

He Watched the Journey Before He Made It Himself

Whenever we witness someone going through something that we have experienced personally, it is natural for the emotions that we experience at the original event to return. If you have had a seriously ill child, when you visit a friend in the hospital with a seriously ill child, the same fears, concern, and hopes come rushing back. Sometimes we even experience these connections before we have a similar event. As I watched my Dad saying his last goodbyes to my Mother, I wondered if I would ever be saying the same to Johnna.

These kind of natural connections that come of similar experience make me wonder how God has felt at times. In Genesis 22, when God commanded Abraham to offer Isaac, his only son and the son of promise, as a burnt offering to Him, I wonder how God felt. As God watched Abraham's painful preparations and journey, did He think of His own Son's journey to the cross? When Abraham cut the wood for the sacrifice, did God think that someday He would cause a tree to grow that would become a cross for His Son? When God stopped the knife in Abraham's hand, did He think that one day there would be no stopping the death of His own Son? Since God is all knowing, He knew what was coming for His own Son. He must have hurt as he watched the faithful pain of Abraham as he underwent an event similar to God's sacrificing the Son of promise.

Does Abraham's preparation and journey to sacrifice Isaac say anything about God's sacrificing of Jesus? In fact it may say many things. It definitely says that God had witnessed the pain of a father going to sacrifice his only son. God had seen the painful but faithful steps toward Moriah that were taken by Abraham because faithfulness demanded them. And God having experienced this with Abraham, still sent His Son, His only Son, to die on a hill very near Moriah. How much must we mean to God for Him to be so faithful to us?

Bo Shero



Church Hosting Meal:
(" Pizza ")

All volunteers are welcome & very much appreciated
to help clean-up after the meal!

Youth Super Bowl Party

Youth Super Bowl Party
Sunday, at 5:00 PM, in the FLC.

Students are asked to bring desserts.
Pizza, chips, & drinks will be provided as well
as a devotional during halftime.



Sunday, February 12th / Monday, February 13th
10:30 AM & 6:30 PM **6:30 PM**

Steve Diggs, from last year's "No Debt, No Sweat" seminar, is back with a new & powerful two-day seminar titled, "Retooled & Refueled, The Essential Christian Life Skills Seminar". Steve will be with us on the morning of Sunday, February 12th for worship & then the seminar will begin that evening at 6:30 PM. The second day of the seminar will resume on Monday, the 13th at 6:30 PM.

This FREE & powerful seminar is designed to give you & your family powerful strategies & "take-aways" that you can use immediately to improve your marriage, the time you spend with the kids, & your relationships at work & church.

This is a powerful, fast-paced, & upbeat seminar. The 5 sessions are refreshing, informative, optimistic, & challenging. You will leave with new skill-sets that will help you begin seeing the forest for the trees. Learn what God's idea of "true success" really is. Then, develop the skills necessary to resolve conflicts—and come to consensus—with your spouse & children. Learn how to be a mentor—or, find someone to mentor you. Learn the 7 keys to a worry-free money life. Finally, you will learn how to be "heard" by those people who are the most important in your life as Steve shows you how to "brand" yourself.

This most unique seminar is for Christian men & women who want to improve their relationships & lead more abundant, productive, & effective lives. It is also for teens who realize that today's educational system doesn't teach many of the skills they will need in the "real world." It is also for our unsaved friends who will learn that the Bible really has the answers to the dilemmas & struggles that strangle them.



CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE
SUNDAY, the 19TH
11:30 AM—2:30 PM in the FLC



Help save lives & donate blood at our next scheduled blood drive on Sunday, the 19th, from 11:30 AM—2:30 PM, at the Family Life Center. To schedule an appointment, please sign-up on the bulletin board ASAP or call / email Amanda. REMEMBER, besides saving lives, there are several perks to donating blood like getting your cholesterol checked for free every time you donate. You can also earn "reward points" & redeem them for a ton of goodies!! For more information about donating blood as well as the United Blood Services' rewards program, please visit the following website: <http://www.unitedbloodservices.org/home.aspx>

Family News & Notes

OUR ILL—**Claudia Allison** (Randy's mother) has been in the Heart Hospital for several days. **Johnna Shero** successfully underwent an outpatient procedure last Friday in CMC to remove a gallstone. **Dayna King** underwent a very painful sinus surgery last Friday. She is doing better. **Jackson Warren** (grandson of Kenny & Lana Powell) had dental surgery last Friday. **Hunter Hillock** (grandson of Kenny & Lana) remains in UMC. He underwent sinus surgery Tuesday & is in a lot of pain. Cultures were taken from the findings & results were scheduled to be in by the end of this week. Also, the doctor is making changes in his medication. **Miranda Bloodworth** (daughter of Gary & Debbie Jones) is 33 weeks along in her pregnancy & was admitted into Covenant Women & Children's Hospital Wednesday afternoon for IV fluid treatment & steroid shots. The baby is currently under no stress & Miranda is doing well. She was scheduled to be released late yesterday (Thursday) evening but will now be on complete bed rest until the baby is born. **Amanda Beard** (Rita Riojas' niece) was found to have a lump on her breast. **Wanda Henson** (Monty's mother) has returned to Crown Point Health Suites in Lubbock. It was great having **P.J. Webb** back with us Sunday! She has been ill for several weeks.

BABY SHOWER—A little bundle of love will soon be arriving in the home of A.J. & Miranda (Jones) Bloodworth. You are invited to help shower the new little one with gifts of love tomorrow (Saturday), from 10:30AM – 12:00 noon, at the Family Life Center. The proud grandparents to be are Gary & Debbie Jones. *Selections are at Nelson's & Target.* (P.S. Gift cards are appreciated since they do not know if it is "blue" or "pink")

LADIES SUPPER & GAME NIGHT—The Ladies Supper & Game Night will be Thursday, at 6:00 PM, at the FLC. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

BIRTHDAY CARD BLESSING—Our sweet sister in Christ, Lucille Adair, will celebrate her 90th birthday next Friday, the 10th! We would like to surprise her with a showering of birthday card blessings mailed to her for her birthday. (She loves to receive letters or notes; if you want to drop her a few extra lines, she would love & appreciate it very much.)

VINTAGE VALENTINE CONCERT—A Vintage Valentine Concert featuring bluegrass group *Vintage* & special guest *Crooner Keegan Peck* will be held on Saturday, the 11th, at 7:00 PM, at the Sunset Family Life Center (3631 34th St, Lubbock). All proceeds will benefit the cross campus mission trip to Honduras. If you are interested in going, please sign up on the bulletin board.

HELP NEEDED—Eric Osborne continues to collect school tuition for Malawi preacher, Molliar Banda. Anyone wishing to help can see Eric or stop by the church office.

EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE—Randy & Pam Allison's emails have changed. Please note the following in your handbook directories. Randy's is now rallison52@nts-online.net and Pam's is pallison@nts-online.net

Reynolds Rap

We had 16 present for our "Senior Saints" luncheon last Thursday.

Our contribution Sunday was nearly \$8,900! This is great! Isn't it wonderful that this contribution will be going to mission work?

The following article, taken from the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*, is entitled "Make Someone's Day." I don't know who the author is, but the article is good. Read it and see if you don't say the same thing.

When was the last time someone beamed at you and said, "You made my day!" Whatever's going on, it is important to realize that we never know when we might be making a life-altering impact with a small kindness or an extra consideration. God may be using us for His particular purpose!

I came across this particular article entitled "Seven Free Gifts." The author is un-known. Some thoughts here go along with the previous article.

1. **The gift of praise.** Critics destroy. Encouragers build up. Make it a point to give several compliments daily.
2. **The gift of understanding.** What most of us wish for—to be understood.
3. **The gift of concession.** You don't have to win all the time.
4. **The gift of gratitude.** Look for someone to thank. Gratitude is the same root word for grace.
5. **The gift of attention.** To give someone your time, respect and attention is one of the greatest gifts.
6. **The gift of inspiration.** "Enthusiasm" literally means "God with us."
7. **The gift of personal presence.** Eighty percent of success comes with merely "showing up." Broken hearts come when you don't. Your greatest power is you, your presence. Give it.

For A Better Week please consider these thoughts:

Life is a book in volumes three,
 The past, the present, the yet-to-be.
 The past is written and laid away.
 The present we're writing day by day.
 The last and best of volumes three
 Is locked from sight; God keeps the key.

Never give the devil a ride.
 He will want to drive.

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*From him the whole body, joined and held
 together by every supporting ligament,
 grows and builds itself up in love,
 as each part does its work.*

Ephesians 4:16

Meeting Times

Sunday:	Bible Class	9:30 am
	Morning Assembly	10:30 am
	Evening Assembly	5:00 pm
Wednesday:	Bible Class	7:00 pm

The Weekly Record	
Contributions:	
Sunday's Offering	\$ 8861
Weekly Budget	\$ 8500
Attendance:	
Bible Classes	125
Morning Assembly	204
Evening Assembly	94
Midweek Men & Ladies AM Classes	30
Midweek Classes & Outreach	141
Thursday School	46