A Preacher’s Perspective

I had an English professor who told us of a quote by Robert Frost which I have always loved. “I never tire of seeing the finite make snug in the infinite.” (I have never been able to find the quote, but I trust it’s there, somewhere. If it’s not, I still love the idea!)

It’s become a hobby of mine to look for that relationship in life-experiences and encounters. It’s like the pictures of the Peaceable Kingdom from Isaiah: “The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox.” The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper’s nest”. Isaiah 11:6-8 (NIV)

The finite and the infinite. Like seeing a tiny boat on a stormy sea. Like standing on the rim of the Grand Canyon and imagining the depth and the terror of a fall.

The real power of the idea, I believe, is to be found in the concept of Christ in us. Perhaps its most intense form ever was seen in the manger at Bethlehem.

God the Creator had become flesh and was a tiny baby in the arms of a young Jewish girl. Now that’s a picture of the finite and the infinite. That’s the ultimate picture.

When we are faced by great peril or massive force or immense size, we tend to shrink in fear. Life-long fishermen in a storm on the water who were pretty sure they were going to drown suggests the fierceness of the gale. When they woke up the sleepy Jesus to report they were all going to die, He simply spoke the sea into calm.

They were impressed. They had just seen what looked to be very finite break out into cosmic authority and command winds and waves to obey Him.

At Nazareth synagogue, the folks looked forward to a rousing lesson from a hometown prophet who was making a stir. When He turned the lesson on them, accusing them of unbelief and showing, in their minds, like of proper humility, they were so enraged they wanted to kill Him. They even dragged Him to the city cliff to throw Him to His death.

He simply turned and walked through the midst of them. I don’t think they knew how He did that. The finite and the infinite.

One of my favorite examples is the Gethsemane event. The soldiers were there with torches and clubs. Maybe as many as 600 of them. When Jesus said, “I am He,” they all fell to the ground. Did they notice? Did any of them catch on that they were all in the grasp of an infinite power that could crush them to dust?

I’ve always suspected that some did see it and perhaps became disciples. I don’t think God wastes demonstrations like that. But it may have just been another reminder from the Father to the Son: “I have this completely under control!”

My favorite application of the concept is this: God loves me, so I am safe. As the song puts it, “anywhere with Jesus I can safely go.”

Very cool.

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 worshiping 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 begin at 9:30 and 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 teen room at the back of the auditorium. The adult class meets in the fellowship room.

Our Community Groups meet every Sunday throughout the year, except for the last Sunday of each month. The last Sunday of each month, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. for a time of praise and fellowship.

A weekly web-cast of our Sunday morning worship services is available by following these instructions:
http://wcfamily.viewnetcam.com
Username: wcfamily
Password: 6302312062
Click “SINGLE” tab
Allow any Active X tab

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

Our Deacons are:
Justin Avey: Benevolence, Fellowship, Stewardship & Leadership
Jay Hearn: Worship & Pulpit, Communications, Outreach, Education, Benevolence
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 (last Sunday of each month) ... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Class ............ 7:00 p.m.

350 East James Avenue
West Chicago, Illinois  60185
(630) 231-2062
wcfamily@wcfamily.org  www.wcfamily.org

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, Announcements & Prayer ........ Curt Robinson
Kids Connection ............................. Bob Jett
Praise Songs ................................. Jay Hearn

#63  I Will Call upon the Lord
#96  I Stand in Awe
#53  Father, I Adore You
#659  I Love to Tell the Story
#383  Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

Communion Message ................. John Johnson
Prayers & Pass emblems
Sermon ........................................ Chuck Miller

#567  Restore My Soul
Prayer Cards ............................... Bob Voigts

#703  I Love You with the Love of the Lord

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March 13 .................. Carson Boyd
March 14 .................. Emily Robinson
March 15 .................. Jay Hearn, Shelby Root
March 16 .................. Maryssa Dean
March 17 .................. Darrell Vaden

Dates to Remember

TODAY .......................... Community Groups
March 12 .................. Living Room Café
March 13 .................. Ladies Class
March 15 .................. Teen Parent Connection
March 16 .................. Mens Prayer Breakfast
March 18 .................. Community Groups
March 20 .................. Ladies Class
March 21 .................. Seniors Breakfast
March 22 .................. Teen Parent Connection
March 23 .................. Mens Prayer Breakfast
March 25 .................. Praise Sunday!

Records You Helped Make
Contribution ......................... $4,991.55

Nursery Workers .............. Joan Avey, Sandy Boyd

Collection Counters ............ Jeff Ieler, Rick Root
In Our Prayers...

Drew Baxman, Dana Howard’s cousin, passed away. He had been under hospice care. Pray for his brothers, Mark, Scott and Curt.

Obadiah Doka and his family in Nigeria are very fearful of the escalating violence happening in northern Nigeria. Christians are being forced to flee to southern Nigeria or neighboring countries. Recent reports can be found by searching “northern Nigeria” on the internet.

Stacey Howard, Dana’s sister, is having a biopsy soon.

Pat Johnson, Dana Howard’s aunt, is home from the hospital and still recuperating from pneumonia. The surgery she needs is being postponed until she is well.

John Mark Lango, the son of former members, Keith & Kim Lango, is still having severe health issues and it seems to be attacking more parts of his body.

Chuck Miller has finished three of seven weeks of radiation treatments. He will have a total of 38 treatments.

Amber, the daughter of Frances Shearer’s friend, woke up from being in a coma for two weeks. She was injured in a car accident. She has two children.

Rose Stirrup, Kelly Ieler’s mother, had surgery on Thursday to have part of her lung removed. She got along really well.

Klinton Wheeler got home from his tour of duty in Afghanistan.

Jim Whitman is home from the hospital, but is still having high blood pressure problems.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman – Bobbie Whitman’s brother
Justin Avey
Paul & Judy Bertrand – Lynette Root’s parents
Herman Biggers – Josephine Haggerton’s brother
Bonnie Bingham
Nancy Brewster
Phyllis Cissne, Cindy Drumheller’s mother
John Day
Al Dorsey
Doug Dorsey – Al’s son
Joyce Duke – Bobbie Whitman’s sister
Joyce Eakins’s siblings
Brad Fowler – Joan Lockett’s nephew
Josephine Haggerton
Lauren Helton – Josephine Haggerton’s nephew
Kathy Huml – John Pedersen’s sister
Mason Hutchins – friend of Alec Boyd & Rourke Mullins
Debbie Lawrence – Bobbie Whitman’s niece
Don Lemley
Anne Librande – Joanne Johnson’s mother
Jack Lockett – father of Charlie, Mike, Julie Chavez, Shelley Prosser, Missy Kissane, & Becky Pedersen

Mike Lockett – Joan’s son
Joan Mullins – Paul’s mother
Josh Otte – Chris Czernik’s nephew & the son of Marion Lake’s cousin
Helen Plummer – the mother of Joan Avey and Cliff
Scott Robinson – Curt’s brother
Kay Schrader
Phyllis Sitler
Bruce Snyder & Cindy Stewart – Bob Voigts’ cousins
Ernie & Rose Stirrup – Kelly Ieler’s parents

Moms-to-Be:

Lauren Avey – Justin & Joan’s daughter-in-law
Nana Dukeman – Marion Lake’s niece
Shannon Gifford
Jamie Miller – her due date is just a month away
Christina Voigts

Armed forces:

Joe Amato – Bob & Betsy Jett’s son-in-law is in Afghanistan until the middle of March.
Josh Aultman – Bobbie Whitman’s grand-nephew
Ryan Gleason – Dana Howard’s nephew
Jacob Headtke – U.S. Marines, RCC alumni
Joey Wertz – the friend of Lynette Root’s friend, Iraq
Jonathon Young – a Warrant Officer in the army

Missions:

City of Children – Ensenada, Mexico
Living Room Café – Chicago
Mission Lazarus – Honduras & Haiti
Shults-Lewis – the teens, their families, the workers
Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt – Taiwan
Teen Parent Connection - West Chicago
Joe & Allison Voigts – Korea
Students of Joe Voigts – China
Ayodele Waleola – Nigeria
Today!

Community Groups are scheduled to meet TODAY. Please see Chuck or Don if you do not know the group in which you and your family belong. “…They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. – Acts 2:46-47

Coloring, Etc.!

Umbrella posters are available in the foyer for you to take home to color and decorate. An example is posted for you, but be creative! Sally will use them to decorate the hallway downstairs. Feel free to include Bible verses.

Living Room Café

We will serve at the Living Room Café tomorrow, Monday, March 12. We leave from the church building around 2:30 p.m. and usually return around 8:30 p.m. Please see Julie Dean or Chuck Miller if you are interested in going or have questions.

Bible Class Teachers

Please contact Cindy Drumheller if you are willing to help with any of the following.

• A substitute teacher is needed for the older kids’ class on the following Wednesday evenings: March 14, 21 and 28.
• Please sign up to teach the Wednesday evening 0-4 aged class. A sheet is posted on the bulletin board.
• Substitute teachers are always needed. Are you willing to be on a substitute teacher contact list?

Wednesday Eve. Ladies Class

The Wednesday evening ladies class began a study of Acts – a look at brand new Christians learning to get along with each other and their neighbors. This is an eight to ten week study led by Sandy Boyd. We are starting in chapter 7 this week.

Grocery Bags/Sacks

Grocery bags, either paper or plastic, are needed for the food pantry. Target, Wal-Mart and Meijer have the best quality for re-use, but any are welcome. You may place them by the table next to the restrooms.

A GATHERING of the Jesus Freaks

Our God is an awesome God, and Rockford Christian Camp exists to glorify Him. He shelters us under beautiful trees and whispers to us in the soft winds of summer. At RCC, His word is lifted up, and Jesus is worshiped as the centerpiece of everything in heaven and on earth. His love binds us together and gives grace and harmony to our relationships with one another. Dates for this summer are set. Make sure to write them on your calendar so your vacations can be planned accordingly.

• Senior Week: July 6 - 14
• Intermediate Week: July 14 - 21
• Junior Week: July 21 - 28

Also, consider being a part of the Cabin Keepers Foundation. Check www.rcchome.com for more information on sessions and how you can get involved at RCC!

Vacation Bible School

Make sure to mark your calendar with this year’s Vacation Bible School – Sunday, June 24, through Thursday, June 28, in the evening. Be thinking about how you can get involved and join us “All Aboard the Kingdom Express.” Our Annual Picnic is scheduled for the following Sunday, July 1. Can’t wait for an awesome summer!