

# Navigator

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

## Passing God's Truths to the Next Generation

There is a pervasive feeling as you read through the Old Testament that the people of God are only one generation away from apostasy at all times. There is the sense, from a human perspective, that the only thing perpetuating the people of God is what we do with the next generation. Everything rides on how we handle, instruct, love, and disciple the next generation.

This truth is seen crystal clearly in the opening chapters of the book of Judges. Joshua, the leader of the people of God, and his generation courageously conquer the Promised Land. They are mighty in battle and strong in the Lord as they do great things for God. While they are not a perfect generation, they are a generation that sees and witnesses God doing great things among them. And as you read the book of Joshua it would seem that this is the beginning of great things to come.

But as Joshua comes to a close and the book of Judges begins Joshua and his generation have died. The generation that saw God do great things among them has passed away and now the hope and the future rests with the next generation. Judges 2:10 describes this generation when it says, "When all that generation (Joshua's generation) had been gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done for Israel." And since they did not know the One True and Living God and what this mighty God had done, they were lured away by the false gods around them and fell into idolatry. Joshua's generation goes and takes the land and does mighty things in the service of God and the next generation is in absolute apostasy and idolatry. All in one generation.

This fact stresses the urgency of building within the hearts and minds of the next generation a knowledge of who God is and what He has done. Psalm 78 calls the people of God to this task when it speaks of passing along vital truths about God to those who will come after us: "Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children; that the

generation to come might know them, the children who would be born, that they may arise and declare them to their children" (Psalm 78:3-6). This passing down of truth does not happen by accident, but occurs when the adults of today have a heart for God that overflows to the adults of tomorrow through their instruction in the truths of God.

The goal of all of this God-centered instruction is, "That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments" (Psalm 78:7). The goal is not just children who know more about the Bible; it is children who set their hope in God. It is children who grow up to have a big and biblical view of who God is that impels them to trust Him and set their hope in Him and find their satisfaction in Him. These are people who cannot "forget the works of God" because they see God in all of life. God for them is not a compartmentalized deity who is only to be trusted when all else fails. Rather, He is to them life and hope and they delight in His Word and in His commands because they delight in God. And this occurs when God uses the faithful instruction of the generation that went before them.

To pass these truths on to the next generation we must be sure that we are living these truths out ourselves. In Deuteronomy chapter 6 parents are given the command to "Teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up" (Deuteronomy 6:7). But before this command is given, God through Moses tells the parents to "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts" (Deuteronomy 6:5-6). In other words, before the parents instruct the next generation they must be sure that they love God and have internalized the truth of His Word.

What are you doing to pass on the glorious truths of the Bible to the next generation? How is the next generation seeing you live out a God-centered and Jesus glorifying life? May it never be said that the generation that comes after us "did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done."

† Pastor Matt



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**Navigator PDF**

To receive the newsletter as a PDF in email, please send a request to newsletter@nrfellowship.org and you will be added to the Navigator email list.

**Children's Ministries**

Helping Children Become God-Focused Believers Through Essential Christian Truth

**The Privilege of Sharing the Word of God**

Dear Workers in Children's Ministry,

As we think about our church family at NRF we feel so very blessed and thankful for your prayers and your faithfulness. We have been praying for you and the children of NRF. Your jobs as workers in Children's Ministry are so important and we want you to know that we appreciate each one of you.

Our children need to know what they believe and why they believe it and our children's ministries are excellent vehicles in accomplishing this goal. We also want to encourage you to keep on being faithful and not to get tired or discouraged.

Being in Diouloulou was discouraging at times. It made us realize that we have taken for granted the ability to communicate the truths of God's Word to those who can understand what we are saying. The people in Diouloulou are very steeped in their culture, traditions and religious beliefs. There are many barriers that need to be removed before they can understand and accept God's gift of salvation.

We would like to share a verse with you the Lord has shown us that has been an encouragement to us. "So, dear brothers and sisters, be strong and steady, always enthusiastic about the Lord's work, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless" (I Corinthians 15:58).

Each one of you has been given the privilege and responsibility of reaching and training the new generation of NRF. Your ministry with these young people will have eternal consequences, not just for these young people, but for those to whom they will also minister. May God bless you as you continue to faithfully serve Him.

In Christ, Kevin and Gina

**Children's Ministries: Kids 4 Truth** Wednesday evenings, 6:15pm to 7:45pm (on summer break)  
**Sunday School** 9:30am-10:20am ♦ **Bible Builders** During the 10:30 worship service

**H<sub>2</sub>O YOUTH MINISTRY**



**JOHN 4:13-14**

Here's a few upcoming events that I need to let the youth and their parents know about:

**First,** June 13th the youth will be having a digital camera party. I don't have a time for this so stay tuned for more details.

**Second,** August 7, 8, and 9 will be SonFest in Layton, Utah. We will be leaving at noon on the 7th. This is our annual summer event when we go to Utah for the weekend and listen to an awesome speaker, great music, and on top of that, have a lot of fun learning about Christ. This is open to 7th grade through 12th grade. If you have a youth interested in going see me or Alicia. I don't have the cost for this event yet so stay tuned.

**Third** we will be having a youth garage sale on Saturday, August 15th. The money we raise will benefit the youth. I know that this event is still a long way away, but if you have any questions you can contact Candy Myhre about this event.

I don't have anything planned for July so if you think of something fun or that the youth can do please let me know!

Thanks, Shannon Pharaoh



# Meet Jennifer Maughan

**Where were you born and raised?**

Hagerman.

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

Pastor Matt, Gayle, and our family at NorthRidge who have opened their hearts and their homes to my family.

**What is one of your favorite passages and/or books of the Bible?**

Psalm 46:10. When we realize that we are truly incapable of controlling life, we can surrender our will to God's will.

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

I love to read and I always have. My favorite book is *Suzanne's Diary for Nicholas* by James Patterson. I also enjoy reading books by Karen Kingsbury and Nicholas Sparks.

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

Asparagus, grapes, cheese, and chicken.

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

Although I have not yet read about everyone in the Bible, of the ones I have read about I think I can identify with John Mark the most. From what I have read he made a lot of mistakes but with encouragement was able to learn from them. I too have made my share of mistakes but instead of dwelling on them, I am learning from them and using them to make me a stronger Christian.

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

I think the most interesting places I have been to I found right here at home, such as: Blue Heart, Balanced Rock, ghost towns and old mines we have found while camping and exploring in our beautiful mountains, and the Gooding caves to name a few.

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

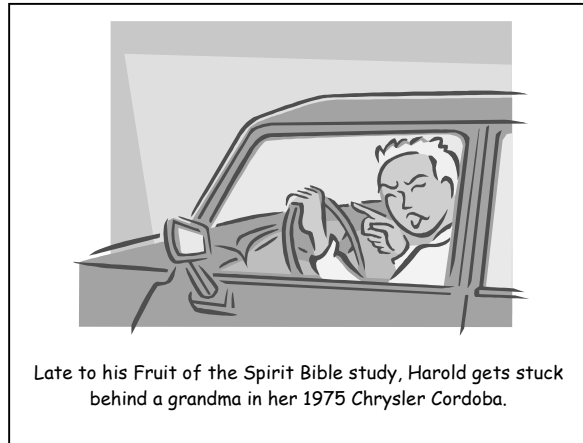
Pastor Matt shared the truth with me on January 1st of this year and I gave my life to Christ later that day. It has been an amazing journey so far and I am excited that I get to spend the rest of my life on earth glorifying the One who sent His only Son to die for ME.



## 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

**Respectable Sins – Confronting the Sins We Tolerate**, by Jerry Bridges



Late to his Fruit of the Spirit Bible study, Harold gets stuck behind a grandma in her 1975 Chrysler Cordoba.

Do slow drivers annoy you??? Read on....

1. Readable ★★★★★

If you've never read a Jerry Bridges book now would be a good time to start. Bridges' writings are clear, non-complicated and sincere.

2. Applicable ★★★★★

Is this book applicable to a wide audience? This is probably the best and worst part of this book. Everyone who sins will find themselves in not just one chapter of this book but perhaps every chapter. A few of the sins that are addressed are ungodliness, anxiety and frustration, discontentment, anger and impatience. The list is the author's top fourteen, which he explains in the book.

3. Biblical ★★★★★

In order for me to give a book 5 stars for being biblical it must present the gospel clearly and have biblical references for statements that are made. Jerry Bridges does this very thoroughly making this a great book to use for a study group.

Overall I highly recommend this book to all Christians at all stages of your walk. I was greatly convicted that some of the things I do which are "no big deal" to man are a big deal to God and need to be dealt with. Jerry Bridges is also clear on how to deal with your sin.

Shelley Montgomery

Religion has accepted the monstrous heresy that noise, size, activity and bluster make [one] dear to God. To a people caught in the tempest God says, "Be still, and know that I am God."

A.W. Tozer

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

9:30 a.m. Bible Study  
10:30 a.m. Worship

### Sunday Services

www.northridgefellowship.org  
314 West Ave ]  
Jerome, ID 83338



Place  
Stamp  
Here

# God's Growth in Diouloulou

## To The Ends of the Earth



There is a buzz of excitement around NorthRidge Fellowship the past few weeks. God is doing amazing things in Diouloulou. We thought it would be interesting to look at a timeline of events that would give us a perspective of how God has worked.

**November, 2006** Pastor Matt and Dennis visit Diouloulou for the first time and feel God leading us to adopt the town

**April, 2007** First team from our church to go with the purpose of evangelizing Diouloulou

**November, 2007** Second team goes and strengthens relationships; travels overland through Senegal to Diouloulou

**April, 2008** Third team goes and meets new people and also sees bond with previous acquaintances increasing

**November, 2008** Two teams go for ten days each, renew acquaintances and acquire a place in the town to rent for a year (establishing a place of our own within the town)

**January 30-April 25, 2009** Kevin and Gina Bickel go to stay in Diouloulou for three months

**February 15, 2009** Met Abdoulaye Bodian for the first time

**March 26, 2009** Joseph Ainoo comes to the apartment and says that he accepted Jesus Christ when he was eighteen

**March 29, 2009** Abdoulaye says that he has accepted Jesus as his Savior

**April 12, 2009** Abdoulaye and Joseph lead the Bible study for the first time

**May 18, 2009** Pastor and Dennis go to Diouloulou, ministry has changed from evangelism only to evangelism, discipleship, and leadership training

**May 22, 2009** Joseph, Abdoulaye, Dennis, and Pastor travel to villages to find out if they are willing to have a Bible study

**May 23, 2009** Abdoulaye and Joseph are baptized in the river in Diouloulou

**May 25, 2009** First Bible study takes place in Diabali (a village just north of Diouloulou). Joseph and Abdoulaye initiate the contact and organize it all on their own! Our church's mission work has finally come full circle with believers in Diouloulou answering the call to be missionaries themselves and spread the Gospel to other villages.

Our work in Diouloulou is far from being over. We need to keep this fledgling church in our prayers. We need to pray that they would have boldness in their speaking. Also, pray that they would not be discouraged and that God would protect them from any false teaching or disunity. Finally, pray that they would see others, especially women, come to know Christ as their Savior. We have no question about how all these amazing things have come to pass. It is all because God's people have taken up the cause of spreading His Word in this place. Because of the faithfulness of people, in praying for and giving to this work, God has seen fit to raise up a new church to His glory in Diouloulou!

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem [Jerome] and in all Judea [the Magic Valley] and Samaria [Idaho], and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

**NOTE OF PRAISE:** Our annual Mission Fund yard sale raised over \$1,600!

Kevin and Gina Bickel

# JUNE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Women's Summer Bible Study** begins Tuesday, June 9, at 2:00 p.m. See enclosed postcard for more information. Mail the invitation to a friend!

**VBS** will be from **June 15 - 19**. Use the enclosed flyer to invite your neighbor! More flyers are available at the church. (Please be collecting empty paper towel rolls and/or the inside rolls of foil or plastic wrap for the VBS projects. See Gayle with questions.)

**39 and Holding (Seniors!)**—You are invited to lunch at the home of Eva and John Doherty, 496 Golf Course Road, Jerome, on **Sunday, June 7**, following the morning church service. Bring a dish to share with everyone (dessert will be provided), and come enjoy the fun and fellowship. Invite a friend to come with you! Any questions, call Eva 324-4764 or Myrla 324-2406. See you there!

The Ladies craft night will be on **Friday, June 5 at 6:00 p.m.** Come fellowship and help us with VBS preparations!

MEN, does it get any better than lunch at the Wok and Grill in Twin Falls with your NRF brothers? LEAD Bible Study **every Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Contact Robert Kohler at 324-3545 or Candy Myhre at 644-6421 if you know of community service needs that NorthRidge can help with.

**HEY KIDS!** What was Saul looking for when Samuel announced he would be the future king of Israel? Read 1 Samuel 9, tell Mrs. Brockway the answer, and you will get a prize!

## Strong Man Conference

"...you are strong, and the Word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the wicked one."  
1 John 2:14

**Keynote Speaker:** Dr. Don Whitney  
**Additional Speakers:** Pastor Matt Boyd  
Pastor Paul Thompson

**Worship:** Josh Rosenthal

**Location:** NorthRidge Fellowship

**Date:** June 26 and 27

**Time:** Friday 6:00 pm  
Saturday 8:00 am

**\$25 per person.** This includes dinner on Friday and breakfast and lunch on Saturday.

# Praying and Preparing for Persecution

In Matthew 28:19 and 20 Christ tells us to "Go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you." Making disciples involves three things: going, baptizing, and teaching. As a church, we have been going to Africa for three years. In that time God has done amazing things. Recently, with our first baptisms in Africa, we see the beginnings of an infant Christian church in Diouloulou.

We need to be in prayer that God will have His hand of protection on them, as most likely they will be persecuted for being followers of Christ. Here in the United States our idea of persecution may be a bit different than what our fellow believers in Senegal may experience. Just like in the early church in the book of Acts, Satan will not be happy that Christ is being shared and will do numerous things to stop their growth. We can be certain however, just like in Acts, that with every wave of persecution the church will grow. Today, whether we are Christians in Africa or the United States, we need to have the courage to stand up for the truth, regardless of our circumstances or environment, so God can use us to grow His church.

For our courage to stand up for the truth, Jesus promises to acknowledge us before His Father in heaven. "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.

But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 10:32, 33). If we refuse to speak up for Christ because of intimidation or persecution we will lose the consequential glory in the kingdom to come.

We need to be like Paul. Though he was imprisoned in Rome for spreading the gospel, he realized God was in control of his situation and his persecution was actually spreading the gospel. "But I want you to know brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, so that it has become evident to the palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ" (Philippians 1:12-13). Paul wanted the Philippians to know that his imprisonment was advancing, not hindering, the gospel.

Paul's imprisonment was clearing a way for the gospel to penetrate the ranks of the Roman military and even the royal house. These were two areas that under normal circumstances would have been closed to the gospel. For the one or two years that Paul had been under house arrest in Rome, different soldiers had taken turns guarding him. Because they were chained to Paul they had no other choice but to listen to him proclaim the gospel. They could not beat him into silence because he was a Roman

citizen (Acts 16:37-38). Although Paul could not go to the world to preach, in this way God brought the world to Paul. They were literally a captive audience. In an ironic twist, they were the captives and Paul was free to preach.

Paul demonstrated that right actions are not determined by circumstances or environment, but rather by right thinking. He says later in Philippians 1:20, "According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will

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be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death." As far as Paul was concerned, there was no difference between life and death, as long as that life or death glorified Christ before others.

Just like the apostles in Acts 4:29, we need to pray for our fellow Christians in Africa that the Lord would "...look on their threats and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word." We later see in verse 31 that after the apostles had prayed, the place where they had assembled was shaken, they were filled with the Holy Spirit and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

Travis Flick