

# Navigator

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

## Finding Security in the Midst of Fear

*Do Not Fear*—If I were to ask, “What is the most repeated command in the Bible?” how would you respond? Maybe you would think about lying or stealing. Maybe you would consider God’s commands against having other gods before Him. Possibly loving others would come to mind. But the real answer is “Do not be afraid.” Over three hundred times in the Bible the command is given not to fear. The sheer number of occurrences of this command in the pages of Scripture must speak to mankind’s propensity to suffer from fear.

Our fears begin in childhood: scared of the dark, scared of what lies behind the cracked open closet door, scared of the school bully, and countless other scenarios that dot the timeline of our past. But our fears do not end with High School graduation as fear is no respecter of age. Fear is a universal truth for all humans and our childhood fears give way to adult dread. We are no longer scared of the dark and the “boogeyman,” but we are crippled by the fear of what people think of us, failure, and losing a loved one. We are afraid of pain, financial loss, exposure, disappointment, death, and the list could go on and on and on.

But the God who commands us not to be afraid also gives us a great reason not to succumb to our fears. And the reason is Him. Way back in the Old Testament around the turn of the seventh century B.C. God spoke to His people through the prophet Isaiah.

In Isaiah chapter 39, the prophet tells King Hezekiah that in the future God’s

people will be taken into captivity by the nation of Babylon and led away into exile for 70 years.

As chapter 39 comes to a close, a great ray of hope breaks forth in the midst of this bleak picture as God’s message turns to one of comfort. This was written to a nation that was about to undergo fierce judgment, so it is not a pretty outlook for God’s people. But even as God’s people are preparing for hardship, captivity and exile, God brings them a word of hope. He says, “Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand” (Isaiah 41:10).

Sometimes, when others are experiencing fear, we try to comfort them and we say well-meaning things such as, “Oh there is nothing to be afraid of” or “Don’t worry about it, it will all be alright,” yet we never really tell them why they are not to be afraid. We say, “Don’t be afraid,” but we never give them any real truth that will comfort their fears. Thankfully, God is not like us. His words are never empty. Rather, He gives us a good reason not to be afraid: He is with us. God says that the reason that we do not have to fear is that He, the God of the universe, the Creator of all things, the Lord of all, is with us. And He is with us even in the midst of our struggles that cause us to fear.

A few verses later in Isaiah 41:13 God even says, “For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, ‘Fear not, I will help you.’” God who is an “ever present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1) assures His people that He has not abandoned them, but is close enough to hold them by the hand.

In Isaiah 41:10 God also says, “Do not anxiously look about you.” Yet this is exactly what we have a tendency to do when we are in a fearful situation. We anxiously look about us and we focus on the trouble instead of focusing upon the

One who has said that He will “never leave you, nor forsake you” (Hebrews 13:5). God wants our eyes upon Him rather than on our circumstances so that we might anchor our lives to Him remembering that He will “strengthen you” and “help you” and “uphold you.”

So the next time you are tempted to fear, remember God’s words of comfort from Isaiah 41. God does not say that it will be easy, but He does promise that He is there. And He has promised that nothing in the universe will ever “be able to separate us from the love

of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:39).

Pastor Matt

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**Staff**

Pastor Matthew Boyd 293-2841  
 Youth Pastor Shannon Pharaoh 329-0159  
 Worship Leader Chris Myhre 644-6421  
 Treasurer Kim Flick 536-4643  
 Education Leader Kevin Bickel 324-2654  
 Women's Ministry Mandy Auclair 324-3668  
 Children's Leader Gina Bickel 324-2654  
 Nursery Lauren Parish 324-2517  
 Webmaster Greg Peasall 837-6003  
 webmaster@nrfellowship.org  
 Bulletin Jolleen Kohler 324-3545  
 thekohlerfive@msn.com  
*Have bulletin items to Jolleen by Wednesday*

**Leadership**

**Elders**  
 Matthew Boyd 293-2841 pastor@nrfellowship.com  
 Travis Flick 536-4643 tkflick1@netzero.com  
 Rich Henry 736-5025 rich\_henry3@hotmail.com

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 Kevin Bickel 324-2654 whispermtn@yahoo.com  
 Jeff Hanni 539-4079  
 Chris Myhre 644-6421 ccmyhre@msn.com  
 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. Kids 4 Truth at NorthRidge Fellowship

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

**Bible Builders Class**

Dear parents of 3-6 year olds, please read the following out loud to your child: Hi kids, this is Mrs. B! Do you know what time it is? It's....Bible Time! And do you know what we're going to be learning about? Fruit! I've got a new CD ready for you with all new songs! And I've got some new puppets to help us learn about the fruit of God's Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23).

If you're ready to have some fun and learn God's truths, make sure you join me for Bible Builders Class! (Parents: Bible Builders Class runs on Sundays during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.)

Mrs. B

**Mark Your Calendars for  
 Vacation Bible School!  
 The Ramblin' Road Trip  
 June 16 - 20  
 4 years old - 5th grade**

**H<sub>2</sub>O Youth Ministry**  
 John 4:13-14

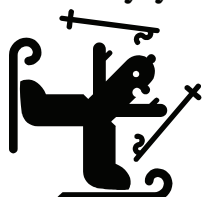
There will be a **Parent's Night Out** on February 29th. Enjoy an evening out, and help the youth raise money for missions.

**Sonfest**

March 14th-16th  
 Grades 7th-12th  
 Total cost is \$85

**A \$10 registration fee is due  
 February 17th**

**Hey youth get**



**ready—  
 Ski and  
 Share is  
 coming  
 up in**

**March!**

Shannon and Alicia Pharaoh

**Did you know...** that over 50% of our congregation is 18 years of age and younger? What an awesome responsibility and privilege we have to train these young people to lead the future generation.

If you are already working with children or you are interested in working with children you won't want to miss this conference!

**A Heart for Children**

Deuteronomy 6:5

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart*

**Where:** NorthRidge Fellowship

**When:** Saturday, March 8th  
 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM



**Topics:** Protecting Our Children  
 Needs of Children  
 Children and Salvation  
 How We Can Minister to Our Children



**Details:** Lunch will be provided.  
 We will not be able to provide childcare.

**R.S.V.P.**

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the foyer if you are planning to attend.

**3rd Annual Valentine's Banquet**

Friday, February 15th ♥ \$30.00 per couple  
 Tickets available starting January 13th

**At NorthRidge Fellowship Fine Dining**

Enjoy the candlelit atmosphere experience!

Delectable fare catered by  
 Mrs. Chef Pharaoh and her  
 charming assistant, Jr. Chef Hanni!



Brisket, baked potatoes, salad, rolls, and dessert

**Surprise Mysterious Entertainment!**

Photos will be taken to preserve the memory



**Youth will use the money raised for Ski and Share. Thank you for supporting the youth!**

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# FEBRUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Ladies Scrapbook/Craft night on **February 1st** from 6:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight. Bring your own project and enjoy fellowshiping!

The 39 and Holding group encourages everyone to attend the Valentine's Banquet on Friday, February 15th.

Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the 3rd annual Valentine's Banquet!

**February 3rd** is the deadline for purchasing tickets to the Beth Moore Living Proof Live Conference. The conference will be in Boise on May 16th and 17th. Tickets are limited. Call Mandy at 324-3668.

Enjoy sharing meals and conversation with other couples? Feast and Fellowship is starting again in February. Sign up in the foyer or call Jeanette Hanni.

**HEY KIDS!** Find the frog hidden somewhere in the newsletter. Show Mrs. Brockway and get a prize!

## Giving Over and Above



Some have asked the purpose of the deacon fund. Usually, when someone asks a question, there are others, with the same questions, who just have not voiced it. So, we will make an attempt to answer those questions.

First, what is the purpose of the Deacon Fund? The Deacon Fund is for helping those people, whether in or outside our church, that have a monetary need. This has included rent, prescriptions, housing for homeless, tires for vehicles, and food, to name a few. These dispersions are not made arbitrarily, but the deacons consult one another before any assistance is given. Under the majority of instances, money is not given directly to those in need. Instead, the items or payment needed are paid for them.

Second, why not just take the money out of the general fund? For the most part, the General Fund is used for the day to day operations of the church. While this may include a situation that arises from a personal need, it is not for that expressed designation. The General Fund is that which consists of the normal giving (tithes; or that giving that is to be done on a regular basis); whereas, the Deacon Fund is comprised of those gifts that are over and above our regular giving. (1 Corinthians 9)

We are greatly blessed at our church to have such a generous and giving congregation. As stated in the Scripture above, God will honor those who give to his work. The Deacon Fund can be given to any time (not just at the special offering) by designating your gift in the boxes in the back of the church. Let it just be restated that this giving should not be comprised of your normal tithes and offerings, but above and beyond as God has put it on your heart.

The deacons thank all of you for your giving spirit in the past, and look forward to it continuing in the future. We rest assured that God will not let your generosity go unnoticed.

NorthRidge Deacons

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### *A Message From Your NorthRidge Elders*

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# Feeding, Nurturing, and Protecting the Flock

"You're too young to be an elder," is something that I have heard on occasion. And while I must confess that on the backside of thirty I would not mind hearing it a little more often, that statement speaks more to a misunderstanding of "elder" than it does to my youthfulness.

The term "elder" is a biblical word that is used throughout the New Testament to refer to those who are called by God and entrusted with the leadership of His church in a specific location. The word elder is used interchangeably throughout the New Testament with two other titles for this same office: "overseer" (sometimes translated "bishop") and "pastor." Each of these titles deal with different aspects of the same office: elder refers to the spiritual maturity of the office, overseer speaks to the leadership and direction for the church that this office provides, while pastor recalls the shepherding functions of feeding, nurturing, and protecting the flock.

There are a few passages in the New Testament where all three of these titles are used together. One such passage is found in 1 Peter 5:1-2 where he writes, "The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: Shepherd (pastor) the flock

of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly."

Those who serve as elders must meet stringent requirements that are given in Scripture. In 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 the Apostle Paul sets forth the qualifications for men who are to serve the church as elders. These qualifications are not given as mere suggestions, but as divinely mandated standards of character that elders are to possess for the good of the church and the people who the elders serve. This does not mean that elders are to be perfect, for if that were the case no church would ever have a biblically qualified elder! Instead, the character of the elders is to be consistent, predictable, and proven as they are called to exemplify Christian character.

But what are the responsibilities and duties that an elder is to carry out? Author and pastor Phil Newton points out four basic duties that the elder is given in Scripture: doctrine, discipline, direction, and distinction. Doctrine points out the elder's responsibility to teach truth and guard the church against false teaching (1 Timothy 3:2; Acts 20:28-30). Discipline is the elder's responsibility to train, admonish, encourage, correct, and possibly administer church discipline (Matthew 18:15-17; Galatians 6:1-2). The

responsibility of direction is the elder's charge to make decisions, cast vision, plan, administer, delegate, and govern the details of the life of the church (1 Thessalonians 5:12; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:2). Finally, distinction is the responsibility to be an example of mature Christian living and to be models of the Christian life (1 Timothy 3:2-7; Titus 1:6-9; 1 Peter 5:3).

The elders of NorthRidge Fellowship take this responsibility extremely seriously. We realize that we are called to "watch out for your souls, as those who must give account" (Hebrews 13:17). Knowing that we will one day stand before the Lord Jesus Christ to give an account we seek to serve the Lord and His church "with joy and not with grief" (Hebrews 13:17) and "not by compulsion but willingly" (1 Peter 5:2).

The elders are not the CEOs of NorthRidge, but rather have been entrusted with "shepherding the flock of God that is among us" (1 Peter 5:2). So when you think about an elder, do not conjure up images of a boardroom; think of a pasture full of sheep, and envision a faithful shepherd protecting, feeding, nurturing, and loving the sheep that have been entrusted to him as they all await the appearing of the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ (1 Peter 5:4).



Matt Boyd

# Meet Jeanette Hanni

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

## **Where were you born and raised?**

I was born and raised in Jerome, Idaho on my family's farm.

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

My grandparents and my parents.

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

I have two favorite stories in the Bible: the story of Ruth and Naomi and the story of Esther. Psalm 27:14 is also a favorite.

## **Aside from the Bible, what are your favorite books?**

I do not do a lot of reading, but the last three books I enjoyed reading were about pirates.

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

Jeff's pork ribs, tomato cucumber salad, enchiladas, and nectarines.

## **Who in the Bible do you most identify with?**

Mary and Martha: I think that I have a mixture of both of them.

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

London, Scotland, Edmonton, Canada, and Isla Mularis, Mexico.

## **How did you come to know Christ?**

I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior when I was around 12 years old with my mom and sister.

# 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*



## ***Parenting with Scripture*, by Kara Durbin**

Let's just say that once when I was a kid, I stole some candy from a little girl while visiting at her house, and let's just say I got caught. What do you suppose would have been the appropriate discipline and training from my parents? If you think it would be dirty looks and silence for three days, then clearly you know my mother. However, if you are pondering in your head the various passages of Scripture on stealing, and the scriptural counsel on character, and you are pondering the right way to communicate those truths to me so that I will leave behind my future profession of thievery, then this book is clearly a resource you will enjoy.

*Parenting with Scripture* is a topical guide for helping parents train their children during teachable moments. While I'm sure everyone at NorthRidge knows exactly where to go in Scripture for those applicable verses during misbehavior 😊, having a selection of verses available quickly when your passions are mounting is extremely helpful.

Each topic has a child-friendly simplistic definition, and an entire page of applicable Scripture passages. In addition, author Kara Durbin provides discussion questions and thoughtful suggestions for application. Durbin covers a wide range of topics, from the negative to the positive. Topics include charity, competition, discipline, fairness, gossip, habits, integrity, judgment, loneliness, love, prayer, responsibility, self-control, thankfulness, and many others. Yes, she includes the all-important topic that all parents love: obedience.

With a strong emphasis on the ten commandments, the beatitudes, the love chapter of 1 Corinthians 13, the fruit of the Spirit, the armor of God, the "clothe yourself" passage of Colossians 3:12-14, and the faith passage of 2 Peter 1:5-9, Durbin lays an excellent foundation for helping readers parent with Scripture.


Parents, you might find *yourself* convicted as you use this book to help train your children. For example, procrastination is surely a topic worthy of study, if we would just take the time to do it.

Had my parents been believers at the time, and had this excellent resource been at their fingertips, I would have been given the following verses on stealing: Exodus 20:15, Leviticus 19:13, Proverbs 10:2, and Ephesians 4:28. My parents would have followed the discussion suggestions, and we would have answered the mind-probing, logic-inspiring question: "What would the world be like if there was no law against stealing?" If my parents would have followed Durbin's suggestion for application, they may have taken me to the Latah County Jail to see first-hand the various individuals who had succumbed to the desire to steal candy from their friends. Seeing the consequences up close would certainly have an impact on a five-year-old. But on the other hand, Durbin is clear that consequences and discipline should be age-appropriate, so probably I would have missed the opportunity to visit the Latah County Jail, and gladly so. A drive-by would have sufficed.

Kara Durbin also includes advice directly to parents. My parents would have read that they should have required me to return the item and apologize directly to the one I offended. She advises that parents should not shelter their children from the consequences of their actions. Durbin's suggestions certainly give parents a lot to consider as they ponder Biblical courses of action for training their children in a Godly manner.

I encourage you to explore the book at the Search Inside feature at Amazon.com. This book is published by Moody Press, and is a gem of scriptural counsel during teachable moments for children, teenagers, *and* adults.

Karen Brockway



It is clear that there is one main message creation has to communicate to human beings, namely, the glory of God. Not primarily the glory of creation, but the glory of God. The glory of creation and the glory of God are as different as the love poem and the love, the painting and the landscape, the ring and the marriage. It would be a great folly and a great tragedy if a man loved his wedding band more than he loved his bride.

John Piper in *The Pleasures of God*

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.norridgefellowship.org  
314 West Ave J  
Jerome, ID 83338



Place  
Stamp  
Here



# To The Ends of the Earth

Missionaries have always asked for prayer. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Rome and said, "Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me" (Romans 15:30). But all too often our prayers for missionaries consist of "God please bless all the missionaries all over the world wherever they are." Many times I have heard people who have a genuine heart for Jesus, the Gospel, and the Great Commission pray in this way. And I readily confess that I have uttered these general type petitions in the past as well as I sought to lift up those who are serving the cause of Jesus Christ and the Gospel overseas. But over the years I have tried to move away from such blanket prayers and move toward praying for some very specific things on behalf of missionaries.

One thing that has greatly helped me to do this is to pray regularly for specific missionaries. Our family receives several monthly prayer updates from missionaries on the field that convey their detailed needs. This allows one to "get to know" the missionaries and their struggles and their specific needs and concerns. Also, many missionary agencies such as the International Mission Board provide prayer calendars and send out weekly e-mail prayer updates to keep God's people aware of particular needs that arise, as well as to inform them of how they can praise God for the continued advance of the Gospel.

It also helps to pray for some needs that are common to all missionaries. The following list is far from exhaustive, but may cause you to enlarge your prayers on behalf of God's ambassadors.

Pray for their Spiritual Life: that they would take sufficient time to study the Bible and pray; that they would be encouraged and experience joy in their ministry; that they would be people of integrity, reliability, humility, discernment, and wisdom; that they would be led by the Holy Spirit in all of their day to day decisions.

Pray for their Personal Life: that their marital relationships would be strengthened; that the needs of their children would be cared for; that they would not be homesick for or worry about family, friends, and situations back in the United States; that they would be protected from sickness; that they would be protected from accidents, crime, terrorists, and calamities.

Pray for their relationships: with other Christians; with their ministry team; with the nationals they are working with and ministering to.

Pray for them as they work in a different culture with a new language: that they would make steady progress in language studies; that they would adapt well and be sensitive to new customs and cultures; that they would have clarity, creativity, and relevance in their preaching and teaching; that they would be fearless to preach Christ and Him crucified no matter what the cost.

While there are so many more things that we must pray for on behalf of missionaries, let this serve as a great starting point for us as we seek to be "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints" (Ephesians 6:18). Now let us pray without ceasing on behalf of those who are pouring out their life for the spread of the Gospel!

Pastor Matt