



I've Been Thinking about . . . Godly Mothers

by Pastor Chris

What is the influence of a godly mother?

Monica bore three children, among them Augustine. While Augustine made her happy with his brilliance as a scholar and teacher, he also made her sad with his immoral lifestyle and adherence to Manichaeism, a false religion.

Monica prayed fervently and unceasingly for her son's conversion to Christ, her tears watering the ground in every place where she prayed. When Monica asked a bishop to straighten Augustine out, the bishop advised Monica to continue to pray for her son, telling her, "It is not possible that the son of these tears should perish."

For eighteen years, Monica prayed that her son Augustine would come to Christ. Monica's prayers were answered when, on a summer day in 386, Augustine read Romans 13:13-14: "Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature." Augustine came to Christ that instant. When he told his mother Monica that he had converted to Christ, her mourning was converted to joy as she leaped in gladness and praised the Lord. Augustine went on to become one of the most influential Christians who ever lived.

Susanna Wesley and her husband Samuel were the parents of nineteen children, ten of whom survived to adulthood. Susanna dedicated herself to the spiritual welfare of her children. She scheduled one hour per week alone with each child in order to nurture each child individually in the ways of the Lord.

When Susanna's son John grew up and left home, he asked her to convert the hour she had been spending with him into an hour spent writing to him. Susanna wrote letters to John about Christian faith and living. She wrote similar letters to her other adult children. Her letters are meaty, insightful, and full of devotion to Christ.

In addition to her letters, Susanna wrote meditations and Bible commentaries for her own spiritual growth. She also wrote commentaries on the Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments.

Susanna's son John became one of the spearheads of the First Great Awakening in the mid-18th century. Tens of thousands came to know Christ under his evangelistic preaching. Susanna's son Charles wrote over 6,000 hymns. Many of his hymns are still sung today, such as "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing," and "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today."

Nancy Johnson bore four children. Her devotion to her husband Earl, and his to her, showed their children the meaning of the vow "in sickness and in health." When her physician husband was called to the hospital on evening emergencies, Nancy took charge of leading family prayers, teaching four active children how to converse with God. Nancy's steadfast devotion to the Lord has played a large part in bringing her children to know and love Christ. Her joy in Christ and gratitude to God, even in the midst of griefs and privations, has set an example of the abundant Christian life for her children—one of whom you know.

Praise God for godly mothers!

“Our Help”

Associate Pastor of Ministry Advancement & Adult Ministries

Howard Lundeen

“Our help is in the name of the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.” (Psalm 124:8 NIV)

Four days ago during my morning study and daily preparation time, this verse particularly stood out. It, and the first two verses in Psalm 125, provided a source of encouragement and counsel for me over the next couple days. That morning I prayed that the truth of the above verse would settle deep in my soul and that it would be a source of strength to me and encouragement for others. This morning as I mentally reviewed the past few days, I was amazed to realize how many times I either claimed the truth that “our help is in the name of the Lord” for myself or had shared it with others. How thankful we should be that we can call upon the Lord for his help. We can rest in confidence that He will respond for our good, because He, as Maker of heaven and earth, has unlimited ability to do as He knows best.

Care Opportunity: Last month I informed you of an opportunity we have as a church to help assist Tim Voigt with some of his needs as he battles ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease). I mentioned that our Congregational Care Commission had determined to help as much as possible. The following information you may have heard elsewhere, or it may even appear again in this Cornerstone, but I would rather over communicate than under. As of right now, if you want to help with meals for Tim, contact either Grace Galvin (835-8724) or Stacy Anazagasty (461-6140). If you feel called to provide personal care (weekend help is most needed), contact Dean Spies (837-2033). If you would like to help with home maintenance, contact Maynard Stensrud (835-5920). If you would like to give a financial gift or pick up some monthly bill for Tim, contact Joe Kyte (833-3316). Please continue to lift up Tim and this entire ministry to him in prayer. We are praising God for the progress that is being made.

Leadership Training/Equipping: The Leadership Summit held on Saturday morning, April 9th was attended by about 40 people. As a follow-up to this training, we would like to provide some on-going opportunities for you, whether or not you attended the summit, to learn more leadership skills and principles. Beginning Sunday, May 1st - pretty much on a biweekly basis - we will be going through “The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership” with John Maxwell via DVD. Sessions are scheduled to begin at 6:00 PM in the Fireside room at church.

Family Care Fund – (Mar. 15 - Apr. 15):

Total Receipts: - - - \$1,257.44

Total Disbursed - - - \$1,708.49 (\$1,227.19 was for Japan earthquake & tsunami relief)

North Central District Conference: Monday and Tuesday, April 11 & 12, Phil Ring, Pastor Chris, Pastor Zach and I attended the NCD Conference at Constance Free Church in Andover, Minnesota. The keynote speaker was Larry Osborne. The theme for the conference was, “Team Oriented Ministry”. Topics such as: “Finding & Raising up Leaders”, “What Differentiates Between Winning & Losing Teams?” and “Congregational Teamwork” were addressed by our speaker. Because of the high significance of relationships in teams and overall as a society, I came away with a determination to seek God’s leading in further improving communication and in how to best expand our small group ministry. As our vision of “Extending for the Kingdom” takes on clearer focus, I am convinced that small groups are going to play a major role in reaching our communities with the gospel of Christ and helping people become followers of Him.

Pastor Howard

H.T.C.
Heart Thoughts for Cornerstone

By: Pastor Zach Marino

Well, it's been awhile. It's been a good season of life. Seminary is continuing to challenge my ability to maintain a healthy balance in life. I have been learning things every day along the way but I just haven't had that sense to write about any of it yet. However, a song and verse have been continually speaking to me in the past week and so I thought I would share on them.

In my quiet time, I try and take time to practice discerning the Spirit. I sit and listen, waiting to see what scripture comes to mind and then I turn to what I think the Spirit revealed to me. Sounds weird, and I always don't get it right, but one time, I know I got it right. The Spirit led me to Hebrews 12:7-8 which says, *"It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons."* God has confirmed in me that I am His Son, through Jesus Christ. If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, you too are God's son or daughter. Part of being a legitimate child is being disciplined. Now, the question is, what does "discipline" mean here? On first look, I think we both would guess it means "consequences," which translates into "we did something wrong." However, if we take a closer look at the word in the original language, it communicates more of a training or educating, along with discipline. Thus, not only will God deal out just consequences, but He will train and educate us more about himself and His Word.

For me, God has been doing that. Through personal struggles, through Seminary, through ministry experiences, through friendships, He has been teaching me about myself and the selfishness that is very prevalent. He has been training me to be patient, to be honest, to be self-controlled, and to pray. He has provided circumstances that have forced me to pray even harder and more consistently. Have I been disciplined? Yeah. For me, that has been experiencing distance between God and I when I disobey His commands. Trust me, that distance is tough to swallow. I realize how close I was to God when I fall. All of these experiences though have taught me that life isn't easy with God. Life isn't perfect with God. What I find comfort in is knowing *I serve a perfect God who loves me in my imperfect life*. I am still considered His son. Yes, He's going to put me through the fire, and it's going to hurt, deeply. Yet when He decides to bring me out, I am a more clear reflection of His image.

What makes all this possible? "Christ is Risen from the Dead, conquering over death by death..." Words of a chorus from Matt Maher in his song "Christ is Risen." Death is the result of sin. When Christ conquered death, he conquered sin; giving us a hope in this imperfect life. As the bridge lyrics go, "O, death, where is your sting? O, hell, where is your victory. O church, come stand in the light, our God is not dead, He's alive, He's alive!" We are the Church. We can run from darkness into light because of Christ. We can come out of the trials of life because of Christ; thus becoming more like Christ.

Take heart. God trains, educates and disciplines His sons and daughters, only to refine their image into a more clear reflection of His heart.

Loved by God,

Pastor Zach Marino

Reminder Corner



POLICY REMINDERS:

- All uses of church facilities are to be scheduled in advance through the church office.
- Announcement Request Forms are available in the church office and are due by 5:00pm Wednesdays. Announcements or bulletin inserts can also be emailed to the church office at ccc@ccefca.com. *Thank you.*



Summer Worship Schedule

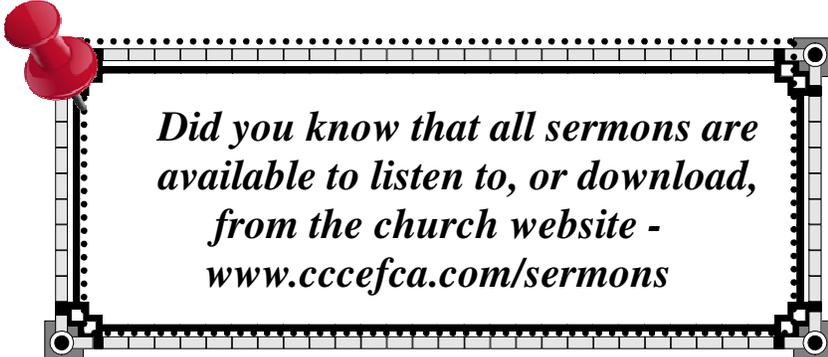
Sunday, May 29 through

Sunday, September 4th

One service beginning at 9:30 am

No Sunday School classes

5:00 pm - Prayer Meeting



Did you know that all sermons are available to listen to, or download, from the church website - www.ccefca.com/sermons



2200 4th Street NE - Waseca, MN 56093

PHONE: (507) 835-2235

FAX: (507) 833-8857

E-MAIL: ccc@ccecfca.com

Website: www.ccecfca.com

PRAYER REQUESTS: prayer@ccecfca.com

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

Staffed Office Hours

	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
Monday:	=====	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 ****

Coming this Fall – Kings & Prophets
"The Good, the Bad and the Ugly"

Monday evenings 6:30 – 8:30

Starts September 12, 2011

Must register by August 28th Open to Men... Women... Couples



**Mark your calendar for the Women's
FALL RETREAT 9/30 - 10/1
At Camp Victory**

***** Women of Faith *****

October 21st – 22nd



MAKS

(Moms And Kids)

ALL MOMS WELCOME!!

FRIENDS, FUN & FELLOWSHIP!

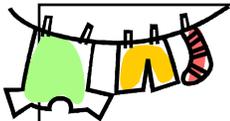
Bring a friend!!



Spring is here! Time to open the windows and let the fresh air flow!

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 moms 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.



May 3rd

Living Frugal & Fun!

Bring your knowledge & share how you help your family live "frugal". Today will be a way to learn from one another about the fun ways we can provide a clean safe home while saving a dollar or two.

May 17th

End of Year Grill Out!

It's a potluck ;)
Bring a dish to share with others. If the weather allows, we will picnic outside. Come & enjoy the company of other mothers in a relaxing atmosphere!



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.**



MAY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <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>6:00pm</u> 21 Laws	2 <u>10:00am</u> Women's Study <u>6:30pm</u> Precepts <u>6:30pm</u> Outreach Comm.	3 <u>10:00am</u> MAKS <u>6:30pm</u> Women's Min. <u>7:00pm</u> Congreg. Care <u>7:00pm</u> Property Comm.	4 <u>6:00-7:30pm</u> AWANA Awards Night	5 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>4:30-6:00pm</u> Vocal Class <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team <u>6:30-9:30pm</u> Prayer Open House	6 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group	7
8 <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	9 <u>10:00am</u> Women's Study <u>6:30pm</u> Precepts	10 <u>7:00pm</u> Children's Commission	11 <u>6:00pm</u> AWANA Wrap-up Meeting	12 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	13 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group	14 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Journey Men Leaders
15 <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 <u>6:00pm</u> 21 Laws	16 <u>1:00pm</u> Quilt Group <u>6:30pm</u> Precepts	17 <u>10:00am</u> MAKS <u>6:30pm</u> Elder Board Meeting	18 <u>9:30-12:00</u> EFCA Pastor Cluster <u>6:30-8:00pm</u> Young Adults	19 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>4:30-6:00pm</u> Vocal Class <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	20 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group	21 <u>6:00pm</u> Church Potluck
22 <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	23 <u>6:30pm</u> Precepts	24 <u>7:00pm</u> Adult Disciple- ship Comm.	25 <u>6:30-8:00pm</u> Young Adults	26 <u>12:00-1:15pm</u> Men's Study <u>6:15-8:30pm</u> Worship Team	27 <u>6:00-7:30am</u> Men's Group	28
29 <u>9:30-11:00am</u> Worship Service <u>5:00pm</u> Prayer	30 	31				