of Man. Even though He came and was born as a human baby, He existed in eternity past.

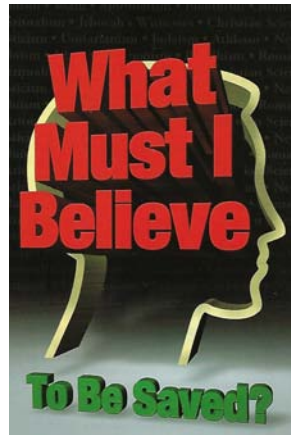
Teens Christmas Specials

The children had their Christmas program during the Sunday School hour, and the adults in the morning worship service, so in the evening service the teens had the spotlight and presented a message in song entitled *Behold the Babe*. They also played "The Birthday of A King" on the choirchimes.

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Spotlight on Tracts



What Must I Believe to be Saved ?

"We need more than just knowledge in our heads. To be saved requires faith in one's heart."

What do we need to believe about the Bible, our sin nature, God, Christ, and Jesus blood? This tract answers all these questions and more.

"Whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. Believest thou this?" (John 11:26)

The Crowd May Be Wrong



People said that Christopher Columbus would sail off the edge of the earth, but in 1492 he discovered America.



People laughed at the Wright brothers' attempts to create a flying machine, but in 1903 they flew the first airplane

The Crowd May Be Wrong!

" People said that Christopher Columbus would sail off the edge of the earth, but in 1492 he discovered America.

"People laughed at the Wright brothers' attempts to create a flying machine, but in 1903 they flew the first airplane.

"We smile at the crowd's failure to appreciate something new or different. But being wrong can be a serious problem when it comes to our relationship to God.

"You can be wrong about many things, but you dare not be wrong about Christ."

These two attractive tracts can be found in our narthex. Please help yourself to them and share them with others who may need the Gospel.



Preschoolers

taught by Mrs. Joyce Moss

Last quarter the preschoolers had a series on Moses and learned about the Tabernacle. There was a Tabernacle display set up in the room that had been made by Earl Morrow. With this they could see the things they were learning about. When the Table of Shewbread was discussed they got to share some bread like the Priests did in the Holy Place.

Then of course for the month of December we learned about Jesus coming to earth as a baby and all the circumstances surrounding that. They enjoyed 'packing' for the trip to Bethlehem. When we had the Christmas program practice they got to do a couple of crafts, and of course, sing *Happy Birthday* to Jesus and blow out the candle on their cupcake.



Primaries

taught by Buck & Cindy Smith

We are continuing our studies in the Life of Christ. We have covered Jesus boyhood and some of his early ministry. We have studied about Jesus calling his 12 disciples. We also have studied some of the miracles which Jesus performed.

Our emphasis has been on being disciples for Jesus. We need to spend time with him in prayer, talking to him. We need to spend time reading our Bibles, so we can know and hear his Word. Jesus wants us to spend time with Him and to be a friend of His. We are to be His witnesses. In December we studied the promise of the Savior and his birth.

Juniors

taught by Gerald & Darcy. Cook

We have been continuing our study in the book of Acts and are getting ready to start our lessons on Paul. What a thrill it has been to be reminded of those early Christians and their ministry in the early church. We learned about Peter and how God revealed to him in a unique way that the door was open to all people, including Gentiles like Cornelius. Philip was used by God to give the gospel to an Ethiopian; then God just took him away! We found it funny when Peter was released from prison by an angel (an answer to prayer); then those praying for him wouldn't believe it. We had a lot of fun having a combined class with the Primaries for Thanksgiving, and look forward to joining them for Christmas Eve.

Shawn Smith, Rebecca and David Wertz memorized Philippians 4:4-13. Over the next two quarters we will be memorizing the entire chapter of Romans 12.

Master Clubs

Director - Nathaniel Wertz

Recently the Ambassador class learned about Jesus' care for the little children. Jesus encouraged His disciples to come to Him as these little ones, with faith nothing wavering. Just as Peter walked upon the water as Jesus suggested, we too can step out in faith trusting Him to take care of us. I explained to the children that we exercise faith each time we open our eyes. God gives us the ability to see. We open our eyes in faith expecting to see something, but the act of opening our eyes does not give us sight. Many blind people can open their eyes to "look" at something; however, God has not given them the ability to see. The faith to open our eyes and see today is based upon the fact that we have been able to see in the past. God gave us His Word full of examples of His faithfulness and provision. Can you trust Him with the circumstances in your life?





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QUIZZING

by Quiz Coach, Mrs. Joyce Moss

We have now worked our way through I John chapter 3 by focusing on 5 new verses each week since September. Now we are ready for some competition. The first Sunday in January, in the evening church service, will be a demonstration for the congregation of what a quizzing event is like.

We have two teams this year with three on one team and four on the other. Six people quiz at a time - three from each team. As a question is asked the quizzers try to be the first one up to answer the question. This practice demonstration at the beginning of January helps to get the quizzers ready for competition against other churches.

The competitions will take place as follows on Sunday afternoons from 2:00-4:00.

January 21 on I John chapters 1 & 2 at Lancaster Independent Baptist Church in Lititz.

February 25 on I John chapters 3 & 4 here at North Hills Bible Church in York.

March 25 on I John chapter 5 and II John at First Baptist Church in Lebanon.

Then on Saturday, April 21 we will have our final competition on all of the material at Faith Bible Church in Mount Joy, as teams are eliminated throughout the afternoon. At this final event there are also some fun activities, supper and then a youth rally in the evening where the top three teams compete to declare a champion for the year.

HOMESCHOOL NEWS

Led by Dawn Balcom

The Beginners Class talked about making friends. "A man who has friend's must show himself friendly," was our theme for the day. We traced their hands and glued them onto big wooden sticks so that they could practice hand shaking. We had story time, playtime, and gym time as well. Mrs. Morrow did some sign language. In November, the lesson was on sitting still in your seats, staying in your seat, sharing your toys, and singing joyfully. The craft was a Smiling face on a stick. Mrs. Morrow taught some more sign language. The children made turkeys out of paper bags, and they had story time and gym time.

In October, the Middle class continued their music studies. Having studied stringed instruments previously, they moved on to woodwind instruments and continued to learn the recorder. They have sign language classes each month from Mrs. Morrow. They studied the history of the hymn, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." In November they learned about brass instruments and practiced using a trumpet mouthpiece. They had more recorder lessons and sign language lessons. The children played kick ball for gym for both months.

The High School Class has been learning Speech with Pastor and Mrs. Berkheiser. In October, they went over the elements of Speaking (Speak clearly with emotion, expression, and good posture). They practiced tongue twisters and some of the teens did a Scripture Reading in front of the class. In November, they learned some new elements of Speech: purpose, preparation, and development. Pastor Berkheiser told them how to prepare a personal testimony, and that is their next assignment. Mrs. Balcom is doing art and gym with the teens. She focused on water color painting these first few months. They learned different brush techniques and painted some fruit. They had to draw a piece of fruit to paint in October. For November they were to bring a different drawing to class to paint. Check out some of their art work on our home school board.

For Field trips we went to Hope Well Furnace in October which is a historical site that still has the original structures on the very land where it started. We visited Manor Care and Autumn House to sing Christmas hymns in December.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



January

7	Teen Bible Quiz Demo	6:30 PM
9	Teen Bowling Activity	5:30 PM
11	Homeschool Classes	9:00 AM
14	Pleasant Acres Service	1:45 PM
15	Life Path Christian Ministry	8:00 PM
17	TAP Ministries	8:00 AM
21	Teen Bible Quiz Competition	2-4 PM
22	Homeschool Roller Skating	

February



9	Homeschool Classes	9:00 AM
10	Teen Activity	
18	Manor Care Service	1:45 PM
19	Life Path Christian Ministry	8:00 PM
21	TAP Ministry	8:00 AM
22	Homeschool Field Trip	
25	Teen Bible Quiz Competition	2-4 PM

March



8	Homeschool Classes	9:00 AM
10	Teen Capture the Flag	1:00 PM
11	Pleasant Acres Service	1:45 PM
19	Life Path Christian Ministry	8:00 PM
21	TAP Ministry	8:00 AM
22	Homeschool Field Trip	
25	Teen Bible Quiz Competition	2-4 PM

Up-coming Events for

Our Missionaries

January

Blackwell, Marc & Judie - Capetown, South Africa
Church planting in Durbanville, Paarl Valley, Malmesbury, and Tygerberg

Child Evangelism Fellowship - York, PA
Good News Clubs in public schools

Friends of Israel
'Day in the Prophetic Word' Conference

Kilmer, Don & Karen - South Africa, Zulus
Megaphone ministry and visitation ministry

Military Evangelism - Camp LeJune, NC
Bible Studies on base

February

Friends of Israel
Two Prophecy Conferences

Livioco, Bobby & Imee - Philippines
Heart's Banquet with seven other churches

Moss, Sam & Nicole - Uganda, East Africa
Ma'adi Bible Translation Project

Perrott, Roger & Nola - Hong Kong
Plans to return to field from furlough

March

Campos, Moises & Rosa - Spain
Evangelistic Bible Exhibits in town halls

Child Evangelism Fellowship - York, PA
Good News Clubs in public schools

Friends of Israel
Speaking at Purim Celebration

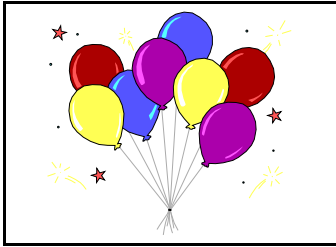
Livioco, Bobby & Imee - Philippines
Bible Translation Project printing & distribution

Pinyol, Peter & Rosa - Spain
Two day Mini-Camp

**Remember
to Pray
for Your
Missionaries**



Church Family News



Happy Birthday

January

- 9 - Jim Beath
- 9 - Josiah Krape
- 15 - Cindy Smith
- 17 - Lorraine Beath
- 18 - **Eunice Livio**
- 26 - Shigeko Hall
- 29 - Jim Hall

February

- 4 - Matthew Krape
- 5 - **Andrew Perrott**
- 5 - Tanisha Smith
- 6 - Paul Grove
- 7 - Pat Rudisill
- 9 - Earl Morrow
- 13 - Joan Fink
- 13 - Vernon Shields
- 15 - Nathaniel Wertz

March

- 9 - Rachel Hollingshead
- 9 - **Nicole Moss**
- 9 - **Samuel Moss**
- 10 - Pamela Grove
- 11 - Barry Shelly
- 14 - Richard Fetrow Jr.
- 14 - Jonathan Kanost
- 15 - Sonja Breneman



- 15 - Roy Morrow
- 16 - Jennifer Morrow
- 17 - Ruth Warner
- 18 - Pastor Moss
- 18 - Gary Zimmerman
- 19 - **Peter Pinyol**
- 20 - **Jonathan Perrott**
- 23 - Lydia Fetrow
- 24 - Amy Kanost



Happy Anniversary

January

- 11 - Greg & Shirley Beard

February

- 3 - **Marc & Judie Blackwell**
- 12 - Ervin & Sue Kornbau
- 16 - Gene & Sherry Beam

March

- 19 - Bill & Doris Knudsen

Please Note!

The purpose of printing these lists is to give the church family an opportunity to congratulate one another on these special days. The **bold print** indicates a member of our missionary family.



Please see pictures of our church activities on our website at www.northhillsbiblechurch.org and click on the "Resources" link and find "Current Issue".



A Prayer for the New Year

By A. B. Simpson

Lord, I would ask for a Holy year,
Spent in Thy perfect will;
Help me to walk in Thy very steps
Help me to please Thee still.

Lord, I would ask for a busy year,
Filled up with service true;
Doing with all Thy Spirit's might
All that I find to do.

Lord, I would ask for a year of
hope,
Looking for Thee to come,
And hastening on that year of
years
That bring us Christ and Home.



Remember Our Shut-ins

Lorraine Beath, Jeannie Geesey, Pam Grove, Shigeko Hall, Gloria Hevner, Olivia Kauffman, Reba Moose, Susan Peters, Reg Stelfox

Children's Christmas Program



Singing
"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Primaries:
Girls quoting Matthew 2:1-11
while Daniel exchanged hats for each character mentioned:
Wisemen,
King Herod,
Chief Priests,
the boy Jesus.



Juniors:
Explaining the Gospel.
They also quoted Philipians 4:4-13

PRESCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



For the series on Moses they did a stand up figure of Moses with moveable arms. Another craft was Moses crossing the Red Sea. They enjoyed putting lots of fish in the 'water'. The stand-up waves can be taken in and out, and this craft floats on water.



At their Christmas party they enjoyed singing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus and blowing out the candle on the cupcake.



At the beginning of the new year they will be studying creation. An aquatic craft was done for this series.

Day 1 - light is needed for the project to thrive.

Day 2 - water for the fish.

Day 3 - dry land = stones, plants = peace lily.

Day 4 - sun for the plant to grow.

Day 5 - a betta fish.

Day 6 - a person to take care of the project:)



Teens and Adults Presenting Christmas Music

