

Lessons from the Heart

A lesson in faith

By Pastor Paul Marcellino

The last few weeks we have been studying Exodus and the character of Moses. Moses had a special relationship with God that no other man has ever had. God chose Moses to lead his people away from the bondage of the Egyptian Pharaoh to the Promised Land.

Although Moses did not feel as if he was a likely candidate to lead the people, God was determined that Moses would lead his people. It was not an easy task for Moses to do. He had become quite comfortable with his life as a shepherd and did fear going back to Egypt because of previous circumstances.

After much debating Moses did finally accept God's will for him to confront and persuade Pharaoh to let God's people go so they could go to the desert and worship Him. Pharaoh did not want to listen to any such request. In his evil spirit he refused time and time again, regardless of the plagues that God

sent to the Egyptians.

All together there were ten plagues that God sent to Egypt because of Pharaoh's refusal to allow the Israelites to go to the desert to worship Him. The final plague in Exodus 11:4 states: Then Moses said, "Thus says the Lord: About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt, and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the female servant who is behind the hand mill, and all the firstborn of the animals."

A special note about this plague is that the Jewish families did not suffer from this plague. God warned them that if they were to be spared from the destroyer they must sacrifice a lamb and sprinkle the blood on the door posts and stay



Marcellino

inside while God passed over.

The Passover is a very significant part of history. Not only were the Jewish firstborn spared, they had to make a decision. Were they willing to trust God? Were they going to be obedient and kill the Passover lamb and use its blood to protect the firstborn? They had to make a decision about their faith. God would protect them but they had to prove their faith and trust in Him. If they believed God they were to follow his strict instructions in preparing for the Passover.

Christ is our Passover Lamb and has shed his blood for us so we can have salvation. If we are to have salvation there has to be a human component. We must learn a valuable lesson in Exodus that we have to show God that we want to be his children and trust our lives to Him.

I challenge all of us to commit our lives to Him and receive God's grace.

(Paul Marcellino is pastor at the First Baptist Church in Camden.)

First Christian sets Christmas themes

The Wisemen traveling from The East bringing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh are among the most noted Biblical images of Christmas.

The Wisemen's gifts and their adoration for Christ the newborn king becomes the backdrop for Flora First Christian Church's Advent and Christmas services. The theme, "The Gifts We Bring," will explore the material and spiritual gifts Christians have to present to Jesus Christ at Christmas.

On Sunday morning, Nov. 30, Transitional Pastor Sam Davenport's sermon will be "Evergreen." Advent sermon themes in December are: Dec.

7, "Release the Joy!"; Dec. 14, "What was Herod Missing? Search for the Gift"; and Dec. 21, "Simeon: The Gift of Faithfulness," a costumed sermon told through the experience of Simeon.

A Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion service will be held Wed., Dec. 24, at 9 p.m. The service of carols, readings, dramatic vignettes, costumed characters, prayer, Communion and candlelight will explore "The Ultimate Gift!"

On Sunday evening, Nov. 30, at 6:30 p.m., the congregation will hold a fellowship event, "Christmastime Family Night."

The evening will consist of Christmas games, assembling tree ornaments, decorating a Christmas tree for the narthex, and the sharing of finger foods. Pastor Davenport invites the public to attend. The church is located on South Center Street, Flora. For more information, call the church at 574-967-4246.

DIRECTORY OF AREA CHURCHES

SS=Sunday School SW=Sunday Worship

- AMERICAN UNION NON-DENOMINATIONAL:** Larry Williams, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.
- BRINGHURST UNITED METHODIST:** Rex Charles, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
- BROOKSTON CHURCH OF CHRIST:** 206 N. Prairie Street, Brookston. Ron Guzman, minister. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
- BUCK CREEK UNITED METHODIST:** 4915 Ferret St., Buck Creek. Dwight Monical, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.
- BURLINGTON FIRST BRETHREN:** 205 W. 8th St., Rev. Dr. Peter Roussakis, pastor. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 9:00 a.m.
- BURLINGTON CHURCH OF CHRIST:** Dave Osborne, Interim Pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., Bible Study (Thur): 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
- BURLINGTON UNITED METHODIST:** Bonnie Shoaf, pastor. SS: 11:00 a.m., SW: 9:30 a.m.
- BURNETTVILLE FIRST BAPTIST:** Second & Main, Burnettville. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 11:15 a.m.
- BURNETTVILLE CHRISTIAN:** Sixth & Washington, Burnettville. John Wright, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
- BURNETTVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:** First & Main, Burnettville. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
- BURROWS PRESBYTERIAN:** SS: 11:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
- CALVARY CHAPEL CARROLL COUNTY:** Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretive Center, Delphi. Eric Haley, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.
- CAMDEN UNITED METHODIST:** Dan Gottschalk, pastor. SS: 9:45 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
- CLYMERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** 4003 W 400S. Clymers Kevin Drane, pastor. SW: 10:30 a.m. SS: Same as worship.
- COLBURN ROAD BAPTIST:** Bill Cadle, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
- COLBURN UNITED METHODIST:** Kasey Schnepf, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:20 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.
- CUTLER PRESBYTERIAN:** Jeff Brown and Ann Bingham, lay pastors. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
- DEER CREEK UNITED PRESBYTERIAN:** Highway 29 in Deer Creek. Dave Herron, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. SS: Adult 8:45a.m. & Children 10:00 a.m.
- DELPHI CHRISTIAN CHURCH:** 315 E. Main St, Delphi. Rev. Andrew Paris, minister. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:45 a.m. Wed. Bible study: 7 p.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.
- 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.
- 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.
- DELPHI UNITED METHODIST:** Union & Monroe Streets, Delphi. SW: 8:45 & 11 a.m., SS: 10 a.m., Todd Ladd, pastor; Micah Hudson, youth pastor.
- DELPHI WESLEYAN:** North Union Street, Delphi. Dan Fisher, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
- EASTLAWN UNITED METHODIST:** SR 24 & Logan Street, Idaville. Mark Gaylor, pastor. SS: 9 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.
- FAITH LUTHERAN:** CR 800 N, west of Hwy. 29. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:10 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.
- FIRST APOSTOLIC CHURCH:** U.S. 421 North, Tippecanoe Township. Gilbert R. Ingram, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. & 6 p.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.
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CAMDEN:** Paul Marcellino, inter-impastor. 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.
- FIRST BAPTIST:** Indiana & Franklin Streets, Delphi. William Glenn, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.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.
- FLORA FIRST CHRISTIAN (Disciples of Christ) S. Center Street, Flora. Sam Davenport, interim pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.**
- FLORA GRACE BRETHREN:** 103 S. Willow St., Flora. James Franklin, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m., Wed. Prayer Service: 7 p.m.
- FLORA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:** 211 S. Center St., Flora. Charles Compton, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m.
- FLORA UNITED METHODIST:** 107 E. Main Street, Flora. Rex Charles, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:15 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.
- GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST:** 1101 Dreifers Ave., Delphi. Joe Whitehead, pastor. SS: 10 a.m. SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
- HICKORY GROVE CHURCH:** CR 700 W., Jefferson Township, Ken Smith, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 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.
- IDAVILLE CHURCH OF GOD:** 11073 E 50 N, Idaville. Chris Murphy, pastor. SW 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., SS: 9:30 a.m.
- JUBILEE FELLOWSHIP:** CR 50 N, Flora. Scott Gamel, pastor. SS: 9:00 a.m., SW: 10:00 a.m.
- LIVING FAITH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:** 310N 250W. Jeff Tomson, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
- LIVING STONE CHURCH:** 54 Main St., Rossville. Sunday Services: 8:50-9:20 Coffee and Fellowship, 9:30 worship. Children's church available
- 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.
- 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.
- OAK GROVE CHRISTIAN:** 11810 N 900W, Monticello. Interim pastor, Rev. Ashli Cartwright-Peak. SW: 10 a.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.
- PITTSBURG MISSIONARY BAPTIST:** John Wagner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m.; SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Bible Study: Thurs. 6:30 p.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.
- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DELPHI:** Main & Indiana Streets, Delphi. Rev. Bill McLean. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
- PYRMONT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:** Pastor. Howard Hendrickson. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.
- RADNOR CHURCH:** Ed Selvidge, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
- ROCKFIELD CHRISTIAN:** Bob Cree, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
- ROCKFIELD PRESBYTERIAN:** SW: 9:30 a.m.
- 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.
- ROSSVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:** 109 N. Plank Street, Rossville. Floyd Smith, pastor. SS: 9a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
- ROSSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:** 5434 W State Rd 26, Rossville, IN. John Everett, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., Fellowship: 9:45 a.m. SW: 10:15 a.m.
- ROSSVILLE UNITED METHODIST:** Main & Gaddis Streets, Rossville. Rick Jones, pastor. SS: 9:15 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
- SHARON AMERICAN BAPTIST:** St. Rd. 29, Carrollton Township. James Lund, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
- ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC:** 207 N. Washington Street, Delphi. Peter Vanderkolk, pastor. SW: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
- ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:** 1301 S. Washington St., Delphi. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
- ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN:** Church & Cumberland Sts., Camden, 2 blocks West & 1 block North of SR218 and SR75. SW: 8:30 a.m.. SS: Same as Worship.
- WHIRLWIND MINISTRIES:** 869 N. 90 E., Burrows, Greg Britt, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. (574) 652-2280
- YEOMAN UNITED METHODIST:** Carl Davis, pastor, SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

By Dr. James Dobson

Child's slower development is likely biological

QUESTION: We have a six-year-old son who is a late bloomer and is having trouble learning to read. Even though he is immature, I don't understand why this would keep him from reading.

DR. DOBSON: It is likely that your late-maturing youngster has not yet completed a vital neurological process involving an organic substance called myelin. At birth, the nervous system of the body is not insulated. That is why an infant is unable to reach out and grasp an object; the electrical command or impulse is lost on its journey from the brain to the hand. Gradually, a whitish substance (myelin) begins to coat the nerve fibers, allowing controlled muscular action to occur.

Myelination typically proceeds from the head downward and from the center of the body outward. In other words, a child can control the movement of his head and neck before the rest of his body. Control of the shoulder precedes the elbow, which precedes the wrist, which precedes the large muscles in the hands, which precedes small muscle coordination of the fingers. This explains why elementary school children are taught block letter printing before they learn cursive writing; the broad strokes and lines are less dependent on minute finger control than the flowing curves of mature penmanship.

Since visual apparatus in humans is usually the last neural mechanism to be myelinated, your immature child may not have undergone this necessary developmental process by his present age of six years. There-

fore, such a child who is extremely immature and uncoordinated may be neurologically unprepared for the intellectual tasks of reading and writing. Reading, particularly, is a highly complex neurological process. The visual stimulus must be relayed to the brain without distortion, where it should be interpreted and retained in the memory. Not all six-year-old children are equipped to perform this task.

Unfortunately, however, our culture permits few exceptions or deviations from the established timetable. A child of that age must learn to read or he will face the emotional consequences of failure. This is why I favor either holding an immature child out of school for a year or homeschooling him or her for several years.

QUESTION: What is the most difficult period of adolescence, and what is behind the distress?

DR. DOBSON: The eighteenth year is the time of greatest conflict between parent and child, typically. But the thirteenth and fourteenth years commonly are the most difficult twenty-four months in life for the youngster. It is during this adolescent period that self-doubt and feelings of inferiority reach an all-time high, amidst the greatest social pressures yet experienced.

An adolescent's worth as a human being hangs precariously on peer group acceptance, which can be tough to garner. Thus, relatively minor evidences of rejection or ridicule are of major significance to those who already see themselves as

fools and failures.

It is difficult to overestimate the impact of having no one to sit with on the school-sponsored bus trip, or of not being invited to an important event. Or of being laughed at by the "in" group, or of waking up in the morning to find seven shiny new pimples on your forehead, or of being slapped by the girl you thought had liked you as much as you liked her. Some boys and girls consistently face this kind of social catastrophe throughout their teen years.

Pray for our nation to seek God

What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? Romans 8:31 Pd. Adv.

Announcements

Hickory Grove Church will hold a **REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** on Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. Holidays can be difficult times when a loved one is no longer present. There will be a Candle Lighting Service and refreshments will follow. The community is invited to participate.



Dr. Dobson

The late Dr. Urie Bronfenbrenner, eminent authority on child development at Cornell University for many years, once told a Senate committee that the junior high years are probably the most critical to the development of a child's mental health. It is during this time of self-doubt that the personality is often assaulted and damaged beyond repair. Consequently, said Bronfenbrenner, it is not unusual for healthy, happy children to enter junior high school, but then emerge two years later as broken, discouraged teenagers.

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.

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Focusing on the humanity of the people who witnessed Christ's birth.

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Sunday, December 7th

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Meal begins at 6:30 pm

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