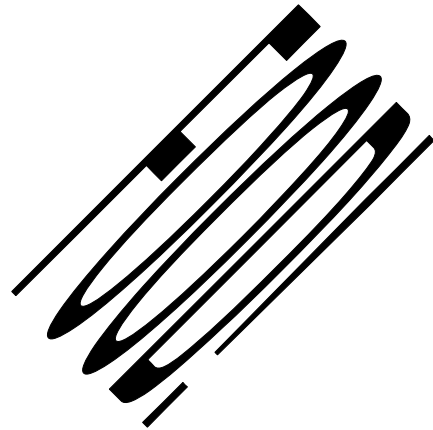


# FUN!



## VBS

July 8 thru 13



# Learning About Jesus!

WESTPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## WESTPORT WITNESS

[www.westportchristianchurch.com](http://www.westportchristianchurch.com)

July, 2007

### Mike's Message...

Have you ever heard of the old saying, "it may do more harm than good?" Well, with this dry weather that we have had, sometimes working the garden does more harm than good. You take the risk of removing some much need moister that the plants need to grow. Okay, some of you may have no concern for the health of my garden so let me get to the point of this article.

In Matthew chapter 13, Jesus tells a parable about some wheat. It goes something like this: A farmer plants some wheat and in the middle of the night, his enemy comes along and sows some weeds. They both sprouted up together and begin to grow. It was hard to tell at first the difference between these two so they grew side by side. Some helpers soon discovered the weeds and ask the farmer if he wanted them to pull up the weeds. To their surprise, the farmer said no. He told them, pulling up the weeds would cause damage to the wheat. The farmer told them to wait until the harvest then the wheat and weeds would be separated.

You see, while the plants are growing it is really difficult to time tell them apart. Sometimes we must wait and see what they are going to produce. Here is an illustration.

<sup>1</sup>Leighton Ford, who is the brother-in-law to Billy Graham tells this story. Billy Graham had been working on a book while on a vacation in Mexico. He booked a flight that only had three remaining seat. The rest belonged to a tour group. Wanting to fit in and not be pointed out, Billy dressed casually wearing a hat and sunglasses.

As soon as the plane was in the air, the reveling began. The liquor flowed heavily and men begin flirting shamelessly with other men's wives. One middle-aged woman got up and started doing a striptease. "Take it off," they yelled. Billy was mortified as he slumped down in his seat.

*Continued inside. . .*

*Mike's Message continued...*

Billy was mortified as he slumped down in his seat. About that same time Billy felt the eyes of a stewardess studying him. She ran and told the captain who got on the intercom and announced, "LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, DO I HAVE A SURPRISE FOR YOU!"

Billy went on to say that after the announcement, the men that had been flirting with other men's wives came up and said, "Oh Rev. Graham, we listen to you preach all the time." The woman that had been doing the striptease came up and tried to kiss Billy. She gushed, "I want you to know that I love you and your work. And I teach Sunday School every Sunday at my church." Billy thought about this and the parable of the wheat and tares came to his mind.

Sometimes our witness does more harm than good. Sometimes we want to make people think that we are doing what we should be. We work hard at pointing out everyone else's mistakes instead of looking at self. So many times we want to think that we have done all the magic things that we can do to get to heaven and, if the other person hasn't, then that person is wrong. We often want to criticize someone's child, instead of focusing on what we are teaching or not teaching our own children. Speaking of children, no wonder they are so mixed up. They see their parents going to church on Sunday acting like they are doing right, only to see their parents behave in a total different way at home when no one is around.

You see, it's not the way a person dresses, talks, gives, or even prays that makes them wheat, it is what they produce when no one is around! In order to produce fruit for the Kingdom, we must have our roots deep into the things of God!

Until next time, keep soaking up the water of life!

Mike

1 The Restoration Herald, "From the Parsonage" by Connie Snyder. Feb. 2007

Ladies,  
GOD CAN USE YOU.

Ask him what he wants you to do and where you can help. What is your ministry-- your place to serve God?

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner-- July 8th through the 13th! "God uses those who WANT TO BE USEFUL." Are you too busy to help? Yes? That may be true for you. People today are very busy and you may have to adjust your priorities. People seem to find time for those things that are truly important to them. You might even need to sacrifice to work in the job you think God wants you to do. If this is you -- remember, God will reward you. You cannot outgive God!

What is needed for VBS?

PRAYER-- VBS needs Christians praying for God's blessing, for the children who will be there, the teachers, and the leaders.

Donations-- Can you give time to help get things ready? Can you give a little extra money to help buy supplies?

Encouragement-- Can you let Ronda, Jill, and other VBS workers know how important their work is?

Volunteers-- Will you be available for VBS week to invite kids, bring kids, perform a job each night, help decorate or help clean up?

Vacation Bible School is an outreach arm of OUR CHURCH that reaches an important group-- the children of our community! Be sure to be a part of it in some way.

Remember Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Let's allow God to use us to touch a life for Him...

Thank you to all those who have been a part of this work already-- keep praying! We want this year's VBS to touch many children for Jesus.

See you this Sunday!

### Up Coming Events At A Glance

8th Ministry Outreach	Skybird Manor	3:00
15th ALL Church Pitch-In	following worship	
16th Elder/Deacon		7:00
17th Board Meeting		7:00
22nd Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze		2:30
29th Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze		2:30



## CALLING ALL YOUTH

Camp and VBS!! Two great times we can spend during summer.

Those of you who have been to camp when I was there, know that one of the things that we do is to memorize Scripture. Now, when I talk about memorizing Scripture, I usually hear two things. First, why and the second is I can't remember.

Why is it important to memorize Scripture? Why is it important to remember anything? Why is it important for you to memorize the alphabet? Why is it important to remember the address of where you live? Why is it important to remember your phone number or social security number?

It's important to remember those things because they are important in our daily life. So is remembering Scripture. Remembering Scripture is important for our spiritual health and growth. Memorizing Scripture will help us not to sin—it will help us to make wise decisions for every part of our life—from how to save and spend our money to choosing our mate for life.

So what about the second part, I can't remember... First of all, it is amazing to me how many people can remember every word to a song, but say they can't remember Scripture. It also amazes me some of the worthless things that we can remember, yet we say we can't remember God's Word. Telling me you can't memorize Scripture is like telling me you can't drink water. Both are a choice that we make. We can choose to drink something that helps replenish the fluids in our bodies or we can choose not to.

God has given all of us the gift to memorize His Word. Sure, it may take some work, but I will tell you—it is sure worth it!

Later

## From The Kitchen

### Grandmother's Pretzel Salad

1 stick margarine

1 cup pretzels, crushed

1/3 cup sugar

1 pkg (8 oz) cream cheese

1 pkg (8 oz) cool whip

1/2 cup sugar

1 can (20 oz) crushed pineapple—drained

Melt margarine in pan: stir in pretzels and 1/3 cup of sugar. Bake in oven at 400 for 7 minutes. Stir pretzels after removing from oven.

Use a 9x13 pan. Mix cream cheese and sugar together. Fold in cool whip and add crushed pineapple. Pour this over pretzels and put in refrigerator.

Enjoy!!

Westport Christian Church

Biblical Ed class 9:30

Worship 10:30

Sunday night & Youth Group 6:00

Wednesday night 7:00

# July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Family Sunday No Wee-Worship	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Ministry Outreach Skybird Manor 3:00	9	10	11	12	13	14
VBS 6:30-8:30						
15 All Church Pitch-In	16 Elder/Deacon 7:00	17 Board Meeting 7:00	18 Bible Study 7:00	19	20	21
Mike on Vacation						
22 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30	23	24	25 Bible Study 7:00	26	27	28
Mike on vacation						
29 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30	30	31				

<b>Birthdays</b> 19th Alex Garris 20th Pat Black 29th Carolyn Blanton
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