



The Fellowship Journal

Rooted in Grace, Growing in Love

339 LWE, Chambersburg, PA, (717) 504-8789

Volume 8, Issue 9

September 2016

Remember: You're Not Home Yet

By Rick Warren



“For we fix our attention, not on things that are seen, but on things that are unseen. What can be seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts forever” (2 Corinthians 4:18 TEV).

As you strive to reach the goals that God has given you, it's important to remember that life on Earth is just a temporary assignment. Knowing this truth should radically alter your values and fix your attention on the things that are eternally important.

As C. S. Lewis observed, “All that is not eternal is eternally useless.”

It is a fatal mistake to assume that God's goal for your life is material prosperity or popular success as the world defines it. The abundant life has nothing to do with material abundance. Faithfulness to God does not guarantee success in a career or even in ministry. Never focus on temporary crowns.

Paul was faithful, yet he ended up in prison. John the Baptist was faithful, but he was beheaded. Millions of faithful people have been martyred, have lost everything, or have come to the end of life with nothing to show for it. But the end of life is not the end!

The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 4:18, “*For we fix our attention, not on things that are seen, but on things that are unseen. What can be seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts forever*” (TEV).

When life gets tough, when you're overwhelmed with doubt, or when you wonder if living for Christ is worth the effort, remember that you are not home yet. At death you won't leave home — you'll go home.

Check out Converge World Wide

Converge World Wide Website: <https://www.converge.org/>

To connect to their current news updates go to: <https://www.converge.org/newsline>

4 Eye-Opening Lessons for the Church

by Rob Tims



In the first few verses of John 9, Jesus comes across a man born blind ... born blind so “that the works of God might be displayed in him” (v. 3). He spits on the ground, forms mud, rubs it on his eyes, and tells him to go wash it off in the Pool of Siloam. After doing so, the man is healed.

The drama that unfolds in the rest of the chapter is eye opening, not least of all for the four lessons it has for the local church.

1. **Churches must be certain that they are gospel-centered, not law-oriented.** In vv. 13-17, the Pharisees quibble over the law rather than rejoice in the healing. There was no law against Jesus’ actions, but lovers of the law are quick to disregard grace. Long-time church members can easily become modern-day Pharisees ... expecting conformity to law before the gospel can be shared. Yet there is no gospel when the law comes first.
2. **Churches must have boldness and courage to share the gospel when the heat is on.** Parents of this blind man were quick to protect themselves from the social stigmas associated with belief in Jesus (vv. 18-23), and the same temptation exists today. Effective churches are comprised of leaders and members unashamed of the gospel regardless of its cost.
3. **Churches must have leaders and members who give witness to the gospel, share the gospel, and who are wise enough to know the difference.** The blind man does a wonderful job giving testimony about Jesus (vv. 24-34), but he never actually shares the gospel (he doesn’t believe until the end of the chapter). Testimonies have value and should be known and shared, yet salvation comes through hearing the gospel, not just our personal experience. The “Good News” is not what happened to us when he heard it ... it’s the news of who Jesus is and what He has done.
4. **Churches must have leaders and members who worship Jesus.** Coming to the point of salvation, the seeing man now worships the one who made him see (vv. 35-38). Not only did Jesus give him physical sight, but spiritual sight as well. No wonder John Newton used this great story to speak of his own salvation: “I once was lost, but now I’m found. Was blind, but now I see.” Blind people who now see are worshippers.

When Jesus opened this man’s eyes, He shed light on so much more for His church. The question is if we will see it.

Lead Me Oh Lord

Received by Brenda Hockenberry

Lead me Oh Lord, and orchestrate the day as you will. Lead me that I will fall into step with you like dancing with you through life, follow your every step, being near you in an embrace, looking into your face. I will remain in love with you through the twists and turns, stumbling and falling, you will never let me go. Hold me when I fall. If I should turn my eyes from you, or twirl about on my own, gently reach for me and guide me back to your embrace.

Preaching to the Unchurched: 3 Adjustments I've Made

From Chuck Lawless, guest blogger Ben Mandrell

Our guest blogger today is Ben Mandrell. Ben serves as a church planter with the North American Mission Board in Denver, Colorado. In February, 2015, he and his team launched Storyline Fellowship in the northwest corner of the Mile High City. The vision of Storyline is to become a multiplying center, spawning many churches along the Front Range. In 2017, a strategic residency program will launch for aspiring planters. If you would like more information on this program, please email Lange@storylinefellowship.com.



According to [Barna](#), the city of Denver sits at #14 in the most post-Christian places in America. Since my previous 12 years of preaching took place in Tennessee, I had my suspicions that a move to the Mile High City would require shifts in my communication style. My days of preaching to the choir were over. (People out here don't know what a choir is.)

Of course, one of the most thrilling aspects of church planting is getting to see unchurched people show up—families who tell us upfront, “This is the first time we've ever done anything like this!” These “freshman” come in as a clean slate and while it feels exciting and fun to me, the challenge also brings a sense of gravity. How can I include them, inspire confidence in them, avoid insider-talk that alienates them?

Below are 3 small adjustments that seem to be making a difference. I still have a long way to go.

1. **I don't start with “open your Bible to....”** Church people relish those words. A few minds even flash back to the days of Bible drill, and the game is on! An inner sense of confidence floods over them as they flip open to Isaiah. Unchurched people feel awkward. A visiting, unchurched friend told me that one of his more embarrassing moments was watching my 6 year-old son rifle through that strange book to the correct page while he sat there feeling ashamed. As a result of that incident, I now do something I never thought I'd agree to: I tell people to open their Bible or simply follow along on the screens.
2. **I acknowledge the skeptic in the seat.** This is a gentle practice, but I strive to say things like, “If you're new to the Bible, this may be the first time you've thought about this,” or “Perhaps you see this issue in a different light, but the Scriptures suggest....” These moments take mere seconds, but send the message that we like having skeptics in the room and appreciate their presence. This is a safe place to explore faith.
3. **I embrace the culture where I can; oppose it where I must.** I'm fairly certain I stole that line from Keller, but the principle has really helped me. People in Denver enjoy talking about their favorite forms of recreation, the latest Broncos headlines, and the unbelievable weather. Anytime I can tell a story in the sermon that illustrates my appreciation for these things, I put change of trust in their pockets. Conversely, it's those brotherly moments that also create relationship, and grant me the green light to speak out on a controversial issue when the Holy Spirit leads.

Total Offering to date: \$ 202,621.86

Total Special Offerings to date: \$ 18,083.10

“Steady plodding brings prosperity; hasty speculation brings poverty.”

Proverbs 21:5

Committee Updates

Fellowship Team

The Fellowship Team met on August 2. The team planned to help with Movie Night on August 5. The Scavenger Hunt has been scheduled for October 15. Nancy Sallurday is preparing a list of objects to be searched for during the hunt. The church picnic is scheduled for September 25, rain or shine. Amber's Country Catering will provide pulled pork sandwiches. The team will provide hotdogs, rolls, condiments, lemonade, water, ice and paper goods. Attendees will be asked to bring their lawn chairs, a dish to share and possibly a cake for the cake walk. A total of 28 cakes are needed. There will be a peanut/candy scramble for the kids. A corn-hole tournament will be part of the activities. Music will be provided by Mike Waller.

Submitted by Bev Henneberger

Family Fun Night in September

We had great Family Fun Nights this summer and we want to continue in September and October. During the July event, spaghetti was served along with salad, applesauce and brownies. Our time consisted of eating and then going over to Sanctuary to sing and see a puppet show with a "Raccoon" talking with Pastor Manny about Forgiveness and then Pastor Manny did a mini sermon on Forgiveness. Afterwards we went back to the Gym for crafts. We had fun making a raccoon figure on a paper clip with a magnet on the back. Each family stayed together whether they were singing, listening, or doing crafts. It was enjoyed by all those who attended.



These events are for our church family and an outreach for the community. God blessed us with attendees from our community friends. It is a great time for our church members to get to know our community friends. It is a wonderful way for us to show God's love to all. Please invite your friends and family to join us. Our upcoming Family Fun Nights are September 13 and October 11. Any questions, please contact Lynn Rotz @ 816-1510.

For the Kids of Chambersburg

Upcoming events

September 12-17, 2016—We will be holding the **Big Oak Café Fundraiser**. Present a flyer (so get more than one) each time you make a purchase at the Big Oak Café during those dates, *For the Kids of Chambersburg* will receive 15% of your total bill, even if it's just a coffee or ice tea or a whole meal. What we like about this fundraiser—it's just not for 1 day it's for 6 days. You could go in every day if you like! Flyers will be available closer to the time – give to friends, family, and work. You can have as many flyers as you can use!



If you have a heart for Children and a little time—please join our group. We meet every 2nd Monday of the month. The next meeting will be September 12 at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Oak Café.

Church Picnic at Norlo Park



The Church Picnic will be held on September 25 at 12:30 p.m. at Norlo Park in Fayetteville. Amber's Country Catering will provide pulled pork sandwiches. The Fellowship team will provide hotdogs, rolls, condiments, lemonade, water, ice and paper goods. Attendees are asked to bring their lawn chairs, a dish to share and



possibly a cake for the cake walk. A total of 28 cakes are needed. There will be a peanut/candy scramble for the kids. A corn-hole tournament will be part of the activities. Music will be provided by Mike Waller. Signup sheets are in the church lobby.

L.O.T. Restock Calendar

Look-in' Good September:
October Dry Bottom Days:

Dryer sheets and laundry detergent
Baby wipes and diapers (sizes 4 and 5)

“Seasoned to Serve”

Upcoming Calendar

SEPTEMBER 11: **Picnic at the Pletchers**, Sunday evening at 4:00 p.m. The Pletchers will provide the meat. Bring hot and cold dish to share. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hall area.

OCTOBER 5: **Bus trip to Leesport's Farmers Market/Flea Market**. The bus will leave the church at 7:00 a.m.

Contact Reid and Linda Pletcher for information or sign-up for events: Phone 423-5288 or email: reidlinda@hotmail.com



Beth Moore Simulcast

September 17, 2016 — Saturday 8:30- 4:30 p.m. —“**Beth Moore Simulcast**” at King Street. Cost is \$25.00 which includes Breakfast and Lunch and event material. This will be a very meaningful, event you will be able to see her speaking “Live” to people, all over the country. You will feel blessed and it will seem like you are in the front row and she is speaking to you! Seating is limited. We are reserving 16 seats for the church. Child care not provided. Sign-up sheet is in lobby! Any questions contact Lynn Rotz at 816-1510. Make checks out to: Brethren Fellowship.



Our Church Family

September Birthdays



Ronald Adams
 John Armstrong
 Terry Berkey
 Vivian Bowers
 Ronald Burge
 Joann Crusey
 Manny Diaz
 Linda Eiker

Dean Faust
 Ariel Funk
 Brooke Gable
 Kayla Hall
 Beverly Henneberger
 Kenneth Hess
 Marvin Hornbaker
 Ronald Keener

Nathyrra Lee
 Donna Middaugh
 Ruth Myers
 Gina Myers
 Jeff Reichard
 Vicki Reichard
 Brennan Sease
 Gary Seibert

Annalee Sellers
 Betty Lee Schaeffer
 Karen Statler
 Jeni Statler
 Brenda Vanpelt
 Tommi Waller
 Alexis Yeaton

September Anniversaries



Ronald and Karen Adams
 Mike and Karen Walsh Hampton
 Chad and Tricia Murray
 Mervin and Janet Musser
 Charles and Jenny Newman
 Randy and Susan Plyler
 Richard and Vicki Reichard

Scott and Julie Secrest
 Jeff and Laura Shetter
 Ted and Brenda Summers
 Greg and Lorna Toms
 Carl Lehman and Barbara Vanpelt
 Bob and Cathy Wall
 Don and Alma Wenger

Changes to Your Information

If your address, telephone number, cell phone number or email has changed please let the church office know so we can keep in touch with you. You can email Mona at brethrenfel@hotmail.com or place a note in the church mailbox. If you haven't received a birthday card or anniversary card, please let us know the correct dates for our records.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Happening This Fall

We will have some empty boxes available, they are located in the church gym, or you can use your own shoebox that you have at home. If you want to wrap it, cover the box and lid separately. To fill a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child, decide whether you will pack a box for a girl or a boy, and the age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Fill with Gifts: Select a quality "wow" toy such as a doll, soccer ball with pump, or stuffed animal. Then add other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. Pray: Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift. You can also include a personal note and photo. If you are able please include \$7 for the shipping fee. Also you can donate on-line and follow your box you would receive a tracking label to place in your box and discover the destination of your shoebox gift. If you are unable to donate \$7 for shipping we would still hope you can fill a box. Return boxes to church by October 30. For more information you can go to: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child>



September 2016 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 5:30p-Discipleship	2	3
4 9:00a-Sunday School 10:00a-Worship Service	5 The Church Office is closed for holiday	6 12p-CTC 12:30p-HOG Yoga 6:30p-Property (date change due to holiday)	7 6:15p-Prayer Time 6:30p-Youth 6:30p-Bible Study	8	9	10
11 9:00a-Sunday School 10:00a-Worship Service 4:00p-STs Picnic	12 Gym, Chapel and Sanctuary reserved all day	13 12:30p-HOG Yoga 5:30-7:30p-Family Fun Night, Gym, Chapel and Sanctuary reserved all day 6:30p-Worship and Music Team	14 6:15p-Prayer Time 6:30p-Youth 6:30p-Bible Study	15 Newsletter Articles Due	16	17 1-5p-Gym reserved
18 9:00a-Sunday School 10:00a-Worship Service	19	20 12:30p-HOG Yoga 6:00p-Finance Team 6:30p-Deacons 6:30p-Outreach	21 6:15p-Prayer Time 6:30p-Youth 6:30p-Bible Study	22	23	24 6-10p-Gym reserved
25 9:00a-Sunday School 10:00a-Worship Service 12:30p-Church Picnic at Norlo Park	26	27 12:30p-HOG Yoga 8:00a-12:00P-GHF Fundraising Workshop	28 6:30p-Youth 6:30p-All Church Prayer Time	29	30	

a=A.M.

p=P.M.

Pray Time is held in the Prayer Room

All Church prayer time held in the Chapel

STS-Seasoned to Serve

HOG-House of Grace Yoga-in the Chapel

Back to School

F K S C F A M C J O J J B D G
 N O T E B O O K P A P E R U L
 V R M L A X L N K E K J A I U
 Y P V V F V V D V Q W H N Z E
 S N O Y A R C R E J G D E C S
 R E D N I B G N I R E E R H T
 S K O O B E T O N X S P A W I
 P E N C I L S S C O C T S J C
 X H M S M Z R A M B L T E N K
 S I D R Z O R A Q L K O R U S
 C R P R S D R L J I I Z S L Z
 Z S E S S K H K Y C L R T Q F
 T O I L E J A W X N R N K Q S
 X C Y R U C H H Q E X N X W Y
 S N S C D R S J B P G D M A N

CRAYONS
 GLUE STICKS
 NOTEBOOKPAPER
 PENCILS
 THREE RING BINDER

ERASERS
 INDEXCARDS
 NOTEBOOKS
 RULERS

FOLDERS
 MARKERS
 PENCILBOX
 SCISSORS