

The Cave, The Matrix, and The Mental Model

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has call you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints... (Ephesians 1:17-18).

O.K., don't fling this down when I mention Plato. In his book, *The Republic*, Plato writes about prisoners who have been chained so that they could only see a forward wall in an underground cave. Behind them on a raised platform was a fire and all they could see was their own shadows on the wall in front of them. It is the story about how we see the world. It is a story about education and how we have a tendency when we learn of something new, it causes us so much discomfort that we run back to our caves.

In the Movie, The Matrix, Neo is released from his prison and made to view the world as it really is. The movie is a reflection of the 2000-year-old philosopher's tale. It's a scary thing to see the world as it really is. It's different than our little world. Plato's cave is a story about how reality is a painful awakening and requires great endurance and courage to face it.

The Apostle Paul writes to the church at Ephesus and tells them that he has been praying that God would give them the Holy Spirit and open the eyes of their hearts so that they would be able to discern true reality—the way things really are. This can be scary.

Terra Moore is a bright young lady who had a "mental model" of herself as a nurse. In spite of a severe disruption at the college she was attending which included her failing to make the grade, she never wavered in "seeing herself as a nurse" when the people closest to her held a different mental model of her. Terra found an accredited on-line nursing program and finished her studies but failed the expensive exams the first time.

Imagine what the people said to her. But Terra studied, prayed, studied, and this past weekend, Terra passed the Nurse's exam with flying colors and she WILL get her cap. We are so proud that Terra has been coming to our congregation and you all have believed in her "mental model" as a nurse!

Terra's positive mental model served her well but so many of us have a negative mental model, which we have gotten used to. **Mental Models affect our behavior so drastically.** Some have been taught a negative mental model of the church, filled with shadows, guilt, and chains of legalism. Coming out of that cave has been tough on us. I see all the time the way many people choose rather to go back to a mental model that was given to us in the 40's or 50's. That model has great benefit for us today because it has many aspects that will last until Jesus comes. However, it also had some dark sides to it that made us afraid to come out into the light of Jesus word. The Holy Spirit is our friend now and not the dreaded "Hody Dost" as one little boy said, "Momma, I'm afraid of the Hody Dost!"

The wonderful experience of communion each first day of the week, the grace of God, the day to day fellowship, and the preaching and teaching of the Word of God is a true mental model for us to cling to even as we reach forward to the glories that await us. So let us pray with God that He will continue to open the eyes of our hearts that we might see Jesus and His church as they really are and the hope to which he calls us! yc

PRAYER LIST

- ♥ Karen Adams, Ryan Hamrick's neighbor, has breast cancer.
- ♥ George Miller, Jr, George Miller's dad, had toe amputated due to diabetes.
- ♥ Nancy Miller, George Miller's step-mom, has injuries due to a fall.
- ♥ Kaitlyn White, Lonnie and Sue Livingston's granddaughter, will have surgery May 15 to repair holes in her heart.
- ♥ 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, needs surgery to remove a bone spur in shoulder.
- ♥ Rudy Staggs, Ashley Nowlen's father, 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

WEDDING

An invitation goes out to each of you to attend the wedding of Carla Clemons to George Taylor on May 26. The ceremony will be held in the auditorium at 11:00.

SUPPER CLUB

The next Supper Club meeting will be May 18 at the home of Mike and Sarajeon Babin. They invite you to bring the picnic basket and the kids.

PEARL DAY

We will be selling water at Pearl Day on **June 30**. If you are interested in helping out, see Allen Rogers.

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

On Saturday, **May 12** we will have a luncheon at 12:00 in the Multi-Purpose Building. Bring you mother/daughter or in-laws. If you don't have one, you may adopt one from the church or outside. Please sign-up on the Ladies Bulletin Board. An accurate count is needed to prepare.

HEALTH FAIR
Our 1st Annual Health Fair will be May 19 from 9am-4pm. Your help is needed to help make our Health Fair a complete success. We have many health care providers coming and we need your help to assist them in any way they may need. We also need your help to direct visitors to the booths that are of interest to them. Also, Mississippi Blood Services will set up their Blood Mobile in out parking lot from 10a.m.- 2p.m. Please sign-up on Yale's bulletin board to donate blood on this day. See Yale or Jenny if you can volunteer for part or all of this day.

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.

PANTRY

All Pantry items are needed at this time.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

We will have a Spaghetti Supper on Wednesday, May 16 beginning at 5:30. Monies will help fund outreach events. Price: Adults: \$5.00 Children: \$3.00.

FREE INDEED

Free Indeed will perform in concert and lead worship **August 11-12**.

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

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

5/13/07

Greeters Rogers Life Group
 Song Leader Tim Farrar
 Call to Worship Dusty Reynolds
 Prayer LaRan Kilpatrick
 Presiding Alvin McMillen
 Closing Prayer Rocky Barnette

<i>Serving</i>	
Paul McManaway	Al Ellis
Charlie McMasters	Doug Hester
Terry Claunch	Terry Hester

Evening Worship Life Groups
 Nursery Genie Rogers
 Children's Worship..... Jenny Farrar

5/6/07

Greeters McManaway Life Group
 Song Leader Tim Farrar
 Call to Worship Allen Rogers
 Prayer Wayne Bridges
 Presiding Paul McManaway
 Closing Prayer Jim Head

<i>Serving</i>	
LaRan Kilpatrick	Ken Salley
Mike Babin	Jeff Sweeney
David Blevins	Bobby Stewart

Evening Worship Life Groups
 Nursery Jenny Farrar
 Children's Worship Kim McDaniel

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

May 13-2 Kings 6-8; John 4:31-54
 May 14-2 Kings 9-11; John 5:1-24
 May 15-2 Kings 12-14; John 5:25-47
 May 16-2 Kings 15-17; John 6:1-21
 May 17-2 Kings 18-19; John 6:22-44
 May 18-2 Kings 20-22; John 6:45-71
 May 19-2 Kings 23-25; John 7:1-31

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 12 – Mother's Day Luncheon
 May 16 – Spaghetti Supper
 May 18 – Supper Club
 May 19 – Health Fair
 May 26 – Clemons/Taylor Wedding
 June 2 – Rast/Beardain Wedding
 June 18-22 – VBS
 June 30 – Pearl Day
 August 11-12 – Free Indeed

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.org • E-mail: skywayhillchurch@bellsouth.net
 Elders - Lonnie Livingston • Al Garner
 Minister – Yale Canfield
 Email: yalec@bellsouth.net
 Youth Minister – Ken Salley

May 13, 2007

YOUTH

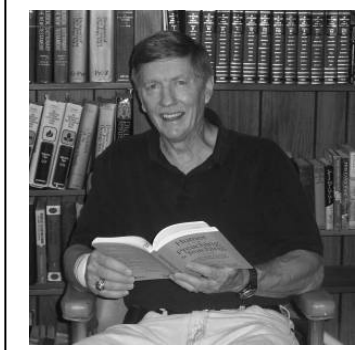
See Linda if you can help with VBS.

Watch for more upcoming events.

YAKS

VBS
June 18-22
SonForce Kids
Special Agents

Plan now to attend.



Heartbeat

Helga, Helen, Jessica, Mary, Jeremy, and Timothy. We are really proud of you. Each of us realizes the hard work and diligent study that our graduates expend. I have always said that the really hardest work in the world is to learn new things. From textbooks or on the job learning, it is difficult to obtain new information.

The key to learning is to never stop. Life long learners are usually the most confident people I know. You don't have to get it from a textbook—you can get it on a construction crew, an offshore oil rig, in a hospital, or a classroom. Whether it is a high school diploma or a college degree—you will know it is never enough when you get on the job. We must continue to learn.

I was looking at a huge construction sight (The new Pepsi Plant—13,000,000 bucks worth—and counting) where our friend Tim Nelson is the head field superintendent. I stood back and asked him how does an Alabama boy with a high school education know how to do this. He just grinned. I know, however. By learning something new every day—from the day he began digging ditches for the same company he now helps to run—LIFE LONG LEARNING. Don't stop! I tell young men every week who are looking for a job, "Go to work somewhere and treat that job like this is your company—who knows, it may be someday!

What a great Sunday! What made it great? A dedicated bunch who worked so hard for so long to make it happen. Thank you all. From the decorations to the videos of the graduates, you just did great so let's give them a hand as well.

We had a lot of visitors with us Sunday and they were treated to a powerful sermon by Jim Head. Three super points he gave us and the seniors: We must give our children or blessings, Never stop learning, and always develop your relationships. Thanks Jim.

WE NEED HEALTH FAIR VOLUNTEERS. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY. SEE YOU SUNDAY.

Deacons

 David Blevins,
 Education

Tim Nelson,
 Calls/Visitor/
 Greeters

Jim Head,
 Life Groups

George Miller

Allen Rogers,
 YAKS