

Ladies Banquet

April 8th at 6:30

The men will be cooking and serving
a wonderful meal.

So please invite your friends and
come enjoy a night for

YOU!

WESTPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

WESTPORT WITNESS

www.westportchristianchurch.com

April, 2005

Mike's Message...

For the next few articles I would like to focus on the subject of worship. I feel that there are many today that don't understand worship. Many, if asked what worship is, would say many things such as going to church, singing, meeting with others, etc. This month I would like for us to start right from the beginning: 'what is worship?'

In "Webster's Dictionary" the definition is, 1. The feeling of reverence and adoration for God. 2. Religious rites and ceremonies. From the "Nelson's Bible Dictionary" we read, Reverent devotion and allegiance pledged to God; the rituals or ceremonies by which this reverence is expressed.

The New Testament idea of worship is a combination of the reverential attitude of the mind and body, the general ceremonial and religious service of God, the feeling of awe, veneration, adoration; with the outward and ceremonial aspects approaching, but not reaching, the vanishing point.

"The total idea of worship, however, both in the Old Testament and the New Testament, must be built up, not from the words specifically so translated, but also, and chiefly, from the whole body of description of worshipful feeling and action, whether individuals singly and privately, or of larger bodies engaged in the public services of sanctuary, tabernacle, temple, synagogue, upper room or meeting-place." (From International Standard Bible Encyclopedia)

The Greek word the is used is proskuneeson which means to bow down with one's face to the ground, to fall down prostrate. Homage rendered to God and the ascended Christ.

The English word worship comes from the Old English word worthship. This word denotes the worthiness of the one receiving the special honor or devotion.

As I hope you can tell, it is more than some kind of motion or means. It is more than just coming together to sing songs. It's more than raising an hand during a song or prayer. Worship has to do with the attitude of the heart. Until next time, think about YOUR worship!

What Ron thinks.

Rick Therman was a well liked man. He married after he had earned his M.D. and PhD. He graduated in 1923 and immediately started his practice in Ohio. He discovered the cure for hiccups and many other cures for the human diseases. He was active in the church and volunteered for many community charity functions. He was a Boy Scout leader for 25 years. Rick gave many dollars to his church. He never cursed or told off-colored jokes. There was never any gossip about him and he never gossiped to others. His wife and 3 children loved him greatly. He was a great wonderful man.

But Rick never gave his life totally to Jesus Christ. He lived a good life, but he never told anyone of Jesus. He was never baptized because he had not given himself over to Jesus. Was being good enough? Isn't living a good example of clean living enough? Was being at church every Sunday enough? Isn't being a wonderful husband and good father enough? What do you think? What does the Bible say?

I don't know if Ron is a wonderful husband. I don't know if I am a good father. I haven't done the good things that Rick did. I have not saved any lives as Rick had. I haven't had the money to give to charity like Rick. (I could have if I had made better choices when I was young and made more money.) I have given my life to Jesus and have been baptized. So, I am much better than Rick or am I? How much time do I give for the Lord's work? How much do I witness for the Lord? How much prayer life do I have? I am starting to sweat. I just don't feel so comfortable any more and I think I have major changes to make.

But let's not compare oneself to others. Put your name in place of Rick's or Ron's and ask yourself some questions. Have you given your life to Jesus? Do you follow the instructions of the scriptures? Have you quit comparing yourself to others and are you focusing on yourself? You and I are going to die like Rick. Are we ready to meet the Lord? Mike preached on "faith without works is dead" a couple weeks ago. I am not sure a deathbed confession is something we had better count on.. WE had better get our ducks in a row now. Or rather our life in order.

Thanks for listening.

Ron

Calling all Youth!

As I write this article, it is Monday evening following the lock-in and I have just about recovered. I would like to thank everyone for the help and donations that were given, wether monetary, in food , or time given. Donni put us all to shame on being able to stay up and we stand in awe of her. Now to the members of the Youth Group who said they were interested in going to CIY, remember this will be a commitment. We will have weekly Bible Studies that we will be doing, Bible memory, Community Service, and Fund raisers, and a commitment to the Youth group and it's functions. Wow, this sounds like this might not be so easy. It won't be, II Timothy 2:15 says "Study to show thyself approved unto God" and that is what we will be doing "becoming workmen". That is what we will be doing "studying , studying, studying." As to those who will not be going with us if you want to jump on the Band Wagon and be part of our "study" group let me know, the more the merrier. Okay, on to this months Bible Question, everyone hopefully knows the rules by now. I know that this as I write this it is still Spring Break but this question refers to School, " Where do we read a story in the Bible a story about a school and school boys" first one with the answer on April 3rd after Sunday School wins.

Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 1:18 NIV

Two men were walking through a field one day when they spotted an enraged bull. Instantly they darted toward the nearest fence. The storming bull followed in hot pursuit, and it was soon apparent they wouldn't make it. Terrified, the one shouted to the other, "Put up a prayer, Scot. We're in for it!"

Scot answered, "I can't. I've never made a public prayer in my life." "Try something!" yelled his companion. "The bull is catching up to us." "All right," panted Scot, "I remember one my Daddy said before meals: "O Lord, for what we are about to receive, make us truly thankful."

Are the horns of a dilemma catching up to you? Are you staying one step ahead of trouble? Then thank the Lord! The simple secret to a victorious life is to praise Jesus in all circumstances.

Thanksgiving is a powerful spiritual discipline that acknowledges that God is control of all situations. It opens the door of faith for Him to walk into your problems.

Your only safety comes from loving, trusting, and praising God in all circumstances.

Ladies for the Lord,

Little ones grow up--fast! Watch as they gain an inch then another. If you take your eyes off them for a moment, they sprout up a foot!

Are we God's little ones? Are we growing fast? Sometimes, when I look at myself, I'm not sure I've grown at all! Is my life more Christ-like-my attitude-my goals-my priorities? If not, then I need to let the Holy Spirit do His work and make me more like Jesus.

Lots of things are coming up, ladies ask a guest to join you on April the 8th for the women's banquet. The fellows are planning a wonderful night for us. (Thanks, guys!)

Ladies Retreat is April 29th -30th . We always enjoy the time away.

Please gather your favorite recipes and get them to Carolyn, Norma and Peggy. We need lots of recipes!!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Pray that I may proclaim it (the gospel) clearly as I should. Colossians 4:4 NIV

A preacher was traveling to Versailles, Indiana to lead special meetings at a church. As he pulled into town, he struggled with how to properly pronounce the name of this small town. Not wanting to embarrass himself, he stopped at the first business on the main road and approached the man at the counter. "Could you help me, sir?" the preacher inquired. "Please say the name of this place slowly and clearly." The man stared strangely at the preacher and deliberately said, "Dun-kin Do-nuts!"

Are your friends and acquaintances not responding to your witness? Maybe you need to spell things out clearly. Making hints about God and living a consistent life are important, but sometimes they are not enough. Be bold. Take some time to sit down and spell things out
Know Him? Then let Him be known! (Unknown)

UP COMING EVENTS

5th Women's meeting At Donni's	7:00
8th Ladies Banquet	6:30
9th Elders meeting	7:00 AM
10th ALL church Pitch-In	
14th Board Meeting	6:00
16th God's men breakfast	7:30



Westport Christian Church
 Biblical Ed class 9:30
 Worship 10:30
 Sunday night & Youth Group 6:00
 Wednesday night 7:00

April 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Good News Club Prayer Breakfast 9:00
3 Family Sunday No Wee-worship	4	5	6 Bible Study 7:00	7	8 Ladies Banquet 6:30	9
10 Special Sunday School guest Deborah Bryd ALL Church Pitch-In	11 Hour of POWER 7:00 PM	12	13 Bible Study 7:00	14 Board Meeting 6:00	15	16 God's Men breakfast 7:30
17	18	19	20 Bible Study 7:00	21	22	23
24 Morning Breeze 2:30	25	26	27 Bible Study 7:00	28	29	30

<p><u>BIRTHDAYS</u> 5th John Combs 13th Tyler Catron 24th Jenny Hardebeck Debbie Glover 25th Bill Peele 29th Danny Sebastian</p> <p><u>ANNIVERSAIRES</u> 17TH Jason & Holy Peele</p>
