

WESTPORT WITNESS

www.westportchristianchurch.com

March, 2010

Wednesday Supper & Study

Our supper is at 6:15 with Bible study
beginning at 7:00.

We are currently studying the book of
Romans.

Revival *IS* Coming

March 7-10

Start praying NOW that God will stir us
on for Him!

Mike's Message... A revival is coming--a revival is coming!

This month we will hold our spring revival meeting. A revival is for the **church**! According to the Oxford Dictionary, the word revival means 1) an improvement in the condition, strength, or popularity of something. 2) a reawakening of religious fervor brought about by evangelistic meetings.

As I already stated, a revival is for the church. Why do we need a revival? Allow me to state a few reasons:

- As creatures of habit, we often go through a routine just to go through the routine. There are very little variations from week to week and the service is much the same so we could easily fall into simply going through the motions.
- Another reason is complacency. Again, this can come about just because one goes through the motions without any thought or emotion. To be complacent means to become satisfied with the way things are or with what one has become. At one time, Jerusalem was a great and wonderful city known as the city where God dwelled. After Babylon had destroyed the city and torn down the walls, the people became complacent. God sent Nehemiah to rebuild the walls and lead the people to a revival.
- We can also lose focus of our purpose and mission. Our purpose is to worship and honor God. Our mission is to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now, there are other reasons why the church needs a revival, but I think you understand where I am coming from. However, a series of revival meetings doesn't by itself bring about a revival. The meetings are designed to bring about excitement, enthusiasm and a refocus, but it is up to us to see that a true revival breaks out. *Continued inside. . .*

Mike's Message continued. . . In every revival that I have read and studied in the Bible, it was brought about by God's word. After many years through several bad kings, God placed a young man named Josiah on the throne. When Hilkiah, the high priest, found the book of the law which had been hidden, it was read out loud to the people which led to a revival in the holy city. After the walls had been built under the leadership of Nehemiah, Ezra stood before the people and, beginning early in the morning, read aloud the word of the Lord, thus ushering in a revival.

There is another important ingredient: the people's desire to return back to a solid position in their walk with the Lord. It is so important that each of us examine our walk with the Lord daily. Jesus said that we must take up our cross daily and follow Him. It must be a daily discipline and desire to draw closer to our Lord.

The third ingredient is prayer. Prayer realigns our will with God's will. We often ask God for the things we desire, but very seldom do we pray that His desire be our will.

Will you join with me in reading God's word, examining our life to remain steadfast to Him and praying that God would move among us like He never has before?

Will you join me in saying, "Lord, may these series of meetings lead to a revival and may it start with ME?!"

Growing together,

Mike

Better with age?

A little girl climbed into the lap of her grandfather and studied his white and balding head. She ran her fingers along the deep wrinkles road-mapping his face and neck.

"Did God make you?" she asked.

"Yes."

"Did God make me, too?" she wondered.

"Yes," he replied.

"Well," she shrugged, "don't you think he's doing a better job now than he used to?"



—Steve Goodier

"The Holy Spirit"

Part 2

Last month we discovered what the Holy Spirit was: A helper like Christ who was sent to be with us in Jesus absence until He returns again to take us home. This week we will talk specifically about the actual work of the Holy Spirit in each of our lives as Christians. The ultimate purpose of the Holy Spirit is to stimulate and strengthen our will for obedience and service to God.

In the early Church the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was used to convey the supernatural gifts until the complete revelation of God's word was given to us. (1 Corinthians 12) In our church today the power of the Holy Spirit is underestimated in many ways. Although the supernatural gifts no longer are a part of the church today, the Holy Spirit is still very active in the work of the church. The Holy Spirit has a role in the lives of individuals in every phase unto salvation.

Before a person becomes a Christian and apart of the body of Christ; the Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin. (John 16:8) The word of God when presented to us can empower us through the Holy Spirit as Paul states in Romans 1:16. The word works on our hearts through the Holy Spirit to convict us of our sins to a realization that we are sinners and are in need of a savior.

During our conversion process, the Holy Spirit is also at work. Once we realize that we are sinners and we repent of our sins, we then are taken to the waters of baptism where the Holy Spirit regenerates us. We read in Titus 3:5 this very fact: "He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,..."

After our conversion, according to Acts 2:38 we receive the indwelling of the Holy Spirit as predicted in Ezekial 36:27 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances." Jesus called the Holy Spirit our Comforter. We have Salvation through Christ Jesus and it is indeed comforting to know that we have a helper to guide us through our Christian walk to help us maintain our relationship with God until Jesus returns.

The Holy Spirit also intercedes for us when we pray. (Romans 8:26) We are to be humble servants of God and could never be able to truly know how to pray to God. The Holy Spirit intercedes for us and takes our prayers before God. The Holy Spirit truly is God's omnipresence within us. We are his chosen people and He has given us everything we need to come to Him. The Holy Spirit brings about a complete picture of God to us as Christians. We are completely fulfilled in Christ Jesus!!

God Bless

John

Sunday morning Biblical Education Classes 9:30 Worship 10:30
 Sunday night 6:00
 Wednesday night Biblical Ed Classes 7:00
 Jr/Sr High Youth Sunday night at 6:00 Wednesday at 7:00
 Junior youth classes Sunday night at 6:00

March 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Encouraging Others 10:00 Women's business meeting 7:00	3	4 Encouraging Others trip to "Last Supper Museum." School presentation By Dr. Roach 7:00	5	6
7 Family Sunday	8	9 Encouraging Oth- ers 10:00	10	11 Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7:00	12	13 Jr/Sr Youth Outing
Revival Sunday morning 10:30, Sunday night at 6:00. Monday —Wednesday 7:00						
14 Ministry Outreach Skybird Manor 3:00	15	16 Encouraging Others 10:00	17 Pizza Party K-5 11-1	18	19	20
21 All Church Pitch-in Following worship	22	23 Encouraging Others 10:00 S.C.I.M.C.F at East Coulmbus	24	25 Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7:00	26	27
28 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30 ALL church praise service 6:00	29	30 Encouraging Others 10:00	31	**Revival info** On Sunday morning following worship we will have a carry in meal if you would like to join us. Also, following service on Wednesday night we will have a time of fellowship & refreshment in the basement.		

Birthdays
3rd Edna Layton Jim Layton
3rd Helen McNeill
5th Mary Lou Garrett
24th Connie Stout
26th Joshua Riggs
29th Kenny Blanton
30th Teresa Baugh
Anniversaries
16th Donnie & Jill Sageser
18th Mike & Alberta Robbins
24th Norman & Mary Garrett
31st Mike & Ronda Bartlett

Dear sisters,

The weather is breaking! We finally met as Women Celebrating Christ for Bible study!! It was wonderful to spend time studying the Bible with you all. For those who weren't able to be with us, we are in the middle of session 3, "Encourage Each Other." We're digging into the practical applications of encouragement -- see you the second Thursday of March! To have a friend, you must first be a friend! The encouragement of a friend is like a spot of sun on a grey day.

I'm walking again. (The leg is healed! Thank you for all the prayers!!) I still use the electric chair here at home, but the other night I forgot to plug it in when I went to bed. Sure enough, the power was getting low by the end of the next evening. How like us!

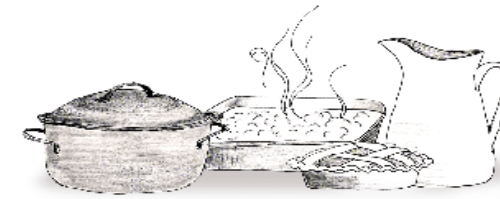
In John's gospel, Jesus tells us to stay connected to the vine. You can cut off a branch from a grape vine and it will stay green ...for a while. Then, if it doesn't get back connected to the vine, it's going to wither and die! Unlike the plant, we can choose to stay connected to the Vine, Jesus. We need to be connected to him constantly.

As we get ready for revival and Resurrection Sunday, stay close to Jesus! For you gardeners, stay connected to the vine. For you technology types, keep your batteries plugged into God's power. For you thirsty ones, don't use cracked and broken cisterns when you have access to the well of Living Water!!! Get ready-- revival is coming!-- God working in our church and working in us!!

See you Sunday!

Donni

What's Cook'in



Carrot Cake With Pineapple by Mae Huntsman

3 eggs, beaten	2 cups sugar
1 1/2 cup cooking oil	3 cups flour
1 tsp. salt	2 tsp. Vanilla
2 t. baking soda	2 t. cinnamon
2 cup grated carrots	
1 cup chopped walnuts or pecans	
1 cup drained crushed pineapple	

Blend eggs, sugar and cooking oil. Sift together flour, salt, soda, and cinnamon. Stir in with flour mixture the grated carrots, chopped nuts, pineapple and vanilla. Pour the batter into a 10 inch tube pan ungreased and bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Loosen around the sides and ice with a lemon glaze. This is a three time blue ribbon winner.

Enjoy!

Those Serving This Month

Junior-Worship

John & Shelley Riggs

Little Tykes

7th Family Sunday
14th Donna Speer
21st Norma Rowe
28th Mary Jane Barnard

Helpers

7th Family Sunday
14th Joshua Riggs
21st Jackie Hardebeck
28th Mary Beth Barnard

Greeters

7th Mike & Jenny Hardebeck
14th Don & Vickie Ritchey
21st Shelley & Joshua Riggs
28th Mary Lou Glover & Mary Jane Barnard

Servers

7th John Riggs, Paul Bennett, Mike Hardebeck, Jeff Martin, Mike Robbins, John Richards, David Speer
14th Dennis Newland, Mike Barnard, Randy Martin, Calvin Emberton, Ron Buchanan, Richard Klerk, Jacob Richards
21st Don Ritchey, David Speer, Mike Robbins, John Richards, Joshua Riggs, Michael Cann, Jeff Martin
28th Kenny Blanton, Randy Martin, Calvin Emberton, Joshua Riggs, Richard Klerk, Paul Bennett, Mike Barnard

Communion Meditation

7th John Riggs
14th Dennis Newland
21st Don Ritchey
28th Kenny Blanton

OPENING PRAYER

7th Don Ritchey
14th John Riggs
21st Paul Bennett
28th John Richards

CLOSING PRAYER

Mike Bartlett
Dennis Newland
Mike Bartlett
Wayne Masters

Cleaning

Wayne & Elizabeth Masters

Communion

Gloria Alumbaugh

Cookies

Ronda Bartlett