



GOOD NEWS

BLACK KIDS COUNT
MATH CONFERENCE
 Nurturing the Brilliance of Black Students in Mathematics
 May 18, 8:00 AM
 Lone Star College
 CyFair
 makingawesomethingshappen.org

CELEBRATING FAITH AND FAMILY

Celebrating our 16th Year

God is Love

Visit us at gntx.org

TO ADVERTISE OR CONTRIBUTE EMAIL JIMSUERAINES@GMAIL.COM OR TEXT 254-339-0582

The Craziest Birth Ever

By Thomas Griffin

This morning I woke up laughing. Have you ever had a dream so vivid yet so crazy that it just made you laugh? Well that's what happened to me at 9:30am this morning.

We are just getting to know each other, so I want to introduce my wife and 6...count them 6 boys. My oldest Son is Caleb. He's 15 years old and my fitness nut. My second oldest is Noah. He's 13 and loves playing music. He's currently on two worship band frontlines. My third oldest is Eli. We call him "The Tank" because he literally will knock you over when he hugs you. My fourth oldest is Israel.

cont. on pg. 5



The Miracle Working Power Of God

By Pastor Albert Fuentes

Corinthians 1 26-29 For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the [m]base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence.

This verse, when I first heard it blew my mind.

Does Grace Still Amaze You?

By Randy Alcorn

Years ago, I spoke at a large event where the vocalist sang one of my favorite songs, "Amazing Grace." But I was taken aback when I heard the first line: "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a soul like me." The word soul was substituted for the word wretch. Why? Because the word wretch is considered by some to be demeaning to human beings.

I couldn't help but think of John Newton, the writer of the song. He was an immoral slave trader and blasphemer — a man who knew he was a wretch and who had wept over the depth of his sins. Only because he understood that fact so profoundly could he then understand why God's grace to him was so utterly amazing. And hence the immortal song he bequeathed to all of us.

Grace doesn't minimize or ignore the awful reality of our sin. Grace emphasizes the

cont. on pg. 2

I was 27 when I met The Lord, I was in the middle of going nowhere. I did have a job being a tile setter's helper, married to my second wife, and living in a back apartment in my in-laws house.

On a Tuesday afternoon in May of 1992 after getting off work, I met up with a friend he had some cocaine and I had some marijuana. So we got a six pack and did our thing. Afterwards we wanted some more cocaine so we went to a friend's house in Beverly Hills near the Glass Plant. He was out but there were a few other friends there so we stuck around and just smoked for a couple hours.

As we were passing a bong around and taking hits, I felt like I had left my body and was now in a very bright room, with no walls no floor and no ceiling. But I instinctively knew I was in The Lord's presence. I don't know how I knew, I just knew. I no longer felt high. I did understand at that moment, everything I was had been laid bare. I knew He knew all that I had ever done. I couldn't make an excuse for anything because He saw right through me.

Later as I begin walking with The Lord and reading I came across Isaiah 6 where he was taken to see The Lord, although I didn't see Him and I don't believe I was in Heaven, I was definitely somewhere that was supernatural and felt just like he did

cont. on pg. 3

Does Grace Still Amaze You?

depths of sin by virtue of the unthinkable price paid to redeem us from it. Paul said if men were good enough, “then Christ died for no purpose” (Galatians 2:21). If we don’t come to grips with the hideous reality of our own sin, God’s grace won’t ever seem amazing.

His Call to Sinners

God’s word tells us that Christ died for utterly unworthy people (Romans 5:7–8). The fact that he died for us is never given in Scripture as a proof of our value as wonderful people. Rather, it is a demonstration of his unfathomable and unearned love. So unfathomable that he would die for rotten people, wretches like you and me, to free us from our sin.

Because grace is so incomprehensible to us, we instinctively smuggle in conditions so we won’t look so bad and God’s offer won’t seem so counterintuitive. By the time we’re done qualifying the gospel, we’re no longer unworthy and powerless. We’re

no longer wretches. And grace is no longer grace.

The worst thing we can teach people is that they’re good without Jesus. The truth is, God doesn’t offer grace to good people, any more than doctors offer lifesaving surgery to healthy people. Jesus said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance” (Luke 5:31–32).

Our Lord also said, “To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment” (Revelation 21:6). Without cost to us, but at unimaginable cost to himself — a cost that will be visible for eternity as we behold his nail-scarred hands and feet (John 20:24–29). Bonhoeffer was right: grace is free, but it is not cheap.

Life-Changing Grace

You and I weren’t merely sick in our sins; we were dead in our sins

(Ephesians 2:1). That means I’m not just unworthy of salvation; I’m utterly incapable of earning it. Corpses can’t raise themselves from the grave. What a relief to realize that my salvation is completely the result of God’s grace. It cannot be earned by good works.

True grace recognizes and deals with sin in the most radical and painful way: Christ’s redemption. There’s only one requirement for enjoying God’s grace: being broken and knowing it. That’s why Jesus said, “Happy are those who know they are spiritually poor; the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them!” (Matthew 5:3, GNT)

Our justification by faith in Christ satisfies the demands of God’s holiness by exchanging our sins for Christ’s righteousness (Romans 3:21–26). When Jesus saves us, we become new creatures in him (2 Corinthians 5:17). Now we can draw upon God’s power to overcome evil. We start seeing sin for what it really is: bondage, not freedom.

The old summary is correct: God’s children have been saved from the penalty of sin, we are being saved

from the power of sin, and we will be saved from the presence of sin. Justification, sanctification, and glorification are all grounded solidly in exactly the same place: God’s grace.

God’s Grace Hunts Sin

The grace of Jesus isn’t an add-on or makeover that enhances our lives. It causes a radical transformation — from being sin-enslaved to being righteousness-liberated. Paul writes of the life-transforming and sin-overcoming power of grace: “For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives” (Titus 2:11–12).

Don’t ever tell yourself you may as well go ahead and sin since God will forgive you. This cheapens grace. Grace that trivializes sin is not true grace. Paul makes that clear: “What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?” (Romans 6:1–2).

cont. on pg. 3

Weddings & Corporate Events



Bridal Luncheons

Showers & Birthdays



VICTORY FELLOWSHIP & BANQUET ROOM

12311 Jones Rd Houston, Tx 77070

Weddings & Corporate Events

832-478-5193

Faith

is not hoping

God Can

it is Knowing

He Will



WE STAND FOR THE FLAG
WE KNEEL FOR THE CROSS

TACL-A343

**NO GIMMICKS
Just Good
Honest Work**

**SALES
SERVICE**

**INSTALLATION
ALL MAKES
ALL MODELS**

**HEATING &
AIR CONDITIONING**



19954 KUYKENDAHL - SINCE 1977

Bible hope is the confident expectation of what God has promised and its strength is in His faithfulness.

Does Grace Still Amaze You?

John Piper says, "Grace is not simply leniency when we have sinned. Grace is the enabling gift of God not to sin. Grace is power, not just pardon." So while God forgives when we sincerely confess (1 John 1:9), we prove that sincerity by taking necessary steps to avoid temptation. As Jesus said, "You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act" (Matthew 7:16, NLT).

No sin is small that crucified Christ. Sin matters, yet grace has power over sin, offering not only forgiveness but also transformed character (Galatians 5:22-23). Every sin pales in comparison to God's grace to us in Christ (Romans 5:20-21).

Proclaiming God's Offer of Grace

There is one sense in which God's grace is unconditional — we don't deserve it. Yet in his kindness he offers it to us. But in another sense it is conditional, in that in order to receive it we must repent, ask forgiveness, and place our faith in him. This is a paradox — an apparent (but not actual) contradiction. If we see God as the one who does the work of convicting us and

drawing us to repentance, this helps. We did not merit salvation.

But even if we fail to understand this paradox of conditional and unconditional grace, I think God calls upon us to believe it and live in it. Sinclair Ferguson says, "The spiritual life is lived between two polarities: our sin and God's grace. The discovery of the former brings us to seek the latter; the work of the latter illuminates the depths of the former and causes us to seek yet more grace."

When we're acutely aware of our own sins, we'll proclaim and exemplify God's "good news of happiness" (Isaiah 52:7). We'll do so not with a spirit of superiority but with the contagious excitement of a sinner saved by grace — one person rescued from starvation sharing bountiful food and drink with others. We'll face each day and each person we see with humility, knowing that we too still desperately need God's grace — every bit as much as those we're offering it to.

Written with permission from DesiringGod. Com

The Miracle Working Power Of God

*Isaiah 6:5
So I said: "Woe is me,
for I am undone!
Because I am a man of
unclean lips,
And I dwell in the midst
of a people of unclean
lips;
For my eyes have seen
the King,
The Lord of hosts."*

All I knew to do at that moment was plead for mercy, so I remember saying was Lord please have mercy on me. And immediately I felt something wash over me. I explain it like this, when you're out working all day in the yard in August and by time you go take a shower, you really don't understand how dirty you are until you get cleaned up. That's exactly how I felt, clean. The most amazing thing

in that experience was The Lord allowed me to see me as He saw me. I saw myself as filth, but not The Lord, He saw me differently

It wasn't one of disgust or shame, but one of brokenness on what I had become as His creation. I knew He loved me with and endearing love that only a parent can have for their child.

It only lasted a few moments, and then I was back sitting on the couch. There was a guy, an older uncle of my friend I didn't know, but he went to hand me the bong as it made its way back around to me, and I brushed it off and said I didn't want anymore. He sneered at me and shook the bong in my face and said "you sure you don't want anymore?"

His eyes were penetrating and it was like looking at someone who knew me.

I brushed him off, and began staring at the tv wondering about what I had just believed happened to me, was it real or was I just stoned. Although I didn't believe I was feeling the effects of all that I had already consumed. Several things happened that I don't have room to put in this testimony. But one thing that let me know that it was real, was that the phone rang, the guy next to me began smiling a wicked smile and I knew immediately the phone call would affect me, it did, it was my brother.

Although he didn't know I was there, the enemy of our souls knew. My brother called

***But Those Who Hope In The Lord
Will Renew Their Strength.
They Will Soar On Wings Like Eagles;
They Will Run And Not Grow Weary,
They Will Walk And Not Be Faint.***

Se Habla Español

MrRoofer1.com

MR. ROOFER
281-452-0000

**New Roofs, Repairs, Painting,
Seamless Aluminum Gutters
Mobile Home Skirting**

HARDI PLANK SIDING
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATES

MrRoofer@mail.com






2302 Fm 1960 Rd W,
1960 @ Kuykendahl
Houston, TX 77068
(281) 444-3885

www.RipleysMuffler.com
RipleysMuffler@yahoo.com

RIPLEY'S
MUFFLER & BRAKES, INC.
ALIGNMENTS & SHOCKS
281-444-3885
2302 FM 1960

IMPROVE
GAS MILEAGE
\$153
80 FUEL FLUSH

ENGINE DIAGNOSIS ALIGNMENTS BRAKES



Hearing the Voice of God

BY SANDRA MOATS

God created the world through His spoken word. He still speaks to the world and to the people He created. Take the time to listen for His voice.

The Scriptures tell us there are many avenues God speaks through. He speaks by inner conviction when godly desires, open doors and peace line up together. 1Ti 3:1. He speaks through dreams. Mt 1:20-21, visions, Ac 10:9-18, and His still small voice. 1Ki 19:12 He speaks with an audible voice. Ac 9:4-5, through His prophets, Mt 3:1-2, and through the advice and counsel of men and women of God. Pr 12:15. He speaks through calamities and disasters, Mt 28:2; Jer 24:10, through angels, Mt 28:5, circumstances, Ge 39:20-23, thunder and lightning, Re 14:2, and through His creation. Ro 1:20 He speaks through the Holy Spirit, Ac 11:12, 13:2, 16:6-7, through music, Ps 42:8, and through His written word in the Bible. Rev 2:7,17;29; 3:6,13,22.

God spoke with Adam and took walks with him in the cool of the evenings. When Adam and Eve sinned, God spoke to them audibly. Ge 3:8. God speaking to man did not stop with Adam and Eve.

He spoke to Noah and his sons about the construction of the ark. Ge 9:8-18. God spoke with Abraham and appeared to him when he was 99 years old saying He would give him a son through Sarah, who was way past the age of bearing children. Ge 17:1-22. They had a son the next year.

God spoke to Abimelech in a dream. Ge 20:6. He warned Balaam in a dream. Nu 22:12,20. The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream. 1Ki 3:5-15.

The Lord appeared to Moses in a burning bush. Ex 3:2-4:21. He spoke to Aaron at the same time. They had been separated for 40 years. Ex. 4:27. "By some secret but powerful movement on Aaron's mind, or by some voice or angelic ministry, he was now directed to go and meet his brother Moses; and so correctly was the information given to

both, that they arrived at the same time on the sacred mountain." Adam Clark Commentary.

Elisha spoke a prophetic word to the Shunammite woman. Elisha told her she would have a child while she was barren. 2 Ki 4:8-17. She brought forth a son the next year. God still speaks through His prophets to His people.

When King David sinned with Bathsheba God sent Nathan the prophet to speak to him. David heard the Lord speaking through the prophet and repented. Ps 51:1.

God sent a prophet to speak to the children of Israel when they cried out in fear to the Lord because of the Midianites. Jg 6:8. God told them not to fear and that He would deliver them. Then He called out Gideon from among them to carry out His battle plan. Jg 6:12-27.

Elijah was looking for God's voice in the wind, fire and earthquakes, but God spoke to him through a still small voice. 1Ki 19:12-15. The still small voice is that inner voice that you know because you know because you know.

God speaks to us through men and women of God. God sends other messages through us, and to us. God places His words and thoughts on our minds to share with others.

In a vision, God spoke to a disciple named Ananias to go and lay hands on Saul so he would be healed. Ananias knew who Saul was. Saul was the man who was persecuting the church. Jesus had appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus and he was blinded. God sent Ananias to lay hands on him for healing. Ac 9:1-20.

God often speaks to us while we are in prayer. The angel Gabriel came to Daniel while he was yet in prayer, and brought him a message from God. Da 9:21,22.

God speaks to people through disasters and calamities. On March 3, 2010 the Haitian President announced that there would be 3 days of holiday from work for the purpose of fasting and prayer. The nation that was 200 years before dedicated to Satan was dedicated to God. Isa 29:6; Isa 45:7.

God speaks through signs, though we should not seek signs. 1Ki 13:3. The earth opened up and swallowed Korah and his whole family after he rebelled against Moses. Nu 26:10. The death of Eli's sons in the "flower of their age" was a sign that holiness was a requirement for priests. In Luke 2:12 the Bible says, "And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." The babe wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger was a sign to those seeking the Messiah. When Jesus returns there will appear the sign of the Son of Man in Heaven as He comes in clouds and great glory. Mt 24:30.

God speaks through the creation of His world. The things that have been made clearly speak of His existence to all people. Look at a child, a blade of grass, the stars; how perfectly they are made. Ro 1:20.

When Jesus came to earth we had the manifested presence of God among us. We now have the Bible with His words to all of earth. God speaks to us through the Word of God more often than any other way. 2 Ti 3:16, Ps 119:11, 105. The Bible is God's map and course for of instructions and principles of life for His people.

God speaks through Music. David loved to praise the Lord, and even dance before Him. 2 Ch 7:6. Singing your praises to the Lord releases Him to speak to you.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd, He says in, John 10:27, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." The key to

hearing the voice of God is spending quiet time with Him, walking in the cool of the evening, reading the Bible, and listening to Him. "Blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear..." Mt 13:16. Set aside time to listen.

FOUR PAWS DIG IT
 We love them all
 Big and Small
**Dog Grooming
 Cat Grooming
 Boarding**
 11600 Jones Road
 Suite 115
 Houston, Tx 77070
 FourPawsDigIttx.com
 tammykubicek4@gmail.com
 281-970-2000
 832-459-3998



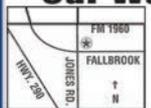
FlooringAMERICA
 Serving Houston for Over 20 Years
 Residential Commercial Installation
 Repairs Cleaning
**Design
 Carpet**
 Selling Direct to the Public!
 Sand & Finish Wood Floors
**CARPET CERAMIC TILE HARDWOOD
 VINYL LAMINATES CUSTOM FLOORS**
 DUPONT
MasterStore
 281-440-3008
 6223 Theall



**Don't worry...
 3-Day Rain Check
 Exterior Only**



MR. DETAIL
 Car Wash- Detailing - Lube Center
 10510 Jones Rd
281-890-0585
 Open 7 Days - Car Wash 8-6:30 Lube 8-6



KEN'S
 AUTO REPAIR & MUFFLERS
281-255-6344
Where Honesty Comes First

- Free Brake Check
- State Inspection
- A/C Repairs
- Alignments
- Transmissions

AAA ASE
 State Inspections Brakes
 KEN'S AUTO REPAIR & MUFFLERS
 281-255-6344
 Transmissions Air Conditioning Mufflers
 AJ's Inspection Station
 Across from Tomball College



The Craziest Birth Ever!

My 7 Year old. This dude loves Jesus and talks about Him constantly. My 5 year old is Isaac. Woah. This is a lively one. He loves making up his own worship songs every day. I think the last one went something like... "Jesus is my foot and my hand." or something like that. And then there is the reason why I am so blessed with this motly crew... my Mandi. I married my first girlfriend. We were so young and God has blessed us now going on 16 years in Feb. I'm so proud of them and especially their love for the Lord.

I had to introduce you to my crew so you'd understand how absurd this dream was.

See Mandi and I have decided that unless by a divine intervention we are done having children! However, I found myself dreaming of Mandi giving birth again. Now, let me take a second and tell you that I immediately started pleading with God that I love my children but I hoped this dream wasn't prophetic about having more children! I woke up laughing and saying "God, we need to talk about this one, ha!" He softly assured me it wasn't about having more children but rather that it was a prophetic dream.

Don't get ahead of me you see'ers and dream interpreters. Let me tell the story. This isn't your typical "Your giving birth to your dreams" message. That much I can tell you right now. Just keep reading.

So the story goes like this....Mandi was laying on the hospital bed. She has been there a day or two in labor. She mentioned to the nurse that "It would soon be time, the baby was coming" and the nurse replied with "Are you sure?" Then, after Mandi glared back at her, she said "Okay,

I'll get the doc." The nurse left the room and Mandi began telling me to "Get someone in here right now, the baby is coming!"

As it pertains to our history with these things, she always knew right before it was about to happen so I stood up to get the doctors and wham! There was the baby laying on the bed. One push... one whimpered, grit teeth under the breath scream from Mandi and there He was! Supernatural birth compared to the hours of labor and pushing that we had with our other children.

As amazing as that is and as much as that right there could speak to us, that isn't even where it begins to get wild. Keep reading...

There was barely any blood and my newly born son laid on the end of the bed smiling and crying just enough to know everything was normal. I ran out of the room to get the doctors and passed nurses as they said to Mandi "Hey, you weren't kidding were you!" with slight smirks of "We thought you were exaggerating" undertones in their voice.

Now here's the crazy part...

When I came back in the room, to my surprise the newborn was laying on His side next to my 3 year old as if he was just hanging out. AND HE WAS TWICE THE SIZE OF MY 3 YEAR OLD. "Uh"... I said. Thats a big baby! The doctor said "No ones gonna' believe this!" He was rather shocked and amazed, even wide eyed as he stared. Who could blame him? I was staring and in the same shock.

What's more, is the newborn was full clothed with jean shorts,

tank top and flip flops and said "Dad lets go!" Yeah. This is where I awoke laughing, still in-between the a state of reality and dream (alpha state I believe its called).

Okay to the points:

1. There are some of you who think you're done birthing things and YOUR NOT. God has something still even greater than before for you to release into this earth and leave a Godly legacy of MAKING JESUS KNOWN.

2. Other people may not understand or take you serious when you talk about knowing that something is about to birth from your life. No one knows where your at in the birth process, like the one giving birth. Don't mind, judge or let influence you, those ney sayers who keep telling you its not your time. Forgive them, for they know not what they do. You are in the birth process, not them. Have grace with their ignorance because of that.

3. What you are birthing now is worth the struggle of culturing whats inside you to grow. and all of this time you've been in waiting, you have been in a baby growing process.. not delay!

4. Although, growing that inner man has been wearing at times; the point in which what has been nurtured internally, becomes a visible manifestation, and will supernaturally be accelerated. That is, your one push away from birth.

5. THE PROMISE IS BIGGER THAN YOU THINK, AND WILL SHOCK EVERYONE. God sized destinies, promises, purposes, callings, gifting, and anointing are GOD SIZED not man sized. The world will see that the things birthed in this season of our lives are so GOD SIZED that only HE can get the glory. The manifestation of your promise, and fulfillment of your purpose will be so big they wont even consider that you could receive glory from it for it's TOTALY SUPER – NATURAL, but

they will thank you for your obedience.

6. What you are birthing is that of a quick work in the kingdom. It wont take the typical time needed to mature. It will be accelerated. That is why the waiting time has occurred in your life. It is so your maturity can be cultured to steward a mature promise. What you are birthing will have the stability, balance, and qualities of that which would typically take years and it will stand on its own. The impact you are about to make in the kingdom and the world alike may come as a surprise. You may have thought it was over for you, but the best is yet to come.

God still has a work for you in this earth. Whatever it is... be it a ministry, a book, a blog, a song, boldness in witnessing, preaching, teaching, prophesying, edifying, evangelizing, working of miracles and gifts of hearings... what ever it is that is being birthed in your life to impact the earth will come now in a supernatural way.

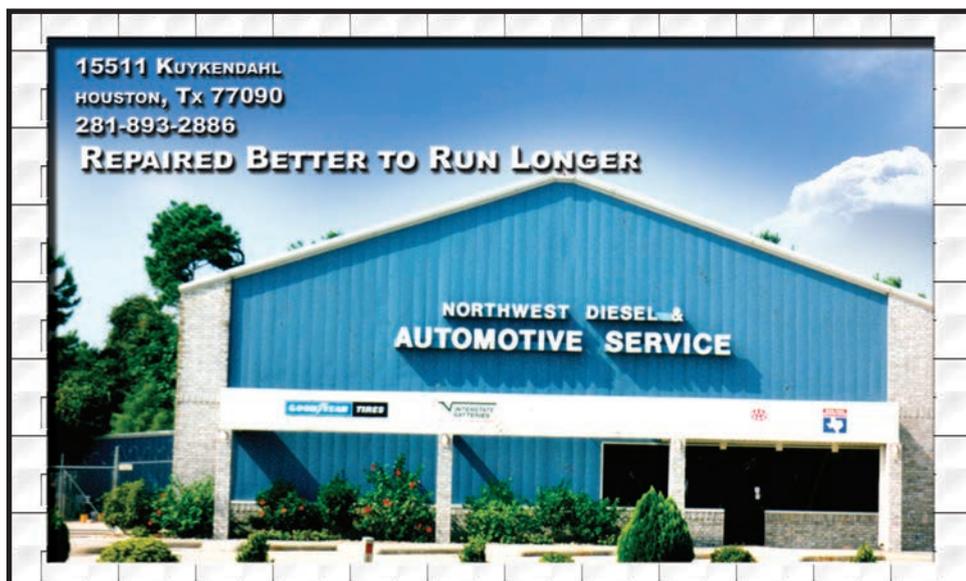
I PRAY YOU GET A KICK OUT OF THIS – Your baby is still in there just growing and growing, getting ready to impact the world.

Don't rely on men to tell you when its your time. That's no better than asking a priest to forgive your sins instead of God. You have the clock within you. Rely on God, and when its time, get ready to see supernatural SIZED manifestations, with GODSPEED, ACCELERATION OF MATURITY & STABILITY, and EASE. Get ready! You're one push away! Keep feeding that inner man, and ready yourself to steward what God is birthing in you!

I Bless You in the Name of Jesus! Thomas & Mandi + 6 Awesome Boys

With Permission thomasgriffin.org

Never be Afraid to Trust an Unknown Future to a Known GOD
by Corrie Ten Boom



Moms are like Glue

By Rick Cadden

In April of 2000, my mom was in the hospital with severe back pains. After some tests had been run, the doctor diagnosed her having gall stones. She was 72 then and the doctor was not exactly sure about surgery at her age and wanted to keep her overnight for observation. My sister and I visited mom that evening and knowing she would be there overnight we thought we just come back in the morning to hear the plan from the doctors. At 6am the next morning I got a call from my sister. Mom passed away!

I was stunned and overwhelmed and questioning what happened overnight. Once we got to the hospital, the doctor explained that the combination of gall stones and her health were not good and she died from a heart attack. Mom had a previous heart attack more than 10 years earlier and had recovered well from it. But the pain and stress from the gall stones and her overall health got the best of mom. Later that morning at the hospital, I went to see mom one last time. It had not really hit me yet that she was gone until I saw her lying there. I cried profusely knowing she was gone now and what was I going to do without her here. My mom was the glue that held our family together, now what?

In October of 1999 I was hired on staff at Glenview Baptist church, coming to them broken and distraught. My first church experience ended traumatically and this new pastor and staff loved, encouraged, and supported me immensely. God knew exactly where to send me. At mom's funeral I was standing outside the church when a white van pulled up and 7 men in black suits and dark sunglasses exited the van one by one. I thought the mafia had arrived! An amazing sight to witness is your church staff coming to support you in the loss of a parent. I was in tears as they comforted me in my loss. During the funeral I noticed two of my best friends from high school in attendance. Vanessa and Debbie have been close and dear friends to me for 40 years and drove a great distance to be there. Another witness of God's hand comforting me.

My mom and dad lived in a retirement village and for the most part mom was the caretaker for them both. We did not realize though, that she was hiding dad's Dementia. He was going down quick but mom didn't let on to the family. We noticed some things wrong but not until she was gone did we realize his full blown disease. Dad was lost without mom and could not function. He did know where he was or what time of day it was. We had to move dad to a home that cared for this disease. Within 3 months of mom's death, dad passed away in his sleep one night.

I am the youngest of four children in our family. We grew up with mom and dad owning an auto parts business in Corpus Christi, Texas. We all worked there at some point in time which made it a true family business. Mom was the bookkeeper and dad ran the store. Growing up as a kid, my mom was always there for me. My dad owned the store even as I was just a kid. Mom worked half days and then was a stay at home mom the rest of the day. So, I got to spend a lot of time with mom. We did a lot together growing up. One day in the summer we went bowling and after we got home I looked down and still had my rented bowling shoes on. We laughed and she had to drive me back to the bowling lane to get my shoes. I think every year mom planned a birthday party for me and made sure all my friends were there. She drove me to all my sports games, took me shopping for clothes, and was the organizer for all our family vacations.

Mom was responsible for all our Sunday dinners as a family. Almost every Sunday she would fix a big meal with all the trimmings for the family. Mom absolutely thrived on family. She loved it when we all came over and for holidays we would always gather at mom and dad's house for the fun. It ran in the family because my mom's mom, who lived in San Antonio, thrived on family as well and when we came to visit she spent the first 15 minutes on the phone calling all the rest of the family in San Antonio, that we were there. Granny was something else! Mom applied hundreds of Band-Aids to my body, sewed a hundred new patches into my jeans, sewed dozens of holes in my socks, cooked me thousands of meals, and kissed a hundred boo-boo's to make them better. Mom was the glue that held me together.

All the way until mom passed away she lived for family and she is what held us together. It was expected to be at mom and dad's for holidays and she would plan it all out. Dad just smiled and went along. Dad absolutely loved family too, but mom was the driving force keeping us together. She started a genealogy book of her family. Mom was one of four sisters and she hand-typed this book page by page including scanning in pictures when she could get them. She went as far back as information would let her and then built it forward on each member of her family. It included marriages, divorces, kids, grandkids, cousins, nephews, uncles, and aunts. It was very detailed with birth place and date, jobs, and a brief description of their life. What a huge blessing to have that book to read the family history. We not only lost a mom, we lost the recording of history too. Mom was the glue that held us together.

It has been 15 years since mom and dad passed away so abruptly. Every Mother's day and Father's day I get flooded with memories of my mom and dad. My mom was so special to me. I could write a book about growing up with my mom. We did so much together and she was always there for me. I could always count on her matter what. I am sad to say that during the last 15 years her four siblings have not stayed in touch as much as we should. We get busy and have our own families now. Holidays are just on our own and we don't meet together like we did at mom and dad's. How does that happen? Why have we grown apart so much?

With Mother's Day just around the corner, I challenge you to stop what you are doing and spend time with your mom. Don't make excuses, just go see her and tell her you love her. If your mom is no longer living, honor her on Mom's Day by getting the family together, or at least calling your family and sharing memories about mom together. God gave us the ability to have memories which can be wonderful. God gave you just the right mom I am sure. In the opening chapter of the book of Proverbs in the Bible, the writer exhorts the reader on how to embrace wisdom. In verse 8 it tells us to listen to our father's instruction and to not forsake our mother's teaching. If you will do that, then verse 9 tells us that by doing so with cause your mom and dad to be like a garland of grace on your head and like a chain to adorn your neck. In other words a garland of grace and a chain of adornment will be added to you. Whatever you do, make this Mother's Day a special day for mom. For me, mom is like glue...still holding our family together through the memories we all have of her. Happy Mother's Day!

*You are loved more
than you'll ever know*

By someone who died to know you

Romans 5:8



ABLE
FURNITURE COMPANY

Furniture & Art Restorations Since 1925

Reupholstering • Refinishing • Repairs • Art Restoration
Damage Estimates • Antiques • Home Touch-up
Commercial • Residential Interiors

281-375-5491
Fax: 281-375-5612

Hours:
8am-4:30pm
Mon-Fri

*Beautiful
Work!
Reasonable
Prices!*




The Parable of the Good Father

By Timothy Lamb

“...BUT WHILE HE WAS STILL A LONG WAY OFF, HIS FATHER SAW HIM AND WAS FILLED WITH COMPASSION FOR HIM; HE RAN TO HIS SON, THREW HIS ARMS AROUND HIM AND KISSED HIM.”

I believe the Kingdom of God to be so beyond our thoughts that Jesus had no need to embellish the parables. His figurative speech reflects a truth that we could not understand, in terms we could grasp.

The Parable of the Prodigal Son as told by Jesus in Luke chapter 15 brings the plight of mankind to a personal level; one on one – father and sons.

One son does everything right, sticks by the father and works hard. The other son is a rebellious dreamer so arrogant as to think he deserves something better and

so depraved as to sell his inheritance for the lusts of the flesh.

The reason for Jesus telling this is to underscore the heart of God for humanity. All of us are sinful without a doubt. If you are like the older son and struggle with pride or resentment or jealousy, the father will have patience with you and he makes a promise to the faithful son; “Son, you have always been with me, and all that is mine is yours.” Your inheritance is fixed and complete.

But the rebellious younger son; what has he? He has a home, and a father who will always love him. So great is the fathers love that he does not simply make a place in the servants quarters and allow him to eat leftovers. The father does not hold back and wait for the child to grovel and beg and kiss his feet. In fact the father wants all to know this wayward boy is his son, and so adorns him with a robe restoring him to the position over the servants. He puts a ring on his finger, more than likely the signet of his family and a sign of authority. And sandals because a proper Jewish man covers his feet.

But deeper and more moving than all that is this - this father who must have been waiting with hope for

this day sees this young man a long way off and you can almost feel the emotion welling up in the father’s heart until he cannot contain himself and he runs to his child, hugs and kisses him, and he really doesn’t care what has happened only that he has returned.

God is like this or Jesus wouldn’t have put this in the story. For every lost and rebellious sinner, depraved and miserable, God the Father is waiting to receive you. He is watching the horizon with hope of your return. And all you need do is humble yourself and know in your heart that the way you are living was not what God made you for; God has already created the path back to Him in Jesus Christ. You take that one step to Jesus and the Father will run the rest of the way to embrace you. He will clothe you like a child of His, give you the authority of His name, and make a room back in His house just for you!

In these troubling times there is nothing more certain than this; that God loves you and wants to save you for eternity, and Jesus has provided the way. Come to Jesus just as you are and the Father will take care of the rest.



G & L Alterations

281-579-1231

20009 Katy Freeway @ Fry
Katy, Texas 77450

Open
Mon-Fri 9-6
Sat 9-1

*I loved you at your
Darkest.* Jesus

The Miracle Working Power Of God

to let our friend know he had an ounce of cocaine to sell and did our friend know of anyone looking. “Jerry whats up” my friend said and said yea there are many looking and your brother is here.

My heart sank, I heard a voice say in my mind, “yea your alright, but what about your brother and family and friends”

My heart sunk more, then I heard another voice, coming from another place that spoke soft powerful words into my heart, “THATS WHY I CALLED YOU, FOR YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS”

So began my journey, I threw away the drugs in my life found a church the next day. I never looked back. My Brother is now saved, my sister and my parents, I have many old friends and their kids now coming to church, God is faithful to His Words

My wife left me for another man shortly afterwards because she wasn’t ready and today I am married to Patricia with 3 kids and coming on our 25 year anniversary. We started a bible study in our house with my sister inlaw and her husband, my parents and a couple of friends and it has grown into a vibrant growing fellowship called Calvary Chapel Waco.

Albert Fuentes

Texas Auto Glass

Window Tinting
Auto • Residential • Commercial
Auto Alarms
Auto & Truck Accessories
Stereos
Windshield Repair
Lifetime Warranty



15957 Kuykendahl
281-943-0698

Insuring Texas Since 1994



Answering your insurance needs for:

- Home
- Auto
- Business
- Health/Life
- Contractors of all types

Over 75 Years Experience
Independent Insurance Broker

Tom@PreferredAllianceGroup.com
F: 281-391-1369 P: 281-391-2332

www.preferredalliancegroup.com | 5606 Franz Rd. • Katy, Tx. 77493




Houston's Largest Dealer!

Husqvarna VIKING | PFAFF brother | WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS

Katy Locations	Sugar Land	The Woodlands	Memorial	Willowbrook
HEADQUARTERS 20141 Park Row Dr. 281-394-0421	Inside JoAnn Fabrics 1219 Fry Road 281-944-7969	Inside JoAnn Fabrics 16626 SW Freeway 832-500-8449	Inside JoAnn Fabrics 25415 I-45 North 281-826-1043	Inside JoAnn Fabrics 9960 Old Katy Rd. 832-742-7799
				Inside JoAnn Fabrics 12918 Willow Chase Dr. 281-500-9258

Christian Brothers Automotive Champions

Complete Automotive Repair Facility
1/2 Mile West of Kuykendahl



2899 FM 1960 West • 281-444-2899



JONES complete auto repair

- OIL CHANGE.
- STATE INSPECTIONS.
- A/C SYSTEM.
- TUNE UP.
- BRAKES.
- CV JOINT.

832-639-8192
CASTROL OIL CHANGE \$1599

- Free Brake Check & A/C Check
- State Inspection
- A/C Repairs
- Alignments
- Transmissions

8680 Louetta Rd, Spring, TX 77379
(832) 639-8192

John W. Smith

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

281-492-8424

20300 FRANZ RD SUITE 8
KATY, TEXAS 77449

Jesus is Lord!

Texas Miracle Ranch providing

RESCUE • SAFETY • FEED • LOVE • VET • FARRIER • SOCIALIZE
SANCTUARY • REHOMING • 500 DONKEYS, MULES, AND HORSES

A rough looking man pulled into our rescue with a handsome, frightened donkey on a trailer in the back. I was horrified when he stated that, if we didn't take him he would shoot him. This dark colored tall donkey was covered with lumps and welts from a recent beating. The look he gave me said it all. He really needed a friend. So, I said, of course we would take him. Our rescue is full, but I could not send this donkey away to his certain doom. Captain Bill was given his first vet check, vaccinated and microchipped. We keep all new arrivals in quarantine for 30 days. Within two weeks, Captain Bill was hit with an upper respiratory that has nearly killed him. Texas A&M is a wonderful veterinary hospital, but the level of care needed to save Captain Bill has been expensive. Ultimately, it took nearly 30 days to save this wonderful donkey. We are excited that he will soon be well enough to come home. Captain Bill fought hard to live. Yet, as a rescue, a \$20,000. vet bill is daunting. We have raised \$9000. leaving \$11,000. that we need to raise. Please help Texas Miracle Ranch pay Captain Bill's medical costs. Without this care, this young donkey would have died. TMRRescue.com

TMR Rescue, Inc
9977 County Road 302 Plantersville 77363
TMRRescue.com - Marjorie@tmrrescue.com




Captain Bill

CALL OR TEXT
281 235 5288

Hometown Rental Purchase

4851 Hwy 6 N (Next to HEB)
Furniture • Appliances • Electronics






No Credit Needed • 10% Military Discount
Same Day Delivery • 90 day Same As Cash
281-463-3323 Mon-Fri 9-7 Sat 9-5
hometownrentalpurchase.biz