

TRINITY
BAPTIST CHURCH

FOR THE
LORD YOUR
GOD IS
BRINGING
YOU INTO
A GOOD
LAND, A
LAND OF
BROOKS OF
WATER, OF
FOUNTAINS
AND
SPRINGS,
THAT FLOW
OUT OF
VALLEYS
AND HILLS.

-DEUT. 8:7

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The Trumpet

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2009

From the Pastor's Heart

1 Corinthians 1:9

"God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

One of the great privileges we have as God's people is sharing in the life of Jesus Christ. In Him there is life, hope, love, forgiveness, and grace. Apart from Him there is vanity, hopelessness, bitterness, unforgiveness, and decay. Here in the early part of 2009 I want to exhort you to consider some of the blessings of body life. God Almighty, in His great faithfulness, has placed you in this body of believers by sovereign design. Meditate and pray over the following truths –

You are a part of the body of Christ by God's calling. The Lord sought you out and drew you to Himself with cords of lovingkindness. Where would you be today except for the sovereign grace of Jesus Christ? What would your life be like? Your marriage? Your children? Bless the Lord for His great love and mercy!

This gracious calling is into the "fellowship of His Son." We are participants/sharers in the very life of Christ. He is wisdom from God, our righteousness, sanctification, and redemption! We share His life together. This is what body life is all about. According to Eph. 1:23, His body is "the fullness of Him who fills all in all."

We are to express the grace and life of Christ to one another. Christ is our Head and all grace flows from Him into the individual members of the body. This is for the edification and growth of the body for the building up of itself in the love of Christ (Eph. 4:16). One of the main purposes of our life together is to be a blessing to one another. The Lord Jesus gives you the privilege of being a channel of His manifold grace to other members of the body (1 Peter 4:10-11).

O, Lord Jesus, fill us with Your love and grace that we may be used for Your glory in the church. Give us Your heart to serve and to spend ourselves on your blood-bought church! Put to death our pride and anything that would hinder or divide us. May your beauty be upon us! Enable us to walk in love with our eyes fixed upon You, the Shepherd and Overseer of our needy souls. May we be a local church filled with all the fullness of God (Eph. 3:14-21), reflecting the very image of Jesus Christ!

In the fervent love of Christ,
Pastor Chris

Come Watch and Cheer!

The Shreveport Storm
(girls homeschool basketball team)

Vs

Plain Dealing Christian Academy
Monday Night, Feb. 2 at 7:00 p.m.
at their gym in Plain Dealing.

Our girls would love a big fan section.

Girls from Trinity on the team:

Mary Hansen, Ellen Bennett, Hannah and Jessa Hough, and Emily Plummer

Anniversaries and Birthdays



5 February
Bob & Virginia Werthman
♥42 years♥

12 February
Andy & Donna Horn
♥32 years♥



1 February
Spencer Bernard
Faith Green

3 February
Natalie Hirsch

5 February
John McLean

6 February
Kayla Hough
Karri Hough

7 February
Thomas Laird
10 February
Greg Hough

11 February
Jane Creighton

12 February
Jemima Deutsch
Charity Bounds

16 February
Shellye White

17 February
Kay Hough

18 February
Luke Boudreaux

19 February
Jessie McLean

21 February
Joy Green

25 February
Abigail Wilemon

26 February
Noah Bounds

29 February
Wilbur Hirsch

Fall Camping Trip

PLAN AHEAD!

October 1-4, 2009

We'll make a trek

to Petit Jean!

For more info,

contact

Michael Grayson

318-469-9282

Trinity Budget Meeting

Wednesday

February 18

6:30pm

Trinity Church-House

3142 Bert Kouns, Shreveport

Moms, Ladies, Women...

whatever category you fit in...
whatever you like to be called...

It's time for a night out!

(without the kids)

You're all invited!

Tuesday, February 3rd

6:30pm

TACOMANIA

641 East Kings Hwy

RSVP to Karri Hough

635-7174

NLT

Monday, February 2nd



Let's Go Bowling!

Saturday, February 7th
4pm

All Star Bowling Lanes

9130 Mansfield Road

Before 5:

\$3/game & \$2.50 for shoes.

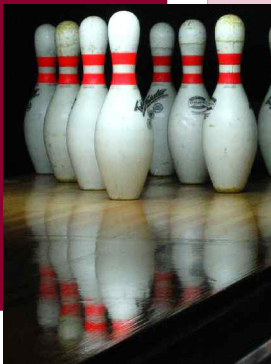
After 5:

\$4/game

RSVP to Christy Grayson

318-560-3861

(So our lanes can be together)



Trinity's Spring Camping Trip

May 1-3

Lake D'Arbonne

3628 Evergreen Road

Farmerville, LA

For more information

(or to find someone to share a cabin with)
contact Michael Grayson: 318-469-9282

www.crt.state.la.us/Parks/iDarbonne.aspx

Fulfilling His Purpose



From the Diary of
Jennifer Carol White
January 3, 2009

Jennifer died
Friday, January 16, 2009

It's not very often I write in this diary and I'm rather ashamed of it. I feel like the time period which the Lord has allowed me to live is quite significant. The only problem is life rushes by so quickly and some things you hardly ever get around to doing. Remember, time is a most valuable thing and we must not waste a second or at least try not to with God's help. Busyness rapes relationships and laziness destroys all. Perhaps this will be added to my "New Years Resolution" list to make me record events more often. So many special, funny, & significant things have happened, but when I sit down to write (usually long after the fact), they are either forgotten or a faded memory usually. Hopefully I'll clear away some webs & be able to tell them. HaHa Listen to me, I sound like I'm 80 about to kick the bucket. I promise I'm only 20. Anyway, enough about that. I have recently been inspired by many things, but I suppose the movie I saw tonite with my parents, "Australia", must have broken the camel's back. In short, I have been tumbling w/ so many emotions. Ones which I feel are so important. I feel like there are several roads I could take, but I have the hardest time deciding which one. I love being busy or at least feeling like I am fulfilling my purpose. I think it's so fascinating the way people live their lives and the different paths they take. Some people choose a life filled w/ a career, completely focused on fulfilling a desire. Yet, when they grow old they are sometimes lonely because they never had the time or will to raise a family. Others, hold to their family so tightly that they are terrified to leave them & end up having a strong family life (which is wonderful), but have hardly left a stamp at all on the world. The fact, no matter what, is that we seem to never be content w/ what we have! How sad! Yet, we need some ambition in us to help us climb higher. The big question is where is the bal-

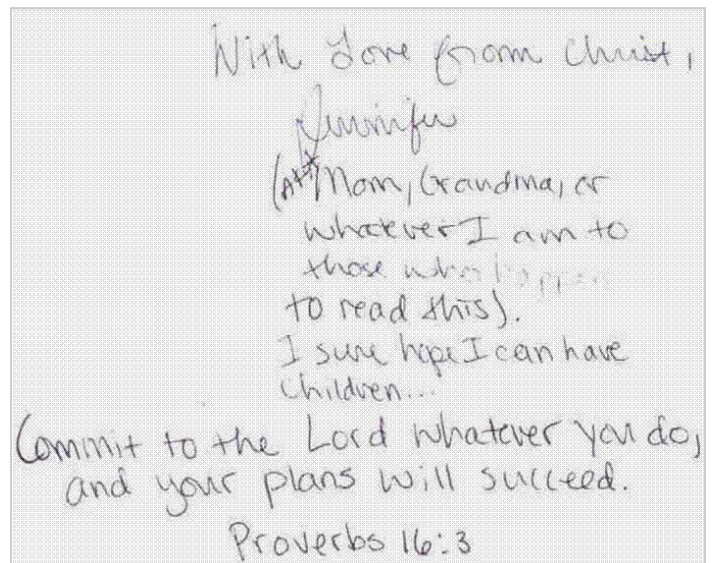
ance?!? I want so desperately for the Lord to make my life the most it can possibly be whatever it may be. I want to fulfill the purpose He wanted me to do & I want to meet or even exceed the requirements to equal all I've been given. "To whom much is given, much is required" and I want to meet the requirement! I want to be an active Christian. Not someone who just prays and doesn't put feet to their prayers. I want to pray, know the Lord is on my side, & do all I can (w/ God's help of course) to make it happen. I don't want to be an old lady and look back on the life God gave me & weep because it was wasted! I don't want to live my life just drudging through each day & continuing to exist just because I'm still breathing & wait to die! Every breath is a gift & a mercy! I have sinned so much & that sin deserves hell. The Lord has spared me from it, therefore I'm living on overtime! What Grace & Mercy! I want to do something spectacular not for man's eye to see & them give me the glory, but do something spectacular for the Kingdom! Yet, I don't want to spend my whole life waiting for my chance to come & hoping I'm doing OK. As the Bible says, "all work leads to profit, but mere talk only leads to poverty." I want to be wise as Solomon & be one of the strongest, Christian women ever to live. I want to be a woman of prayer and use every talent & gift the Lord gave me for His glory ... to His utmost glory! I'm not asking to be acknowledged by men (or at least I sincerely hope that is not my hearts desire deep inside and if it is, Lord forgive me), I just want my life & the life of my family, friends, relatives, & all of God's created people (but esp. my dear family) to be used the most it heavenly possibly can be for HIS (God's) honor & glory.

I hope the Lord shows me soon what he wants me to do or maybe I'm already on the road. Well, I suppose I already am because I know He's preparing me. I just pray I don't mess up. Have faith and be patient.

One last thought ... I'm sure no one's life is of little meaning to God, but sometimes I think some people are just workers & "fillers" to help make something great. But then again, I suppose w/o the "nobodies" and "little guys", nothing great would ever happen.

With Love from Christ,
Jennifer
(AKA Mom, Grandma, or
whatever I am to
those who happen
to read this).
I sure hope I can have
children...

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do,
and your plans will succeed."
Proverbs 16:3

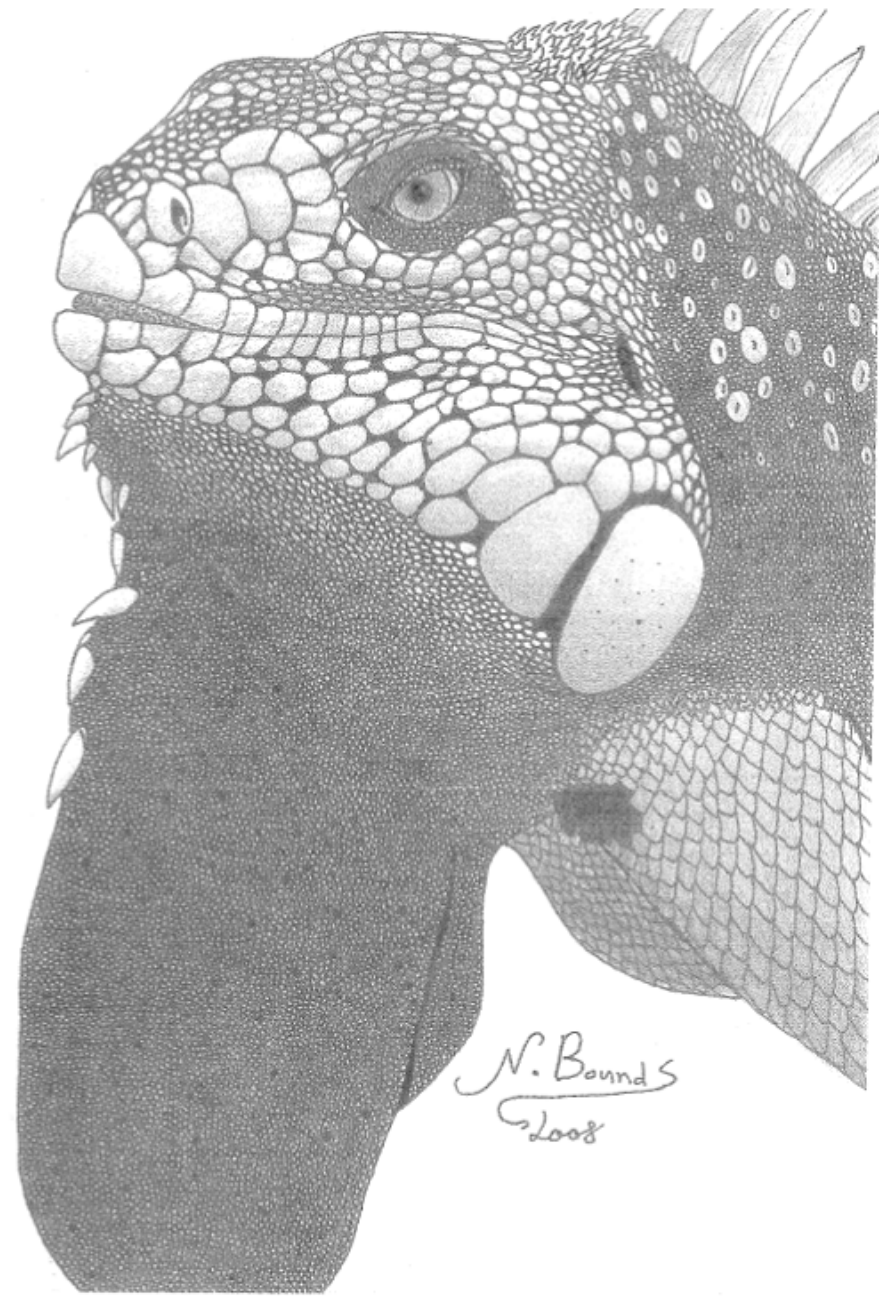


The Louisiana Society of Animal Artists announced the winners of its youth wildlife art competition at the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum in Shreveport on January 10.

First-graders through high school seniors from as far as Alexandria competed in five divisions. Prizes presented to the top three in each division were \$100 for first place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place.

Noah Bounds won first place among the 6th-8th graders! His artwork remained on display through the end of January.

The Louisiana State Exhibit Museum has asked Noah to return on Monday, February 2 to demonstrate, to a group of elementary school students, the difficulty John J. Audubon would have had sketching live animals.



Dear Lord, grant me the grace of wonder. Surprise me, amaze me, awe me in every crevice of your universe.... Each day enrapture me with your marvelous things without number. I do not ask to see the reason for it all; I ask only to share the wonder of it all.

Grow in Grace

by Joe Hansen

Last month I wrote about the need for spiritual disciplines in a believer's life. While it seems obvious to practice and develop spiritual disciplines, knowing my own life, I feel the need to bring to our remembrance their importance. In that article, I exhorted myself and the body at Trinity to seek to pursue these spiritual disciplines. Why? The Westminster Shorter Catechism explains to us in the form of a question: 'What is the chief end of man?' The Catechism answers thus: 'The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. (See I Corinthians 10:31 and Psalm 16:11). Are we doing this, you and I? Matthew says that the first and great commandment is (Matthew 22: 34-40): "And He said to them 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all you soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment (ESV vs. 37, 38)'".

Peter writes in his 2nd epistle: "But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ". Each of these passages tell us also to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Are we? Or are we placing too much stock in the world and pursuing our wants and wishes too much. We are in the world, so there is a certain amount of seeking things for ourselves. But that is not to be our #1 aim. Jesus is to be #1. One way to ensure this is to practice spiritual disciplines. On January 10 at Fellowship In Truth (FIT) Paul Flowers exhorted the body present to do this. His primary text was: I Corinthians 9: 24-27. Like an athlete works and sweats and disciplines himself to win the prize in an athletic event, so we also, as Christian disciples, are to do the same. It takes work and sweat and discipline to practice spiritual disciplines. In Philippians 3: 12-14, Paul, the apostle, exhorts us to 'press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus'. We are to seek the prize who is Christ, straining forward to that goal (see Colossians 3: 1-4). Philippians 4:10 points again to our goal: 'to know Him...and the power of His resurrection.

Our calling in Christ Jesus to pursue spiritual disciplines is a high goal, and one that is not an easy. Brother Chris has been preaching out of Galatians 5: 16-25 the past few weeks. Verse 17 says that the flesh is warring, battling, the spirit. They are entrenched in mortal combat. We may not see it or real-

ize it, but we are in a spiritual war day after day. At the same time, to our dismay, we are fighting the world system and the devil. Our old sin nature still hangs on to the world and still seeks to fall for Satan's schemes. Do you see why we so desperately need spiritual disciplines. They are not optional to the believer. If we are to be able to wage war with the world, the flesh, and the devil, and to grow in Christ-likeness, and holiness, we need spiritual disciplines.

Look at Philippians 2: 12b, 13 for a moment with me. Two things are stated: 1. Work out your own salvation, with fear and trembling, and 2: For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. Look at #2 first: It is one definition of grace. Remember Peter exhorts us to grow in grace.... Grace is God working in us when we can not do it ourselves. Salvation is a free gift of God and God also enables us both 'to will and to work' for Him. Grace comes from a sovereign, holy, loving, and forgiving heavenly Father. We deserve only wrath from Him, but He graciously and lovingly bestows His grace upon us. Grace that motivates us to practice spiritual disciplines. Ephesians 2: 8-10 states the fact very well.

Look now at statement #1 from Philippians 2: 12b, 13: '...work out...'. I thought growth in grace was from God? It is. Well then, can we not just sit and let God grow us? Of course not. We have to work out what He has worked into us. Remember Paul Flowers' text from FIT: I Corinthians 9:24-27 (read it now). We have to use what God has already given us: a brain, time, His word, Christ, the Body of Christ, the church. All these fit in to our growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we have to avail ourselves to them. Growth does not come by osmosis (see Psalms 119: 67, 71, John 5: 39,40; Colossians 3:16; II Timothy 2:15; 3:16,17; James 1: 2-4 and 22-25). Yes, we have to spend time reading, studying, and memorizing the Scriptures. We have to take the time to pray, to witness, to exhort and love the brethren, and we have to apply His word to our life. Therefore, brothers and sisters in Christ, let us press on toward our high calling in Christ and put spiritual disciplines into our everyday routine looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

Jude 24, 25

Like an athlete works and sweats and disciplines himself to win the prize in an athletic event, so we also, as Christian disciples, are to do the same.

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.
~Hebrews 12:3-4



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TBCShreveport@gmail.com

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Proclaiming the Sovereign Grace of God
through Faith in Jesus Christ Alone.



Can We Give Anything to Christ by John Piper

When the psalmist cried out, "What shall I render to the Lord for all of his benefits to me?" the reply was, "I will lift the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord" (Psalm 116:12-13). Jesus gives us the gift of himself and we ask, "Now what can I render to Jesus for all the benefits of his fellowship?" Answer: Ask him for his help. That's the gift he wants.

The reason Christ wants this is because he always wants to get the glory while we get the benefit. Glory comes to him when we depend on him rather than try to enrich him. If we come to him with gifts—as though he needed something—then we put him in the position of a needy person, and we're the benefactors. He always wants to be the one who is infinitely self-sufficient. Therefore the only gifts that we can bring Jesus are gifts of praise, thanks, longing, and neediness.

A fountain is not glorified by us hauling buckets of dirty water up the mountain and pouring them in. A fountain—a spring in a mountain—is glorified, rather, by us lying down at the edge of the stream, putting our face in, drinking our

fill, and getting up and saying, "Ah!" That's called worship. Then we take a bucket, dip it in, walk down the hill to the people in the valley who don't know that the spring exists, and we say, "Taste this! It's right up there, and his name is Jesus!" The kind of gift that the fountain wants is drinkers, because then he looks truly overflowing, rich, and self-sufficient. And that's exactly what he wants to look like.

