



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

www.wcfamily.org

Volume 42, Issue 10 • March 7, 2010

A Preacher's Perspective

It's about the time of year when we get motivated to get in shape. The paths are mostly free of snow, the sun is much warmer, and beautiful trails beckon us to set out on the road to better health.

So, what kind of shape are you in?

It's kind of a trick question I'm asking. I'm really looking at the idea of "shape" in terms of the molding of our lives by the Father's hand. He has marvelous tools and techniques to turn us from raw material to vessels useful to His service.

For the purpose of our discussion, we won't focus on the material we start with, or as, though that is clearly an interesting issue. Instead, we'll look at some experiences and influences which are common to all of us no matter our gender, our race, our intellect or our stature. God's hand is shaping each of us, if we will respond to the turning of His potter's wheel.

One of the most powerful lifelong encounters with our shapelessness is the instruction and influence of the Word of God. We can look at the testimony of nature and see the glory of God revealed in design, in antiquity, in vastness of scale. But to know the will of our Father and to see how He would have us live, we must have the teaching of the scripture.

Two times in **Proverbs**, we are taught, "There is a way which seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death." (14:12, 16:25) Man cannot discern the lies of our Enemy or understand the direction for his feet without the instruction and guidance of the Word of God.

Another important shaping force from God in our lives is the work of discipline. God tests men. The Wisdom

literature bears witness to this, and Paul notes that God tests our hearts. (**Prov. 17:3, Eccl. 31:8, 1 Thess. 2:4**) The writer of **Hebrews** reminds us that God's love for us as sons guarantees that we will receive discipline (instruction) from the Lord in order that we may become true sons and have strength for our lives.

One of the important truths which can reveal to us our maturity, or lack of maturity, is the way we respond to the testing of the Lord. The fool doesn't profit from instruction

and discipline. In fact, when fools fail because of their own bad choices, they are angry with God! (**Prov. 19:3**)

The wise man, on the other hand, profits from reproof and grows in the mind of Christ and the character of God. He who hates reproof is stupid. (**Prov. 12:1**)

Sometimes, it is hard to see God's purposes in our lives. It just seems like things are not going well for us. We are admonished, however,

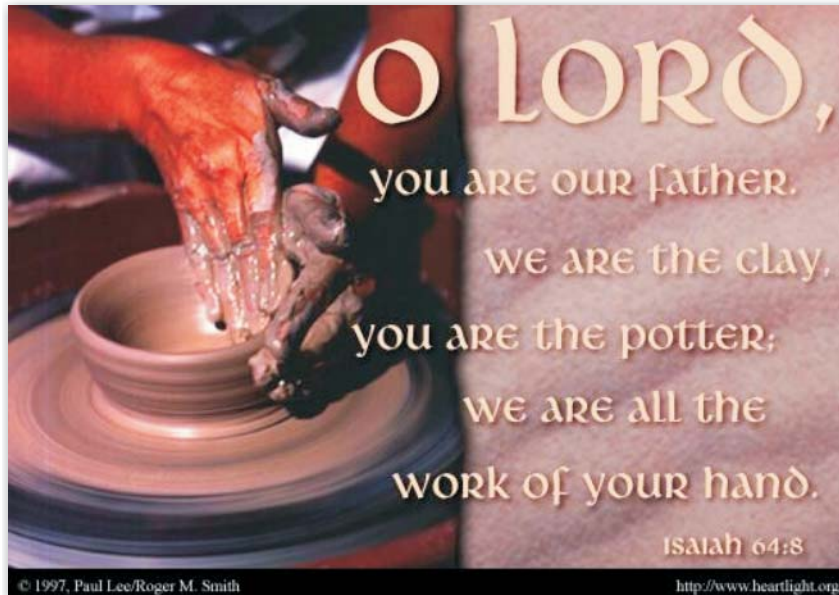
not to "grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." **Gal. 6:9**

Satan, of course, tries to undermine the shaping forces of God. He encouraged us to neglect the Word, and to respond to life's obstacles with bitterness, anger, and pride. He points us toward short-cuts and compromises which will make things go much better, in the short run.

But this great admonition gives us great wisdom: "...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us..." **Hebrews 12:1-2**

How about it? Are you being shaped by God for the warfare of the soul to break down the gates of hell and advance the banner of the king?

It's the season to let God shape us for His purposes.



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http://www.heartlight.org/

Chuck Miller

Welcome to the West Chicago Church of Christ

If you are visiting with us, we especially want to welcome you. We pray our time together worshipping our Father in heaven will be uplifting and encouraging. You are an honored guest and we want to thank you for being a part of our worship this morning!

Bible classes are available for all ages. Babies can be taken to the nursery located at the back of the auditorium. Pre-school and elementary-age children meet in classrooms downstairs. Teens meet in the fellowship room downstairs. Adult classes meet in the auditorium and at the end of the foyer.

Our Small Group Fellowship program takes place during the fall, winter and spring months and is on the first and third Sundays of each month in lieu of the Sunday evening worship. If you are interested in joining a Small Group, please speak with one of our Deacons. The Small Group Fellowship schedule does change occasionally due to holidays.

We are planning a weekly web-cast of our Sunday morning auditorium class and worship services. Please follow these instructions:

<http://wcfamily.viewnetcam.com>
 Username: wcfamily
 Password: 6302312062
 Click "SINGLE" tab
 Allow any Active X controls

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our Elders:

Don Brewster Bob Jett
 Chuck Miller Bob Voigts

Our Deacons are:

Justin Avey: Benevolence, Fellowship, Stewardship & Leadership
 Jay Hearn: Worship & Pulpit, Communications, Outreach, Education, Benevolence
 Cliff Plummer: Fellowship, Benevolence, Education
 Curt Robinson: Education, Stewardship & Leadership
 Rick Root: Communications, Education, Stewardship & Leadership

Sunday Morning Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
 (No evening worship on Small Group Fellowship Sundays)
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class 7:00 p.m.



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This Morning ...

Please take a moment this morning to fill out an attendance card, especially if you are a guest. Prayer cards are also available in the pew rack. You may choose to have prayers by the elders, a prayer warrior or by the whole church family. If you choose "whole church family" it will be announced following the sermon.

Order of Worship

Welcome Chuck Miller
 Singing Tim Boyd
 #19 Come Thou Almighty King
 Prayer Updates & Scripture Kyle Wheeler
 #484 You are My All in All
 #58 A Charge to Keep I Have
 Prayer Paul Mullins
 #337 Hallelujah, What a Savior
 Lord's Supper Bob Jett
 Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
 Sermon Chuck Miller
 #922 Jesus Paid it All
 Prayer Card Responses and Prayer Bob Voigts
 Announcements Kyle Wheeler
 #72 Blessed be the Lord God Almighty
 Closing Prayer John Pedersen

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March 7 Daniel Henkel
 March 9 Don Lemley
 March 10 Bev Livermore
 March 13 Carson Boyd

Dates to Remember

Today Small Group Fellowships
 March 8 Living Room Café
 March 11 Teen Parent Connection
 March 12 Men's Bible Study
 March 12 Chicago Flower & Garden Show/Seniors
 March 14 Daylight Savings Time (Spring Ahead)
 March 14 Sunday Night Light/Teens
 March 17 Seniors Breakfast
 March 18 Teen Parent Connection
 March 19 Men's Bible Study

Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class 67
 Sunday Morning Worship 103
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class 26
 Contribution \$5,171.57

Nursery Workers Tristan Link, Jamie Miller

Collection Counters Paul Mullins, Rick Root

In Our Prayers...

Herman Aultman, Bobbie Whitman's brother, will be having a kidney transplant. Donors are being tested.

Phyllis Cissne, Cindy Drumheller's mother, is having outpatient surgery to relieve pain in her spine due to arthritis on March 15. She is 86 years old.

Chris Czernik's friend had her newborn grandson pass away. The mother's name is Alyssa.

Nana Lake's future mother-in-law is having surgery next week.

Henry & Candra Phillips are waiting to see if their foster daughter, **Lina**, needs heart surgery.

Dee & Barbara Phipps, Stacey Hearn's parents, are both suffering with health issues. Dee is very weak from being in the hospital for over a month. Barbara has just been diagnosed with lung cancer.

Susie, a young woman from Guatemala, obtained a visa to come to the U.S. due to a high-risk pregnancy. She is in Nashville with friends of the Millers, Russ & Donna King.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Justin Avey
 Paul & Judy Bertrand - Lynette Root's parents
 Bonnie Bingham
 Nancy Brewster
 Jim & Julie Chavez
 Gail Cole - Lori Plummer's mother
 John Day
 Al Dorsey & his son, Doug
 Joyce Eakins, her brother, Hubert and her two sisters, Eunice and Frances
 Brad Fowler - Joan Lockett's nephew
 Lauren Helton - Josephine Haggerton's nephew
 Mary Henkel - Mike's mother
 Kathy Huml - John Pedersen's sister
 Debbie Lawrence - Bobbie Whitman's niece
 Don Lemley
 Anne Librande - Joanne Johnson's mother
 Steve Link
 Jack Lockett - father of Charlie, Mike, Julie Chavez, Shelley Prosser, Missy Kissane, & Becky Pedersen
 Mike Lockett - Joan's son
 Jackie Milam, Alyssa's mother
 Bobbye Miller
 Danielle Nichols - Alyssa Milam's cousin
 Josh Otte - Chris Czernik's nephew and the son of Marion Lake's cousin
 Doug Peterson
 Pat Ronzheimer
 Kay Schrader
 Chester & Phyllis Sitler
 Bruce Snyder & Cindy Stewart - Bob Voigts's cousins
 Barb Tincher - Jake's mother
 Jim Whitman

Mothers-to-be:

Tammy Urso - Dan & Linda Vantrees's daughter
 Rob & Eryn and Ben & Kristin Livermore -
 Craig & Bev's sons

Armed forces:

James Bartels - the son of Lynette Root's friend - in Iraq, he and his wife are expecting a new baby and they have a 4-year-old

Ryan Gleason - Dana Howard's nephew
 Mike Hagan - Doris Biancalana's nephew in Baghdad

Jacob Headtke - U.S. Marines, RCC alumni
 Toby Logsdon - Dewayne & Marilyn Smith's son-in-law is in Afghanistan

Jeremy Riley - great-great-nephew of Josephine Haggerton, stationed in Baghdad

Shane - the son of LeAnn Sexton, a friend of Lori Plummer

Joey Wertz - the friend of Lynette Root's friend, Iraq

Chris Yauch - the husband of Wendell & Margaret Mott's granddaughter, Mallory

Jonathon Young - a former member is a Warrant Officer in the army and plans to fly helicopters. He's in Alabama, at Fort Rucker.

Missionaries:

Jarrold, Allison, Soledad & Levi Brown - Honduras
 Students of Joe Voigts - China
 City of Children - Ensenada, Mexico
 Obadiah Doka & Family - Nigeria
 Ayodele Waleola - Nigeria
 Shults-Lewis - the teens, their families, the workers
 Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt - Taiwan



The 2010 Ladies Retreat, "O How I Love Jesus!" is scheduled for Friday evening through Saturday noon, **April 23 & 24**. It will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Warrenville. **Registration forms are available TODAY!** Each person needs to complete a registration form and list their roommates. Return the form with payment to Molly Mullins. Registration closes Sunday, March 28. If you have transportation or financial concerns or any questions, please see Barb Voigts. 🌻

Bring your family, friends, neighbors & co-workers!

youth & family news

TEENS: There is a **Sunday Night Light** scheduled for next Sunday evening, March 14, at Brian & Shannon Gifford's home in Batavia.

Harding University is hosting dinner and a Cubs game on **Tuesday night, April 27th**. All you can eat pizza begins at 5:45, the game starts at 7:05. Tickets are just \$10 and must be ordered soon! See Cliff if you're interested.



HARDING UNIVERSITY

PARENTS & ADULTS: We need families to host **Sunday Night, Lights** on March 28, and April 25. Please sign up on the sheet in the foyer.

*City of Children
Ensenada, Mexico
Mission Trip
June 12-18, 2010*

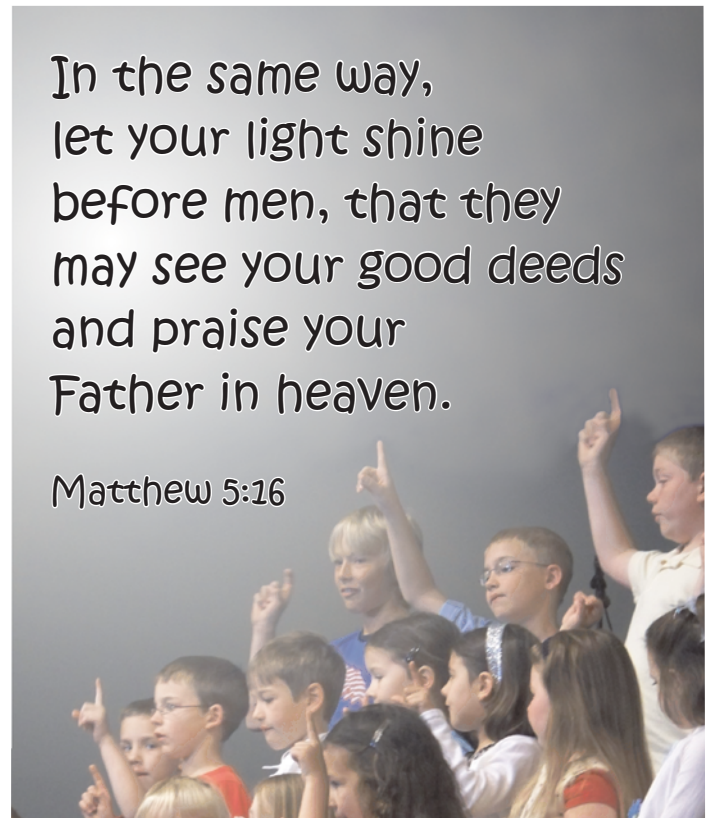
*Mission Lazarus
Honduras
Mission Trip
July 24-31, 2010*

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Make sure to set your clocks one hour ahead (spring forward) early next Sunday morning. If not, you will think it is only 10:00 a.m., but it will really be 11:00 and you'll be late to worship!

In the same way,
let your light shine
before men, that they
may see your good deeds
and praise your
Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16



Small Group Fellowships

Small Group Fellowships meet **TODAY!** Upcoming Small Group Fellowship dates are: March 21, and April 18. **There will be no evening**

worship at the building on Small Group

Sundays. However, the Small Group led by Dewayne Smith meets at the building at 5:30 p.m.

Living Room Cafe

We're scheduled to help at the **Living Room Café TOMORROW**. Sign up in the foyer or let Cliff know if you plan to go. We will leave the building at about 2:30 and return about 8:30 p.m.

We are also scheduled to go the second **MONDAY** of every month through the end of the year. If you've wanted to help, but haven't been able to participate, check your calendar and make plans to join us! An April sign-up sheet is also available in the foyer.

Seniors Outing

Join us on our outing to the **Chicago Flower and Garden Show**, downtown at Navy Pier, **this Friday, March 12**. We will leave from the building around 9:30 a.m. and return after lunch. Tickets are \$15, lunch will probably be around \$10. Sign up on the sheet in the foyer if you are interested. Questions, see Cliff.



CHICAGO FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

Wednesday Ladies Class

The Ladies Bible Class is going through a series of lessons on the Holy Spirit. If you have any questions or would like to lead a class, please see Joanne Johnson.

Teen Parent Connection

Teen Parent Connection meets here on Thursday evenings. **If you can assist preparing a meal or help with childcare**, see Molly Mullins. Monetary donations are also welcome. Their website is: www.teenparentconnection.org.

Men's Bible Study & Coffee

The Men's Bible Study, hosted by Bob Voigts and Kenn Watson, meets Fridays from 6:30 - 8:00 a.m. at the building.

Needs for Community

A family from our community needs baby wipes, size 6 diapers and size 4T/5T pull ups. Donations may be placed by the table by the restrooms.