

Navigator

Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Psalm 143:8b

Infant Shoulders Born To Carry Our Iniquity

The Wonder of Jesus—It is hard to believe that by the time you are reading this Christmas will be less than a month away. Retailers will have their decorations and displays out and will continually be reminding us of how many shopping days are left. Children will have their lists of toys and gadgets made up for Mom and Dad, along with a catalog full of dog-eared pages, just to help guide their parents to the things they “need.” Fathers will reluctantly pull the ladder from the garage and begin untangling the rat’s nest of Christmas lights from last year looking for that one blown bulb. Mistletoe will be hung, Santa will be in the mall, eggnog will be in the fridge, and spouses will be deciding which family to visit on Christmas Eve and which to see on Christmas Day. And there will be the danger that we will forget about Jesus in the midst of it all. In the midst of the hustle and the bustle of December we run the risk of forgetting about Christ at Christmas.

In the first chapter of Matthew we read of how an angel came to Joseph in a dream announcing that a child had been supernaturally conceived in his fiancée Mary. The angel stated that this child’s conception was due to the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit in Mary’s womb. Matthew reminds us that this was in fulfillment of a prophecy given over 700 years before this time when Isaiah

Why was it necessary for the Son of God to take on human flesh?

wrote, “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel” (Isaiah 7:14). The name “Immanuel” means “God with us.” So this special, virgin-conceived child was going to be Immanuel: God with us. That is why Jesus came. He came to be God with us; God in human flesh.

Concerning this truth the Apostle John would later write, “And the Word (Jesus) became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14). The Son of God came to be born as a man, to take upon Himself human flesh, and to dwell among us as one of us.

Jesus was all God and at the same time all man: 100% God and 100% man with two distinct natures in one person in a way that is beyond our comprehension.

But why was it necessary for the Son of God to take on human flesh? Why was it necessary for Jesus to become a man? The angel answers that question when he tells Joseph concerning the child to come, “You shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). Jesus came to save His people from their sins by dying on the cross in their place. And Jesus had to become a man because it took someone that was fully human to be man’s substitute. If He was dying for the sins of mankind He had to be a man. But it also took one that was fully God to bear the

full weight of God’s wrath against sin. Salvation could not have been accomplished unless



man paid what was owing to God for sin. But the debt was so great that while man alone owed it, only God could pay it. So the one that would “save His people from their sins” had to be both man and God.

Even before Jesus’ birth, as the angel announced the purpose for His coming, His future was never in question. He was born to die. He was born with the cross in His future. His little tiny newborn infant hands that night in Bethlehem were the hands that were destined to be pierced by nails on the cross. That smooth little baby’s side was destined to one day be thrust through by the spear of a Roman soldier after His death. The back of the infant that was lying in a manger 2,000

years ago would one day be bruised and beaten as “He bore the sin of many” (Isaiah 53:12) and as “the Lord laid on Him the iniquity of us all” (Isaiah 53:6). Jesus was born to be the Savior.

This Christmas, don’t get lost in the busyness of the season. Get lost in the

wonder of the salvation that Jesus came to provide. Get lost in the greatness of our Savior who took on human flesh so that He could save His people from their sins.

Pastor Matt

Why was it necessary for Jesus to become a man?

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Have bulletin items to Jolleen by Wednesday

Leadership

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Brian Parish 324-2517

Schedule

Sunday

8:15 a.m. First Service
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Second Service

Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Youth Ministry
at NorthRidge Fellowship

Wednesday

6:15-7:45 p.m. Kids4Truth
at NorthRidge Fellowship

Thursday

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer
at NorthRidge Fellowship

Bible Builders Class



Children Building on God's Word

Hey parents! Do you know what time it is? It's....(drumroll, please)...Bible Time!

If your children are ages 3-6, then Bible Builders is the class for them! Much more than just organized chaos, snacks and a coloring sheet, Bible Builders runs every Sunday morning during the 10:30 a.m. service. This class, formerly called "Junior Church," is aimed on building Biblical knowledge, deepening your child's understanding of God's Word, and practically applying the both of these to every day life.

I ask you, have you ever wondered, "Who is God?" I have! And no doubt, our children have, too. It is this thought, along with much prayer, that has shaped our next learning adventure for the Bible Builders Class. Very shortly we will be starting the "Who is...?" series. When finished with this series we will, with the Lord's help, be able to answer the questions "Who is God?", "Who is Jesus?", and "Who is the Holy Spirit?" It is my deep desire and constant prayer that your child will walk away from the Bible Builder's class with a firm foundation of who our awesome God is.

Parents, on a personal level I would like you to know that I take very seriously this ministry of teaching your children during the short time they are with me on Sunday mornings. If your child has been in my class, then your child has also been in my prayers. If your child has been in my class, know that your child has a special place in my heart. As you know, our children are very precious; they are such gifts from the Lord! As parents we have the high and holy calling of being the shepherds that guide and shape our children's hearts. I see this as a great honor, and I thank you for the honor of entrusting me with your children; it is not something I take lightly.

Feel free to contact me with questions, concerns or comments at biblebuilders@yahoo.com or by phone at 324-2627.

Sincerely, Mrs. B (A.K.A. Sabrina Bennett)

H₂O Youth Ministry

John 4:13-14

My prayer is that everyone had a great Thanksgiving. Remembering all the things I was thankful for, I kept remembering how blessed we are to have a Church that supports its youth. Sometimes it seems like the youth are always doing something, and I believe that is the way it should be. You as the Church have a great opportunity to be blessed by the youth also as they seek to serve as a ministry in the Church: for example, the Parents Night Out. This is a time where couples can come bring the kids and we have a great time while the parents get a night out. We start with dinner, then play games, do crafts and learn how to work together as a group. Remember December 15th—there will be an all-day parents night, where parents can finish up their Christmas shopping. At that time we will also be making gifts for the parents.

As a youth we had a nice October and November as we went to the corn maze at CSI and had a great time. The youth girls had a night out and came back to the church for a lock-in. (Alicia is still trying to catch up on the sleep!) It was a great time to fellowship and to just have fun being a girl.

Shannon and Alicia Pharaoh

December Christmas Shopping Fun!!! December 15th

December 15th we are having our all-day childcare from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. where parents can drop off the kids and go finish that last minute shopping. The kids will also get to finish up shopping for their parents. We will be making gifts for parents and wrapping them.

Youth Ministry Christmas Party December 22nd 12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Mark your calendars!

Get Ready for the 3rd Annual Valentines Banquet

Our 3rd annual Valentines Banquet is something to look forward to!

DECEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 39 and Holding group will have a Christmas Party at 7:00 pm on Friday, December 14th.

Bring a plate of hors d'oeuvres. Everyone welcome! Details will follow in the bulletin.

(This is an adults only party...please arrange for a babysitter....Thanks!)

Ladies Scrapbook/Craft night on December 7th from 6:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight. Please bring your project you have been working on and get one step closer to finishing it. Come enjoy a fun evening of friends and fellowship!

Kids 4 Truth will not be meeting on December 26th, but will resume on January 2nd.

HEY KIDS! What country did Joseph take Mary and baby Jesus to? Tell Mrs. Brockway the answer and you'll get a prize!

Interesting Statistics About Senegal

Population

U.S. 301,139,947, Senegal 12,521,851

Literacy rate

U.S. 99%, Senegal 39.3%

Life expectancy (years)

U.S. 78, Senegal 56.69

Infant mortality rate

U.S. 6.37/1000, Senegal 60.15/1000

Population growth rate

U.S. 0.894 %, Senegal 2.654 %

HIV/AIDS prevalence

U.S. 0.6%, Senegal 0.8%

Budget

U.S. revenues \$2.407 trillion; expenditures \$2.655 trillion

Senegal revenues \$1.975 billion; expenditures \$2.485 billion

Religions

U.S. Protestant 52%, Roman Catholic 24%, Mormon 2%, Jewish 1%, Muslim 1%, other 10%, none 10%

Senegal Muslim 94%, Christian 5% (mostly Roman Catholic), indigenous beliefs 1%

Population below poverty line

U.S. 12%, Senegal 54%

GDP (purchasing power parity)

U.S. 13.06 trillion, Senegal \$21.54 billion

GDP per capita

U.S. \$43,800, Senegal \$1,800

Unemployment rate

U.S. 4.8%, Senegal 48%; note - urban youth 40%

Public debt % GDP

U.S. 64.7 %, Senegal 16.3%

Internet users

U.S. 208 million, Senegal 650,000

Statistics from the World Factbook, www.cia.gov

A Message From Your NorthRidge Elders

An Undivided Fellowship to Glorify God



What is in a name? When you drive by our sign coming to church on Sunday morning or open the bulletin and see the name NorthRidge Fellowship, I hope you see that the name actually reflects who we are. We are a fellowship of Christian believers whom God has placed in the NorthRidge subdivision. The Merriam-Webster dictionary gives the definition of Name as “a word or phrase that constitutes the distinctive designation of a person or thing”. We know what something’s nature is by its name. Much prayer and thoughtful discussion went into choosing the name for the new church plant in Jerome. The name had to represent the church that God had called us to be.

Our church is actually in the NorthRidge subdivision. If the church was to be a part of the community, the name would have to reflect the location of the community we were in. God has blessed us with an area that is growing and just by our location God has called many to our church. By being in the NorthRidge subdivision we have had an opportunity to love and minister to those that are literally in our back yard.

The Holman Concise Bible dictionary lists fellowship as: “The bond of common purpose and devotion that binds Christians together and to Christ. Koinonia was Paul’s favorite word to describe a believer’s

relationship with the risen Lord and the benefits of salvation that come through Him. On the basis of faith believers have fellowship with the Son (1 Cor. 1:9), share fellowship in the gospel (1 Cor. 9:23), and share a fellowship with the Holy Spirit (2 Cor. 13:14), a most important bond for the unity in the life of the church (Phil. 2:1-4)”. That is a description of the church God has called us to be—not a church focused on a religion, but rather one that is a true fellowship of believers.

In our name you will also see the abbreviation S.B.C. This stands for the Southern Baptist Convention. The term refers to both the denomination and its annual meeting. This church is a Southern Baptist mission plant and we are a member of the S.B.C. This allows us to cooperate in a number of works that we could not do alone. By contributing to the convention and working together with over 42,000 other churches we are able to sponsor about 5,000 home missionaries serving the United States, Canada, Guam, and the Caribbean, as well as sponsoring more than 5000 foreign missionaries in 153 countries. Southern Baptist is not spelled out on our sign, however, not because we did not want people to know who we are, but rather we wanted the focus to be on Christ, not what our affiliation is. The Bible tells us in 1

Corinthians chapter 1, that the first-century Corinthian church was having problems with division. When Paul wrote to Corinth, we see the church divided into at least four factions, each aligning themselves with one of four prominent Christian leaders. Verse 12 reads, “Now I say this, that each of you says, I am of Paul, or I am of Apollos, or I am of Cephas, or I am of Christ.” In verse 13 we see that Paul used three rhetorical questions, each expecting a negative answer, to show the absurdity of the Corinthian divisions. “Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?” Paul pointed out that they should identify themselves with Christ, not with the individual who baptized them. The Corinthians had begun to identify themselves with the men who performed the baptisms rather than with Jesus Himself. The focus should be on the message, not the messenger.

We give God all the glory for the fellowship we have at NorthRidge and we continue to pray that we remain truly a Fellowship, not in name only. We pray that we do not lose our focus on why we exist as a church. NorthRidge Fellowship exists to glorify God by loving Him, loving one another, and loving our community and the world.

Travis Flick

M e e t

Myrla Plant

Every month you will be introduced to a fellow attendee at NorthRidge Fellowship.

Where were you born and raised?

I am a native Californian...was born in Riverside, CA and lived all my life in the Long Beach area.

Who are (or have been) the most influential people in your life?

First, I would have to say my parents, both of whom loved and served God, and also many wonderful servants of God throughout the years.

What is your favorite passage and/or book of the Bible?

That's a hard one. I have always turned to Proverbs 3: 5&6 and Philippians 4:6 I have learned to listen and rest on these promises, and have used them many times. As for a favorite book, I often go back and read the book of Job because I especially want to read again where God tells Job just who He is!

Aside from the Bible, what are your favorite books?

You are asking a bookaholic for a favorite title? I love Max Lucado's books...like them all and often give them away for others to read. I also love Chuck Colson's *Loving God* and J. Sidlow Baxter, an old Scottish preacher I met years ago...*Going Deeper* and his devotional book *Awake My Heart* are two favorites. I have too many collections of old authors.

If you were stranded on an island, what four foods would you most want to have?

Shrimp, lobster, milk, and chocolate of any kind!

Who in the Bible do you most identify with?

Probably Ruth because she was a caregiver kind of person, no doubt was a good mom and grandmother (David's), and she really wanted to love and serve God.

What are the four most interesting places you have been to?

On a film trip with Ron back East, staying in an old house near Valley Forge where Washington's troops were stationed, then in an old hideaway for smugglers on Long Island, and in Colorado on a crazy jeep trip my daughter talked me into, hanging over the cliffs on "non roads" of the gold mine country, and then on a train trip down into the valley and across the New Mexico border where the scenery was just incredible.

How did you come to know Christ?

My parents had taught me about Jesus from the time I could walk, but at five years of age I accepted Jesus as my Savior at a Child Evangelism Good News Club. The decision was very clear to me...and very real. Then over the years, I rededicated my life in total commitment to Him. I think that may be why God has directed me so many times to work with children...because I know children can be reached for Christ, and their decisions can be very real....it happened to me.

Books Worth Reading

Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another. Romans 14:19



***"Don't Make Me Count to Three!" A Mom's Look at Heart-Oriented Discipline* by Ginger Plowman**

Every mom looks for good resources on how to bring her children up in the training and instruction of the Lord. As I had a 2-year-old and a 3-year-old in the home I was searching for something to guide me and to help me in the parenting task. Being a stay-at-home mom of two children, 15 months apart, could be at times be frustrating and challenging. Since I did not grow up in a Christian home I did not have anything to look back on as a Godly example of how to be a mother and how to raise the children biblically. When we were in seminary someone suggested that I read *"Don't Make Me Count to Three!"* by Ginger Plowman and that, along with God's Word, would be a good resource to help me in my parenting quest.

The book *"Don't Make Me Count to Three!"* focuses on the discipline of the heart and how to use Scripture for encouragement and reproof. Ginger Plowman writes in a way that is fun and also gives ideas and strategies for biblical parenting. Parenting doesn't have to be frustrating; we just need to know how to get to the heart issues in our children.

In the book she covers three major areas: reaching the heart of your child, how to give a biblical reproof, and the biblical use of the rod in discipline. God has blessed us with our children and now with this honor we must teach them about God and be examples for them. Plowman explains how we must do this in a gentle and loving way through God's Word. The problem of the heart is the first area she addresses. We have all been there: the children are disobeying, talking back, or throwing a temper tantrum. What do we do, raise our voice and repeat ourselves over and over again or threaten them? No! We must realize that they are sinful (Romans 3:23) and that sin is bound up in their heart (Proverbs 22:15). She explains that it is natural for children to sin, but shows how we must train them in the discipline and instruction that Scripture clearly prescribes. We must communicate, listen, and talk *with* them; not *at* them.

One thing I love about this book is the fact that she gives examples and role plays certain situations. One of the many areas she talks about are "siblings sharing" and how she and her husband came up with an idea that reached the children's heart issue. Her children were both being selfish so they came up with a "plan of action" that they could use every time this sort of situation occurred. The rule would help them with their heart and also prepare them for adulthood. She goes through role playing the situation with her children, which includes biblical training. What she explains in her book in these types of situations, is how we must work on "putting off" being selfish and rude and "putting on" an attitude of love and kindness. Plowman explains her goal to promote peace in her house through using God's Word. We must train our children to think like Christians. We must use calm speech and seek to understand the nature of the internal conflict that was expressed in the outward behavior. Plowman brings to our attention how we must probe the heart and ask questions such as: *What was the nature of the temptation? How did he respond to the temptation?* among others. Our goal is training up our children in righteousness and to understand the issues of their heart.

Plowman also speaks on how to give biblical reproof. She dedicates a good portion of her book to God's methods to train children in this area. This part of the book is so encouraging. Since we are to be teaching our children with

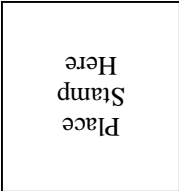
***Don't Make Me Count To Three* continued on back page...**

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

8:15 a.m. First Service
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Second Service

Sunday Services

www.nrlfellowship.org
456 Golf Course Road
Jerome, ID 83338



Treasures for a Hurting World

Giving through Samaritan's Purse Catalog

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade Sunday school class is learning about worshipping God through giving. King Joash was seven years old when he became king of Judah. He was a good king and followed the Lord. During his reign, he wanted to repair the Lord's temple. He commanded workers to build a chest and place it outside the gate of the Lord's temple. Joash told all the people in Judah and Jerusalem to put their taxes in this chest so the temple could be repaired. All the leaders and the people were happy to give an offering for the temple. When enough money was collected, Joash and Jehoiada, the high priest, gave the money to those in charge of repairing the temple. When all the work was finished, some money was left over. This money was used to make new items the priests needed to serve in the temple. The people showed a love for God by gladly giving to rebuild his temple. (2 Chronicles 24:1-14)

Our Sunday School class wanted to follow the example of King Joash so we set up a chest in our classroom. The children decided to collect money for World Hunger since October 14th is designated as World Hunger Day in Southern Baptist churches. The children thought this would be a great way to worship God through giving and show his love to others. In October, we collected \$38.23.

Through the Samaritan's Purse gift catalog, our class decided to feed a hungry baby for a week, buy a month's worth of meals for a child, and provide a starter brood of 24 chicks for a impoverished family. The excitement and joy the children experienced by worshipping God through giving is priceless. The children were so excited about showing God's love to hungry and suffering children, they set a goal of collecting \$50.00 during the months of November and December. In January we'll decide how to use the money to send "gifts that bring the love of Christ to a hurting world".

Kim Flick

Don't Make Me Count To Three continued...

the purpose of training them, we must be teaching them what the Bible says about the problems and concerns that they are facing at that moment. This part of the book is full of practical advice. It talks about biblical discipline and correcting wrong behavior with right behavior and right attitudes. Plowman talks about the power of God's Word (2 Timothy 3:16) saying, "Teaching our children in accordance with God's Word points them to the fact that they are sinners in need of God's mercy and intervention in their lives." It is the parents' responsibility to be examples and to train our children as we strive to have an attitude like Christ's. She reminds us that our children learn the most not by what they hear you say, but by what they see you do. This should be a sobering thought for all of us.

Plowman also addresses the issue of correction: to spank or not to spank. She talks about examining our motives, our life, choosing the right time and place to discipline, using the right words and tone of voice, and how to have biblical solutions. Every part of this book is worth reading and rereading. At the end of the book she has a chart for us to copy and hang on the wall to aid us in our journey of parenting. This book is so helpful you will find yourself going back to it over and over again for ideas and encouragement.

Gayle Boyd