

Lessons from the Heart

A gift of life

By Pastor Dan Gottschalk

On Dec. 12, 2006, I was diagnosed with four blockages in arteries that supply blood to my heart. The blockages were 100%, 99%, 99%, and 72%. On Dec. 14, 2006, I had quadruple bypass surgery.

Christmas is very special this year. Christmas is not only the celebration of the most precious gift ever given, the baby Jesus -man's redeemer. Christmas is a gift for the Gottschalk family because it is a holiday that without the protection of God and the work of Dr. Stone and a skilled heart surgical team. I would have never been alive to see. From that day forward, Dec. 14, 2006, every kiss from my wife, every hug from my children and grandchildren, every letter from mom, every handshake from a friend, every sunrise and sunset is a gift. Every tasty meal, every walk and every opportunity to gather in God's house is an undeserved joyous occasion. Every Minnesota fishing trip is a testimony to the beauty of creation. God is indeed good. One of the greatest gifts God

gave me in the two days I waited in the hospital for my surgery was the gift of peace and the assurance that I was in His hands and that if I lived or if I died he was my Savior and I could count on him.

There is something about heart surgery that changes everything. There is something about baby Jesus that can change your life. My encounter with heart surgery gave me a few more years to live and a much better quality of life. My encounter with the Christmas Baby Jesus who became the Easter sacrifice has changed my life and given me an eternity to live.

My prayer for you this Christmas is to have a heart touching, life changing, eternal life giving experience with the reason for the season, Jesus Christ.

Dan Gottschalk
Born 10-29-1948
Born again 8-15-1956

Given new life 12-14-2006
Dan Gottschalk is pastor at
Camden United Methodist Church.

QUESTION: I have a lot of stress in my life and just don't know how to cope with it. Any suggestions? When the roof caves in at your house, when your little girl gets the measles or your teenager flunks a course in school or your spouse gets laid off at work, how do you cope with the stress?



Dr. Dobson

DR. DOBSON: Your question reminds me of an old baseball story about Bill Klem, a famous National League umpire. He used to have a habit of hesitating a minute before signaling a ball or a strike. It was just a quirk of his. One day there was this hotshot young pitcher on the mound who would fire away, and Bill Klem would take his time calling the pitch.

Finally, in about the sixth inning the kid was getting irritated. He threw one crucial pitch and then just couldn't help yelling, "Come on, Bill. What is it?"

Klem pulled off his face mask, stared the kid down, and said, "It ain't nothing 'til I call it something."

Well, that's kind of the way it is in life. We can't stop the curveballs from coming our way, but we do get the privilege of deciding what to call them. You can determine whether a stressful time is the most horrible, terrible, unfair thing that ever happened to you; or whether it's just another common problem that you'll manage to get through somehow.

Remember, also, that the way you react is being watched care-

fully by your kids. If we show them that we can cope, they'll also be more likely to handle their stress more easily.

QUESTION: My wife and I have two very strong-willed kids who are hard to handle. They seem to need to test us, and they're the happiest and most contented when we are the toughest on them. Why do they insist on making us groul at them and even punish them more than we'd like to?

DR. DOBSON: It is curious, isn't it that some children seem to enjoy fighting with their parents. It's a function of the pugnacious temperament with which they are born. Many kids just like to run things and seem to enjoy picking fights.

There is another factor that is related to a child's sense of security. Let me illustrate it this way. Imagine you're driving a car over the Royal Gorge Bridge in Colorado, which is suspended hundreds of feet above the canyon floor. As a first-time traveler, you're pretty tense as you drive across. It is a scary experience. I knew one little fellow who was so awed by the view over the side of the bridge that he said, "Wow, Daddy! If you fell off of here, it'd kill you constantly!"

Now suppose there were no guard rails on the side of the bridge. Where would you steer the car? Right down the middle of the road. Even though you don't plan to hit those protective railings along the side, you just feel more secure knowing

Send your questions to Dr. Dobson, c/o Focus on the Family, PO Box 444, Colorado Springs, CO 80903; or to his Web site at www.focus.org. These questions and answers are excerpted from books authored by Dr. James Dobson and published by Tyndale House Publishers. Dr. Dobson is the founder and chairman of the board of Focus on the Family, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of the home and Judeo-Christian values. Copyright 1997 James Dobson, Inc. All rights reserved. International copy secured.

Pray for our nation to seek God

Whatever your task, work heartily, as serving the Lord and not men... Colossians 3:23 Pd. Adv.

Announcements

HICKORY GROVE CHURCH will hold it's annual Christmas Eve Service at 10 p.m. Dec. 24. There will be special songs sung as well as traditional Christmas songs sung by all. The service lasts about 45 minutes and concludes with a candlelighting and singing of Silent Night. Everyone is invited. Hickory Grove is located on CR700W, five miles south of Idaville.

Delphi United Methodist Church will hold **CANDLE LIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES** Dec. 24 at 7 and 9 p.m. Members of the community are welcome to attend. The church is located at 118 N. Union St. in Delphi.

ROCKFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH will have a Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. Monday. All are welcome.

Christmas Eve service at Flora First Christian

Christmas Eve service at First Christian Church, Flora, is set for 9 p.m. Monday.

The congregation has followed the theme "Through the Eyes of Christmas" as this year's Advent theme. The evening service will observe the birth of Jesus Christ through the eyes of the shepherds.

Included in the service will be scripture reading, the singing of carols, special music, an anthem by the choir, communion meditation by Interim Pastor Sam Davenport, and the retelling of the birth of Christ. It will conclude with a service of communion and candle lighting. Special music selections will

be presented by Miriam Roberson, guitarist, and Shelby Spray and Teri Larimore, vocalists, with the adult choir presenting a Christmas anthem. Scripture readers will be: Deb Jones, Sarah Orem, Barry Wheeler, and Dennis Bridge. Portraying Biblical persons will be: Doug and Vicki Winger as angels,

Julie Kitchell as Mary, Nick Hoffman as Joseph, Jerry Reinke and Kim Black as shepherds, and Max Wheeler as baby Jesus.

Pastor Davenport invites the public to attend. The church is located on South Center Street. For more information call 574-967-4246.

Delphi Presbyterian installs new pastor



McLean

McLean grew up in Cornelia, Ga., where his parents and sister reside. His brother lives on the Georgia coast.

He and his wife, Kate, have been married almost 11 years. She is a professional librarian, but currently stays home with their three year-old son, Liam.

McLean attained an undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina and an MBA at Georgia Southern University.

He previously worked at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention as a public health analyst. He said he felt called to the ministry through difficulties surrounding a family

tragedy a few years ago.

"Through my experiences and love I felt from the church, I felt called to love others in times of need and celebration also," McLean said.

In response to the call to service he felt, McLean attended Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, N.J., graduating with a Master of Divinity degree.

Of his new role at the church, McLean said the experience has been pleasant and eye-opening.

"This is a wonderful, welcoming church," he said. "People here are very involved with the church and the community."

He has assisted the church's senior citizens' monthly luncheon and Deacon's Closet. He also helped at the Christmas Baskets Toy Store last weekend. He said that community-oriented event impressed him.

"They did a lot to help in Georgia, but Christmas Baskets was amazing," he said. "I'm glad to be part of such a caring community."

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FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

By Dr. James Dobson

Don't let stress affect how you live your life

There is security in defined limits. They need to know precisely what the rules are and who's available to enforce them. Whenever a strong-willed child senses that the boundaries may have

moved, or that his or her parents may have lost their nerve, he or she will often precipitate a fight just to test the limits again. They may not admit that they want you to be the boss, but they breathe easier when you prove that you are.

DIRECTORY OF AREA CHURCHES

SS=Sunday School	SW=Sunday Worship
AMERICUS UNION NON-DENOMINATIONAL: Larry Williams, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.	FLORA FIRST CHRISTIAN (Disciples of Christ) S. Center Street, Flora. Sam Davenport, interim pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
BRINGHURST UNITED METHODIST: Larry DeVos, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	FLORA GRACE BROTHERS: 103 S. Willow St., Flora. James Franklin, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m., Wed. Prayer Service: 7 p.m.
BROOKSTON CHURCH OF CHRIST: 206 N. Prairie Street, Brookston. Ron Guzman, minister. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.	FLORA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: 211 S. Center St., Flora. Charles Compton, pastor. SW: 10:15 a.m.
BUCK CREEK UNITED METHODIST: 4915 Ferret St., Buck Creek. Dwight Monical, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.	FLORA UNITED METHODIST: 107 E. Main Street, Flora. Larry DeVos, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:15 a.m.
BURLINGTON FIRST BRETHREN: 205 W. 8th St., Rev. Dr. Peter Rousakis, pastor. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 9:00 a.m.	FLORA VALLEY VIEW SOUTHERN BAPTIST: Route 2, Flora. Bill Godbey, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
BURLINGTON CHURCH OF CHRIST: Tim Pohlman, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Children's Church: 10 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m., Youth Groups: 6 p.m.	GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST: 1101 Dreifers Ave., Delphi. Joe Whitehead, pastor. SS: 10 a.m. SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
BURLINGTON UNITED METHODIST: SS: 10:50 a.m., SW: 9:30 a.m.	HICKORY GROVE CHURCH: CR 700 W., Jefferson Township, Ken Smith, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
BURNETTSTVILLE FIRST BAPTIST: Second & Main, Burnettsville. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 11:15 a.m.	HILLSIDE MISSIONARY BAPTIST: Hwy. 22, 2 miles E. of Burlington. Doyle Buckner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
BURNETTSTVILLE CHRISTIAN: Sixth & Washington, Burnettsville. John Wright, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.	IDAVILLE CHURCH OF GOD: 11073 E 50 N, Idaville. Chris Murphy, pastor. SW 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., SS: 9:30 a.m.
BURROWS PRESBYTERIAN: SS: 11:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	JUBILEE FELLOWSHIP: CR 50 N, Flora. Scott Gamel, pastor. SS: 9:00 a.m., SW: 10:00 a.m.
CALVARY CHAPEL CARROLL COUNTY: Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretive Center, Delphi. Eric Haley, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.	LIVING FAITH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: 310N 250W. Jeff Tomson, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
CAMDEN UNITED METHODIST: Dan Gottschalk, pastor. SS: 9 - 9:45 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.	LIVING STONE CHURCH: Meets at the Freedom Center in Delphi. Stan Williams, pastor. SS: 11 a.m., SW: 9:30 a.m. contact (765) 589-3771
CLYMERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: 4003 W 400S. Clymers Kevin Drane, pastor. SW: 10:30 a.m. SS: Same as worship.	LOCKPORT NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH: East of Patton. Nord Zootman, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
COLBURN ROAD BAPTIST: Bill Cadle, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.	LOWER DEER CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN CR 300 N, SE of Camden. Guy Studebaker, pastor. SW: 10:15 a.m., SS: 9:00 a.m.
COLBURN UNITED METHODIST: Kasey Schnepf, pastor, SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:20 a.m.	MT. ZION INDEPENDENT BAPTIST: 102 N. Connelly Street, Delphi. Alfred Smith, pastor. SS: 10:15 a.m., SW: 9 a.m., & 6 p.m.
COMMUNITY BIBLE MINISTRIES: 1/2 mile north of SR 22 on CR 1150W. Patrick Kamm, pastor. SS: 9 a.m. SW: 10:15 a.m.	OAK GROVE CHRISTIAN: 11810 N & 900 W, Monticello. Interim pastor, Don Arterburn. SW: 10 a.m.
CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN: 3570 E 200S, Bringhurst, Dan C. Butcher, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m. SS: 10:30 a.m. Youth group 6:30 p.m., Bible study Wed. 6:30 p.m.	PINE GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Crooked Road, 1 mile E of Delphi. Justin Wagner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
CUTLER PRESBYTERIAN: SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	PITTSBURG MISSIONARY BAPTIST: John Wagner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m.; SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Bible Study: Thurs. 6:30 p.m.
DEER CREEK UNITED PRESBYTERIAN: Highway 29 in Deer Creek. SW: 10:30 a.m., SS: 9:15 a.m.	PLEASANT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: 5490 North SR 39, Frankfort. Donna Enerson, pastor. SS: 9:45 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. Everyone welcome.
DELPHI CHRISTIAN CHURCH: 315 E. Main St., Delphi. Andrew Paris, minister. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:45 a.m. Wed. Bible study: 7 p.m.	PLYMONT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: Pastor. Howard Hendrickson. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.
DELPHI CHURCH OF CHRIST: 405 Cottage Street, Delphi. Sunday Bible study: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 & 5 p.m., Wed. Night 7 p.m.	RADNOR CHURCH: Ed Selvidge, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
DELPHI COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD: 321 W. Main Street, Delphi. Rev. Virgil Moss. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	ROCKFIELD CHRISTIAN: Bob Cree, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
DELPHI PENTECOSTAL: Hwy. 25 East, Delphi. Tim Stewart, pastor. Thurs. night Bible Study: 7:30p.m., SS: 12:45 p.m., SW: 2 p.m.	ROCKFIELD PRESBYTERIAN: SW: 9:30 a.m.
DELPHI UNITED METHODIST: Union & Monroe Streets, Delphi. SW: 8:45 & 11 a.m., SS: 10 a.m., Todd Ladd, pastor; Micah Hudson, youth pastor.	ROSSVILLE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP: 16 Cason St. Judd Dickey, pastor. Sunday Corporate Prayer: 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship 9:30 a.m.; SW 10:00 a.m.
DELPHI WESLEYAN: North Union Street, Delphi. Dan Fisher, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	ROSSVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: 109 N. Plank Street, Rossville. Floyd Smith, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
EASTLAWN UNITED METHODIST: SR 24 & Logan Street, Idaville. Ernie D. Elder, Jr., Pastor. SW: 10 a.m., SS: 9 a.m.	ROSSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: 5434 W State Rd 26, Rossville, IN. Bob McAulay, interim pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:20 a.m.
FAITH CHURCH OF CHRIST: SR 29, Burlington. Steve Cole, minister. SW: 9:30 a.m. & 6 p.m. a.m., SS: 11 a.m., Wed. Bible study 7 p.m.	ROSSVILLE UNITED METHODIST: Main & Gaddis Streets, Rossville. Rick Jones, pastor. SS: 9:15 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
FAITH LUTHERAN: CR 800 N, west of Hwy. 29. Thomas J. McShannock & Sandy Hutchens, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:10 a.m.	SHARON AMERICAN BAPTIST: St. Rd. 29, Carrollton Township. James Lund, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH: Hwys. 29 & 26, Middlefork. Jim Anderson, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC: 207 N. Washington Street, Delphi. Peter Vanderkolk, pastor. SW: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
FIRST APOSTOLIC CHURCH: U.S. 421 North, Tippecanoe Township. Gilbert R. Ingram, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.	ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH: 1301 S. Washington St., Delphi. Dale Larson, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD: US 421N., Pittsburg. Brent Oliver, pastor. SW: 9:30 am, Wed. Family Night: 6:30pm, Adult & Youth Services Sun. Evenings 6pm.	ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN: Church & Cumberland Sts., Camden, 2 blocks West & 1 block North of SR218 and SR75. Dale Larson, pastor. SW: 8:30 a.m., SS: Same as Worship.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CAMDEN: Paul Marcellino, interim-pastor. Tue. 9:30 a.m. Women's study, Wed. 6:30 p.m. WW, SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:45 a.m., Sun. Youth Service 5:30 p.m. Sun. Bible study: 7:30 p.m.	WHIRLWIND MINISTRIES: 869 N. 90 E., Burrows Gregory Britt, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. (574) 652-2280
FIRST BAPTIST: Indiana & Franklin Streets, Delphi. William Glenn, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	YEOMAN UNITED METHODIST: Dave Inskeep, pastor, SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN: Main & Indiana Streets, Delphi. Rev. Bill McLean. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.	
FLORA FIRST BAPTIST: 115 W. Columbia Street, Flora. Interim pastors. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.	
FLORA FIRST BRETHREN: 115 N. Washington Street, Flora. Dan Herendeen, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	