

The Union Baptist Church Newsletter



Volume 5, Issue 10

May 17, 2015

A DEVOTIONAL FOR MEN ON THE GO

“Understanding Jesus”

“His disciples didn’t realize at the time that this was a fulfillment of prophecy. But after Jesus entered into his glory, they remembered that these Scriptures had come true before their eyes.” (John 12:16) AMEN.

The disciples thought constantly about the things Jesus said and did, but many of those things still didn’t make sense to them. They heard people praise Jesus, but He would not “build” his ministry, at least not in the way they thought He should. They saw Him heal the sick, then retreat by Himself. They observed Jesus’ very deliberate methods, but they didn’t understand many of the details. But then Jesus was glorified, and things came clear for them.

After Jesus’ resurrection, the things He had done and said suddenly made perfect sense. The disciples didn’t understand why Jesus shunned publicity – until after His resurrection. They didn’t understand why He put Himself in danger of death – until after His resurrection. They didn’t grasp the power of salvation – until after His resurrection.

In the same way, many things about Jesus don’t make sense to us until we experience Him for ourselves. The Bible does not make much sense to us until Jesus has been glorified in our lives. Spending time in church seems like a waste of good time – until we meet Jesus in a personal way. We find it easy to be critical of “organized religion” – until Jesus invades our lives. And other people’s enthusiasm for the things of God can be an irritation – until we discover a vital relationship with Jesus.

Do you want a relationship with Jesus that thrills your heart? Do you want that burning desire to know what Jesus’ words and deeds really mean? Then ask Him to glorify Himself in your life daily. Your personal buy-in will make all the difference. AMEN.

Lord, give me a deeper understanding of you and your words and deeds as you glorify yourself in my life. AMEN.

Devotional for Men on the Go — Arterburn and Farel

A MEDITATION FOR EVERY MARRIED COUPLE

“Pray as a Couple”

“And when He arrived at the place, He said to them, “Pray that you may not enter into temptation.” And He withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and began to pray saying, Father, if Thou art willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Thine be done.” Luke 22:40-42 (NASB) AMEN.

Have you ever prayed “Not my will, but Yours?” It goes counter to what our society teaches. It goes against “me first” and “I’m in control of my life.” But as Christians we are people who pray. Think about these words from George Burrick:

Imagine life to be like a woven rug. Science sees the patterned threads from the earthbound side of the frame, not in their weaving but only when they have been woven, and traces their regularities. Great art in music and drama stands likewise, and glorifies in the color and imagination of the design. But prayer stands with the Weaver as He works. The Weaver says in graciousness: “You shall help me in prayer and thought and labor, though for your own good I still must guide. Some of your wishes cannot be granted. When the design is complete, and you can see it from the other side of time, you will understand. And your best prayer is still the prayer of Christ, ‘Not my will, but ...’ ”

As the couple pray this prayer together:

I surrender to you my hopes,
my dreams,
my ambitions.
Do with them what you will, when you will, as you will.
I place into your loving care
my family,
my friends,
my future.
Care for them with a care that I can never give.
I release into your hands
my need to control, my craving for status,
my fear of obscurity ... For Jesus ’sake. AMEN.

— Richard Foster

After You Say, “I Do” — H. Norman Wright

**TEEN'S CORNER –
GOT QUESTIONS –
GOD'S GOT ANSWERS...**



QUESTION:

Some days are more difficult than others. When times are tough, what should I do?

THE QUICK ANSWER:

Difficult days come and go. Stay the course.

The sun is shining somewhere and will soon shine on you.

“Difficult Days”

“We also have joy with our troubles, because we know that these troubles produce patience.

And patience produces character, and character produces hope.”

(Romans 5:3-4)

All of us face those occasional days when the traffic jams and the dog gobbles the homework. But, when we find ourselves overtaken by the minor frustrations of life, we must catch ourselves, take a deep breath, and lift our thoughts upward. Although we are here on earth struggling to rise above the distractions of the day, we need never struggle alone. God is here-eternally and faithfully, with infinite patience and love-and, if we reach out to Him, He will restore perspective and peace to our souls.

The strengthening of faith comes from staying with it in the hour of trial. We should not shrink from tests of faith.

— Catherine Marshall

When life is difficult, God wants us to have a faith that trusts and waits.

— Kay Arthur

If all struggles and sufferings were eliminated, the spirit would no more reach maturity than would the child.

— Elisabeth Elliott

The only way to learn a strong faith is to endure great trials. I have learned my faith by standing firm and the most severe of test.

— George Mueller

Often the trials we mourn are really gateways into the good things we long for.

— Hannah Whitall Smith

100 Questions Teens Ask with Answers from God's Word – By Freeman Smith

***A Little Humor For The
“Hearts and Minds of God's People”***

Topic: Teens

“Teenage Awareness”

First mother of a teenager: “My daughter doesn't tell me anything. I'm a nervous wreck!”
Second mother of a teenager: “My daughter tells me everything, and I'm a nervous wreck!”

1001 Humorous Illustrations for Public Speaking: Fresh, Timely, and ... –By Michael Hodgkin

Laughter
is an
instant
vacation.
— Milton Berle



A Devotional for Singles

"PATTERNS FOR PROBLEM SOLVING"

"I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."

(— PHILIPPIANS 4:12, 13)

Problems! Problems! Problems! Problems are part of life. They can be related not only to the one you live *without*, but also the one you live *with*; not only *where* you live, but also *how* you live; not just *where* you work, but also with *whom* you work; not only *how* much money you have, but also *what* you believe about the money you don't have. The list goes on and on.

James 1 says that you *will* have problems. But you can choose your responses to them. You can either view them as opportunities for growth – profit, or as excuses for failure – loss. How you see your problems will determine whether they become building blocks or stumbling blocks. Consider the following five possibilities and reflect upon ways you are responding to your problems:

- ***Curse the problem.*** This, in essence means adding a negative opinion to the negative facts of the situation – in other words, compounding negativity.
- ***Nurse the problem.*** Choosing to focus time and attention on the problem itself rather than on its solution.
- ***Rehearse the problem.*** Replaying the problem until you are actually thinking about little other than the problem.
- ***Disperse the problem.*** This is a technique used in tackling scientific problems. It requires breaking a problem down into its component parts; then working through each part until an answer is reached. As the component problems are solved, the big problem is also solved. This principle is effective for all of life. Overwhelming problems can be solved when the smaller issues of the whole are dealt with one issue at a time.
- ***Reverse the problem.*** Seek out the positive. No situation or circumstance is 100 percent bad. Some glimmer of hope, some ray of light is tucked in every obstacle. Recognize negativity for what it is – a distraction from a positive solution. Dismiss the negativity. Of course, you should not ignore the problem in hopes that it will go away. To the contrary! You dispose of the negative by: facing the problem and facing your negative response to it; making conscious decision that the negative response is going to do nothing to solve the problem; and in that light, refusing to dwell upon the negative by turning instead to the positive. Only you can reverse the way you *feel* about a problem.¹

So ... **what pattern do you usually choose to solve problems? Let's look at what David did when he and his men were hiding from King Saul in a cave (see 1 Samuel 19-24).** He had a mess of problems. The men who accompanied him were described as being in distress, in debt and discontented." As David stood before them they were probably surprised when he declared, "I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth" (Psalms 34:1, Amp.).

What a shock! Praise at a time of despair. Have you ever done that? Have you ever thanked God for your singleness when your heart was aching for a mate?

Praise at a time of loneliness or relational loss. Now that takes faith! Praise when you're discontented. That will really turn your life around! **AMEN.**

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Are you responding like David did in the cave?*
- Are you feeling threatened, forgotten or meaningless?*
- What is the glimmer of hope hidden in your cave?*
- What can you praise God for right now?*
- What new patterns will you choose for solving your problems?*

~ Single Purpose—A Devotional for Singles- H. Norman Wright

¹ William Mitchell, *Winning in the Land of Giants* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995), pp. 27-28, adapted.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2015



*Happy Birthday Wishes to
Everyone Born in the Month of May*

UBC COMMUNICATION CARDS: Anyone worshipping with us today and “making a decision for Christ” by using one of our UBC Communication Cards found in the pocket of the pews, is **encouraged to follow-up your decision TODAY, by contacting REVEREND ALVIN L. WYATT, Minister of Christian Life and Witness at (513) 381-3858.** When calling, please leave your name, the spelling of your name, the date and time of your call, and, most importantly, **a telephone number where you may be reached.** Reverend Wyatt will be in touch with you, as quickly as possible, after receiving your telephone call, as to the next steps regarding your decision(s) for Christ. **GOD BLESS YOU.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY: For the convenience and support of the Union Baptist Church membership and our guests, a **Prayer Request Box with Forms is available in the vestibule leading into the Sanctuary.** Please feel free to place your Prayer Request(s) in the box at any time. Our Prayer Partners stand ready to pray with you, and for you. Thank you, **Deacon Norman and Sister Ann White, Ministry Leaders.**

NEED A RIDE TO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR 10:20 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE? If you are in need of a ride to Church, please call **(513) 981-0423** and leave your name and your telephone number.

WEDNESDAY NOON DAY BIBLE STUDY: Our afternoon Bible Study is held every **Wednesday from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m.** (a light lunch is served immediately following the Bible Study). This **Series Subject** is: **“The Study of God-Life’s Most Meaningful Pursuit.”** The Study of God is the most meaningful pursuit in life. **Jeremiah 9:23-24** expresses the importance of knowing God: **“Thus says the Lord, Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom and not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let Him who boasts boast of this, that He understands and knows Me.”** Of all the things that matter in life, to know God through a purposeful study of His nature, His character, and His perfections should be our driving force. Only then will we be able to define everything else accurately. Remember all are welcome, it’s never too late, and may we be blessed with your presence very soon. **PASTOR YATES.**

MEN: A NEW BIBLE STUDY SERIES ENTITLED “THE POWER OF GOD’S NAMES”, BY DR. TONY EVANS HAS BEGUN — TUESDAY EVENINGS AT 7:15 P.M. In biblical times, names communicated a person’s essence — their history, nature or character. **That’s why God revealed Himself by dozens of different names in Scripture.** No single name could convey the fullness of His character and works.

In this six-session Bible study, Pastor Tony Evans examines prominent names of God in Scripture. God’s names invite you to know Him as Creator, Ruler, Provider, Warrior, and more. Dr. Evans explores the biblical meanings of the names and the related attributes of God. By understanding His names, you can experience Him more deeply. Each week following the video session, Pastor Yates facilitates the Instructional and Discussion Time that remains, assisted by Reverend Barry Hixon, Co-facilitator of the Weekly Men’s Bible Study and Fellowship. **Come and join us each week.** **PASTOR YATES**

CONTINUED INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2015

ATTENTION WOMEN: The Women's Ministry will be studying the book "**Kingdom Women**" during the month of June. The sessions will occur on **June 6, 13 and 20, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. until noon.** We have ordered copies of the study guide. The cost of each book is **\$5.00.** **All women** interested in joining Union's bible study, please contact **Sister Louise Stevenson** at l Stevenson@fuse.net or **Sister Rogena Stargel** to order a book. We look forward to your participation.

WEDNESDAY EVENING CHURCH-WIDE PRAISE & WORSHIP, PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY 7:00 – 8:30

P.M.: Mid-week Praise and Worship, Prayer and Bible Study is held every **Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary. Private Prayer and meditation begins at **6:00 p.m.** for those who come early. Each week as the church gathers at **7:00 p.m.,** we are lead in praise in worship by a **Praise Team** under the leadership of our **Minister of Music, Brother Jason Bailey.** It is also my prayer that the entire leadership of the church and each member, **Will Make Every Sacrifice to be Present** to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to pray and study His Word from the Bible. Remember the words of **Hebrews 10:24, 25:** "**And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is: but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.**" Reach out and bring someone with you. Thank you, God Bless You and May God Keep You, Always" is My Prayer, PASTOR YATES.

MEN'S DAY WEEKEND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The **Men of Union** remind you to join us at our **Prayer Breakfast at 9:00 a.m., Saturday May 23rd** in **Hays Hall,** as we celebrate our **Annual Men's Day** weekend. **All Men** are invited to share in our special prayer, study, and group discussion regarding the role of Christian men. Our **Annual Men's Day** is **Sunday May 24th.** We invite **everyone** to join the **Men of Union** for **Sunday School and Morning Worship Celebration.** The guest messenger who will deliver God's word at the **10:20 Morning worship** will be **Bro. Sean Rugless,** President of the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky African-American Chamber of Commerce and a member of **Word of Deliverance Ministries for the World, Inc.**

MEMORIAL DAY WREATH LAYING CEREMONY OBSERVANCE TO BE HELD IN HONOR OF

VETERANS: Under the leadership of **Pastor Yates,** the **Men of Union** and the congregation at large will observe the **First Annual Memorial Day Wreath Laying Service** at **Union Baptist Cemetery** in honor of veterans on **Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2015 at 11:00 a.m.** This special memorial observance will honor the **African American Civil War soldiers** buried at [Union Baptist](#) and [United American](#) Cemeteries who gave their lives for the cause of freedom in this country and countries everywhere. This ceremony will also include honoring those who were Civil War Veterans who gave "the last full measure of devotion." **Union Baptist Cemetery is located at 4933 Cleves Warsaw Pike, in Price Hill.** This historic cemetery is listed in the **National Register of Historic Places** dated **September 20, 2002.** Information about both of these historic cemeteries can be found on the website under "Our history." A documentary video of the Union Baptist Cemetery can found at the **Union Baptist Church** website at www.union-baptist.net.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS): Please mark your calendars: **Vacation Bible School** will be held on **June 1- 5, 2015 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.** This year's theme and scripture is **Jesus: The True Superhero: Savior, Protector, Provider.** "**Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**" (Ephesians 6:11, KJV). **Vacation Bible School is for all ages.** Please see the VBS flyer and pre-registration form included in today's newsletter. Pre-registration forms can also be found in the information display rack in the vestibule area and on online at www.union-baptist.net. Pre-registration begins **today** and will end on **May 24, 2015.** Thank you. **Deacon Donald Darby, Vacation Bible School Principal.**

UNION BAPTIST PICNIC: Union will hold its annual church picnic on **Saturday, June 6th** at the **Hartwell Country Club.** Details will follow. Thank you, **Sister Linda Byes, 2015 Church Picnic Planning Committee Ministry.**

ST. MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Union is invited to worship with **Reverend Dr. Cecil Ferrell** and the **St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church** for **Pastor Ferrell's 39th Pastoral Anniversary on Sunday, June 7, 2014.** Pastor Yates is to preach. Our Deacons, Deaconess, Health & Wellness Ministry, and Ushers will serve, and the Mass Choir will sing. The congregation is asked to join us in large numbers as we celebrate with Dr. and Mrs. Ferrell, and the St. Mark family. Services will be begin at **4:00 p.m.** All those in need of bus service to and from **St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church** should make those arrangements with **Deacon Theodore Craig by contacting him at (513) 981-0423.**

**CONTINUED INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2015**

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2015: The following members of Union Baptist Church will be graduating this year. All graduates will be honored and recognized for their achievements on our **Annual High School and College Recognition Sunday on June 28, 2015**. Please let us know if we have other members who are graduating and should be included on this list. Thank you, **Sister Louise Stevenson, Scholarship Ministry**.

High School Graduates: Jordan Bradley
Zinadia Hicks
Leigha Lewis
Mantero Moreno Cheek
Keisha Thompson
Keasia Vance

College Graduates: Courtney Norman
Reverend Emanuel Marshall

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRY:

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

(1 Corinthians 6:19)

FREE FAMILY COMMUNITY EXERCISE GROUP

WHAT: Family Move More Together Activities

WHEN: Wednesdays

WHERE: Union Baptist Church
Hays Hall, 405 West 7th Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45203
Reverend Orlando B. Yates, Pastor

TIME: 5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

CALL: (513) 981-0421
To Enroll TODAY

INSTRUCTOR: Jeff Shelby

Sponsored by Union Baptist Church Health & Wellness Ministry; Interact for Health; and the Union Foundation