

West Chicago Church of Christ

www.wcfamily.org

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A Preacher's Perspective

unflowers turn to face the sun. They demonstrate wisdom. The light is our source of all goodness. John tells us that in Jesus was life, and that life was the "light of men."

When we look away from Jesus, bad things happen.

Every athlete knows that it is vital to keep the eye focused on the ball. Just a moment's diversion can make the difference between a base hit and a strikeout. The writer of

Hebrews gives this counsel: "...let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-2 (RSV)

Looking to Jesus is the foundation of our spiritual success.

We have learned, of course, that the Jesus-vision is paramount in distinguishing spiritual wisdom from the clamor of the world's self-help crowd and the latest guru selling a totally new approach to life.

But looking to Jesus is also of great importance in our dealings with one another and with those who are spiritual teachers and leaders.

No matter how well educated and sincere, it is true that great teachers and thinkers in the world of religion draw followers to themselves. It may not even be their fault.

It is just the nature of men to want to choose some lesser star to hitch their wagon to. Jesus said, "If another comes in his own name, you would receive him." Men are always ready to receive men because they really desire, themselves, a position of importance. But because Jesus came in the Father's name, men would not receive Him.

Even in our dealings with one another, in the

body, it is important, on a regular schedule, to stop and consider Jesus.

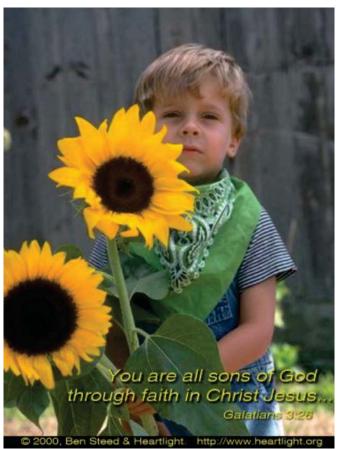
Those little bracelets had a pretty important message: What Would Jesus Do?

Now, we may not be certain just what He would do in a given situation, but He loves the idea that we would stop, pray, and ask Him to lead us. That kind of spiritual dependence is good.

When Joshua made the decision to make a treaty with the Gibeonites, it looked like a no-brainer. But it cause blood and heartache for generations.

All he had to do was check with God. He thought he could handle such an easy problem.

Let's don't fall into the same trap of the enemy. Be as smart as a sunflower. Look to the Sun.



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 controls

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



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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, Announcements & Prayer Curt Robinson | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| Kids Connection Jon Miller | | | | |
| Praise Songs | | | | |
| #23 | Our God, He Is Alive | | | |
| #851 | I'll Fly Away | | | |
| #448 | The Greatest Commands | | | |
| | There's a Stirring | | | |
| #18 | Faithful Love | | | |
| Communion Message Brian Gifford | | | | |
| Prayers & Pass Emblems | | | | |
| Sermon | | | | |
| #63 | I Will Call Upon the Lord | | | |
| Prayer Cards | | | | |
| #989 | Soon and Very Soon | | | |

Birthdays & Anniversaries

| March 19 | | Pat Brewster |
|----------|------|-------------------|
| March 22 | | . Linda Vantreese |

Dates to Remember

| TODAY Community Groups |
|------------------------------------|
| March 20 Ladies Class |
| March 21 Seniors Breakfast |
| March 22 Teen Parent Connection |
| March 23 Mens Prayer Breakfast |
| March 25 Praise Sunday! |
| March 27 Ladies Class |
| March 29 NO Teen Parent Connection |
| March 30 Mens Prayer Breakfast |
| April 1 |
| |

Records You Helped Make

| Sunday Morning Bible Class42 |
|-------------------------------|
| Sunday Morning Worship88 |
| Wednesday Evening Bible Class |
| Contribution\$3,467.00 |

Nursery Workers Shelby Root, Barb Voigts

Collection Counters Jeff Ieler, Rick Root

In Our Prayers...

Obadiah Doka and his family in Nigeria are very fearful of the escalating violence happening in northern Nigeria. Recent reports can be found by searching "northern Nigeria" on the internet.

Josephine Haggerton is in DuPage Convalescent Center. Phone: 630.510.4891

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

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 is half way through his 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,** is doing really well after her surgery.

Klinton Wheeler is home from Afghanistan.

Jim Whitman is having high blood pressure problems. Moms-to-Be:

> Lauren Avey – Justin & Joan's daughter-in-law Nana Dukeman - Marion Lake's niece Kathryn (Lemley) Garner

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

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



A Story . . . Acts 8:26-39

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road – the desert road – that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet.

The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked.

"How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.

The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?"

Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?"

And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

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.

Senior Citizens Breakfast

This Wednesday, March 21, is our monthly Senior Citizens Breakfast. The third Wednesday of each month, the seniors meet for breakfast at the Colonial Restaurant in St. Charles, located at the corner of Rte. 64 and Tyler Road, at 10:00 a.m. We order from the menu and we each pay our own way. Everyone is welcome!

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. The study is led by Sandy Boyd.

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.

Teen Parent Connection

Teen Parent Connection, a gathering of 10-15 teen parents, meets every Thursday evening from 6:30 - 8:30 in our fellowship room. If you are willing to prepare all or part of a meal or serve a meal, please see Sally. **Please note:** a couple of donations were made to fund TPC meals. This will allow you to prepare and serve a meal, then turn your receipts into Sally for reimbursement. **Also, TPC** is requesting meals through the summer months. Please give the elders your feedback concerning this matter.



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.rockfordchristiancamp.org* for more information

on sessions and how you can get involved at RCC!

*Yes, www.rockfordchristiancamp.org is the new internet address — www.rcchome.com still works, too.

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: this Wednesday, March 21 and the next, March 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?

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!