

Navigator

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

AMBASSADORS FOR THE KING

For obvious reasons, I will likely never serve as an ambassador for the United States. There is little chance that our government will send me to live abroad and serve as our country's representative to the government and the people of a foreign land. While that call to duty will never be extended to me, the Bible tells me that as a follower of Jesus I am now an ambassador for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20).

An ambassador is an authorized representative or messenger. It is a person who is dispatched to live in a foreign country and represent their king. As Christians we serve as those who have been commissioned by Christ and our work has been specially assigned by Him.

While living as Jesus' ambassador does not mean that we will have to move outside the boundaries of America, it does mean that we will live as citizens of another kingdom. The Apostle Paul writes to Christians in Philippians 3:20 saying, "But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ." The way that we live in this world must reflect the truth that this world is not our home. We are to live as sojourners and pilgrims in this life with our affections being tied to the Kingdom of God where our true citizenship lies (1 Peter 2:11).

An ambassador also speaks on behalf of the King that sent him. This is true in our case as well: we speak as the mouthpiece of King Jesus. 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 says, "Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God." As Jesus' ambassadors we are to take the good news of the Gospel to the inhabitants of this land declaring to them that they can be reconciled to the King through the finished work of Jesus. God has given this message to us and as we implore others to be reconciled to God it is as though God Himself, the Author of the message, is pleading through us to them.

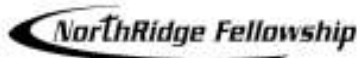
Paul called himself "an ambassador in chains" for the sake of the Gospel as he wrote to the Christians in Ephesus from a Roman prison cell. This truth reminds us that as we live as pilgrims and declare the message of our King to those around us that it will not always be received with joy. Most of the hardships that Paul endured were because of his being a faithful ambassador. But an ambassador is not called to comfort; he is called to faithfulness to his King.

The ambassador's aim is not to make himself look great, but to point out the great worth of his King. As Paul wrote to the Corinthians he stressed this role of the ambassador of Jesus. 2 Corinthians 4:5 states, "We don't go around preaching about ourselves; we preach Christ Jesus, the Lord. All we say about ourselves is that we are your servants because of what Jesus has done for us." There were a lot of great things that Paul did and it may have been tempting for him to want to magnify himself and his achievements and talk a lot about what he had done. But he realized that his role as an ambassador of Jesus was to talk about who Jesus was and what He had done. He said, "But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Galatians 6:14). An ambassador boasts only about the King that he represents.

Being an ambassador also means that we serve others in the name of our King. While the King desires that He be first and foremost in our affections, He also wants us to love the people that He sends us to. To quote 2 Corinthians 4:5 again, "We don't go around preaching about ourselves; we preach Christ Jesus, the Lord. All we say about ourselves is that we are your servants because of what Jesus has done for us." We are to talk and brag and glorify our King and all we can say about ourselves is that we are here to serve those around us because of what our King has done for us. We are to serve and love those around us in such a way that it makes our King look magnificent. Who can imagine a higher honor than being able to serve the King of kings and Lord of lords King Jesus Christ and those to whom He has sent us!



† 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

Children's Ministries: F/3 Children's Ministry Wednesday evenings, 6:30pm to 8:00pm
 Sunday School 9:15am-10:15am ♦ Bible Builders During the 10:30 worship service

Sunday School

9:15 - 10:15 am
 0-3 year olds - Nancy Cornwell
 4 year olds - 1st grade - Myrla Plant
 2nd - 4th grade - Kim Flick
 5th - 6th grade - Gayle Boyd



Bible Builders

After praise and worship in the morning service
 Nursery - 0 to 3 year olds
 3 year olds - 6 year olds

F-3

Wednesday nights
 6:30 - 8:00
 Nursery provided for those attending the Bible study
 4 year olds to 6th grade



F-3 Update!

- ✓ It's never too late to come to F-3
- ✓ Redemption Store will be open on October 7th
- ✓ Children are working on Operation Christmas Child boxes

T₂G TRANSFORMED TO GLORIFY

Teens transformed by Christ, to transform the world, for His glory.

NRF Youth News For the past two months, the teens at NorthRidge Fellowship have been going through the process of determining who we are and for what we want to be known. Based on the verses:

Romans 12:2 (ESV) Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Matthew 5:16 (ESV) In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

The following statement was developed as our goal: "Teens transformed by Christ, to transform the world, for His glory."

The definition of the word transform is, "To change in nature, disposition, heart, character, or the like." The transformation that we strive for is twofold: **first**, that we ourselves are transformed by Christ to be and do what He wants, and **second**, that the transformation in us will then translate in to a change in the world around us.

Based on our purpose statement, the teens went through a process of nomination and voting on a name for the group that would summarize our purpose. In the end, they decided on "T₂G" (transformed to glorify). So, in the future, when you see "T₂G" you will know it involves the youth ministry.

We ask that you would be in prayer for our teens as they face many situations where they will have the opportunity to glorify Jesus, that they will have strength, courage, and wisdom.

- ✗ We had a great time at our activity this past month. We went to Niagara Springs and played games followed by a campfire and cookout.
- ✗ This month's activity will be announced later. There are a lot of activities going on and we are trying to accommodate as many as possible. Watch the bulletin for the date and time.
- ✗ This past month in youth group we have been studying evidence to answer those who might question Jesus' deity. We are following this up this month with questions people raise about the Bible and God.

Kevin and Gina Bickel



Meet Shannon Pharaoh

Where were you born and raised?

Born in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. Raised in Maysville, Oklahoma.

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

My former Pastor Chuck Schilling and my wife.

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

Acts. It gives us a history of the early Church.

Aside from the Bible, what are your favorite books?

I love history books of the old west and how our country was formed.

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

Sausage pizza, steak, Nacho Cheese Doritos, and most of all my wife's chicken fried steak with gravy.

Who in the Bible do you most identify with?

Most of the time Peter because he sticks his foot in his mouth. But I would to strive to be more like Daniel.

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

Yellowstone; Mount St. Helens; Morgantown, West Virginia; and the Oregon Coast.

How did you come to know Christ?

I came to know Christ through the F.A.I.T.H. Presentation. A group of people from our old Church came to our house 4 times before I would let them in. I didn't want to let them in on the 4th time, but my wife told them to come on in.

They asked my wife about her relationship with Jesus, and the whole time I was hoping that they would not ask me anything and leave my house. Then they turned their focus on me. One man asked me if I was to die tonight am I 100% sure I would go to Heaven. I had to answer no. So they led me through the Bible and showed me why Jesus died for MY sins. I accepted Christ that very night and have been a follower of Jesus Christ ever since. It's been the best decision I've ever made.

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



How to Develop a Powerful Prayer Life:

The Biblical Path to Holiness and Relationship with God

By Dr. Gregory R. Frizzell

This book was first introduced to NorthRidge as a weekly study by Kirk Reese in November of 2006. The Lord laid it upon Dennis Cornwell's heart to begin the study again along with a monthly time for cooperate prayer. The study will be held the first Sunday of the month at 6:00 pm at NorthRidge Fellowship.

The author, Dr. Greg R. Frizzell, for sixteen years pastored the Georgian Hills Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee, where he also has served for ten years as director of Prayer and Spiritual Awakening for the Shelby Baptist Association. He is the author of twelve books on united prayer, spiritual awakening and prayer evangelism. His wife Sandy is a treasured prayer partner and an invaluable aid to his ministry.

Today there are rising signs that God is calling His people back to Himself through prayer and repentance. Yet, most of God's children still feel intimidated about their prayer life.

In his book, *How to Develop a Powerful Prayer Life*, Dr. Frizzell makes the following statement: "No one's relationship with Christ will ever rise above the level of his or her praying." Put simply, if your prayer life is inconsistent and weak, so will be your relationship with God! You can develop a dynamic prayer life!

And when we learn to walk in powerful daily prayer, God will transform our entire life.

In his book, Dr Frizzell's purpose is to help every Christian fully understand and experience a dynamic prayer life. Toward that purpose, you will experience five results as you seek God through the pages:

- You will gain a clear understanding of prayer from God's perspective and purpose.
- You will discover a full biblical understanding of what constitutes a powerful prayer life.
- You will learn how to let Christ become the very source and power of your prayer life.
- You will experience a new motivation and confidence to develop a dynamic prayer life.
- You will embrace a practical biblical pattern for developing powerful prayer and a dynamic personal relationship with Christ.

This book is designed to show us how to experience the mighty fullness of God through daily prayer. So please join us as we journey through the nine chapters of the book. God is calling us back to dynamic spiritual cleansing and an intimate walk with Himself.

Dennis and Nancy Cornwell

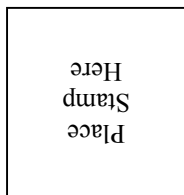
"Pray without ceasing." *1 Thessalonians 5:17*

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

9:15 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship

Sunday Services

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



To The Ends of the Earth



What do you see?

My study is located in a room that we built in the garage of our home. When we built it we put in a window so that there would be some natural light and so that I would be less likely to remember that I am sitting in my garage. The table that I work at faces that window and I can look out of it at the homes that line West Avenue J in Jerome where we live. It is a nice and fairly quiet neighborhood with a lot of kids and a prevailing sense of normalcy about it.

On occasion as I look out the window of my study I think about what it would be like if instead of looking out upon West Avenue J in Jerome, Idaho, I was looking out upon a village in southern Senegal where we minister. What would be different? What things would remain the same?

If I were in Senegal instead of looking out and seeing neatly lined houses with vinyl siding I would see houses made of mud with thatch or tin roofs. If I were looking out onto a village in Senegal the grass-covered yards of West Avenue J would give way to sand and dust in the dry season and mud and standing water during the rainy season. The cars that go up and down my street would be replaced by people on foot, a bicycle or an ox or donkey pulled cart, and on rare

occasions a possible car. The skin color of the people would change along with their clothing, but the smiles and laughter and joy of the children would still be there.

If my street were in Senegal everyone who lived on it would surely all know each other and we would greet each other every time that we passed. There would be a greater sense of community among us and less of an individualized existence where we live in isolation from those around us. Indeed, if as I write this I were looking out upon a Senegalese village things would be much different.

While there are many differences, there are some similarities as well. Whether overlooking a village in Senegal or the homes on West Avenue J one thing remains the same: the people there need to hear the message of Jesus. And my responsibility, just like yours if you are a follower of Jesus Christ, is to have a part in taking that message to them. Whether it is crossing a culture or crossing the street, we are surrounded by people who have no hope apart from the message of the Gospel. What do you see when you look out your window, and how can God use you to touch the lives of the people that are there?

Pastor Matt

OCTOBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEN, we are studying *God As He Longs For You To See Him* by Chip Ingram at the LEAD Bible study. Bring a friend and come eat lunch at the Wok and Grill in Twin Falls with your NRF brothers. We meet **every Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

How to Develop a Powerful Prayer Life is an ongoing study held on the first Sunday of every month. Everyone is invited to come study prayer, and then spend time in corporate prayer and fellowship. Remember to pray before you come!

Good News Club is starting soon at Summit Elementary School. Contact Gina Bickel for more information.

Prayer Requests: Give your prayer requests to Nancy Cornwell at 324-8980 or 320-1556.

HEY KIDS! Name at least one Old Testament prophet who was made into a mummy (embalmed in the Egyptian manner). Tell Mrs. Brockway, and you will get a prize!

Keep people in the know! Send your **bulletin announcements** to Robin Plank by Wednesday each week. Email robin@nrfellowship.org, or call 324-4962/324-5733.

Apple Picking and Cider Pressing

October 3rd, 2009

8:00 am to 5:00 pm



6:00 pm Potluck Dinner

Alexander's Barn

1152 A South Stevens

Filer, ID

Directions: Hwy 30 West through Filer, turn South on Stevens Avenue, 1/8 mile to barn.

Containers Provided

Donations benefit NRF Missions



Serve where God has called you to serve

As God has blessed us with a larger facility to serve Him, He has also blessed us with a growing congregation. As such, we have many more opportunities to serve Him. Serving God may be as public as being a Sunday School teacher or preaching but more often it will be as "behind the scenes" as working in the nursery or cleaning the church. It may be as visible as singing on the worship team or as discrete as working the sound booth in support of that team. To quote Don Whitney, "Most service, even that which seems the most glamorous, is like an iceberg. Only the eye of God ever sees the larger, hidden part of it."

As Christians, God expects us to serve in whatever capacity he calls us to; it is not an option. Even though serving is not an option, our motivation of why we serve is more important than the service itself. We should not be motivated to serve out of obligation or self gain, but out of our desire to be more like Christ. Matthew 20:26-28 says: "Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave – just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." If we are to be like Christ we must serve as Jesus served. Jesus served out of obedience with gratefulness, humility, and love.

In Deuteronomy 13:4 Moses wrote and the Bible says, "It is the Lord your God that you

must follow, in Him you must revere. Keep His commandments and obey Him; serve Him and hold fast to Him." Everything in this verse relates to obedience to God. We should serve the Lord because we WANT to obey Him not because we HAVE to obey Him.

The prophet Samuel motivated the people to serve God with these words: "But be sure to fear the Lord and serve Him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things He has done for you" (1 Samuel 12:24). It is not a hardship to serve God when we consider all the great things He has done for us.

Jesus was the great servant. John 13:14-15 says, "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you." Jesus washed the feet of His disciples as an example of how all of Christ's followers should serve with humility.

At the center of our service should be love. Galatians 5:13 says, "You my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge your sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love." Jesus said in Mark 12:28-31 that the greatest commandment is to love God with all that you are, and the next most important, is to love your neighbor as yourself. In light of these words, surely the more we love God

God is not unjust;

He will not forget your work
and the love you have shown Him
as you have helped His people
and continue to help them.

Hebrews 6:10

the more we will serve him, and the more we love others the more we will serve them.

Everyone tires of serving sometimes, when year follows year, and we become weary. Paul warned us of this in 2 Thessalonians 3:13, "But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good."

Sometimes we are discouraged that we are not seeing visible results of our service. We are tempted to quit. Just like the iceberg mentioned earlier, your service is seen by God even when it is hidden from the eyes of men. By His very nature, He is faithful and just and we know that God will reward us in Heaven for our service.

Hebrews 6:10 tells us: "God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them." Don't quit serving when you are the one most qualified to serve. Do not be a pew-warmer in church. It is better to die in the harness, if you are able, than out in the pasture.

Travis Flick