

Journey Through Life Ministries

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 3

Third Quarter 2009

Upcoming Events

3rd Annual Children's Bible Bee

October 31, 2009

Rankin Christian Center

Rankin, PA 15104

3rd Annual Women's Conference

"Women on a Journey"

November 14, 2009

Rankin Christian Center

Rankin, PA 15104

Shoe Boxes for Seniors

Christmas Time Event

Boxes needed by December 18

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THEY CALL IT "LOVE" - GEORGETTA HEAD

As Mary sat in counseling with Pastor John, she told him she couldn't understand why she had so many problems working with people, why are people so difficult she asked? And, just the other day my supervisor told me that I need to start thinking about others and to stop concentrating on myself—don't you think that was rude of him? After all if it wasn't for me, nothing would get done in the office!

After listening to Mary's complaints for a while, Pastor John asked Mary, "have you ever heard about love?" You have been critical and judgmental about your coworkers for the past 15 minutes. You know Mary there is some good in all of us. God's Word says: "we have all sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God. In other words, no one is perfect – not even you! We all make mistakes and have shortcomings – even at work. God also says we should let "love cover a multitude of sins." Use love instead of critical words by assisting your coworkers in whatever area you feel they fall short of perfection. Even God doesn't look for perfection, He looks for "obedience."

What a story! Have you ever encountered a situation like that, do you work with "a Mary" or are you "a Mary?"

God is "love" and the children of God

are to demonstrate love in all that they do. When the world sees a child of God they should see the "love of Christ" emanating from them, not envy, rudeness or impatience.

People are confused about love and few people including Christians don't know how to love without attaching something to it or looking for something in return. We have learned to put self and own desires above anyone or anything; learning to selfishly seek our own way. God's Word defines love for us and also gives us clear instructions to know how to love as He loves. This love is defined as an action – Agape love. Agape love is "godly love." And, this kind of love is something that we do (an action) for one another, it's not about emotions, it's about doing what's right and thinking on the "things of others," and not expecting something in exchange for demonstrating an act of love.

When an individual accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of his/her life, the Agape love of God is also born within them, but unless they take action, that love will remain hidden within them.

Like faith, the act of love becomes active through the knowledge of the Word of God. (cont'd on page 4)





FINANCIAL FITNESS—STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM

We are living in times of uncertainty, people being laid off, housing industry is in trouble, businesses closing up, etc.; but it doesn't mean that we can't live free from debt and enjoy the peace of mind God has to offer.

Although we are still being bombarded by the media with the "buy it now" marketing attitude, we can discipline ourselves to "turn off" the temptation to crave what we don't need. Ask yourself, do you really need all the things advertised? Living debt free is not that difficult once you learn how to apply the twin virtues of moderation and patience into your daily life.

When we spend money moderately and wait patiently until we can afford the things we "want or need"; we free ourselves from the chains of debt and worry. And that's exactly what God's Word instructs us to do.

God's Word already has a financial system in place and the Bible outlines the plan for

operating in His system. As you study the Word you will discover there are over 2,000 references relating to money and how to be a good steward of all that God has entrusted you with. When you study and apply the Word into your daily living, the more disciplined you become; and the more disciplined you become the more obedient you become in applying the twin virtues of moderation and patience when it comes to making decisions about spending.

God has great plans for your life, which doesn't include being burdened with heavy debt. Deuteronomy 8:18 tells us that God has given each Christian the power to get wealth and we need to discover that power through God's Word.

Step One: Set aside time every day to study God's Word. As you are faithful in this area, God will instruct you with wisdom on how to deal wisely with money affairs.

Step Two: Be patient and

learn to be a faithful steward over your finances. The key to solving the dilemma of not having enough is to understand and apply Biblical stewardship to your finances. It's not the amount you have but what you do with what you have that counts. As you demonstrate your faithfulness with small amounts of money, God will give you more. If you can't manage little, how will you manage much? So start where you are and use what you have wisely and understand how money works and make it work in your favor.

Step Three: Acknowledge God as owner of everything. He created everything and owns everything and has entrusted us with a portion of his property.

Step Four: Partner with God to make a commitment to live debt free. You can do it! God doesn't want you to be a "slave" to the lender. He paid a great price for your freedom.

(cont'd on page 5)

If you give, you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving—it will be used to measure what is given back to you.

Luke 6:38

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- Q. Is it true that born again Christians will be with Jesus in heaven?**
- A. Yes, born again Christians will live with Jesus in heaven. In John 14:1-4, Jesus explains to his disciples the destiny for all of those who are saved.
- Q. Is it necessary to read the Bible every day?**
- A. Yes, it is necessary not to just read but to study God's Word daily as you ask the Spirit of God to reveal His Word to you (II Timothy 2:15)

The Bible:

Basic **i**nstructions **b**efore **l**eaving **e**arth

Email your question(s) to: journeylife@verizon.net



Register Your Children Now for the:

3rd Annual Children's Bible Bee

October 31, 2009

Rankin Christian Center, Rankin, PA

Children 8 to 12 are invited to participate in this event. There will be entertainment and treats will be given to all children.

Call now to register for this fun-filled event.

412-731-1856



Children's Corner

The summer has flown by, but our meetings are continuing. And what great meetings we have been having! We are currently learning the importance of being responsible for self, and learning how to incorporate the "act of being responsible" in our homes. Things we take for granted such as picking up after ourselves is an act of being responsible. When we pick up after our-

VIRTUOUS "TEEN" GROUP

selves we are acting responsibly because we are taking care of what belongs to us, and not leaving our mess for someone else to clean up after us.

Learning how to live as Christians is an important part of our meetings also, we learn Bible verses and about characters of the Bible which helps us to understand that living life as a Christian isn't all that hard.

At one of the meetings, we

decorated denim tote bags. This was really cool because we were told to use our own imagination to decorate our bags with glitter and buttons. The tote bags turned out great and our parents liked them.

And, I don't want to leave out the fact that we like to go on field trips! This summer we toured the Heinz Cultural Center. It was awesome seeing all the historical artifacts and reading about the rich history of Pittsburgh. It was also neat

seeing the displays of how the city of Pittsburgh used to look.

If you are interested in becoming a member of our group please call 412-731-3450 or email journey-life@verizon.net for more information.



Heinz Cultural Center

FAMILY CORNER—ELDER CHARLES HEAD

The family structure is a foundation that started out way back from the beginning with Adam and Eve.

When the Lord ordained the first family, He knew that we needed to draw strength from Him, but also from each other. It's called having a relationship, that's what family is all about. When we love each other God's way our relationship with our fellow man will fall in place because our true love originates from God (1 John 4:7-21).

The family must work at becoming closer to each other by making the adjustment with God's help. This comes by submission to each other's feelings and opinions. The other person may have wronged you, but what is wrong with forgiving them in spite of our being innocent. Also as families we must spend time with each other by talking and getting to know who your family really is (that's real love). You can live in the same house and see each other every day and yet not know or understand one another.

You can be in the same family, spend time with each other and yet without giving each member undivided attention and still not know members of our

own family. This is brought about by things in our world of importance. We always have to be on the phone, watching TV, on the computer, going shopping, etc. Is there something wrong with having time out with each other without these distractions for a few hours a week so you can at least know those in your own family?

Love and relationships are important to both God and our family or God would not have established His order that way. However, a problem I have observed in the breakdown of family relationships is the misunderstanding that love is measured by materialistic things. But, love is really measured by the giving of ourselves to each other unconditionally.

I have watched countless families come to disaster because the standard was set to measure love by how much we give our children and when that standard is not reached, we have a bunch of unhappy children who rebel because they have the wrong impression of what love is about.

You really love them when you teach them by example that love is not measured by possessions.

(cont'd page 4)

Take some morning
sunshine,

Add a smile, some
kind words too...

Sprinkle in some
happy hours,

It's not very hard to do....

Add a little thoughtfulness
Stir just enough to blend...

Serve it warm with
loving hands

It's the makings
of a Friend!

THEY CALL IT "LOVE" (CONT'D)

1 Corinthians 13:4-9 says "Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. **Love never fails.**"

There is nothing more important than a Christian demonstrating the act of love. In fact as a Christian is obedient by walking in "love" he/she will come to see the perfect will of God in their life. Walking in love is walking in the Spirit. So, if you are walking in the Spirit you are not carrying grudges or harboring

an unforgiving spirit.

Love is the most powerful force in the universe. Love conquers all! Jesus loved us so much that He went to the cross for us. He who knew no sin became sin for us on the cross. Jesus suffered long for us, He did not get puffed up when ridiculed, and He did not seek his own. His thoughts were on you and me and our eternal hope! He conquered it all for you and me!

If you don't know how to love or don't believe in love, ask God to help you, He will help you to unlock the Agape love from within. As you practice love by faith and refuse to seek your own, you put God the Father into action on your be-

half. As long as you stay in love, God seeks *your own*.

This Agape love that comes from God empowers you to make you the master of every situation. As long as you walk in love you cannot be hurt and you cannot fail. No one has the power to hurt your feelings, because you are not ruled by feelings but by God's love. You are loving as He loves – that is why "they call it love!" God says without love, we are sounding brass!

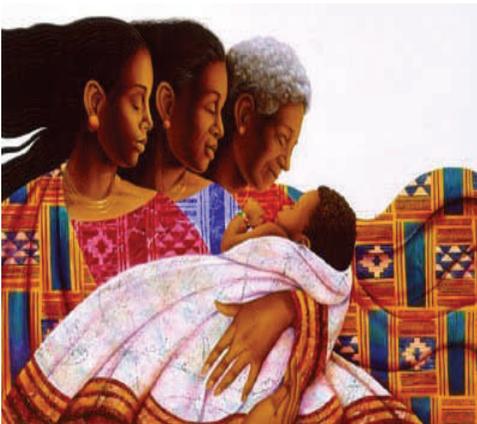
Let know one steal your gift of love, but remember, as you freely give love away it will come back to you doubled in return. Give some love away today!



FAMILY CORNER (CONT'D)

Do people who have little, love their children any less? The greatest and richest things you can give your family is an understanding of who God is through His Word by teaching them the real value of love and what it means.

The family was created to reverence and love God. Children are a heritage from God. When you put all this together and add the "flavor of God" you will have a heavenly taste that was ordered by God Himself. So families, let's work on our love and relationships with each other, with God's help we can do it!



I am my neighbor's Bible
He reads me when we meet;
Today he reads me in my home
Tomorrow on the street.

He may be relative or friend
Or slight acquaintance be;
He may not even know my name,
Yet he is reading me.

And pray, who is this neighbor
Who reads me day by day,
To learn if I am living right
And walking as I pray?

O, He is with me always
To criticize or blame;
So worldly-wise in his own eyes,
And "Sinner" is his name.

Dear Christian friends and brothers,
If we could only know
How faithfully the world records
Just what we say and do,

O, we would write our record plain
And come in time to see
Our worldly neighbor won to Christ
While reading you and me.

FINANCIAL FITNESS—STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM (CONT'D)

God wants you free to discover the plans and purpose He has for your future.

Step Five: Learn the importance of tithing. Tithing is an important part of God's financial system. However, many Christians forget to include the 10% tithe in their budget and are missing out on a great blessing in their life – the act of giving from the heart and the act of obedience. Get rid of the mentality that you can't afford to tithe; as Christians we are instructed by our Father to "tithe." As you are faithful to tithe 10%, God will be faithful to watch over the remaining 90%. So, you see, you can't afford not to tithe. (Read Malachi 3:10).

Step Six: Cut up those credit cards. You don't need them!

With patience, you can learn to use cash instead of credit cards, which will save you thousands of dollars in interest fees.

Step Seven: Start planning your financial affairs. Don't allow them to happen haphazardly anymore. Put your financial plan on paper and include God in this plan through prayer. Couples should do this together.

At this point I believe some are wondering why God doesn't just supernaturally dissolve our debts. I believe God wants us to take ownership of our decision making whether good or bad. By acknowledging this debt and taking the correct steps to eliminate it will help you to become better stewards for the future.

God doesn't want His children ignorant about matters that are important for our future and our children's future.

God delights in giving His children the desires of their heart, but we need to know how to appreciate and be good stewards of what God blesses us with.

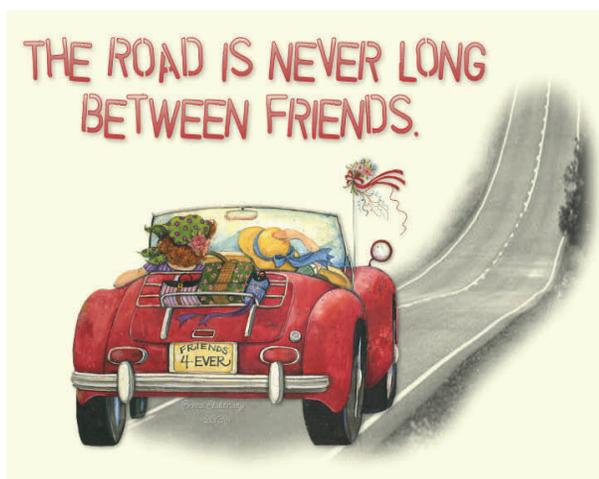
Remember in our last article we discovered that money is simply nothing more than a tool. It is a tool to be used to improve your own life and the lives of your loved ones. Let God teach you how to use this tool wisely. Look for Part II in next newsletter.

email questions to
journeylife@verizon.net



God allows people to be tested and endure hardships, but his love for them never diminishes. In the end he is glorified, and they are made more mature.

Visit our website at:
www.journeythroughlife.net



WASH DAY

Monday—Wash Day
Lord, help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead.

Tuesday—Ironing Day
Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through the years so that I may see the beauty in others.

Wednesday—Mending Day
O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others.

Thursday—Cleaning Day
Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have

been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.

Friday—Shopping Day
O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love.

Saturday—Cooking Day
Help me, my Savior, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with clean, sweet bread of human kindness.

Sunday—The Lord's Day
O God, I have prepared my house for you. Please come into my heart so I may spend the day and the rest of my life in your presence.

BIBLE TRIVIA



Instruction
Manual for
Living

1. **What does the apostle Paul, in the book of Romans, say Christians are not under, now that they are under grace? (Romans 6:14-15)**
 - a. condemnation
 - b. The flesh
 - c. The law
 - d. The curse
2. **Complete the scripture: (John 5:5)**
Who is he that over cometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the _____

3. **What miraculous sign, interpreted by Daniel, foretold the doom of King Belshazzar? (Daniel 5)**
4. **Gaius was (Acts 23:14-16)**
 - a. A strong Christian who walked in the truth.
 - b. A pagan John was trying to convert.
 - c. One of the twelve disciples.
 - d. A rich merchant who gave John money.

4. A
3. Handwriting on Wall
2. Son of God
1. C

WHY THE MARKET HAD TO COME DOWN

BY REV. DWAIN MCGEE

People are asking questions about the economic state that we find ourselves in and wondering how it came to this. I believe the answer is found in God's Word. With God there are some things that are simply unacceptable. So, I write this article for your careful consideration.

Mankind have put their trust in money instead of God to the point that there were those who wanted to take the words, "In God we Trust" off of our money. I guess they wanted to replace it with, "In Money We Trust." It became increasingly obvious that we as a nation have begun to love money in place of God. Yes, we were doing good! We had healthy 401k accounts, good pension plans and a stock market that was steadily rising. But, we made the fatal mistake of setting our hearts on those riches. When you don't love God it is easy not to keep His commandments. God will not share His glory with anyone or anything. In the biblical account of the ark of God and the false God Dagon, the Philistines had captured the ark and brought it to their city. They placed it in the temple with the idol god Dagon. In the morning Dagon was lying on the ground because the false

god couldn't stand in the midst of the ark of God. The ark of God represents the presence, power and purpose of God. When man began to exalt money as what should be sought after, they created a false god, a Dagon. It could not be allowed to stand as if equal to or greater than the God of the Bible; therefore, the market had to come down. God taught mankind a lesson. He wanted us to learn that He is the only one that we can put our trust and confidence in. The Bible warns us against putting our trust in anything or anyone other than Him (read Isaiah 31:1).

Job declared a principle of the kingdom when he made this statement;

Job 31:24-28 says, "If I have made gold my hope, or said to fine gold, 'You are my confidence'; if I have rejoiced because my wealth was great, and because my hand had gained much; if I have observed the sun when it shines, or the moon moving in brightness, so that my heart has been secretly enticed, and my mouth has kissed my hand; this also would be an iniquity worthy of judgment, for I would have denied God who is above.

Remember along with the market failure, revelation of corruption and greed began to come out. This showed us that the love of money is truly the root of all types of evil. Even now there are still those who believe that money is the key solution to all of our problems. But I believe like those who started the Fulton Street Prayer meeting in 1857 when the country had been in a deep depression for three years. One man (a clerk on Wall St.) started a prayer meeting in his office. It grew until they moved it to a church then it spread throughout the city eventually growing nationwide to all the major cities. The result was a historical, spiritual, and economic turnaround that was attributed to the people of God inviting God's intervention. I would like to advocate that the people of God start calling on God to change hearts and lives, in turn restoring our economy. If God did it before He can do it again. Righteousness will exalt a nation. Now that God has brought correction let's look to Him for direction. God is able!



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Testimonies

I would like to share a testimony about my son. I'm always telling my 4 year old son how smart he is, because he is. One Tuesday my son was given a Bible verse to remember for Sunday School class - Psalms 86:11. This Tuesday morning, I told my son don't forget you have a Bible verse to remember for church." He says to me "teach me your way, O Lord and I will walk in Your truth Psalms 86:11" and then he smiles the biggest smile I've ever seen. I started to say to my son "you know what?" And before I could finish he says "Mommy see, I'm so smart. Right mommy?" I said to him "yes you are so smart!" I'm so proud that my son is using his intelligence to learn about the Lord.

From Proud Mom

The Lord has recently opened new doors of opportunity for me to reach out to the elderly and disabled through a nursing home ministry. On one occasion after finishing for the day, I was headed for the elevator only to hear the

faint voice of a woman in a wheelchair "are you a minister?" I replied yes, she continued, "will you please pray for me?" As I turned to pray for her I felt the compassion of Jesus come over me and this gave me a greater burden and urgency to do all I can to pour the oil of Jesus into wounded people, to the lonely, and to those needing to know that Jesus loves them. Opportunities seem so small to us at times, we often step over them rather than pick them up and use them. There are many others out there whose voices are physically silent, yet inwardly are crying out "will you please pray for me?" It takes two things for these silent voices: enough sensitivity within us to feel God's heartbeat and the compassion of Jesus to take action.

Concerned for Hurting Souls

I was in a head on collision on July 16th, and God protected me so much that I was able to get out of my car with no human help. No one could understand how I did it and I told them it was all God and His grace. Praise be to God!

Signed Rose

My Son has walked away from the Lord. Please pray that God will guide him back to Him before it's too late.

Concerned Mother

Praise Reports

I was visiting an elderly lady at the hospital who is totally bedridden and has to depend on others for her every need. She never complained and kept a smile on her face praising God for her life and that He is supplying all her needs. What a testimony! God has truly filled this women's soul with joy and peace.

Signed Visitor

I am an inmate in jail and my daughter is in foster care. Please pray that God will unite me and my daughter again I miss her very much.

Signed N.C.

HEART-TO-HEART—ELDER CHARLES HEAD

Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. (Matthew 28:19:20) These are the words of Jesus known as "the great commission. They were the last words spoken by Jesus after His resurrection; He commissioned the remaining eleven disciples to go; the word "go" requires action on our part. It means just what it says, "go." Jesus is instructing the Church (born again Christians) to go to a lost world without Him and to tell them the "Good News." Jesus is our answer!

The next word is "teach." We are in-

structed to teach others how to receive Jesus Christ into their life and how to become a part of His kingdom. This is how the family of God grows into a "living tree" for the world to see. We are the Church beyond the walls of a building - "lively stones" to spread the "Good News" everywhere we go.

Look around you! We don't have to look very far to see a need to spread the Good News. We need to leave the comfort zone of self. The Church in many instances have become too settled, we need to be stirred up and stop blessing ourselves while many lost souls are on their way to hell. The heart of Jesus is what we need as a Church (read Isaiah 58:1-14). We must forget our problems and think on the things of others; as we do this God will

meet our needs along the way. We need to have a burdened heart for the lost and hurting souls around us, and it's the Church's responsibility to spread the Good News, because we are the extension of God's hands.

And meeting the needs of others is not always about having money, it's about giving of self. Be a father to the fatherless, be a surrogate mother to a young girl needing guidance; be a listening ear to that lonely person; speak a word of encouragement to that one who feels no one cares. This is the "Great Commission Jesus is speaking about - "GO!"



Journey Through Life Ministries

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Journey Through Life Ministries' Newsletter is a quarterly publication promoting spiritual awareness and growth in the communities.

All articles written and edited by:
Charles S. Head
Georgetta Head

Please submit all comments and church calendar events to: journeylife@verizon.net.

Journey Through Life Ministries accepts articles provided they are related to spiritual awareness and growth. All articles will be edited for content & validity.

Please note that Journey Through Life Ministries does not publish political or opinion pieces.

PEACE WITHIN YOUR SOUL

That which you've been longing for, is peace within your soul,
You've searched high and low, but now it's about to unfold.

Even though you looked around you, peace was very near,
It's when you cry to the Father, He'll see your every tear.

You see, the Father has been waiting, His arms stretched out to you,
But you were so busy worrying, you didn't have a clue.

He says: "come unto me all ye that are heavy
laden and I will give you rest."

It's up to you today, will you finally pass the test?
You need not search any longer, it is God who will fill your hunger.

If your confusion has grown old, let God speak peace to your soul.
Don't put off till tomorrow, what you can do today,
Your peace within you, is only a prayer away.

When you need courage to obey, let the spirit have His way.
So, what are you waiting for? Time is running out,
Peace within your soul is what it's all about.

Search no longer, for that which will not satisfy.
The peace that God will give you, man cannot buy.

Jesus is the answer, (that you must know) obey and be blessed,
And He will do the rest.

Elder Charles Head

Supported Ministries:

*Women on A Journey Life Skills
Workshop*

Virtuous "Teen" Group

Job Readiness Program

Prison Ministry

"Shoe Boxes For Seniors"

Annual Children's Bible Bee

Financial Awareness:

Debt-Free Workshops

Financial Seminars

Would you like to make a donation? You can by
mailing any size donation to:

Journey Through Life Ministries
P.O. Box 17968
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

All donations are 100% tax deductible.
Thank you in advance.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23)