



Sharing Life Newsletter

MARCH 16, 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:
 Bessie Ray
 (UAB Main)
 Betty Knighton
 (Brookwood)

Special Needs:

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

REMEMBER to Make your RSVP for TOUCH Meals!

Time Mark our Mission!

This Sunday kicks off our "Marks of our Mission". Hopefully, this will reinforce the importance of making and reporting the contacts each week. Interestingly, there is a correlation to the number of contacts reported and our Sunday Morning attendance. It is even clearer when you look at individual classes. Our mission is to reach, teach, care and multiply! Encourage your class to get involved! *M&M's might entice those marks?*

Explore the Bible Series: "Compassionate Action" Exodus 2:23-3:10, 19-20

When we are in trouble, we cry out to God hoping He will hear us and help us. This lesson reflects on God's unchanging and unending compassion and helps us gratefully acknowledge His compassionate acts in our lives in the past and trust Him in the future.

[Read more](#)

Bible Studies for Life Series: "When Members Won't Get Along?"

1 Corinthians 1:10-15, 26-29; 3:1-4

God's design is for harmony among believers in the church. We dishonor God when we choose conflict and division instead. In this lesson we will discover how we can preserve humility and guard against conflicts that damage the body of Christ.

[Read more...](#)

"Across Alabama Touch Commitment Sunday"



This coming Sunday, we will ask our members to help **show Jesus** to our world through Across Alabama. We are looking for members to join the journey to prayer walk our community on **Saturday, March 20 at 8am**. We will continue the emphasis on **Saturday, March 27 at 8am** with Gospel Distribution. Both events will be over before noon! The third part of the commitment invitation is for **teams from your class** commit to our TOUCH Training Camp beginning on Monday, April 5. We will need leaders and learners to make personal contacts to our guests who come from the Across Alabama Emphasis and Easter (Harvest) Sunday! Take time between now and Sunday to encourage your class participation in this **Showing Jesus** opportunity in our church.

TOUCH SEASON

1st Monday: Youth, College & Career, Singles, & Older Senior [RESERVE A MEAL](#)
THIS IS A CHANGE DUE TO FEBRUARY & MARCH CALENDAR

2nd Monday: Preschool & Young Adult Departments [RESERVE A MEAL](#)

3rd Monday: Children & Medium Adult Departments [RESERVE A MEAL](#)

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

*Lesson
Resources*

[Lifeway Extra](#)

[Lifeway
Lessons
Online](#)

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

*Sunday
Morning
Message*

*Walking
Wealthy &
Worthy in
Christ:*

*Walking in
Service*

*Ephesians
4: 7-16*

Explore the Bible

Lesson: Compassionate Action

Scriptures: [Exodus 2:23-25](#); [3:1-10, 19-20](#)

It's important to understand the nature of the covenant God forged with Abraham - the one He "remembered" at the sound of Israel's cries. Certainly God's covenant promised blessings in the form of a nation of people that would belong especially to Him. Yet this nation would in turn be a blessing to all other nations. How so? They would bring forth the promised Messiah, the Savior of all who would place their faith in Him. Abraham would live to see neither this nation nor this Savior. He went forth from his homeland in faith, trusting that this God who called him into the wilderness would fulfill His promises. The writer of Hebrews devoted many verses (ch. 11) to Abraham's actions of faith.

God's self-disclosure to Moses in Midian had a greater purpose than the delivery of Israel from slavery in Egypt. God was about to reveal not only Himself but also His merciful nature. By allowing His people to be refined in the furnace of oppression, God made possible His redemption by miraculous intervention. The Israelites could never have done themselves what God did for them. He hardened the heart of their captor. He spared their sons by the anointing of the blood of a perfect lamb. He used a shepherd to guide His flock to the promised land.

God's calling of Moses to be Israel's leader out of Egypt was not due to the man's perfection or leadership qualities. A self-confessed poor public speaker, he was also a murderer and a fugitive. Spared from slaughter as a baby and claimed by the daughter of Pharaoh, he shunned the riches of his adoptive father and instead chose to be counted among the oppressed (see Heb. 11 again). Like Christ many centuries later, Moses despised the possibility of suffering and walked straight into Pharaoh's throne room, demanding the release of his people. God's design for redemption used ordinary people, empowered them in extraordinary ways, and revealed His might and power as agents of freedom.

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

*Lesson
Resources*

[Lifeway Extra](#)

[Lifeway
Lessons
Online](#)

[**I KNOW AN
OPPORTUNITY
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***Sunday
Morning
Message***

*Walking
Wealthy &
Worthy in
Christ:*

*Walking in
Service*

*Ephesians
4: 7-16*

Bible Studies for Life Series: *Family Life Series*

Lesson: When Members Won't Get Along

Scriptures: [1 Cor. 1:10-15, 26-29](#); [3:1-4](#)

It just so happens my pastor preached from this very passage last Sunday! He gave a great illustration of the folly of centering your attention on one spiritual leader, instead of remaining unified in your church's allegiance to Christ alone. Suppose you had never tasted a (fill in the name of your favorite beverage), and someone hands you one. You take that first sip through the straw and your taste buds explode with the sensation. But then you decide to keep the straw. You carry it with you everywhere you go thinking that each time you drink through that straw you will experience the same taste and satisfaction. Silly, right? Yet Christians make the same mistake when we focus on the means through which God blesses us rather than the message, itself. What's your personal "straw?" If you lost your pastor, favorite Bible teacher, or author, would you find the same spiritual nourishment you receive now?

Do you believe God called you to teach Sunday School? When you first volunteered (or gave in to the requests!) to teach your class, was it because you felt led by the Holy Spirit? Regardless of the reason, God placed you in that role by His providence. Following Paul's logic that has nothing to do with your abilities, real or perceived. You don't have to be wise by human standards to impart God's truth to others in life-changing ways. You simply yield to the life-changing power of God and trust that He will use your words to speak to your learners. Whether your weakness is in Bible exposition, interpersonal skills, personal evangelism, or any other facet of leadership, the Lord will be faithful to fill in your gaps. Look back on your time as a teacher and recall how God has worked in your classroom and beyond. Look forward in hope to how He will continue to work as long as you press on in faith.

Does Sunday School lesson preparation provide the level of spiritual maturation you need? If you're like most believers the answer is, "Probably not." Even though you're digging into each weekly passage, assembling a lesson outline, and focusing on key applications, those efforts may not yield personal transformation. Learn to differentiate between leadership and discipleship. Strive to submit to the Word of God in your own life even as you explain to others how to do so. Be as transparent about your own sins and shortcomings with your learners as you would like them to be with you.

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