

Wednesday, February 24th, 2010

# Connect

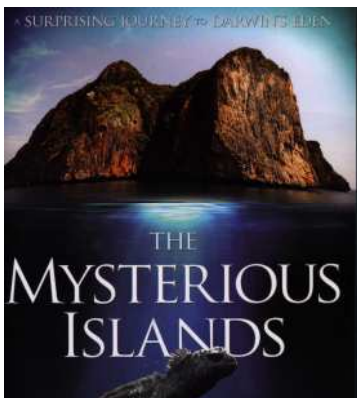
The Sanctuary's mid-week update of news and activities going on in your church family.

Connect supplies information you can use to pray for people that you love and information about events that you can attend to strengthen your Christian faith and fulfill God's plans and purposes for your life.

Sunday Morning Ralph will be teaching. Please, plan to be with us and remember to invite your family and friends.

Please, pray for the Sunday service and for Ralph, Louise and the various teams involved in the Sunday morning service.

Please, pray also for God to put someone on your heart to bring to church this Sunday. Plan to follow up your invitation afterward with coffee or lunch with your guest.



## The Mysterious Islands

Last Sunday we watched a video called The Mysterious Islands which was created as a response to Darwin Day. It supports Creation and gives evidence against Evolution in the place where Darwin developed the theory - the Galapagos Islands. This was an excellent movie full of valuable information. If you have any questions concerning the video, please don't hesitate to phone Louise at 536-9573.

Calendars and bookmarks for March will be available this Sunday. Please make sure you pick one up for yourself or your family. These are important to keep in a place where you can see them each day. They help you to know what is happening in your church community as well as encourage you to pray for your church family each day.

Please note that the regular Bible Reading Bookmark is being replaced by the Following in Jesus' Footsteps Bible reading guide. As you are answering the questions please pray that God will reveal His heart and not just His words to you and draw you into a deeper intimacy with Jesus.

# Impacting Prayer

Today - Joe and Teressa

Thursday - Judy, Isaac and Marissa

Friday - Nelson, Shaelyn and Tailor

Saturday - Eva

Sunday - Bruce Wonch

Monday - Curtis Chicoine

Tuesday - Shannon

Wednesday - Don, Shirley, Eric, Katie, Tiara and Chloe

Thursday - Calvin, Lawrie, Cara and Stephen



## Please also be praying for:

- Karen's father who has recently fallen and hurt himself quite badly.
- A full and speedy recovery for Tom's thumb
- Teresa to overcome depression, addictions and physical healing
- Peace, wisdom and safety for Teresa's niece.
- Bruce Wonch and Family for open hearts to the gospel, health and healing
- Teresa's mom Lillian to overcome depression
- Recovery of Louise's hand and shoulder
- For contacts and guests to be drawn to Jesus
- Revelation of God's direction for the church
- A friend of Elizabeth's who is facing tough decisions and serious obstacles in her family situation.
- Rhonda's niece Ava who is recovering from a obstructive bowel surgery. Ava is only a few weeks old. Please pray for a full and speedy recovery.
- Johanas (Louise's Doctor's father) had surgery and has had some complications. **Praise report: Johanas is recovering very well. Please pray for healing of a dropped foot.**
- Please pray for Linda, Terry and the other members of the Physical Therapy group that Louise goes to. Louise is praying that God will open the way for her to pray for and witness to these people this week.

Dear Friends,



As you may already know I am inviting the whole church to join with me in **Following in Jesus' Footsteps** as we prepare for the Easter Season. It is my sincere hope and prayer that as we walk along with Jesus during his last week before His Crucifixion we, like the original disciples, will be drawn closer to Jesus. I pray that His instructions will sink deep and enable us to rise up in faith to do the things He is calling us to do by His Presence and Power. When we put the things He said into the perspective of what was going on around Him we will have new insights.

For example: did you know that when Jesus said, "**I am with you always**" He said it in connection with His instructions found in Matthew 28:18-20

*18* Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given complete authority in heaven and on earth. *19* Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. *20* Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: **I am with you always, even to the**

**end of the age.**"

When Jesus said that He would enable His disciples to do the witnessing, discipling, baptizing and teaching by His Presence and Power His promise was just as much for us now as it was 2,000 years ago. This is similar to the Old Testament expression, "God's hand was upon them". God's Hand represented His Presence and Power to do the things He was calling His people to do.

The more inadequate we feel we are for the job the more God can work through us!! If we get to the point where we know without a doubt that failure is sure and imminent that is when we have to depend on God - that is when we must get out of the way and let **God work through us**. Moses became one of my favourite Bible characters when he said, "send Arron". He was acknowledging that there was no way he could do what God was asking him to do. Yet it was Moses who got close enough to God to let God change him and use him to do mighty miracles!

I am hoping and praying that as we **Follow in Jesus' Footsteps** we will get close enough to Jesus that we will be able to admit our fears and inabilities, move out of God's way and let him do the things we've always hoped He would do in us and through us. Let us see that just as Jesus gave Peter another chance after Peter denied Jesus, Jesus will give us another chance to come close to Jesus and serve Him in Jesus' Presence and Power.

### **FOLLOWING IN JESUS' FOOTSTEPS**

We will look at three stories each week. I recommend that we take two days studying each story. That will give us some time to think and pray about each story so that the Holy Spirit can take us deeper into the story for a closer encounter with Jesus.

On the first day we will pray that God will make the story come alive for us. We will read the accounts of the story as they appear in the four Gospels.

In our notebook we will record:

1. Our first impressions of the story
2. Any questions we have.

On the second day we will review the story and in our notebooks record:

1. Any teachings, parables, prophecies, promises and miracles.
2. We will ask the Holy Spirit to show us more of Jesus' heart.
3. We will ask the Holy Spirit to show us how we can apply the things we are learning to our own lives so that we can be more like Jesus.

Writing the things we discover in our note book will make it a precious record of our journey to more intimacy with Jesus.

You can do the readings for **Follow in Jesus' Footsteps** on your own with the option of joining me on alternating Tuesday evenings at Calvin and Lawrie's where we will share what we are discovering. I hope you will join us on **March 2, 16, 30 at 7:15 pm.**

## **OUTLINE FOR MARCH**

### **March 1 - 7**

1. Pharisees and Sadducees try to trap Jesus with Questions  
- Matthew 22: 15-33; Mark 12: 13-27; Luke 20: 20-40
2. Lawyer tries to trap Jesus and Jesus challenges the Pharisees  
- Matthew 22: 34-46; Mark 12: 28-37; Luke 20: 41-42
3. Jesus denounces the Scribes and Pharisees and commends the poor widow  
- Matthew 23:1-39; Mark 12: 38-44; Luke 20: 45-47; Luke 21: 1-4

### **March 8 - 14**

1. Jesus' predictions of future events  
- Matthew 24:1-22; Mark 13: 1-20; Luke 21: 5-24
2. Jesus' predictions of false christs and His return  
- Matthew 24:23-31; Mark 13:24-27; Luke 17: 23-24, 37; Luke 21:25-28
3. Parables of the fig tree and servants and masters  
- Matthew 24:32-36,42; Matthew 25: 14-30; Mark 13: 28-37; Luke 12:42-46;  
Luke 19: 12-27; Luke 21:29-38

### **March 15- 21**

1. Be watchful for Christ's return and parables  
- Matthew 24:38-44; Matthew 25: 1-13, 31-46; Luke 12: 39-46;  
Luke 17: 26-27, 34-35
2. Conspiracy, anointing and Betrayal  
- Matthew 26:1-16; Mark 14: 1-11; Luke 22:1-6; John 12:2-8
3. Preparation for the Passover  
- Matthew 26: 17-20; Mark 14: 12-17; Luke 22:7-16, 24-30

### **March 22-28**

1. Jesus washes the Disciples feet and names His betrayer  
- Matthew 26:21-25; Mark 14:18-21; Luke 22:21-23; John 13: 1-30
2. Jesus' predictions and Passover Supper  
- Matthew 26: 26-35; Mark 14: 22- 31; Luke 22: 17-20, 31-38; John 13:31-38
3. Jesus teaches after supper about what is to come  
- John 14

## March 29-April 4

1. Jesus teaches about God's love
  - John 15
2. Jesus teaches about the Holy Spirit
  - John 16
3. Jesus prays for His disciples and Himself
  - Matthew 26: 36-40; Mark 14:32- 43; Luke 22: 39-46; John 17; John 18:1

## Better Marriage Tip

*"Unrealistic expectations are often the culprits responsible for the misery husbands and wives feel—not their spouse."*

*~ Mark Gungor*



## Communication Breakdown 2.0

### **What do you do when communication breaks down?**

Communication, listening, and sharing feelings are at the heart of connecting. But we all have our own opinions. We see life from our point of view. The amazing truth about conflict is that, if used correctly, it allows you to validate your friends and family members by listening to them and understanding them. Validation simply means that you value a person's opinions, ideas, concerns, needs, and feelings. It doesn't mean that you agree with what they're saying but you give them a sense that you really "understand" them.

During a conflict, either you can force others to agree with your position, or you can provide them with an experience of being heard and understood. The latter option is validation. When you validate someone, you don't argue about what he's saying; instead, you seek first to understand. If you're able to validate someone, he or she should walk away with a very clear message: "My opinions, needs, and feelings are valuable." What a tremendous gift!

Can you think of feelings that your spouse or kids have tried to express, and rather than validating them you excused them or explained them away? When was the last time you simply listened to your spouse when he or she was sharing frustrations, rather than problem solving?

~By Gary Smalley

# Kidz Klub

On Monday night, Darryl, Ben and Elizabeth took nine very energetic kids tobogganing for two hours. It was a blast! Thank you to everyone who helped with supervision, baking, making hot chocolate, driving and donating the crazy carpets! Much Appreciated! Next Monday night (March 1st) we will be meeting at Darryl and Elizabeth's house. The weather is supposed to be really nice so please make sure the kids come dressed for some outside activities.

## *Please continue praying for Iliya*

This young man in Moscow is a member of Ralph's team in Eastern Europe and needs a great deal of prayer. He is in trouble with the police as and is in hospital for depression and anxiety. He is in need of God's miraculous help and healing. Ralph is in touch with him. He needs prayer. MUCH PRAYER!

Also, a man named **Raymond** has been having a lot of difficulty with bleeding on the brain due to a recent stroke. Please prayer for him and his wife Georgina as the doctors continue to do tests. Please pray that this situation will lead them both to seek after God and receive healing and salvation.

Please pray for **Linda**, a lady Louise met and prayed for at the Wascana Rehab Center, who has some brain damage after a serious accident. She wants God's healing touch. Please ask God to draw her closer to Jesus. **Terry** has severe nerve damage after surgery. There is nothing the doctors can do but we know God can heal her. The other people Louise has met at Wascana need prayer for recovery but most of all for Jesus to work in their hearts. Some of them are believers. Please ask God to open doors for Louise to witness and pray for people.

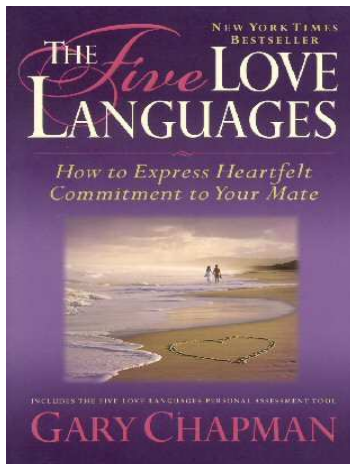


*Please, remember to let Elizabeth know when there is any change in your prayer requests, updates help us pray more effectively.*

*It always blesses us to know that God has answered our prayers.*

## PAINTING FOR GOD'S GLORY

On Monday afternoons Louise is leading a group of ladies who want to learn to paint in order to glorify God with prophetic art. This group is part of the fulfillment of prophetic words given to Louise over the years by Denny and other prophets. The goal of this group is to bring Christian artists together to help them develop the skills they need so they can share the visions and inspirations that God has given them. Right now we are focusing on learning to paint in acrylics and we are doing some drawing practice. If you are interested in joining us please call Louise. We have room for one or two more people.



## THE FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES

This book written by Gary Chapman is required reading for Marriage Preparation Classes. Mr. Chapman points out that as we grow up we develop a way of recognizing that we are loved and in return we demonstrate our love in that same way. This is what he calls a love language. Problems arise in couples when each partner has a different love language. This book can help you identify your love languages and help you learn to speak your partner's love language so that you will both feel loved and appreciated.

Watch for a Wednesday night class to be announced soon.

Books can be purchased at Chapters.

## MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Those couples who have expressed an interest in being married this year need to contact Louise to arrange for Marriage Preparation.

Call Louise **right away** at 536- 9573 to set up an appointment. Marriage Preparation is tailored to each couple's needs. Interviews begin this Sunday.



## LAUGH YOUR WAY TO A BETTER MARRIAGE

At the end of the wonderful **Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage Class** there were some extra books left over. If you said you wanted to come to class Naomi ordered you a book. If you didn't show up to the class your book is still waiting for you. There were also books that some people picked up but didn't pay for thus leaving Naomi and Ben out of pocket. **Please, be responsible and pay for your books.** Naomi got them at a reduced price for you and cannot return them.