

PERSONAL MASTERY AND THE “LEARNING ORGANISM”

In fact, though by this time you ought to be TEACHERS, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the TEACHING about righteousness (Heb. 5:12-13).

The Hebrew writer was calling for two things in the above verse that are absolutely fundamental to the success of any congregation of believers. First of all we ought to ALL strive for personal mastery of the text of the Bible. One book against a lifetime of opportunity for personal mastery is a challenge that each of us can do. Secondly, the writer suggests that the Christian community should be first and foremost—a **learning organism**.

A quote from a school superintendent in West Des Moines public schools is significant: “Our single greatest discovery has probably been the power of simply getting people asking, ‘What is good for the kids?’...Gradually, this has evolved into building *learning communities* as the core strategy for change” (The Fifth Discipline, p. 307). When a school superintendent decided to make his entire community a learning organization in order to improve the school system, it changed the effectiveness of the learning outcomes for the children.

The church is God’s **learning organization** to change the world. Listen to the Apostle Paul as he suggests, *It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach the unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ* (Ephesians 4:11-13). Let me break this down to show us what Paul was up to here:

- From apostles to teachers, all the referents in verse 11 are educators involved in the high calling of instilling the Word of God in the hearts of believers.
- The purpose of the development of the church as educators-all in verse 12 was to equip us to serve so that the learning organism might grow and thrive.
- The result in verse 13 was unity of all believers in the faith of Christ and the knowledge of the Word and **maturity** as each member attains to the fullness of Christ.

It is not difficult to see that the reason for the failure of the body of Christ to attain the fullness of Jesus is that each member does not strive for personal mastery of the knowledge of the faith and of Jesus Christ. The church of Christ on earth must become a learning organism in order to achieve the purposes for which God called us.

Evangelists and elders are teachers given the primary task of developing the church into these learning organisms. It is a daunting task. There are distractions such as television, entertainment, and other conflicting competitors. Learning requires diligence. There is no more difficult task than getting ink off a page and into our minds and hearts. Many are not natural learners—but learners we must be. Open your minds and your Bibles and let’s get rid of the drivel Satan is feeding us! yc

PRAYER LIST

- ♥ Kaitlyn, Lonnie and sue Livingston’s granddaughter, will have surgery May 15 to repair holes in her heart.
- ♥ Gladys Livingston is doing better. She will need physical and vocal therapy as a result from her stroke.
- ♥ Benjamin Randall has multiple injuries due to a car accident.
- ♥ Olivia DeWolfe, Helen Blevins’ mother, will have one more surgery due to lung cancer.
- ♥ Geraldine Blevins, David Blevins’ mother, needs surgery to rebuild stomach wall to support the bladder.
- ♥ Jill Sessums, David Blevins’ friend, is having cancer removed from her neck.
- ♥ Beverly Huffstetler, Jennie Miller’s mother, will have surgery to remove a bone spur that has broken off her rotator cuff.
- ♥ Rudy Staggs, Ashley Nowlen’s father, diagnosed with lung cancer.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER

Betsy Canfield, Tony Dority, Howard Farrar, Mary Louise Gipson, Beverly Graham, Charlotte Hunter, Larry Mittlestat, Joe Saia, Mart Salley and Joey Sanderford

THANK YOU

We have received thank you letters from Timothy McMillen and The Stanford Family. They are posted on the bulletin board.

HEALTH FAIR

We will host a Health Fair May 19 from 9am-4pm. If you have suggestions for exhibitors see Jennie Miller. Volunteers **are** needed to help in many areas. See Jennie and let her know where you can help. ASAP

MOTHER’S DAY LUNCHEON

On Saturday, May 17 we will have a luncheon at 12:00 in the Ladies Ministry room. Bring you mother/daughter or in-laws. If you don’t have one, you may adopt one from the church or outside. See Kim McDaniel for more details.

SUPPER CLUB

Here are the dates for the next few Supper Clubs. **April 21, and May 18.** All of these will be held at Allen and Genie Rogers’ home. Watch each month for menu suggestion.

FACING THE GIANTS

Jason McLeod from the movie *Facing the Giants* will be with us April 29 to speak to us about the movie. We will show the movie again April 28 at 7:30.

VBS

VBS will be June 18-22. The theme is SonForce Kids Special Agents. Help is needed with set-up, decorating, advertising, etc. See Genie to help.

LIFE GROUPS

The Life Group that meets at the building is studying Proverbs. If you are not involved with a group, come and join them.

GRAD SUNDAY

Grad Sunday will be May 6. Invite your friends and relatives for this day of celebration.

FREE INDEED

Free Indeed will be with us August 11-12. They will perform in concert Saturday evening and will lead us in worship Sunday morning.

LADIES MINISTRY

The next gathering will be a ladies Lunch-In celebrating Spring. Come and invite your friends. We will meet Saturday, April 28 from 11:00-1:00 in the Women’s Ministry room. Please bring a salad.

SILVER HATTER’S

The Silver Hatter’s will meet April 21, not April 28. For more details, see Wayne Bridges.

BRIDAL SHOWER

There will be a Bridal Shower for Tiffany Rast on April 22. Tiffany and Jeremy Wright are registered at Target, Belk, Linens n Thing, and Walmart. The location and time is still to be determined. Watch for updates.

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

Contact Tim Nelson if unable to serve at 601-853-3704.

4/15/07

Greeters McManaway Life Group
 Song Leader Tim Farrar
 Call to Worship Ken Salley
 Prayer Rocky Barnette
 Presiding Glynn McMillen
 Closing Prayer Ryan Hamrick

Serving

Paul McManaway	Mike Babin
Lamar Kilpatrick	Dan Ellis
Keaton Sweeney	George Miller

Evening Worship Life Groups
 Nursery Betsy Canfield
 Children’s Worship.....Jennie Miller

4/22/07

Greeters Canfield Life Group
 Song Leader Tim Nelson
 Call to Worship Allen McDaniel
 Prayer Dan Ellis
 Presiding Bobby Stewart
 Closing Prayer Paul McManaway

Serving

Charlie McMasters	Terry Hester
Rocky Barnette	Wayne Bridges
Terry Claunch	Justin McCov

Evening Worship Life Groups
 Nursery Michelle Hester
 Children’s Worship ... Timothy McMillen

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

Apr. 15–1 Sam. 17-18; Luke 15:1-10
 Apr. 16–1 Sam. 19-21; Luke 15:11-32
 Apr. 17– 1 Sam. 22-24; Luke 16:1-18
 Apr. 18– 1 Sam. 25-26; Luke 16:19-31
 Apr. 19– 1 Sam. 27-29; Luke 17:1-19
 Apr. 20– 1 Sam. 30-31; Luke 17:20-37
 Apr. 21–2 Sam. 1-3; Luke 18:1-17

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 15 – Nursing Home Devotional
 April 21 – Supper Club
 April 21 – Silver Hatter’s meeting
 April 28 – Spring Ladies Luncheon
 April 28 – Facing the Giants Movie
 April 29 – Guest Speaker
 May 6 – Grad Sunday
 May 17 – Mother’s Day Luncheon
 May 18 – Supper Club
 May 19 – Health Fair
 June 18-22 – VBS

LIFE GROUPS		
Area	Location	Leaders
South Brandon	Rotated	Paul McManaway
		Glynn McMillen
Pearl	Building	David Blevins
		Lonnie Livingston
Florence/Star	Rotated	Yale Canfield
		Allen McDaniel
Brandon	Sweeney Home	Jeff Sweeney
		Tim Farrar
Reservoir	Rogers Home	Jim Head
		Allen Rogers
Teens	Varies	Ken Salley

Mission Statement for Heart Matters
 To enhance the mission of the Skyway Hills church of Christ and to build a sense of community among the members of the body of Christ through an accurate and quality communication of 1) ministries and activities of the church 2) the opportunities for each member to find fulfillment as disciples of Jesus and 3) the scriptural application of God's Word to life relevant issues today.

Heart Matters

Skyway Hills Church of Christ
 Highway 80 East
 P.O. Box 5600
 Pearl, MS 39288

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 JACKSON, MS
 PERMIT No. 301

Schedule of Service
 Sunday Bible Class.....9:00 am
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 am
 Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 pm
 Wednesday..... 7:00 pm

*"Since then,
 you have
 been raised
 with
 Christ,
 set your
 hearts
 on things
 above."
 Colossians 3:1*

Skyway Hills Church of Christ
 Phone: 601-939-5473 • Fax: 601-939-5447
 Web: www.skywayhills.com • E-mail: skywayhillchurch@bellsouth.net
 Elders - Lonnie Livingston • Al Garner
 Minister – Yale Canfield
 Email: yalec@bellsouth.net
 Youth Minister – Ken Salley

April 15, 2007

YOUTH

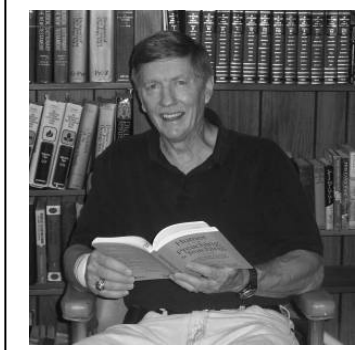
See Linda if you can help with VBS.

Watch for more upcoming events.

YAKS

VBS
June 18-22
SonForce Kids
Special Agents

Plan now to attend.



Heartbeat

SONRISE service last Sunday morning was a success in spite of the cold weather. We met 100 strong at 7:00 a.m. in the family life center here and hosted a wonderful time of worship that saw almost 30 members of the Community Christian church assemble with us as well as another 15 or so from our community. We heard so many visitors tell us how much they enjoyed the time together. Thanks to all who brought breakfast refreshments for all after the worship time. God is blessing our efforts to reach out to our community in new and refreshing ways.

We were also encouraged by our good attendance at our regular worship time. Please make plans to bring friends and acquaintances from your workplaces, recreational teams, and schoolmates each Sunday. We are seeing our young professional group grow here as well as our youth groups.

Thanks so much to those who took time to visit Scottie and Cricket Stanford at their home in Country Meadows Monday evening.

Please let David Blevins know if you are interested in enrolling in a DVD course in Isaiah from Sunset International. David will head up this educational opportunity here at Skyway Hills. We will offer select courses from Sunset International (Sunset church of Christ in Lubbock, TX). We will provide a list of these courses in the near future and ask you which ones you would be interested in studying here on a Tuesday or Thursday evening. Either David or I one or both will facilitate the courses. This will be a unique opportunity to really get into the word here. You will need to purchase a study guide for each course. Classes will begin at 7:30 and end at 9:00.

Please make every effort to be here at 9:00 Sundays for our Bible study time together. Classes for women, for young professionals, mixed adults, and our various children's ages are available. This is a time when we can share together the Scriptures God has provided us. NOTHING causes a church to grow more than a church dedicated to learning God's Word. See you there.

- Deacons**
- David Blevins, Education
 - Tony Dority, Building
 - Tim Nelson, Calls/Visitor/Greeters
 - Jim Head, Life Groups
 - George Miller
 - Allen Rogers, YAKS