

Pastor's Brief

"Hallowed be Thy name"

Volume IV, Number 2

March/ April 1991

Letter

From famine to fire

Dear Brethren,

Last Sunday night we looked at Elijah's life and recognized that he understood the time in which he was living and was able to admit that there was a famine. At the same time, when it was time for the fire to come he was ready to declare that. When there was famine, he said there was a famine. Until God was ready to move, Elijah wasn't ready to make anything up to keep the people entertained.

To a degree, we have been in a famine. There have been few real mighty moves of God in the history of LCF. However, we have learned the lessons of drinking at the brook and eating from the Ravens. We have also been forced to leave the brook when it dries up and go to the widow for help. And, like the widow, we are learning to give our last hope for life to the move of God.

We are not ready to call fire down from heaven. But somehow there is an imminence in our hearts that God is wanting to send His fire soon. It is time for us to pray seriously about God's desire to visit His people in a mighty way.

Several areas in the church seem to be experiencing an increasing flow of grace. The ministry on campus, the work in Mexico, the flow of the Spirit in worship and the general growth of the church seem like the first buds of late winter that could burst into full blossom in response to the warming weather.

Let's be "prayed" for the season that God is bringing us into.

Be sure to read through all the articles in this issue of the "Brief". I especially enjoyed the two testimonies written by students who attended the single's retreat (page 5).

Don't forget that we are considering relocating and that we may come up with a place pretty soon. If you happen to show up at the Sunday night meeting and no one is there, don't get to excited. Just look at the map we'll leave hanging on the side door for the first few weeks after we move. It will show you how to get there.

Please continue to pray for me and my family as we labor together to see the Kingdom of God established in our city.

Serving together,

Billy

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Pastor's Brief

This newsletter is produced for members and friends of LCF. It is intended to clarify the vision of this church, as well as encourage and instruct.

MISSIONS

Pray for:

Ayutla

May 13-21 Evangelistic outreach.
Pray for these people:

Lexington Christian Fellowship
Billy Henderson
Larry Williams
Chad Grissom
Joshua Huffman
Shannon Keith
Sharon Toth
Leta Hobdy
Kyra Fossett

Briensburg Christian Fellowship
Scott Wagner
Pat Bynum
Bryan Tubbs

Covenant Life in Kirksville
Patsy McConnell
Danica Griggs

Pray for:
Protection of team members
Anointing on the gospel
God's blessing in finishing the house
Finances to complete the house
The building of the body in Ayutla,
San Martin, and Tepango

Missionaries

Pray for:
Rosalba Basilio
Chris Lanier
Ben Trolese
Bob and Myra Trolese

Medical Missions

Pray for Kim Carroll and the six member medical team who will be in Ayutla May 26 through the first week in June.

Mexico

Delighting in the things of God

"Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart?"

When it comes to the mission outreach of LCF, this verse has a dual meaning. First, as we have delighted in God, He has placed a specific desire in our heart to reach out to another country. Having placed that desire in us, He has met that desire abundantly above all that we could hope or think.

First of all, He gave us Pedro Basilio as a friend. Secondly, He called Pedro to pioneer a church in Ayutla. Finally, He has allowed us to be a part of that work in so many wonderful ways.

As we pursue this desire, it is

apparent to us that God is calling us to more than just a few visits and a few notches on our belts. We see God opening doors for us to be involved in the health, economy, and social realm of this area as it relates to the spiritual Kingdom of God.

If what we are sensing is truly the call of God, the next few years will be one of the most rewarding periods of our lives. It is exciting to move ahead together in seeing this desire met. This page gives a short report of the possibilities that are before us.

Medical teams

The overwhelming sense of God

The joys of the first medical mission have already been shared on Sunday evening. The overwhelming sense of God's presence affirm this area of ministry more than ever.

In addition to examining nearly 1,200 people on this last trip, we distributed around \$3,000.00 worth of medicines, vitamins, and health aides. Just as important, we were able to get to know several local medical people and officials and begin relationships.

Also, the message went out that what Pedro represents is not just a religion, but a Kingdom that cares.

In the future

Believe it or not, Kim Carroll has already organized the next medical team to leave May 26.

Our goal is to have three or four general teams each year. The third team of the year is planned for Novem-

ber or December.

In addition to teams that deal with general health, we want to work in the area of nutrition, hygiene, optometry and dentistry. We also want to do some minor surgeries. Since returning from the trip, we have made initial contacts with both an optometrist and a surgeon who may be interested.

The local government has graciously opened their arms to facilitate our teams and provide help on their end.

Pedro feels the medical teams will be a good avenue to open up the gospel in many of the villages he has not yet visited.

How about you?

You may be interested in being a part of this medical outreach. If you are interested in working in the area of hygiene, nutrition, or one of the medical areas, contact Laura Feeney.

The economy

Seeking opportunity to help

When Paul Law returned to Zaire in 1986, the local villagers were selling their coffee beans through a middle man who took most of the profit. Wanting to serve the people, Paul helped them form a cooperative which eventually bought a barge and cut out the middle man. As a result, the villagers are now prosperous.

Paul's father had been an aviation missionary, working with medical missions in this same country. When a rebellion broke out, Mr. Law was martyred by the rebels. Paul returned to pick up establishing the Kingdom where his father left off.

Paul's involvement in the business affairs of the locals took him into villages and areas he would have never touched as a traditional missionary. His work demonstrated how the truth of the Kingdom could affect everyday life.

The area we are working with in

Mexico presents similar challenges and opportunities. The villagers among whom Pedro is working are primarily agricultural. Their economy is meager, and any help in development would be valuable.

In December, we looked at a coconut grove and banana plantation. We have also considered providing capital for a truck to haul their products to market. We are just familiarizing ourselves with the economy and hope to follow Paul's lead in the next couple of years.

Although this area is full of promise, it threatens with many pitfalls as well. We are seeking advice from others who have been involved in this sort of thing as well as blanketing it with prayer.

At any rate, developments in this arena should be exciting.

Evangelism

May trip to stress the gospel, three churches will be involved

Thirteen people from three churches will leave for Ayutla on May 13. Two women from the church in Kirksville, and three men from the church in Benton will join members of LCF in the trip.

This will be the most evangelistic trip we have planned for the area. Although most of the team will be involved in completing Pedro's house, we will spend the evening sharing with small groups we have invited to eat and fellowship with us.

Chad Grissom will be heading up a mime team who will present short dramas at each of the evening meetings. Living Parables, a full time mime troop, conducted a short workshop for the team on April 23rd to help train them for the trip.

Kyra Fosset is working with some of

the women on interpretive dances to help communicate the gospel to another language. They will also be sharing at the evening meetings.

In addition to the special ministries, team members will share testimonies and Pedro will give short presentations of the gospel.

We are also taking a few Bibles and some literature to pass out.

Hopefully, the house will be under roof by the time we arrive. If not, we will help finish the roof. We may be involved with pouring the floors and helping to move toward the finishing touches.

During this trip we will also be making arrangements with the President of Ayutla de los Libres, who will be spend a week with us in Lexington next year.

Building future mission workers Mexico

As our friendship deepens with the believers in Ayutla, many opportunities will come our way to get to know them better. This summer, Rosalba (Rosie) Basilio, Pedro's daughter will be coming to live with the Hendersons for part of the summer.

Rosie learned English while living in the US and we want to make sure she continues to develop the skill. At only ten years old, she is an invaluable companion to non-spanish speakers when we are in Ayutla. We believe that she will continue to grow in her ministry as US teams visit to help with their work in Mexico.

She will be in town for six weeks and will spend part of the time with John Meadows. Those of you who have children her age, make plans to include her in family activities through July and August.

Nicaragua

After Ayutla, Nicaragua is big on our list to be involved with. Most of you have heard of Bob and Myra Trolese from Verbo in Nicaragua.

This summer, we are sponsoring a tutor to go and help their oldest son, Ben, in Math. Ben has homeschooled his whole life in Nicaragua and is now in Algebra II.

We were blessed to find Chris Lanier (David Lanier's son) who graduates from high school this year, but also finishes his second semester of calculus at UK at the same time. He has agreed to go down for several days and work with Ben.

Begin praying now for Ben's education after high school. He graduates next year and might possibly want to attend a US university. We are praying about helping financially.

Like Rosie, Ben is an invaluable help to the American teams that go down to work with the spanish churches.

Singles break away to Faubush

Single's retreat

Living a directed lifestyle

This article was compiled by students from their notes of Mark's teaching.

While at the retreat in Faubush, the singles had the opportunity to hear the teaching of Mark Harrell. Often we Christians find ourselves doing "godly" things like attending church. Meanwhile, our spiritual man is suffering. Mark defined "me" (the spiritual man) as a quiet place where all is well. For that to be true, we must lead a directed lifestyle unto God.

Directing our time

The first and most important step to having a directed lifestyle is directing our time. Praying is the most important thing we can do with our time. Through prayer, we will have the joy of knowing God. He will reveal Himself to us and as

a result of seeing Him our paths will be directed. If we are not praying, it's probably because we not enjoying it, or because it is not directed.

Directing our purpose

The next aspect of our lifestyle to be directed is our purpose. The basic purpose of the children of God is to love Him and one another. But for a more specific vision of God's plan for us, we must hear from the Holy Spirit. Now we are back to the first point--prayer is essential to keeping in tune with God and the Holy Spirit.

Directing our attitude

The third step, a directed attitude, can only come if the first two steps, directed time and purpose, are fulfilled. Our hearts must be continually purified of unholy attitudes like pride and selfishness. If we don't direct our attitude, the world will. Our attitude as Christians

should be, "I owe the world," not "the world owes me."

Directing our work

Directed work is an area often neglected in Christian lives. "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord not for men," (Col. 3:23). This needs to be our heartbeat in the home, on the job site, or in school. Mark also warned us not to be busybodies. "For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies," (II Thes. 3:11).

Directing our emotions

Finally, in order to have a completely directed lifestyle, we need to direct our emotions. By keeping our eyes on Jesus, He will give us peace. We must learn patience in God. Don't try to make Him do anything. As the apostles on the storming sea, we need to base our faith and trust in Him.

These five areas of spiritual direction are intended to help us make the most of our short time here on earth.

Single's retreat

Enjoying friends, blob, and the Aurora Borealis

by Shannon Kieth

The travelers following the road to Faubush, Kentucky were filled with the hopes of a spirit-filled weekend of fellowship. The day was a perfect setting for worshipping the Lord. When we arrived at the Center, we settled into our rooms then went to hear Mark Harrell speak.

He spoke of relationships and their permanent results. Because the results are permanent they are, in an eternal sense, more important than the relationships themselves.

After hearing the Word and worshipping we went outside to play an exciting game of the "Blob." This game

reminded me of the verse in II Timothy 2:2, "And the things that thou has heard of me among many witnesses the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others." The two chasers represented Christians. As they catch others and grab hold of them they pass on the power to grab even more people.

The evening service gave us an opportunity to really praise the Lord. Mark gave his message about the need to direct our relationship with God and how we should go about this. It was very moving to see our friends show their desire to serve the Lord, as they responded to the word of prophecy. The

rest of the evening was spent in fellowship and fun. As I sat outside a group of us saw the light of Aurora Borealis. It was a special blessing to end a special night.

When Ron Schwartz shared with the singles he ended the retreat with a strong note of encouragement. We need to make the most of our time here on earth. Our days are short so we need to live each day to the fullest for the Lord.

As we traveled home we were able to share our personal experiences with each other. "For if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin."

Single's retreat

A turning point in my life

by Chad Grissom

The retreat in Somerset brought me to a real turning point in my relationship with the Lord.

For far too long I operated under the assumption that my first responsibility as a Christian was to live a "righteous" life. This idea probably caused me more turmoil than anything else in my walk. It led me to think that I myself could please God.

I began to be preoccupied with living righteously and in the meantime I was starving for God. I depended on myself and my abilities and not God's grace to overcome my problems. I was trying to

produce fruit while I was apart from the vine.

At the retreat I finally realized that all God wants is for me to develop my relationship with Him. It is vain for me to think that I can bring Him any glory when I am denying my true purpose of walking in communion with Him. I know that I must live my life from the inside out. Inwardly I must seek to know God, and the joy that I find in that will give me the earnest desire to bring Him glory.

My life must not be lived out of a sense of responsibility, but in the hope and joy of knowing and serving the king of Kings, Jesus Christ.

Single's retreat

The battle in the air

by Ryan Korosec

Spiritual warfare was something I only experimented with in prayer every once in a while. I believed in it, and at times relied on it, but I never knew the urgency and significance of it until I went on the singles retreat to Faubush. While in one of the meetings the young Christians were called to the middle of the room to be prayed for. Mark Harrell laid his hands on us and began to prophesy. Part of the prophecy stated that "if you fight the battle in the air you will win it on the ground," and again he stressed how "the battle is in the air."

This stirred something within me

and when we returned home I began to fight spiritual battles in my daily prayer time. This has developed into a clearer and more powerful vision for my purpose here on campus as well as a more fervent prayer life. I have begun to put things into a more spiritual perspective and this has helped me win victory in many areas of my life. I now have a deeper understanding of how the people around me are in bondage to Satan's power and that this power needs to be broken in prayer.

This realization has given me a more compassionate heart for the lost as well as opened a whole new area of my life and relationship with Jesus to grow in.

Pray for:

CTS '91

About a dozen people will be going through the school this summer. Those confirmed so far are Chrissy, Angela, Chad, Joshua, Ryan, Jessica, Shannon, Stephanie, Debbie, and Laura. Several others are trying to work out details to attend.

Pray that:

The students meet with God
Finances will be available
Teachers for the school
Those still making plans

Fall outreach to UK

Since the CTS will be building toward an outreach in the fall, we need to begin intercession and warfare now.

Pray for:

Incoming students
Anointing for the outreach
Wisdom in planning

The new singles

God is obviously doing something in bringing this new group of singles to the church with a desire to reach others.

We need to be faithful in praying that God's purpose would be guarded and fulfilled in their lives.

Retreat follow up

Many truths were imparted to the singles on the retreat. Those of you who heard these truths can pray that they would be worked into your life.

Pray:

That your life would be directed.

For eternal results from your relationships.

That the prophecy over your life would be sure.

Christian Training School

Students begin CTS in May

On Sunday, May 26, the 1991 Christian Training School will begin.

CTS is the program LCF runs as a discipleship training program. The theme of the school is "Knowing God".

Goals include helping Christians grow in their knowledge of God through disciplined lifestyle, teaching, and most

of all, an encounter with the Holy Spirit.

Almost half of the people in LCF have given a summer to this full time school and about a dozen will be involved this year.

Rather than take the end of the school trip to Mexico, CTS '91 will build toward an outreach at UK this fall.

"Hallowed be Thy name"

It is interesting to listen as people try to recite this line of the prayer using the appropriate inflection. Men often drop their voice about half an octave when pronouncing "Ha-low-id". Women sometimes say the same word using a sort of longing/reverent/religious kind of tenor. It's as though the way the word is said has something to do with whether His name is hallowed or not.

Well, how it is intoned has nothing to do with whether He is hallowed or not. To get at the root of what this portion of the prayer really means, we need to understand what the word hallowed means. At the same time, we must understand where God's name is represented in the earth today if we are going to hallow it.

Hallowed be

The word hallowed is translated from the same greek word as the one translated sanctified elsewhere in the New Testament. It comes from the word holy and means to make holy. Holy means set apart, pure or consecrated.

To be hallowed, then, means to be set apart, to be kept pure, or to cause to be hallowed.

As a boy growing up on the farm in West Kentucky, I had a great lesson in what hallowed means. Being young and enjoying a good day of play out in the field with my pony or dog presented the real possibility of me stepping in anything from mud to other stuff.

A "no shoes on the carpet" rule was instituted by my father to avoid the possible (probable) foot prints that would have been left by us kids. He had installed wall to wall carpet in part of the house and wanted to keep it free from "other stuff."

That's a pretty good picture of what hallowed means. When carpet is carpet it doesn't need to be mixed with mud. A person can then choose if he wants to walk on carpet or get out in the mud.

God is the same way. God is God and will not have any "other stuff" associated with Himself. That way people can see clearly the difference between God and other stuff.

It causes a problem when the things of the world are perceived to be a part of God. It makes it harder for people to see how much greater God is than the beggarly elements this world has to offer.

(Continued on next page)

The holiness of God

Psalms

2:6	...My holy hill of Zion...
5:7	...thy holy temple...
22:3	...Thou art holy...
24:3	...His holy place...
28:2	...thy holy oracle...
33:21	...His holy name...
47:8	...throne of His holiness...
51:11	...Thy Holy spirit...
89:20	...with My holy oil...
98:1	...His holy arm...
105:4 2	...His holy promise...
145:17	...holy in all His works...

Isaiah

27:13	...in the holy mount...
35:8	...the way of holiness...
52:10	...His holy arm...
57:15	...the high and holy place...
58:13	...My holy day...
62:15	...the holy people...

Jeremiah

25:30	...His holy habitation...
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Ezekial

22:8	...mine holy things...
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Romans

1:4	...the spirit of holiness...
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So, we pray, "God, make your name holy."

God is holy

We are not praying that God would become holy. Scripture very clearly teaches that He is holy.

As a matter of fact, everything associated with Him is called holy. Heaven is said to be holy, His sanctuary is said to be holy, His throne and scepter are holy, and even His ways are called holy. Some scriptures even declare that His name is already holy.

So our prayers will not change the holiness of God. What they can change is the view of God's holiness. Prayer changes the situations and people that represent God. Prayer changes people's attitudes toward God.

We are praying, "Lord, since you are holy, let your name, or reputation be holy as well."

Where is God's name?

If God is already Holy and we are asking that the view of His holiness be clear in the eyes of people, where is His name represented?

Acts 15:14,17 shows us at least one place where God's name has been placed: "Simon has described to us how God at first showed His concern by taking from the Gentiles a people for Himself...that the remnant of men may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who bear my name." (see also James 2:7) The elect Gentiles bear the name of God. Those who are born of God represent Him to the world. What the world sees in the redeemed, they project onto the name of God.

Just like General Motors is judged by whether their cars do well or not, God is judged by where He places His name. It is amazing that He would entrust His name to anyone other than His own Son. But fortunately He has.

But in trusting us with His name, He has called us to represent Him properly. "And, let every one who nameth the name of Christ, depart from iniquity." II Timothy 2:19b

When we pray that God's name would be hallowed we are asking for many things to change. But one thing we can be sure we are praying is that His people where He has placed His name would live in such a way as to bring glory to Him.

So we pray, "Father, make us who bear your name holy."

It is funny to listen as people try to make God's name more holy merely by the way they say the name.

The real intent of Jesus in teaching us to pray that God's name would be hallowed was that the things which bear His name in the earth would conform to His character. Specifically, that includes His people.

So we pray, "God, make your name holy. Lord, since you are holy, let your name or reputation be holy as well. Father, make us who bear your name, holy."

A prayer for holiness

Holy, Holy, Holy are you O God. Father, you alone are holy in the earth. You alone dwell in holiness.

Your holy throne is in your holy temple on your holy mountain. The road to your dwelling place is the way of holiness. All of your things are called holy. Your oil and oracles are holy. Your word and your promise are holy. All about your person from your holy arm to your holy name is holy.

Your very Spirit is called holy.

In the same way, your people and your church are called holy and peculiar. We ask that those vehicles which have taken your name would truly become set apart. We ask that all that is contrary to your nature and character would be purged from us, the body of Christ. Help us O God, to yield to the grace that would make us vessels of honor to your name.

Holy one of Israel, we desire that your name would once again be honored in your people and that all the earth would be filled with your glory.

Amen

I think I need professional help

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called WONDERFUL COUNSELLOR, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

In our generation, more than any other, the idea of the professional counselor has gained notoriety. If we, as Christians, are going to understand what true counseling is all about, we must understand how He, The Wonderful Counsellor, Jesus Christ intended counseling to take place.

The word translated counsel in the Old Testament means to give counsel, deliberate, purpose, or determine. The first appearance of this word, according to Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament, "...is in Ex 18:19. Jethro, seeing the tremendous burden of Moses, says, 'I shall give you 'counsel,' and God be with you.'" He then gives him an organizational plan and advises him how to carry out the administrative responsibilities for ruling and judging his people. Jethro gives him counsel from wisdom attained by age and/or experience."

Counsel, then, means to give a person advice based on an understanding of the situation.

Wonderful Counsellor

Who would be better to give counsel on every situation than the "Wonderful Counsellor", Jesus Christ? If we need advice from someone who has an understanding of the situation, a quick look at David's view of the counsel of God is in order. "The Lord nullifies the counsel of the nations; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. the 'counsel' of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart

from generation to generation." (Psalm 33:10f)

The reason God's counsel stands is because it is based in perfect knowledge and character. "Remember the former things long past, for I am God, and there is no other; declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, 'My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all my good pleasure'...Truly I have spoken; truly, I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, surely I will do it:" (Isaiah 46:9-11)

Who speaks for God?

Hearing God's counsel is based first in the infallible Bible, the Holy Spirit, and His sovereign providence (divinely causing circumstances to give us guidance). In addition man's duty to think is also a tool from which we can hear from God.

But added to these instruments of God's counsel is the human voice.

It is not wrong to seek out counsel from others. The Bible plainly states that the fool alone will not hear counsel and that in the multitude of counselors you will find wisdom. But there is also the caution to not take counsel from the wrong people.

So how do we choose who speaks

for God into our lives?

First of all, we must realize that good counsel must come from those who have their own lives based in receiving God's counsel. That would mean someone who has a high regard for the Bible, is a person of prayer, is rational, and is also willing to hear counsel from others. This would be proven out by the way he lives his life.

Just as importantly, we must realize that God chooses our best counselors and puts them into our everyday lives. Counsel, or advice, is a major building block of the body of Christ. It is through giving and receiving encouragement and correction from one another that we are "knit together".

In addition to the daily involvement with our friends in the body, there are certain people who have

Hearing God's counsel is based first in the infallible Bible, the Holy Spirit, and His sovereign providence

been placed in our lives that God has always intended to use as counselors. Those people include: husbands, wives, parents, bosses and pastors.

Interestingly enough, this next level has a high level of involvement with our day to day lives.

These groups of people should form our first levels of counseling. There are times when other counselors are needed. There will always be special areas where someone with a broader base of knowledge is able to give better advice. But that next level of advice should only come in conjunction with and as an extension of the advice of those who live their lives out with us daily.

Freaking out

For some reason, most people come to a point sometime in their lives when they think, "I need professional help." Since the idea of the "professional counselor" is so idolized in our culture, the first thought is to look through the yellow pages.

Unfortunately, people often come to this point without the foundation of open relationships with their friends, spouses, and pastors. As a result, it's a quick look through the yellow pages, or the word of someone, who knows someone, who knows someone.

Because they are "freaking out", they never think to reach out to the people who could help them the most, and often end up in the office of someone who does more harm than good.

You would expect the figures which reveal the number of secular counselors that sleep with their patients (1 in 20), but the occurrence of adultery and fornication in the "Christian" counseling profession is alarming.

From my limited experience with those launching out for "professional help", I have seen it lead people to counselors who have spoken against the church, counselors who have tried to seduce them, and a lot of just plain bad advice.

In every case, these situations could have been avoided if they had simply walked through the situation

with their friends and church leadership.

It would have been avoided first, because people who are moving in open and honest relationships can usually deal with problems on the level of friends and possibly pastoral care.

In the event that someone needs counsel that is beyond the ability of church leadership, the pastor can identify the safe and knowledgeable counselor that will be not only

safe, but also of the most eternal help.

First and foremost, Jesus Christ, the Wonderful Counsellor should be the one we turn to in our time of need. Secondly, He has ordained the body of Christ and church leadership to be involved in our lives to share His counsel with us. Finally, if the leadership of the church agrees that we need a counselor of greater scope, the yellow pages is not the answer. Ask for advice on who you should go to for advice.

Counseling through LCF

The body of Christ can help

The counseling ministry of Lexington Christian Fellowship is continually growing. As each member grows in experience and the Word, he or she is better equipped to share advice with others on the issues of life.

Our avenue for helping in situations where counsel is needed is very simple.

First, we find if the individual in need is developing a strong network of friends and healthy relationships. We have found that many people with chronic problems have poor relationships. Even if they have several friends, the relationships may be mutually damaging.

If, together with friends, an individual cannot seem to find the will or help of God in the situation, they are encouraged to seek out the advice of their home fellowship leader.

We presently have three men who are serving as home fellowship leaders. They are Larry Williams, Gregg Greer, and Jimmy Leitsch. These are men of proven character who are aware of their own limitations and are ready to help as much as they can.

If these men are unable to help find Biblical and spiritual solutions, they suggest that you talk with Billy Henderson, the pastor.

Billy has been involved with giving Biblical advice for many years in the role of pastor. His approach is not as a clinical counselor, but as a pastoral counselor. That means he gathers information through his relationship to the person, and then finds Biblical answers.

Billy has several other counselors outside the body he is able to use in helping to find solutions to problems. In the event a particular situation is beyond his ability to help he will suggest you see one of these men he personally uses for advice.

The pattern is very simple:

1. Have strong friendships and listen to their counsel.
2. If you need more help, talk to your home fellowship leader.
3. The next step would be to see Billy.
4. Finally, LCF would suggest making an appointment with one of several other pastors/counselors we could trust.

We have had great success in helping one another find God's grace for freedom from many of the bondages rampant in our society today.

As with every other area in the church, counseling is based in prayer and the Word of God.

Pray for:

NEW MEETING PLACE-We are currently looking at property at 350 Elaine Drive to rent as a meeting facility. Please make this a matter of prayer.

Sarah Olliges- the doctors are anticipating another open heart surgery.

Babies due-

Kelly Henderson

Mary Jo Schwartz

Elizabeth Williams

Lee Olliges

Guille Basilio (Pedro's wife)

Rob Scales-Rob is graduating and will be looking for a job.

Billy, Brenda and the kids

Your home fellowship leader

The coming primary elections

Robert Hartley-Robert has

moved back to Louisville recently.

Christian Fellowship of Columbia- The church in Columbia has been a special blessing to us and we want to support them in prayer.

We are especially praying for Joe Tosini and the rest of the elders in these days.

We will often fast a day for our own church. Please consider doing the same for the leadership in Columbia.

Missions-see pages 2-3

Campus- see pages 4-5

Sunday School Teachers-While Jimmy is gone, Kelly Henderson is working to coordinate the Sunday School. Remember the teachers and students as we work to impart the word and Spirit of God to them at this young age.



Worship briefs

His praise shall be in my mouth

"I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together."
Psalm 34:1-3

If you have your last issue of the Brief around, go back and read the article with this same title. I shared about the word praise, which means to be sincerely thankful.

I also mentioned that I couldn't remember hearing a lot of sincere praise coming out of people's mouths. I don't know if the article helped others remember to praise or if it just tuned me in to hear what people were already saying.

In my conversations over the month I heard people expressing sincere thanks for many things.

Over and over, Bill, Laura, Kyra and Kim have expressed their joy in being a part of what God is doing in Mexico.

Kelly Henderson was talking at a small gathering and shared her heartfelt gratitude for the friendships she was making in the church. Her husband, Brent, mentioned at another time how glad he was that God was opening up some opportunities for him to share the gospel with others.

Several who have started new jobs are expressing their thanks to the Lord.

In similar conversations with Mary Jo Schwartz and Elizabeth Williams, both shared how happy they were to be a part of what God is doing in making them a part of the church.

Larry and Elizabeth are so thankful for their new house, Shannon, Beth and Jessica are thankful for Brenda, Brud McGuire loves home fellowship meetings, Earl Rayford really enjoys the time the men get to spend together on Saturdays, Karen Toth loves the things the Lord is doing in her life, Leta is blessed by all the people who helped celebrate her father's birthday...

...and I am glad that we as a church can truly say, "His praise shall continually be in my mouth."



A Touch of Grace

Flowers and gifts for any occasion.

NEW NUMBER (800) 264-1832

Any time you need to send flowers, remember Kyra at A Touch of Grace. She is always able to help in making decisions and always delivers with a blessing -- Billy

Fellowship briefs...

Con"graduations"!

We have several students who will be graduating this spring and summer.

Rob Scales graduates with his second degree, Accounting.

Angela Banchieri graduates with a degree in social work and will begin work on her masters in the fall.

Kelly Henderson will finish her masters in education.

Praise the Lord for these folks and their hard work and congratulations to them all.

Billy's birthday party is a total surprise

Dear friends,

I wanted to write a note in this month's letter to thank all of you for my surprise birthday party in the student center.

I can truly say that it was the biggest surprise party I have ever had. When Jimmy stood up and interrupted my teaching "because I was going too long," I thought, "Oh well, that's Jimmy."

Somebody needs to write Robert and get the recipe for that cake. It was fabulous.

Brenda and I enjoyed the gift certificates to L&N Seafood while Cheryl watched the kids. And, I can't believe you all pitched in to replace the camcorder. All I can say is thanks.

I also want to thank you for all the nice things you shared on that evening.

I only wish other men had as wonderful a bunch of friends as me...I am humbled.

Thanks,
Billy

Jimmy's in Atlanta drop a line or give a call

On Sunday night we had a going away party for Jimmy Leitsch. He will be in Atlanta, Ga. for the next two months training for his new job.

While in Atlanta, Jimmy will be plugging into the church where Bishop Earl Paulk is the pastor.

We want to remember Jimmy in prayer over these next two months and keep in touch with him. You can write him in care of:

Summerfield Suites Hotel
Room 1913
760 Mt. Vernon Hwy. NE
Atlanta, GA 30328

Phone:
(404) 250-0110 Ext. 1913

New meeting place is a real possibility

We are continuing to negotiate for a space to rent for the church.

At present we are negotiating with the owners of the old Berean

bookstore space.

This would be a good location for the church and is about 4,500 square feet.

If this property works out, we could be in it by the middle of May or the first of June.

There would be some remodeling to be done in order to upgrade the building. Some walls need to go in, and all the walls need painting.

Get your working clothes on!

LCF children attend science fair

Four students from LCF represented their schools at the county science fair. Keren Henderson, Matthew Henderson, and Eric Schwartz all received Blue Ribbons for their exhibits. (Exhibits received a red or blue ribbon. Blue ribbons were awarded to the exhibits which scored higher than others but did not receive the first prize.)

Ryan Schwartz' exhibit, "Soggy Soil", was the outstanding 4th grade exhibit in the county. It went on to place third in the state in the 4th-6th grade earth and space sciences division.

We are thankful for all our little Einsteins and hope they will go on to discover great truths about God's creation.

Welcome
Claude Ellis Hammond III
Born April 20

We are glad that you arrived and that your mommy is doing well.
We miss you at church but are sure that as soon as your mommy and daddy learn to deal with the sleepless nights we will see you.
Congratulations and blessings to Claude II and Nancy.

Fellowship briefs...

LCF members obtaining new jobs

"Let him that stole, steal no more: but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth." Ephesians 4:28

With every exhortation from the word of God comes the grace to fulfill the call. None of us have been stealing but all of us at LCF want to be able to labor with our hands so that we can give to those who have a need.

God's grace has been especially apparent in the new job situations that have occurred over the past month.

Curt Eiden has been working for his company less than a year. Three weeks ago he got a new job with the company that provided better hours, a significant raise, and added benefits including an automobile (Could it be

that the Lord decided to quit doing daily miracles to keep Curt's car running and just did one big miracle?)

Steve Mazza has recently started with National Foundation Life. If you're interested in health insurance give him a call.

Many of you are aware of Barkley's automotive repair business. The Lord brought a special blessing into his life by providing a buyer for the business. Not only was he able to sell his business, he was hired by the buyer to continue running the shop.

John LeMaster has been looking for a new position as an Electrical Engineer over the last few months. He recently accepted a job with a new company in Berea that has a much greater potential than his last job.

And, lo and behold Jimmy has just landed a new job as well. He is presently in Atlanta training for his position with the Social Security office in Lexington.

Thank you Lord, for our jobs.

The top in the state?

Yea, the top in the state.

Students from Lexington Christian Fellowship have recently won state and county honors in the Courier Journal sponsored Young Authors Contest.

Aaron scales wrote the book which won the state contest in the kindergarten category. Eric Schwartz took the first place in the Fayette County first grade division. Matthew Henderson took first place for third grade in the county as well.

The contest is a book writing contest open to all public, private and home schools. Each child writes their own story, illustrates it, and then binds it. The book is then entered in the local school contest. The winners go to county and from there to state.

Several other children from the church entered the contest and wrote fabulous books.

We are proud of all those who participated and are thankful that we were able to represent the Kingdom of God so well.

By the way, if you get a chance to share these books with your own children, it would be well worth your time.

LCF LEXINGTON CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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Lexington, KY 40503