



I've Been Thinking about . . . God's Training Program

by Pastor Chris

Airlines test and train pilots in simulators. In the simulator, pilots experience emergencies—bad weather, mechanical failures, their own pilot error—in private. One pilot tells me that these simulated emergencies look, sound, and feel so real that he exits the simulator sweating and shaking. This private training is designed to produce right responses to real emergencies during real flights. Private preparation averts public disaster.

Sometimes, God puts us under private pressure to train us for right responses to public pressure.

The shroud of darkness drapes heavily upon the pacific garden of Messiah's private pressure. Jesus is soon to undergo the agonies of the cross, on which he, the Righteous One, will be crushed for our iniquities under the outpouring of the cup of God's wrath against all our sin. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus withdraws by himself and prays privately, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done" (Lk 22:42). Physically, the private pressure is so crushing that it squeezes his blood into his sweat (Lk 22:44). Spiritually, the private pressure is so intense that his soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death (Mk 14:34). Jesus continues to pray, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done" (Mt 26:42). Under private pressure, Jesus aligns himself with the Father's will in private prayer, thereby preparing to obey the Father's will under the public pressure soon to arrive.

While Jesus prays, the disciples sleep. Three times Jesus walks over to them, only to find them slumbering. Jesus had urged his disciples to watch and pray in this private now, so as not to fall into temptation under approaching public pressure. But instead of preparing in private, the disciples doze in stupor.

Boots in the brush. Swords flashing under torches. Judas the perfidious arrives with the mob sent to arrest Jesus. Judas grazes Messiah's cheek with his lips—the kiss of death. That's the signal; the mob arrests Jesus. The public pressure has just slammed upon Jesus and his disciples.

The disciples make their first wrong response to the public pressure—fight. They ask Jesus, "Shall we strike with our swords?" One disciple draws his sword and cuts off the ear of the high priest's servant (Lk 22:49-50).

Jesus makes his first right response to the public pressure—righteous love. He rebukes his friends the disciples and heals his enemy the high priest's servant (Lk 22:51).

Jesus makes his second right response to the public pressure—submission to the Father's will as revealed in Scripture. Jesus declares, "Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way? . . . This has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled" (Mt 26:53-54, 56). Jesus publicly submits to the Father's will for the fulfillment of Scripture, all the way to the cross.

The disciples make their second wrong response to the public pressure—flight. They all desert Jesus and flee (Mt 26:56).

“Opportunities to Love One Another”

Associate Pastor of Ministry Advancement & Adult Ministries

Howard Lundeen

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” (Romans 12:1-2a NIV)

Care Opportunity: We have become aware of an increased need for assistance in care for Tim Voigt. He has battled ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease) for several years, and currently is in need of care 24 hours a day. Our Congregational Care Commission is in the process of determining how we can best help Tim. There is need for volunteer personal care (especially over the weekend from Friday evening through Sunday evening), provision of meals, help with home maintenance/repairs, and possible financial assistance. If you feel you can help with meals, please contact either Grace Galvin (835-8724) or Stacy Anazagasty (461-6140). If you would like to help with volunteer personal care or financially, please contact Dean Spies (837-2033). If you could help with home maintenance, contact Maynard Stensrud (835-5920). Tim is a delightful gentleman who presently has lost nearly all of his abilities to care for himself. God has graced him with a spirit of gratitude and peace that enriches all who are able to spend time with him. Please be in prayer regarding how either we as a church family or you as an individual can best be of help to Tim.

Leadership Summit: The men’s ministry, Journey Men, has taken the initiative to help provide leadership training for all who would be interested in attending. It is true that no matter who you are, or what job you may hold, leadership training is valuable. The information gleaned and the skills taught will benefit people whether or not they have leadership rolls in the church. If you are free, and have not made plans to attend the Leadership Summit on Saturday, April 9th from 8:00 – 11:30 AM at our church, I would definitely encourage you to do so. Child care is provided.

Family Care Fund: You have to be some of the most caring and generous people around! The FCF Committee has been able to help three people with financial needs over the past month. Also one-half of the February offering was donated to our local Neighborhood Service Center as part of the February food drive. A total of \$355.32 was given from the Family Care Fund to the NSC. Thanks to each of you who participated is this special offering! Also, the FCF Committee has decided to designate the entire March FCF offering as earthquake & tsunami relief in Japan. This gift will be administered by EFCA Touch-Global and partner ministries in that country.

Newcomer/Membership Class: Four people are attending the classes offered in the month of March. If you are new to Christ Community Church or never have attended this class, I encourage you to seriously consider attending the next set of two classes that will be offered in either June or July. In the meantime, if you would simply visit with me and let me know of your interest in attending and the best times for you to meet, it would help me in planning the next set of classes. This is a great opportunity to get to know new people, learn about the EFCA and CCC, and meet one of the requirements for church membership if you should choose to join our church in the future.

Pastor Howard

H.T.C.
Heart Thoughts for Cornerstone

By: Pastor Zach Marino

The following is a blog I posted April 26, 2010. I pray the Lord uses it to reveal truth in your life and transform your heart even more into the heart of Christ.

Yesterday was tough for me. I came off a great weekend with my students and was trying to shift gears for my Greek Intensive. To be honest, I got pretty lonely up in the Cities last night. I was tired and just, well in a weird, grumpy mood. It seemed yet that God wasn't far away. It seems we get tempted when are the most tired, worn out, weary and grumpy. We become more selfish at that point and thus easier to sin. Well, Satan was prowling around last night and right before he set his teeth in, Words of Power and Truth broke through and ripped the jaws of death off me. At that point I got up and decided to go for a drive, maybe get something to eat (something you always do after a spiritual encounter, right? :)

I went to the Ground Round and got some coconut chicken fingers (amazing by the way). I talked with my room mate (Dan the man Hedge!) on the phone, and through Dan I felt encouraged, like through Dan, the voice of the Lord was speaking to me. I knew, that as much as I felt dead on the inside, in a 10 minute conversation, I came alive. He spoke truth, love and grace that translated in life-giving power to me. I was encouraged. I left there with a positive attitude and a spirit ready to face the week.

You see, in both situations, the power of God flowed through voice, through Words of Truth. They brought me out of Satan's grip and empowered me with life that would equip me to lead a life worthy of my calling.

When you are tired, weary and grumpy, watch out! For your enemy, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, waiting for someone to devour. Allow the Words of Truth to penetrate your life and empower you to live a life worthy of your calling, because you and I both have one. Satan will do everything possible to rip us away from that. Allow Christ to rescue you. Love you. Empower you. Do you hear Him?

Sincerely,
Pastor Zach

Reminder Corner



There will not be an Easter brunch served here this year on Resurrection Sunday. There will be one worship service at 9:30am - Sunday, April 24, 2011.



Beginning Sunday, May 29th and continuing through Sunday, September 4th, our summer schedule will be as follows:

9:30 am - One Worship Service and no Sunday School classes

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Jesus has prepared himself under private pressure. He has prayed, aligning himself with the Father's will. So when the public pressure comes, he is prepared to make the right public responses. The disciples have not prepared themselves under private pressure. They have not prayed. They have slept. So when the public pressure comes, they are not prepared to make the right public responses. They make the wrong responses.

Sometimes, God puts us under private pressure to prepare us for right responses to public pressure. Do we want to honor God publicly by right responses to public pressure? If so, then let us submit to God's private training program.

At the deeps of the ocean floor, the water pressure is crushing. Yet under such intense pressure, certain species of fish swim painlessly and freely. What's their secret? The internal pressure inside their bodies equals the ocean's pressure outside their bodies. Likewise, private preparation produces inner strength equal to public pressure.



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A heart for God and you

Sunday Worship Events



First service: 8:00 - 9:15am

Fellowship: 9:15 - 9:30am

Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:30am

Second Service: 10:45am - 12pm

Prayer Meeting: 5:00 - 6:00pm

*April 24th
Resurrection
Sunday
Schedule:*

*One Service
9:30am*

Staffed Office Hours

	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
Monday:	9:30 am - Noon	Noon - 5:00 pm
Tuesday:	=====	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Wednesday:	9:30 am - Noon	Noon - 5:00 pm
Thursday:	=====	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday:	=====	9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Christ Community Church Mission Statement

As a local body of believers, we will seek to glorify God in worship, in evangelizing the unsaved and in teaching Christians to obey everything Christ commanded. To that end, prayer will be our foremost task, Scripture will be our authority, God's Holy Spirit will be our source of power and love will be our motivation.





**** Women's Ministry ****

“Battlefield of the Mind”

a 4-week Bible study

By Joyce Meyer

to begin in April - Monday mornings & Thursday evenings

Watch for sign-up

Precepts Bible Study

“Understanding the Anger of God”

Micah, Nahum & Habakkuk

7 week study beginning April 11th

Monday evenings 6:30-8:30

Registration deadline March 27th - \$15.00



Devoted Hearts presents

Kay Arthur

April 29th, 7-10:00pm & April 30th, 8-3:00pm

Autumn Ridge Church, Rochester, MN

Advance tickets \$37.00 - after 3/31/11 \$42.00

Register online @ www.devotedheartsrochester.com

***** Beth Moore *****

In Person

Grace Church – Eden Prairie

May 20th & 21st



All tickets are \$65 general admission & available online @ lproof.org

For more information contact Cindy Austin or Mary Milton

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR FALL RETREAT 9/30-10/1

MAKS

(Moms And Kids)

ALL MOMS WELCOME!!

FRIENDS, FUN & FELLOWSHIP!

Bring a friend!!



***Spring is here! Time to open the windows and let the fresh air flow
(ok, maybe not quite yet . . . but any day now)!!***

*Whether you have come in the past or are new to MAKS, be sure to put us
on your calendar and relax with a little, peaceful "mom time."*

MAKS is a moms & kids group that meets the **first & third Tuesdays** of each month in the Fireside Room from **10am to noon**. There is no cost to attend. Meetings are geared toward mothers with small children at home; but all are welcomed and encouraged to attend. It is a blessed time to relax, unwind & enjoy spending time working and learning together as mothers. Then we have the benefit of a meal together while our children are well cared for & having fun.



April 5th - Craft Day

Terra cotta birdfeeder craft!

Today will be a fun day of creativity. Come and create a spring craft for you and your family to enjoy. All moms are encouraged to come for a creative & fun day!



April 19th - Earth Day

Composting Simplified!

Come to hear some good information on how simple and "earth friendly" composting can be. Learn some good tips all the while enjoying the company of other mothers. Come for a fun & educational day!



Our leaders this year are Stacy Dufault, Stephanie Bartelt, Shannon Kuball, Melissa Sexton, Lisa Cage & Jessica Mickelson. Please contact any one of us with any questions.

**Come prepared to relax,
laugh & meet other moms.**

APRIL 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group	2
					Youth District Conference in Duluth - through Sunday	
3 <u>8:00-9:15am</u> Worship Service <u>9:30-10:30am</u> Sunday School <u>10:45-12:00</u> Worship Service <u>5:00pm</u> Prayer	4 <u>10:00am</u> Women's Study <u>6:30pm</u> Precepts <u>6:30pm</u> Outreach Comm.	5 <u>10:00am</u> MAKS <u>6:30pm</u> Women's Min. <u>7:00pm</u> Congreg. Care <u>7:00pm</u> Property Comm.	6 <u>6:00-7:30pm</u> AWANA <u>7:30-9:00pm</u> Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group	7 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>3:30-5:00pm</u> Vocal Class <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	8 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group	9 <u>8:00-11:30am</u> Leadership Summit
10 <u>8:00-9:15am</u> Worship Service <u>9:30-10:30am</u> Sunday School <u>10:45-12:00</u> Worship Service <u>12:15</u> KICKs mtg. <u>5:00pm</u> Prayer	11 <u>6:30pm</u> Precepts	12 <u>7:00pm</u> Children's Commission	13 <u>6:00-7:30pm</u> AWANA <u>7:30-9:00pm</u> Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group	14 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	15 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group	16 <u>8:30-10:30am</u> Joint Commis- sioner Meeting
17 <u>8:00-9:15am</u> Worship Service <u>9:30-10:30am</u> Sunday School <u>10:45-12:00</u> Worship Service <u>5:00pm</u> Prayer <u>7:00pm</u> Yours Truly	18 <u>1:00pm</u> Quilt Group <u>6:30pm</u> Precepts	19 <u>10:00am</u> MAKS <u>6:30pm</u> Elder Board Meeting	20 <u>6:00-7:30pm</u> AWANA <u>7:30-9:00pm</u> Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group	21 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>3:30-5:00pm</u> Vocal Class <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	22 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group 	23
24  <u>9:30-11:00am</u> Worship Service <u>5:00pm</u> Prayer	25 <u>6:30pm</u> Precepts	26 <u>7:00pm</u> Adult Disciple- ship Comm.	27 <u>6:00-7:30pm</u> AWANA <u>7:30-9:00pm</u> Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group	28 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	29 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group	30