

Rejoicing From the Hills

"The little hills rejoice on every side."

-Psalm 65:12b-

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January, February, March 2015

Theme for 2015



Everything Is Going To Be Okay

Jeremiah prophesied in the days just preceding the destruction of Jerusalem and the Babylonian captivity of the Israelites. In his day, there were false prophets that kept telling the people everything was going to be okay. It was a great message, but unfortunately it was not true. Jeremiah reported on these false prophets saying, *Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.* (Jeremiah 14:13) God confirmed that He had not given these false prophets this message. He said, *The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart* (Jeremiah 14:14).

Even though this happened so very long ago, history seems to be repeating itself today. We who believe the Bible know that great tribulation is

going to come upon this world some day. Yet there are so many voices trying to convince the world that world peace is possible and in sight.

We can learn a lot about our world today by studying the Book of Jeremiah. This will be the course of your study for the year 2015 during the Sunday morning worship service. While we will have to notice the historical context of the Book of Jeremiah, our study will primarily be about the spiritual condition of the people of this world – both of those who believe, and of those who do not.

The truth is, for those who do not believe, everything will not be okay. But for those who do believe, everything will be okay. Maybe not here on earth in the way we might think, but by the grace of God, we who believe will be able to endure through even the toughest of times. As God told Jeremiah, *For, behold, I have made thee this day a defenced city, and an iron pillar, and brasen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land. And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee* (Jeremiah 1:18-19). 📖

Please View Our Website

Please see 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 25

The annual congregation meeting will be held Sunday, January 25 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 2015.

Ladies Missionary Project February 28

Our church ladies and teen girls will again do a winter project for our missionaries. Saturday, February 28 at 10:00 a.m. we will meet in the fellowship hall to get a mailing ready for Servant's Heart Camp.

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.

If the weather is bad we will meet the following Saturday.

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

As we begin a new year, this is a reminder that the library, located in the lower level of the church across from the restrooms, is open between Sunday School and Morning Worship, 15 minutes after Morning Worship, and 15 minutes before the Evening Service. If none of these times is convenient for you, please let me know and I'll be happy to assist you.

Three DVDs from the Institute for Creation Research series, YOUR ORIGINS MATTER, are now available:

Astronomy Reveals Creation Human Design: The Making of a Baby What You Haven't Been Told about Dinosaurs

The original ADVENTURES IN ODYSSEY video series, which teaches lessons about courage, faith, and more through animated stories, is now available on DVD. The following will be added to the library this year:

**The Knight Travellers
A Flight to the Finish
A Fine Feathered Frenzy
Shadow of a Doubt
Star Quest
Once Upon an Avalanche
Electric Christmas
Go West, Young Man
Someone to Watch Over Me
In Harm's Way
A Twist in Time
A Stranger Among Us
Baby Daze**

Over the next few months, look for these new books in the JUNGLE DOCTOR series:

**Jungle Doctor Stings a Scorpion
Jungle Doctor Pulls a Leg
Jungle Doctor Looks for Trouble**

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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THE RUDIMENTARY PRINCIPLES AROUND WHICH THE WORLD TURNS

Introduction

The word “principles” sounds like a very good thing. If a man lives by his principles, he must be a good man – right? Principles can be good or bad. The word “principle” means “that which is believed, whether true or not, but which serves as **a rule of action**” (Noah Webster - 1828).

There are certain principles which serve as rules of action in our world today. These principles are not true, but they are believed. And they form the axis upon which this present world turns.

GOD ADDRESSES THE RUDIMENTS OF THE WORLD

The word “rudiments” appears twice in the English Bible, both in the book of Colossians.

Colossians 2:8

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Colossians 2:20

*Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from **the rudiments** [4747] **of the world**, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,*

The word “rudiments” comes from Strong’s number 4747. It is translated three ways in Scripture: element, rudiment, and principle. It means: first principals, primary and fundamental principles, or foundational principles from which a philosophy of life is derived and action is taken or life is lived. This definition is most evident in Hebrews 5:12, *For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles [4747] of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.*

The first principles of the oracles of God are good rudimentary principles by which – if a man orders his life – he will honor God and fulfill God’s will for his life. On the other hand, the first principles of the world

are bad rudimentary principles by which – if a man orders his life – he will be in bondage to an evil, corrupt, and unproductive system.

The Effect of the Rudiments of the World.

Galatians 4:3

*Even so we, when we were children, were ***in bondage under the elements*** [4747] ***of the world***:*

Galatians 4:9

*But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to ***the weak and beggarly elements*** [4747], ***whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?****

Colossians 2:8

*Beware lest any man ***spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit***, after the tradition of men, ***after the rudiments*** [4747] ***of the world***, and not after Christ.*

The rudimentary principles of the world are weak and beggarly, or impoverishing. They make a man weak and poor. They make a man impoverished by those who take advantage of him. They put a man in bondage, taking his freedom from him. As an illustration, there is a debate in our country today which asks: Should we give up some of our freedoms in order to be safe? Which is more important: safety or freedom? The proposal that we should give up our freedoms in order to be safe is a weak and beggarly principle that puts us in bondage. 2 Peter 2:19 says, *While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.* This is true both spiritually and politically.

Lets consider some of the rudiments of the world and the detriment they are to mankind.

RUDIMENTARY PRINCIPLE OF THE WORLD #1 - THEY CALL EVIL GOOD, AND GOOD EVIL

Isaiah 5:20

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

What is good?

Ephesians 4:28-29

28 *Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands **the thing which is good**, that he may have to give to him that needeth.*

29 *Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but **that which is good** to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.*

The word “good” means “that which is excellent, distinguished, upright, honourable, honest, benevolent, kind, and generous. Everything about God is good. In fact, He is the essence of goodness. Consider the following verses of Scripture.

Matthew 19:17

17 *And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? **there is none good but one, that is, God**; but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.*

Psalms 100:5

5 **For the LORD is good**; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

Also, God’s Word is good.

2 Kings 20:19

19 *Then said Hezekiah unto Isaiah, **Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken**. And he said, Is it not good, if peace and truth be in my days?*

Hebrews 6:5

*And have tasted **the good word of God**,*

Everything that is good, therefore, will come from God or His Word.

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

What is evil?

The word “evil” means, that which is bad or of a bad nature, that which is wicked and mischievous, delighting in doing injury or harm to others, that which is dangerous, or destructive. It is exactly the opposite

of that which is good and therefore, it is the antithesis to the nature of God and His word.

1 John 3:12

12 *Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother’s righteous.*

3 John 1:11

3 *Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.*

God’s Indictment

Unfortunately, The world takes that which is mischievous, destructive, sinister, injurious, dangerous, wicked, and bad in nature and calls it excellent, honorable, and beneficial. God has exposed this error in very direct terms in His Word.

Isaiah 5:20

*Woe unto them that **call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!***

Proverbs 17:15

*He that **justifieth the wicked**, and he that **condemneth the just**, even they both are abomination to the LORD.*

Malachi 2:17

*Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, **Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the LORD**, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?*

Examples Of Calling Evil Good

A. Example #1. The world says, marriage is not a sacred institution.

In 1996, Congress passed and President Bill Clinton signed into law the Defense of Marriage Act. It defined marriage in this way.

SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE.

(a) IN GENERAL- Chapter 1 of title 1, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

`Sec. 7. Definition of `marriage' and `spouse'

`In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, or of any ruling, regulation, or interpretation of the various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States, the word `marriage' means only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife, and the word `spouse' refers only to a person of the opposite sex [gender] who is a husband or a wife.'

It codified this assertion

`Sec. 1738C. Certain acts, records, and proceedings and the effect thereof

`No State, territory, or possession of the United States, or Indian tribe, shall be required to give effect to any public act, record, or judicial proceeding of any other State, territory, possession, or tribe respecting a relationship between persons of the same sex [gender] that is treated as a marriage under the laws of such other State, territory, possession, or tribe, or a right or claim arising from such relationship.'

In other words, it was the law of the land that in every Federal context, marriage only consisted of the union between one man and one woman. It was also the law of the land, that if any state allowed for marriage between two people of the same sex within that state, no other state was required to recognize that marriage as legitimate.

On February 23, 2011 at 12:33 PM, the National Journal reported that President Obama decided that the Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional and that he asked his Justice Department to stop defending it in court. The administration announced that, "The President believes that DOMA is unconstitutional. They are no longer going to be defending the cases in the 1st and 2nd circuits."

The President's action reflected the "new" morality for marriage in our culture. This "new" morality for marriage is now labeled "marriage equality." In light of the new "marriage equality" movement, consider the following:

Supreme Court strikes down Defense of Marriage Act
Richard Wolf and Brad Heath, USA TODAY, June 26, 2013

WASHINGTON -- A divided Supreme Court gave a major boost to gay and lesbian rights on Wednesday, striking down a key section of a federal law that denied federal benefits to legally married same sex [gender] couples and forcefully criticizing what it called unconstitutional discrimination.

In a decision deeply skeptical of laws that treat gays and lesbians differently from others, the justices invalidated a section of the 17-year-old Defense of Marriage Act that denied federal benefits to married gays and lesbians in a dozen states, from Maine to Washington, and the District of Columbia. That measure, the court declared, existed primarily "to demean those persons who are in a lawful same sex [gender] marriage."

The 5-4 decision gives the court's blessing — at least in part — to a gay-marriage movement that has gained momentum over the past decade, and is one of the most significant legal victories ever for same sex [gender] rights advocates. It also signaled that the high court may look more critically in the future at other laws that single out same sex [gender] couples.

Susan Page, USA TODAY June 26, 2013
WASHINGTON — The nation's rapidly changing attitudes toward homosexuality have been reflected in dramatic changes in the views of presidents, the rules for military service and the policies defining families.

And now, in the Supreme Court.

The high court ended its term Wednesday with the most far-reaching and hotly awaited decisions of the year. It overturned the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which will bring sweeping changes to the way Social Security

and other benefits are awarded, and it opened the door to resume same- sex [gender] marriages in California, the country's most populous state.

What's more, the rulings underscore how attitudes toward a fundamental cultural issue have changed in an unprecedentedly short period of time. The repercussions of Wednesday's action are likely to fuel those trends in everything from national politics to the daily lives of millions of Americans.

"We have to acknowledge the phenomenal progress we've made, and with these two historic rulings we've taken two giant steps forward toward the American promise of equal justice under law," Chad Griffin, president of the Human Rights Campaign, said in an interview with USA TODAY. "But we're still not there. We're still not all the way there. We celebrate today, and tomorrow we wake up and fight like hell until full equality is achieved in all 50 states."

The Truth

Marriage equality sounds like a positive thing but is a form of calling evil good. In May of 1995, I wrote this: The truth is that the Bible never refers to a homosexual identity because there is no such thing. Obviously, the Bible would not talk about something that does not exist. Early Biblical writers did not merely assume that certain people were heterosexual, they knew that this is the only kind of people God made. By Divine decree, every human being is heterosexual regardless of what he thinks he is (Genesis 1:27; 2:24-25). Scripture condemns homosexual acts because they are behavioral perversions of God's heterosexual design for the human race. This is why it is referred to in Romans 1:26 and 27 as "**women changing the natural use into that which is against nature: and men leaving the natural use of the woman, burning in lust one toward another, men with men working that which is unseemly**".

According to God, there is a considerable list of relationships that are not eligible for marriage. They are listed in Leviticus 18:6-17. Those who are near of kin are not eligible for marriage. For example, you may not marry

your father
your uncle

your mother
your uncle's wife
your step mother
your daughter-in-law
your sister
your sister-in-law
your half sister
your step daughter
your granddaughter
your step granddaughter
or, your aunt

In verse 22 of Leviticus 18, God adds this: *Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.* God calls a sexual act between two people of the same gender and abomination. In Leviticus 20:13 God said, *If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.* In Romans 1:26 and 27 God said, *For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.*

It is not a matter of discrimination against all of these people by not allowing them to be included in the definition of marriage, it is a matter of divine wisdom. In God's eyes, homosexual marriage is not the only union that is wrong. In verse 27 of Leviticus 18, the LORD calls all these relationships an abomination. According to God, marriage is not only exclusive to one man and one woman, but it is also exclusive only to certain men and women who are not tied together in certain familial relationships. We have the same kind of laws in our country today. A father cannot marry his daughter, yet we do not consider this to be discrimination. Excluding two people of the same sex from a union in marriage is not discrimination in exactly the same way, in spite of what the world says.

B. Example #2 - Killing children in the womb is a moral good.

A woman named Amanda Marcotte posted the following on the internet:

I think that abortion is not only a good thing, but I'd like to post that it seems to me that in the vast majority of abortions, the choice made was the most moral choice for that woman.

Abortion, not just the right to abortion but the actual procedure, is a moral good that helps women and families and should be honored as such. Women who get abortions should be recognized as people who can accurately weigh their choices and make the most moral one.

Abortionists are heroes, who put up with all sorts of abuse because they want to help women.

It sounds moral for a woman to have the right to choose. Who wants to deny a person the right to make a free choice? But, a woman's right to choose to have an abortion is a form of calling evil good.

The Truth

The Bible gives a very different viewpoint of the life of a child in the womb.

Exodus 21:22-23

22 If men strive, and hurt a woman with child, so that her fruit depart from her, and yet no mischief follow: he shall be surely punished, according as the woman's husband will lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges determine.

23 And if any mischief follow, then thou shalt give life for I life,

In the law of God for Israel, if a man caused a woman to deliver her child before her time and the child lived (*no mischief follows*), the husband and father of the child had the legal privilege to determine the financial fine that would be levied against the person who caused the pre-mature birth. On the other hand, if a man caused a woman to deliver her child before her time and the child died (*mischief follows*), capital punishment was the penalty.

In our current dispensation, capital punishment is the exclusive right of civil government.

Romans 13:1ff

1 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.

4for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

Individuals should not take the law into their own

hands in these matters. But the principle of the Old Testament law shows what God thinks about causing the death of a child which is still living in his mother's womb. In God's mind, it is a murder equal to all other murders and is to be punished in exactly the same way – a life for a life.

Examples of Calling Good Evil

A. Example #1 - People who oppose "marriage equality" are guilty of discrimination.

The implication is that **ALL** discrimination is bad. The rudiment which the world is rapidly accepting – is that to oppose marriage equality is bigoted and to criticize those who promote marriage equality is hate speech.

From Mike Balasa August 2013 PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)

Senator Ted Cruz of Texas told interviewer, David Brody, on the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), that because of the recent Supreme Court ruling on same sex [gender] marriage this nation will risk losing its liberty. He said that religious opposition to same sex [gender] marriage is now labeled as hate speech and that pastors will soon risk government action against them. The notion that Christian bigots will be prosecuted is nonsense, but the charge that their rants against the GLBT community and same sex [gender] marriage are labeled as hate speech is quite correct.

I have no problem calling the statement that Ted Cruz made to listeners of CBN as provocative speech; designed to stir up hate and distrust.

From ProCon.org

As of Jan. 6, 2014, gay marriage has been legalized in 17 US states (CA, CT, DE, HI, IA, IL, MA, MD, ME, MN, NH, NJ, NM, NY, RI, VT, and WA) and the District of Columbia. 33 states have gay marriage bans through either laws or constitutional amendments or both.

Proponents argue that same sex [gender] couples should have access to the same marriage benefits and public acknowledgment enjoyed by heterosexual couples and that

prohibiting gay marriage is unconstitutional discrimination.

The Truth

If the LORD is good and His word is good and God says that men should be discriminating in who is allowed to marry, then how can we be evil if we simply repeat what the Good God has said? – only if you do not accept the truth that the LORD is good and His Word is good.

The Bible says, ***For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations*** (Psalms 100:5).

*And have tasted **the good word of God*** (Hebrews 6:5).

But if you do not accept the validity of the Bible, good becomes whatever man says is good, even if it is evil.

B. Example #2 - People who are opposed to abortion are part of a war on women.

From the American Civil Liberties Union

The "War on Women" describes the legislative and rhetorical attacks on women and women's rights taking place across the nation. It includes a wide-range of policy efforts designed to place restrictions on women's health care and erode protections for women and their families. Examples at the state and federal level have included restricting contraception; cutting off funding for Planned Parenthood; state-mandated, medically unnecessary ultrasounds; abortion taxes; abortion waiting periods; forcing women to tell their employers why they want birth control, and prohibiting insurance companies from including abortion coverage in their policies.

So, to teach women that God's design is to bring children to full term in the womb and that to voluntarily terminate a pregnancy is the murder of a living person – is – in the eyes of the world – to attack women.

The Truth

Psalm 127:3 says, *Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.*

It is God who withholds the fruit of the womb.

Genesis 30:2

And Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel: and he said, Am I in God's stead, who hath withheld from thee the fruit of the womb?

It is God who grants the fruit of the womb.

Deuteronomy 7:13

And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

Man has no right to interfere with the divine right of God. But if you do not accept the validity of God and His Word, good is whatever man says is good, even if it is evil.

Conclusion

Here is a montage of Scriptures which tell the truth about those who call evil good and who call good evil.

Malachi 3:15

15 And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.

Matthew 6:23

23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

Luke 16:15

15Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

2 Peter 2:1

1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2 Peter 2:18

18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

2 Peter 2:19

19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

Men are in bondage to the rudiments of the world. They are in bondage to **this rudiment** of the world – evil is good and good is evil.

Men are cowering from the truth. They are afraid to stand up for the truth because this rudiment of the world has taken such hold on the thinking of the people of this world, that good men are afraid of being labeled evil.

Don't be afraid of the labels the world puts on you. The world only offers you bondage. **Only the truth sets you free!**



Elder Notes

The Elders met on Tuesday December 2, 2014. We read Proverbs chapter 25 together and made comments about the text and its application to our day. We spent a time in prayer for the congregation and our business at hand, each Elder taking a turn in praying.

The Trustees reported that they plan to replace one of the outside doors. A hole has rusted through the medal and so this problem will be resolved with a new door. The Trustees submitted their work on the budget, which the Elders reviewed and completed.

We rejoiced in the excellent year for our finances. Truly God has provided exceeding


abundantly above all that we could ask or think. We look forward to reporting to the congregation in the new year and presenting a very reasonable budget in light of this last year's abundance.

We voted to add to the donations from the congregation toward the Military Evangelism Pantry project to bring the total gift to \$500. This will be taken from the Missions Project Fund.

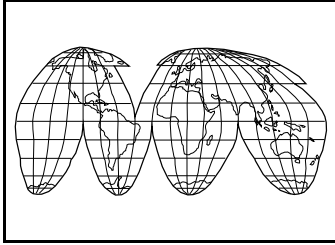
We discussed the providing of food for our Rescue Mission services. For many years each adult Sunday School class has taken a turn in provided this food. We used to have four classes, but now have only three, and one of those has not been meeting due to brother Greg Beard's extensive surgery. We will continue to provide the food through the Sunday School classes for now, but are considering some other ways to do this in the future.

Our church Constitution requires an audit of our financial records in a very narrow time frame. The way the constitution reads, we would have to have an audit in the very short time between when we finished the report for the year and the time we need to put the information out to the congregation for their review before the annual congregation meeting. It seems almost impossible to have this done. So, what we are going to do is propose a change in the wording of the constitution as follows. The sentence in question is found in ARTICLE SEVEN: FINANCES, A. GENERAL. The sentence currently reads as follows: "The Treasurer shall give a financial report at the Annual Congregational Meeting that has been approved by an auditing committee." We are proposing to strike the words "that has been approved by an auditing committee" and add the following sentence: "An auditing committee will be appointed annually to review the financial records." The new statement would read as follows:

"The Treasurer shall give a financial report at the Annual Congregational Meeting. An auditing committee will be appointed annually to review the financial records."

This will give us the flexibility to appoint an auditing committee and have them review the books in a more agreeable time frame. This amendment to our Constitution will be presented at the annual meeting on Sunday January 25. 

Missionary News



*From
Around
The World
and
Here at Home*

Marc & Judie Blackwell

Cape Town, South Africa

“Anywhere - so long as it is FORWARD”.

These words represent the theme of famed missionary, Dr. David Livingstone. We join in this timeless and highly motivational goal as we look forward to our future service for the Lord Jesus Christ and His church.

As church planters we are committed to evangelism, discipleship, biblical counseling, leadership training, and encouraging understanding of the “End Times” and its challenges that we all face.

We are thankful to minister as Church Planting Evangelists or “missionaries” that serve the Lord, representing our supporting local churches and you, our family and friends.

We are involved in many different ministry opportunities. Primarily all of our ministries are related to Church Planting. You can see photos and find updates on the English section of our website: www.mrf.za.net or <https://public.me.com/drmsbsr>.

Thank you for praying for us and our ministries here in Cape Town:

- Cape Multi-Lingual Church Planting Team
- The Cape Church Ministries Institute
 - Training Leadership
 - Teaching
 - Discipling
 - Writing resources
- Cape Biblical Counseling Fellowship
- The Herald of Hope - End Times Bible Conferences
- PMR Christian Camping and Conference Center

Bobby & Imee Liviooco

the Philippines

We praise the Lord for the six who persevered and graduated last August from our two-year course on Old Testament Bible History. Three of them are Colonels serving in our military chaplaincy. Another is a professional working with Lufthansa and serving as an interim pastor of a local Baptist church. One is a church planter, and the other is in the chaplaincy of the Philippine Air Force. It was encouraging to hear of their dedication and determination to finish the course amid the hurdles they had to face.

The Lord gave us a good turn out of delegates in both locations for the 25th Fundamental Bible Conference in Cagayan de Oro, and the 2nd Far East Regional Conference of International Partnership Ministries. There was an edifying spirit of unity among the brethren, and the speakers messages were heartwarming and encouraging. The Lord gave fine weather all week long, and spiritual and physical strength to the speakers and staff.

I was asked to serve on the committee of an on-going translation project of the New Testament from the Greek to Tagalog. This is the first of its kind since our existing Tagalog translations are based on either the English, Latin or Spanish translations. Please pray for wisdom as we seek to come up with a good quality, literal translation that the 25 million Tagalog-speaking people can use and consider as the “the Word of God” in our native tongue. Also, please pray that we can meet our goals of having a sample copy of John and Ephesians in January 2015 and the entire New Testament by early 2016.

As we face more super typhoons as forecasted by weather men, more importantly is the storm we are facing as we deal with erring brethren in the church. This, I think, is a more important matter of prayer - that we would all grow stronger in the faith and see God glorified in all things. We are confident that He can make the wrath of men to praise Him.

Roger & Nola Perrott

Hong Kong

The living room was lined with chairs, leaving only a small aisle near the bathroom door. A towel cabinet had been moved to the front of the room to serve as a teaching desk and a place for the projector. Soon all nineteen chairs were filled with students, and for the next five days for eight hours a day, those chairs remained filled with men learning God's Word.

We just finished our second week of PANDA training (**P**astors **A**cquiring **N**ecessary **D**octrine for **A**dvancement). The first week was in the spring when eleven students came to study discipleship and the book of Ephesians. Now in the fall, nineteen men came for classes in Theology Proper and the book of Genesis. In all, twenty five different men from a radius of over a thousand miles and seven different provinces attended the training classes. Many plan to come again for our upcoming January class, and some will bring other pastors and pastors-in-training with them.

The need for such training is great. Many pastors in China have congregations but do not have the training needed to pastor these people. Often pastors do not even have knowledge of basic Bible doctrines. As a result, false doctrine and weak churches abound across China's mainland.

The response to the PANDA project has been encouraging. Thank you for praying for this training. The Lord has also used churches and individuals to provide funds needed for both classes, and we are trusting Him to continue to provide for upcoming classes. Thank you for your partnership with us in this exciting ministry.

Any gifts should be sent to Biblical Ministries Worldwide 1595 Herrington Rd. Lawrenceville, GA 30043-5616, with a note designating it for the 'Panda Project'. \$150 covers the cost of sponsoring one pastor for one week of training. The PANDA project funds cover room and board of students and teachers, teaching materials, and costs related to the training, including, in some cases, help with transportation costs.

Military Evangelism

Dr. Walt Croom Jacksonville, NC

At the local church where I attend, our pastor asked for testimonies of family members who had been a special spiritual blessing to us. As I sat there and listened to one after another sharing about a mother, a father, an uncle, I couldn't help but think of my own grandfather and the spiritual blessing he was to me during my teenage years.

He was usually the last person I visited before I left for Pennsylvania where I was attending Bible College. As our visit drew to a close he would encourage me to get down on my knees with him and engage in a season of prayer. I never got up off my knees that I didn't feel closer to God.

My granddaddy did not receive Christ into his heart until he was 60. As a result, only one of his children followed in his steps spiritually. They all respected him but they didn't know Jesus because he didn't know Jesus. On the other hand, a number of his grandchildren walk and talk with God on a daily basis because of his later influence.

As I left church that evening I couldn't help but think about my grandfather and his legacy, both good and bad. And I couldn't help but think about the ministry we have had to thousands of soldiers over these 32 years. Getting saved early is the best hope that their children and grandchildren will walk with the Lord.

Do continue to pray for us as we continue to labor here in God's vineyard. Pray that we will continue to see souls saved and spiritual growth in the lives of these precious young men and women for whom Christ died.

There was not lack of sunshine and rain this summer. Consequently, the farmers have experienced bumper crops. As I think about sunshine, rain and bumper crops it reminds me of what I have been witnessing in the lives of the guys and girls that have been attending our Bible studies - abundant growth.

I am reminded of the parable of the Lord Jesus, about the sower who went forth to sow. The seed that fell on good ground brought forth the most fruit. I'm thankful for the young men and women that God has been sending our way. They are open to receiving God's Word, and His Word is having a tremendous impact upon their behavior and conduct.

Christmas Activities

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

Church Banquet

Our menu was ham, baked potato, and green beans, with various cakes and pies with ice cream for dessert. Thanks to Cindy Smith for heading up the meal and doing most of the cooking. It was delicious. We enjoyed the fellowship at the lovely decorated tables also. There was a candy cane at each place along with a game for the adults to fill in the blanks to the Christmas story. The children each got a coloring book of Bible stories and a box of crayons.

Nate Moss was the speaker for the evening and his challenge to us was to see the Christ in the manger, not just an ordinary baby. As the wise men did, we too should give Christ our attention, our devotion, and our substance. Simeon saw the promised Savior and gave praise to God. We were encouraged to also give praise to Him this Christmas season as we go about our normal and extra activities.

Christmas Programs

Children's Classes

The children's program is not all Christmas related necessarily. Each of the classes - Preschool (ages 2 -kindergarten), Primaries (grades 1-3), and Juniors (grades 4-6) presented things they have been learning in their classes since September in addition to special Christmas songs. All three departments ended the program by singing together, *What Child is This*.

Worship Service

A variety of Christmas carols were presented with cellos, flute, solos, a duet, quartets, an ensemble, the children's choir, and congregational singing. Between some of the musical numbers there was narration explaining the meaning of John 3:16 with emphasis on the word 'so' and its significance of being the manner in which God loved us in giving His Son. The conclusion emphasized the question of room in our hearts for Jesus.

Christmas Caroling to Our Shut-ins

The Morrors, Smiths, Kanosts, Balcoms and some of the Wertzes came and some senior citizens joined the homeschooling families in singing to the shut-ins, which made a group of about 20 people. They went to the Stelfoxes and the Halls who were happy to see them. Mr. Hall played a harmonica solo for them. They sang at two nursing homes. At Pleasant Acres they sang to several of the residents. Rest Haven was busy because it was lunch time, but they were able to take Ivy Pyle and her friend aside to sing to them. The children sang out well for such a small group.

Sunday School Classes

Preschool

The Preschool class had been working on learning Psalm 23 this past quarter and were able to recite the whole chapter for the Christmas program. They had also learned some Christmas songs and poems, along with Luke 2:11.

Primaries

For the Christmas program they recited Matthew 2:1-11. The following children memorized this entire passage: Shawn Smith, Rebecca and David Wertz. They also sang some Christmas songs as well as singing and signing some other songs right from scripture.

Juniors

The Junior class quoted the passage Philippians 4:4-13 that they have been memorizing. They sang a few songs and told one of the stories they recently had in class of Peter being released from prison, going to John Mark's house where his Christian friends were praying for him, and being met at the gate by Rhoda.

Teens

The teens played choirchimes (similar to hand bells) for the Christmas Eve service, entitled *Ring the Bells*. It was a difficult arrangement and needed some extra chimers from past years to fill in playing all the notes needed. They worked hard in practice and it sounded lovely. We appreciate all their good effort in praising God with the instruments this Christmas.

How Far Would You Go

to introduce your friend to Jesus?

Mark tells a story about four friends who brought their friend to Jesus. He couldn't walk, so they carried him on a stretcher. When they got to the house where Jesus was teaching, they couldn't get near the door because of the crowd. So they climbed onto the roof, hoisted their friend up, took the roof apart and lowered their friend on his stretcher in front of Jesus. After meeting Jesus, their friend didn't need the stretcher anymore. Jesus healed him, and he walked out on his own! (Mark 2:1-12)

Common sense would have the friends say to their paralyzed friend:

"Sorry, too crowded, we'll have to try some other time."

"We'll never get to see Jesus...look at this crowd. Let's go home."

But these friends would not be stopped; they hauled, improvised, lifted, and lowered. And when Jesus was finished, they celebrated.

What are you willing to do to introduce your friend to Jesus? Would you carry him on a stretcher? Would you climb onto a roof with him? And lower him with ropes?

If you met someone in need of Jesus in a mall parking lot, would you give him a tract?

A tract can introduce a reader to Jesus. As with the four friends, you might not have to do anything more than make the introductions. Jesus will take it from there, offering forgiveness, healing and wholeness. All that's left is the celebration.

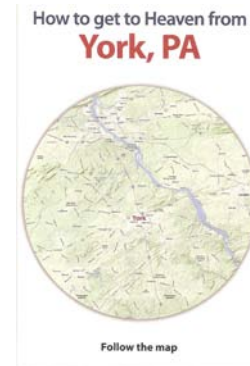
As with the friends, you may face some obstacles in your ministry: scorn, ridicule, security guards, the expense of tracts and postage. Are you going to let them stop you from introducing people to Jesus?

When you give a tract, you aren't just 'witnessing'. You are introducing the reader to Jesus. You are giving him a key that, should he choose to use it, will open the door to abundant life and, eventually, heaven. A tract given in love and faith is an immensely powerful and holy tool - useful for only one purpose: to introduce the reader to Jesus.

That's why you need to pray about your tract ministry. Pray that the Spirit will guide you to the right person and open their reader's heart to a relationship with Jesus.

(Taken from The Tract League)

Spotlight on Tracts

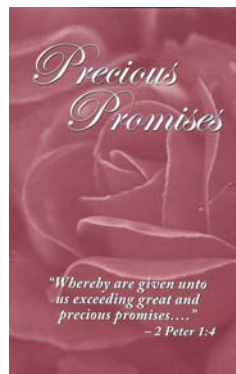


How To Get to Heaven from York, PA

This is a great tract to hand out locally to cashiers and others you may meet. They are provided in the narthex.

"Being able to follow a map is very important, especially when you are lost. Being able to understand where you are, and to see where you need to be, is the difference between life and death."

"The map on the front page shows you where you are right now, York, PA. The Bible verses on the pages are the coordinates (so to speak) that you need to follow to have peace with God, forgiveness of sin, and an abundant life throughout all eternity. They reveal where you need to be!"



Precious Promises

Tracts can also be used to encourage other Christians. Consider adding one with your next Get Well Card or Sympathy Card, or even in a note just to lift someone's spirits.

"The promises of God are limitless, and the pages of Scripture are filled with them. They are given by a loving heavenly Father...to His children...as a present help. We all know that the Christian life has never been guaranteed to be an easy one, and often the journey to our heavenly home is wrought with struggle and trials large and small."

Below are a few of the promises listed to encourage us.

...I will give you rest.

...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

...I go to prepare a place for you...I will come again.

...And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

...My grace is sufficient for thee.

...They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.



Preschoolers

taught by Mrs. Moss

What an exciting time Christmas is for preschoolers! We enjoyed learning some new songs in preparation for the Christmas program. Naturally in December our Bible stories were about Jesus birth and we learned Luke 2:11 "For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord".

Last quarter we also learned Psalm 23 which Esther and Daniel Wertz were able to quote by memory. Congratulations on a job well done learning this whole chapter!



Primaries

taught by Mr. and Mrs. Smith

Our class has been studying the early miracles of Jesus. Some with physical needs came to Jesus wanting healing. Many came with spiritual needs and listened to His teaching. Others came looking to find fault in what Jesus said and did. Even today many come to Jesus for many different reasons. Many reject Him as many did so long ago. Still Jesus has come to seek and to save that which is lost.



Juniors

taught by Mr. and Mrs. Cook

As we study the book of Acts and the believers in the early church, we are surrounded with such great examples of service for our Lord. Even under threat of prison and punishment for preaching the gospel, they did not waiver in their desire to obey God rather than man. We also see how God worked in their lives in other ways; Peter meeting with Cornelius and understanding that the gift of salvation is to all men; Barnabas' desire to serve others; Philip's teaching the Ethiopian about Christ in the book of Isaiah and baptizing the new believer right there. Now our lessons will be focusing on Paul and his ministry. We will also start memorizing Romans 12.



Master Clubs

Director - Nathaniel Wertz

This year we have a wonderful group of children in Master Clubs. Although the number of children in Master Clubs has not changed a lot over the past few years, it is exciting to see the children inviting neighbors to come with them.

In November, we spent some time focusing on missions. The children quickly made over 50 Wordless Book Zipper Pulls for the Kilmers to distribute in South Africa. Later in the month they were able to make cards for the Livioco family.

The children are truly servants of The Master. These simple acts of service are aimed at developing an attitude of service in our children. Please pray that they will seek the Lord for His purpose in their lives.



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

Quizzing

by Quiz Coach, Mrs. Joyce Moss

As we are progressing our way through the book of Galatians we are finding a lot of nuggets to apply to our lives. In chapter two we learned that we should not allow ourselves to be influenced by our peers and change our behavior to please them, but stand true to the Word of God even in the face of possible misunderstanding.

The time for competition with other churches is drawing near. The first Sunday in January we will prepare ourselves for that by doing a quizzing demonstration in the evening service. Then on Sunday afternoons from 2:00-4:00 we will compete with other churches. This is always an enjoyable time as the teens get to interact with other teens of like precious faith.

Our competition schedule is as follows:

January 25 at Bible Baptist in New Bloomfield

On Galatians chapters 1 & 2

February 22 here at North Hills Bible in York

On Galatians chapters 3 & 4

March 22 at Temple Bible in Elizabethtown

On Galatians chapters 5 & 6

Saturday, April 18 will be our final competition held at Calvary Independent Baptist in Quarryville
On the whole book of Galatians.

HOMESCHOOL NEWS

Led by Dawn Balcom

Many of our church families homeschool their children, and so to be an encouragement to one another they meet twice a month - once for shared classes and the other time for a field trip adventure to experience together. It is an enjoyable time for the mothers and for the children to interact with other homeschooling families.

The primaries have been learning about the human body and their five senses. They have been learning about taking care of their bodies and staying healthy. They have also been coloring pictures of some of the different organs in their bodies and will be placing them on a life size outline of their bodies.

The 2nd-6th graders have been studying PA history. They have been learning some about the Pennsylvania Dutch and the American Indians. They learned about Indian dress and how to use a compass to navigate. They also learned how the Indians could tell time and direction by shadows. The students learned some Indian symbols and wrote a story using these symbols.

The teens have been learning about anatomy, physiology and first aid. In October, they went over the bones and muscles and did some basic first aid for broken bones, sprained ankles and strained muscles as well as learning how the bones and muscles work. In November, they went over the lymphatic system (immune system) and basic infection prevention, including the differences between viruses and bacteria, antibiotic resistance and some well-known viruses - Ebola and HIV and why they are so hard to treat.

A field trip to the US Army Heritage Center in October was very educational. The students learned many things from the soldier and blacksmith re-enactors and from touring the grounds. In December, instead of classes, they enjoyed Christmas caroling to the shut-ins.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



JANUARY

4	Teen Bible Quizzing Demonstration	7:00 PM
8	Homeschool Classes	9-12 AM
11	Pleasant Acres Service	1:45 PM
19	Rescue Mission Service	8:00 PM
20	Trustees' Meeting	6:30 PM
22	Homeschool Field Trip Day	
25	Teen Bible Quizzing Competition (in New Bloomsfield)	2:00 PM



FEBRUARY

12	Homeschool Classes	9-12 AM
15	Manor Care Service	1:45 PM
16	Rescue Mission Service	8:00 PM
17	Trustees' Meeting	6:30 PM
18	Teacher's Assistance Program	8:00 AM
22	Teen Bible Quizzing Competition (here at North Hills)	2:00 PM
26	Homeschool Field Trip Day	
28	Ladies Missionary Project Day	10:00 AM



MARCH

8	Pleasant Acres Service	1:45 PM
12	Homeschool Classes	9-12 AM
16	Rescue Mission Service	8:00 PM
17	Trustees' Meeting	6:30 PM
18	Teacher's Assistance Program	8:00 AM
22	Teen Bible Quizzing Competition (In Elizabethtown)	2:00 PM
26	Homeschool Field Trip Day	

Up-coming Events for Our Missionaries

January

- Blackwell, Marc & Judie - Capetown, South Africa
Church planting in Durbanville, Paarl Valley, Malmesbury, and Tygerberg
- Colon, Peter & Janis - Friends of Israel
Speaking at annual 'Day in the Prophetic Word' Conference
- Child Evangelism Fellowship - York, PA
Clubs in homes and in public schools
- Kilmer, Don & Karen - South Africa, Zulus
Megaphone ministry and visitation ministry
- Military Evangelism - Walt Croom, Camp LeJune, NC
Bible Studies on base
- Moss, Sam & Nicole - Uganda, East Africa
Two weeks of teen camp

February

- Colon, Peter & Janis - Friends of Israel
Two Prophecy Conferences
- Livioco, Bobby & Imee - Philippines
Heart's Banquet with seven other churches
- Perrotts, Roger & Nola - Hong Kong
Panda Project with church leaders from mainland China coming for a week of intensive study and family camp

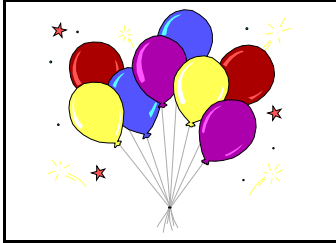
March

- Campos, Moises & Rosa - Spain
Evangelistic Bible Exhibits in town halls
- Colon, Peter & Janis - Friends of Israel
Speaking at Purim Celebration
- Livioco, Bobby & Imee - Philippines
Easter Camp
- 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
- 10 - Brandon Byers
- 15 - Cindy Smith
- 15 - Lisa Smith
- 16 - Ryan Knuth
- 17 - Lorraine Beath
- 18 - **Eunice Livioco**
- 20 - Romaine Feltenberger
- 23 - Chris Knuth
- 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



Happy Birthday (con't)

March

- 1 - Donald Scotten
- 9 - **Samuel Moss**
- 9 - **Nicole Moss**
- 10 - Kevin Boyer
- 10 - Pamela Grove
- 11 - Barry Shelly
- 14 - Richard Fetrow Jr.
- 14 - Jonathan Kanost
- 15 - Sonja Breneman
- 15 - Roy Morrow
- 17 - Ruth Warner
- 18 - Pastor Moss
- 18 - Marian Tawney
- 18 - Gary Zimmerman
- 19 - **Peter Pinyol**
- 20 - **Jonathan Perrott**
- 23 - Lydia Fetrow
- 24 - Amy Kanost
- 24 - **Miriam Rocker**



Happy Anniversary

January

- 11 - Greg & Shirley Beard

February

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

March

- 7 - Don & Jeanette Scotten
- 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".

Remember Our Shut-ins



Lorraine Beath, Ken & Mary Cole, Jeannie Geesey, Marlene Gladfelter, Pam Grove, Gloria Hevner, Olivia Kauffman, Susan Peters, Ivy Pyle, Linda Spahr, Reg Stelfox, Elmira Wise

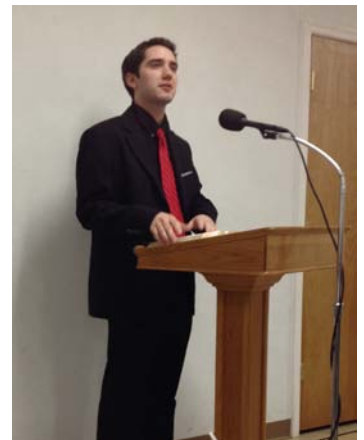
CHRISTMAS BANQUET



The cook, Cindy Smith, in the kitchen and everyone enjoying the food she made.



Adults filling in the blanks on the Christmas story, and the children coloring in their new Bible coloring books.



Singing Christmas carols, and our speaker Nate Moss.

Christmas Programs



CHRISTMAS CAROLING



Dear Friends, Thank you for coming to Rest Haven and singing to me. It made my day! I was overwhelmed when I saw all of you. May you have a wonderful Christmas. I liked the card the children signed.

Lovingly, Ivy Pyle

