



# Sharing Life Newsletter

MARCH 18, 2010

## March Birthdays

3/2 Russ Price  
 3/3 Delores Brooks  
 3/3 Elizabeth Cooper  
 3/9 Gary Kornegay  
 3/16 Ruth Yeager  
 3/24 Danny Manning  
 3/25 David McCrary

## Prayer Needs

### Hospital:

Patsy Hazel  
 (Princeton)  
 James Robert Rosser  
 (UAB West)  
 Elizabeth Chesser  
 (Golden Living Ctr.)  
 Steve Rushing  
 (Brookwood)  
 Steve Mahan  
 (Lakeshore Rehab)

## Special Needs: ACROSS ALABAMA

David McCrary  
 (Home w/ Shingles)  
 Patsy Gamble  
 Preschool Workers  
 Adult Class  
 Shepherds  
 Apprentice  
 Shepherds

**REMEMBER**  
 to Make  
 your **RSVP**  
 for **TOUCH**  
 Meals!

## Making the Most of the Mission!

Our March Emphasis of contacting every absentee weekly, every member monthly is still going on. Our goal is to exceed our previous month's contacts (*December – 2378, January – 1924, and February - 1874*). Let's not miss out on the opportunity to make and REPORT our TOUCHES weekly. Don't let March for shorter than February or December! Please encourage your class weekly to give their report to the Secretary!!!

## Explore the Bible Series: "Amazing Deliverance" Exodus 12

*Believers today should take the opportunity to regularly commemorate God's amazing foreshadowed the perfect sacrifice God made for all time in the death of Jesus Christ. This lesson focuses on God's instructions for the Passover and calls us to remember what God has done for us.* [Read more](#)

## Bible Studies for Life Series: "When Members Insist On Their Way" 1 Corinthians 8, 10

*Our culture values the rights of the individual. Even Christians at different levels of maturity see issues of freedom and obligation from varying perspectives. In this lesson, we will explore a controversial area of church life: Christian liberty and responsibility.*

[Read more...](#)

## "Preparing for Sunday"



Every Sunday is special at Canaan! We have wonderful small groups for every age and life stage. Please pray for the classes who will be participating in our ACROSS ALABAMA emphasis!

We would love to invite your class and others who are able to use the parking behind the FLC for our major emphasis Sundays (March 27, April 4, and April 11). If anyone will be willing to help with parking, please let me know.

Looking for new classes to start on April 4 – anyone interested??

## TOUCH SEASON: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday Emphasis!!!

*Count Me In This Coming Monday Night  
Reserve a Meal for Me*

[Click Here to Reserve](#)

*Touching Every Absentee Weekly, Every Member  
Monthly – Is Effective!!*

[Sign Me Up for TOUCH Training Camp – Spring 2010!](#)

[PRE-REGISTER FOR VBS NOW!! June 21-25](#)

**Lesson  
Resources**

[Lifeway Extra](#)

[Lifeway  
Lessons  
Online](#)

[\*\*I KNOW AN  
OPPORTUNITY  
FOR OUR  
CHURCH\*\*](#)

**Sunday  
Morning  
Message**

*Walking  
Wealthy &  
Worthy in  
Christ:*

*Walk in Love*

*Ephesians  
5: 1-7*

## Explore the Bible

Lesson: Amazing Deliverance  
Scriptures: [Exodus 12:1-14](#)

As believers our new beginning occurred the day the Lord Jesus transferred us from the kingdom of darkness into His kingdom of light. Special remembrances can help us remain grounded in our new life and look at the spiritual growth God has caused in us. But we are not obligated to follow festivals or Sabbaths as those in the Old Testament. Keeping laws cannot save us from sin. But keeping special days to reflect on God's goodness and mercies acknowledges His preeminent place in our lives and hearts. Do any of your learners celebrate their spiritual birthdays? If so, what special things do they do to remember and reflect?

Several years ago our church took part in a Passover Seder meal conducted by a leader who had converted from Judaism. Having grown up in a Jewish home he could read and speak Hebrew, intimately knew the details of the Seder, and engaged us with wonderful stories about how the elements of this sacred meal picture the gospel. Everything from the bitter herbs to the four drinking cups to the matzo bread hidden for three days gloriously displays the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. If you have the privilege this is a wonderful way to spend an evening together with your Sunday school class prior to Easter. It can help you appreciate the history behind the Passover and inspire you to more deeply worship our Savior.

Think of the tens of thousands of Israelites living in Egypt the night God's spirit struck down every firstborn male. Twelve tribes of men, women, and children - so many varied and unique individuals - gathered together in the unifying oppression of slavery. The only thing that separated them from death that night was the blood of a perfect lamb, and thus those who lived were also unified in their redemption. Each one of these Israelites were sinners, sons of Adam made in the image of God yet separated from Him by a lack of Covenant and Law. In their exodus from slavery they would meet their God, and He would establish His Covenant and enact His Law. In the same way you and I have been drawn out of the slavery of sin through no righteousness of our own, but marked by the blood of the Lamb. God has established His new Covenant with us and has written His Law on our hearts.

[Sign up for "Explore the Bible" Series Newsletter](#)

*Lesson  
Resources*

[Lifeway Extra](#)

[Lifeway  
Lessons  
Online](#)

Additional  
Resource sent  
out several  
times during  
the week  
[Click Here](#)

[\*\*I KNOW AN  
OPPORTUNITY  
FOR OUR  
CHURCH\*\*](#)

[Click Here](#)

***Sunday  
Morning  
Message***

*Walking  
Wealthy &  
Worthy in  
Christ:*

*Walk in Love*

*Ephesians  
5: 1-7*

**Bible Studies for Life Series: *Family Life Series*  
Lesson: When Members Insist on Their Own Way  
Scriptures: [1 Cor. 8:1-4, 7-13](#); [10:31-33](#)**

The book of the Bible we call 1 Corinthians today may in reality more accurately be called 2 Corinthians. There is evidence that our "First" is a response to a letter this church wrote to Paul asking for clarification on a number of issues about which he had earlier written. We have no copies of that "other" Corinthian epistle today. But this is why so many sections of this letter begin with the word, "About..." This is Paul saying, "Now let me deal with this other question of yours." Following an introductory segment (ch. 1-4) extolling the gospel's virtues Paul dealt with a laundry list of sins and errors. As with every other specific issue Paul addressed food offered to idols with the overall themes of unity and humility. If we claim to have freedoms in the church that bind immature believers in legalism then we have sinned.

Paul's dealing with this subject is an excellent example of how we are to interpret biblical practice. When reading a passage of Scripture such as this we must first understand what it meant to its original readers. This involves understanding the language. While anyone can learn Greek with enough effort, thankfully many intelligent experts have done that work for us. The next step is to find the over-arching principle behind that meaning. In the case of meat sacrificed to idols there is no direct correlation in our culture. So, what is the higher principal? It's that we should refrain from exercising our freedom in Christ in ways that cause other believers to violate their Christian morals. Self-denial remains a better alternative to disunity. Abstaining from alcohol certainly applies in our modern world. So does engaging in practices that would offend the sensibilities of a convert from Islam, or from a cult such as Mormonism or the Jehovah's Witnesses. In each case such believers carry over long-held ideas that linger in their hearts.

Unity and humility glorify God when they come from a thankful heart. To be thankful for your salvation can manifest itself in a willingness to say no to something so that you make room in the body for a weaker brother. What false notions or religious assumptions did you carry into your relationship with Christ? How did they affect the way you saw your church, or individuals within it? Did you see this kind of sensitivity displayed, or did others leave stumbling blocks in your path?

[Sign up for "Bible Studies for Life" Series Newsletter](#)

## ACROSS ALABAMA IMPACT

**March 20**  
Prayer  
Walking  
8am-Noon

**March 21-  
April 11**  
FIND IT  
HERE  
TV ads

**March 27**  
Gospel  
Distribution  
8am-Noon  
3000  
homes

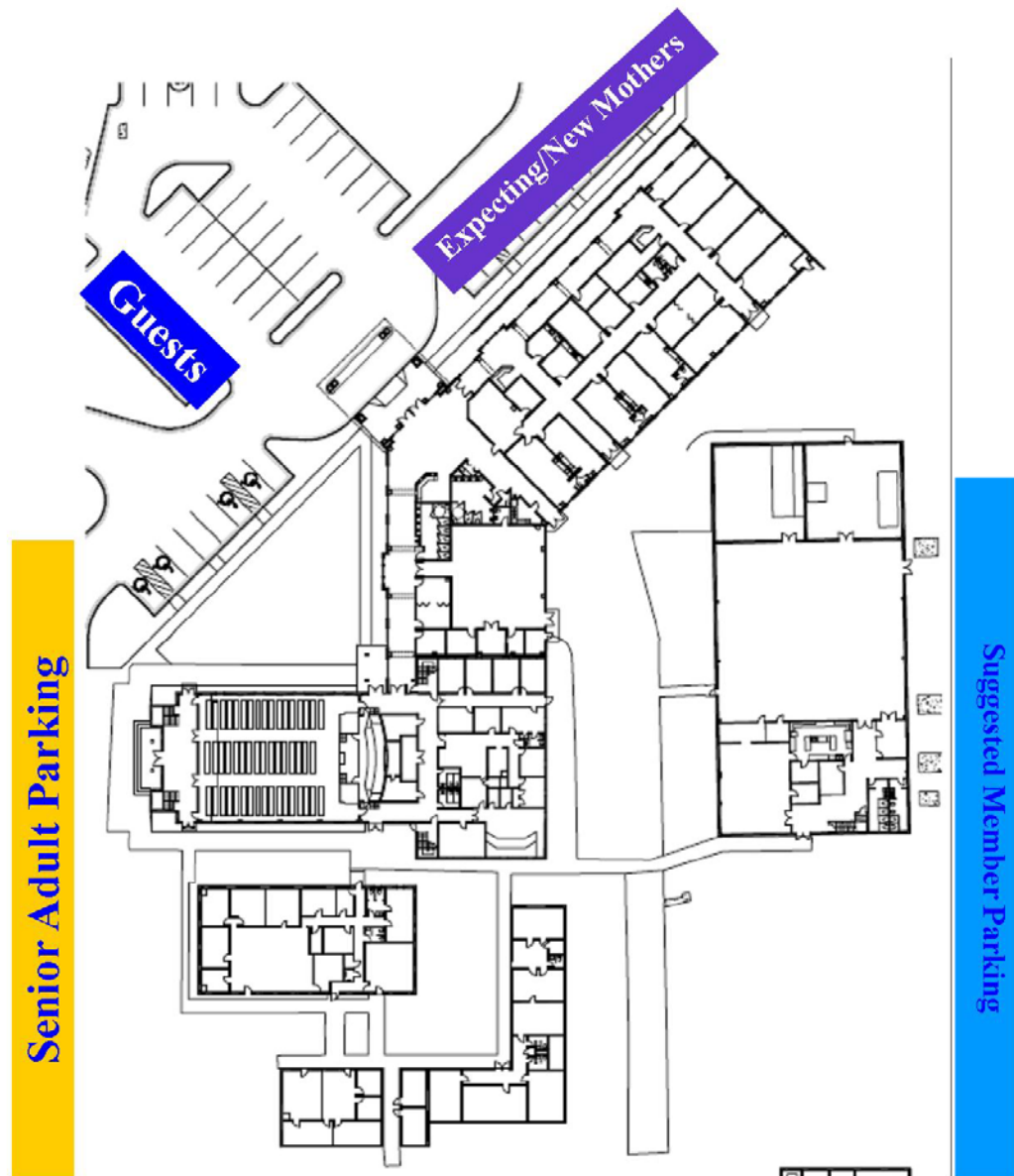
**April 4**  
Harvest  
Sunday

New Class  
Starts

**April 8-10**  
Mass  
Mailing to  
5500  
homes

**April 11**  
New Class  
Starts

## Suggested Parking Option for Members on Emphasis Sundays



Help us by assisting guests to fill-out guest registration slips in the bulletin each week. Everyone (*members too*) will be asked to complete one on Easter and the Sunday after! Thank you!

