

LIFE IN THE CITY OF GOD: BELONGING

PSALM 46

Each of us wants and needs to belong. In 1950 David Riesman, a sociologist, wrote a book, *The Lonely Crowd*, which became a standard read for students for the next 30 years. Riesman described America and categorized people as they tried to relate to groups within society. Whether he intended or not (Riesman did not title his book, the publisher did) he gave the impression that we were “islands” in a sea of people.

Most of the people I know who are not plugged into a larger group are lonely, resentful, and defensive. I first saw this in high school, then the military, college, and the work place. We are created to belong. As I read the Bible, I can't help but notice that the Biblical characters who were loners, were problems. The problem with people who are loners is that they simply lack the natural God-given need or desire to “get along” with others.

This, in no way, implies that all people who “belong” are good people. People who belong to street gangs or anti-social groups such as the KKK are not well adjusted people. Generally speaking, however, those who are members of generative groups who strive for the betterment of society are better adjusted. I have not had the need to research literature concerning children from large families and their ability to function in society, but I'm thinking it would show that they had a higher rate of success in school and work. God created us to be social—to give and take, to grant to others a respect that did not have to be earned, especially by ingratiating themselves to someone. There needs to be a natural love for people and a respect born of knowledge that we are all brothers of a common ancestry.

In Psalm 46 we read of a crowd that is not lonely or distrusting. It is the City of God. Let me make a few points which can direct you in your reading of this beautiful piece of literature:

- The City of God is full of people who drink from the same cup. That cup is the source of strength and comfort even though the elements are in an uproar. The source of peace the citizens have comes from a single source of reassuring power and presence. Verse 3 says that even though hurricanes come and the elements are furious, the city is at peace.
- Verse 4 tells us that there is a river whose streams make glad the inhabitants of the city. As we corporately drink of the nectar of God's love and mercy, we realize the value of belonging to this city of God—the foundation of peace and a shared vision.
- In spite of wars, verse 9 tells us that God will bring an end to all wars. This is one of the things that Christians know, even now as the horrible war in Iraq and the threat of escalation looms larger each day. People in the city of God find real peace in the midst of this uprising of mankind in the knowledge that God will bring an end to the fighting.
- Finally, in the last two verses, we receive the promise of the presence of our creator. We are told to “Be still and know that I am God” and that He will be with us in this city of His creation.

In this wonderful Psalm we can be assured that “together” we can lift one another up in the certainty that there is someone in control—someone who will bring order out of chaos, and peace in the midst of adversity. I hope you will appreciate the city—the church of the Lord. Lonely is not a description of the people in this city. Where do you live? yc

PRAYER LIST

- ♥ Jeremy Tarves' father was killed over the weekend. Jeremy is a co-worker of Matt Head.
- ♥ Beverly Huffstetler, Jennie Miller's mother, recovering from shoulder surgery.
- ♥ Karen Adams, Ryan Hamrick's neighbor, has breast cancer.
- ♥ 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.
- ♥ Rudy Staggs, Ashley Nowlen's father, lung cancer.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER

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

SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to Barry Rhodes. Barry's son, Tut Rhodes, passed away Monday, May 28. Services have not been arranged yet.

WEDDING SHOWER

We will celebrate the marriage of Kassia Eastman and Chauncey McDaniel with a wedding shower on Sunday, June 3 following our Life Group Gathering.

VBS

VBS will be June 18-22 from 6:00-8:30. The theme is SonForce Kids Special Agents. Help is needed with set-up, decorating, advertising, etc. See Genie to help.

PROMOTION SUNDAY

June 3 will be promotion Sunday. Certificates will be awarded on this day. Please plan to be here and have your child here.

PEARL DAY

We will be selling water at Pearl Day on June 30. Watch for more information and contact people as the event nears.

FREE INDEED

FreeIndeed will be with us the weekend of August 12. We will need to raise \$1500 for this event. If you would like to give please see Tim Nelson

LEADERSHIP MEETING

There will be a Leadership Meeting on June 3 at 7:30.

LIFE GROUP GATHERING

All life Groups will meet at the building on June 3 at 6:00 for a time of fellowship. Bring finger foods.

COFFEE CREW

Thanks to those who get up early each Sunday to brew coffee for the Sunday School hour. We need a couple of dedicated folks to commit to cleaning the cart each week. See Jenny if you can help with this ministry.

CAMP BROCHURES

If you did not receive a camp brochure in the mail, you can take on from the Teen Bulletin Board.

COMBINED WORSHIP

Sunday June 10 Meadowbrook will join us for a combined evening worship at 6:00 p.m. Come and worship together with joy.

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

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

6/3/07

Greeters Blevins Life Group
Song Leader Tim Farrar
Call to Worship Al Garner
Prayer Bobby Stewart
Presiding Glynn McMillen
Closing Prayer Dusty Reynolds

Serving

Terry Claunch	Rocky Barnette
Allen Rogers	George Miller
Danny Dendy	Jeremy Blevins

Evening Worship Life Groups
Nursery Belinda Kilpatrick
Children's Worship Jennie Miller

6/10/07

Greeters Sweeney Life Group
Song Leader Tim Farrar
Call to Worship Jerry Mitchell
Prayer Dusty Reynolds
Presiding Bobby Stewart
Closing Prayer LaRan Kilpatrick

Serving

Scottie Stanford	Ryan Hamrick
Alvin McMillen	Mike Babin
Keaton Sweeney	Al Ellis

Evening Worship Life Groups
Nursery Becky Turner
Children's Worship Jennie Miller

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

June 3-2 Chron. 10-12; John 13:18-38
June 4-2 Chron. 13-16; John 12:20-50
June 5-2 Chron. 17-19; Jn. 13:1-17
June 6-2 Chron. 20-22; Jn. 13:18-38
June 7-2 Chron. 23-25; John 14
June 8-2 Chron. 26-28; John 15
June 9-2 Chron. 29-31; John 16:1-15

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 2 – Rast/Beardain Wedding
June 3 – Leadership Meeting
June 3 – Promotion Sunday
June 3 – Life Group Gathering
June 3 – McDaniel Wedding Shower
June 10 – Combined Worship
June 18-22 – VBS
June 30 – Pearl Day
August 11-12 – Free Indeed

*Mr. and Mrs. Terry Rast
Request the honour of you presence
At the marriage of their daughter
Tiffany Marie
To
Jeremy Thomas Beardain
On Saturday, the second of June
Two thousand and seven
At four o'clock in the afternoon
Skyway Hills Church of Christ
3800 Highway 80 East
Pearl, Mississippi*

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
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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

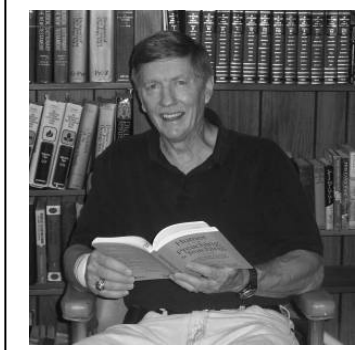
*"Since then,
 you have
 been raised
 with
 Christ,
 set your
 hearts
 on things
 above."
 Colossians 3:1*

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

June 3, 2007

**YOUTH
 CAMP**
 Camp brochures are
 on the Teen Bulletin Board.
 See Linda if you
 can help with
 VBS.

**YAKS
 VBS
 June 18-22
 6:00-8:30**
**SonForce Kids
 Special Agents**
 Plan now
 to
 attend.



Heartbeat

We are saddened at the untimely death of Barry Rhodes' son "Tut." Please pray for Barry and Angie and Barry's family. Nothing is any more difficult than what this family is going through just now. Please reach out any way you can.

The summer is upon us and a lot of people will be traveling. It is typically a difficult time for those who work with the church's budget. Please remember to honor your vows and commitments to the Lord. It may sound crass, but it is undoubtedly one of the greatest of ways we acknowledge our faith in God to supply all our needs. You are a great church.

REJOICE! TYRONE OLIVER HAS BEEN SAVED BY THE GRACE AND LOVE OF THE LORD JESUS. Tyrone has been coming here for several weeks because of a recent convert, Alvin Ellis. Alvin was recently baptized into Christ here and has been bringing two seekers to services for weeks. Tyrone came forward yesterday, confessed his need for the blood of Jesus to wash away his sins, confessed his faith in the risen Savior, and was subsequently buried with Jesus in baptism.

Thanks to Ryan Hamrick for reaching out to Tyrone after church services yesterday. Read Ryan's update on members' email.

We are taught by these excited disciples. Let's learn the greatest lessons from our shared vision and shared faith in our great God.

Recently, doors have been left open. Please be sure to lock doors when you leave. Don't leave this up to someone else. Especially the doors opening to the women's ministry room are subject to being left unopened. KIDS, if you leave through these doors, please shut them properly.

We are in need of some classes on Wednesday evenings for smaller children. If you will volunteer, please see Yale.

Ken Salley will preach for us on Sunday, June 10. Be sure to be here for Ken's sermon. He is so very talented. David Blevins will teach my auditorium class. David's classes are great and filled with application and meaning. Be sure to come at 9:00 to join that class. See you Sunday.

Deacons

 David Blevins,
 Education

Tim Nelson,
 Calls/Visitor/
 Greeters

Jim Head,
 Life Groups

Allen Rogers,
 YAKS