

# Lessons from the Heart

## Turning to God in hard times

By Eric J. Haley

Our God is awesome. Year after year He has helped us, if not carried us, through very difficult times. This



Haley

coming year promises to be a challenging one for the entire world, perhaps one of the most challenging in many years, and yet God is able to get us through it.

The question in our minds is, "Will He?" I'm reminded by the Scriptures that in the Old Testament times, the children of Israel went through the wilderness with the words of God ringing in their ears as He passed be-

fore them saying, "The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, ..." (Exodus 34:6)

I like the idea of mercy and grace, but it doesn't say anything about food and heat, or houses to live in. Yet we know that as long as they trusted in His goodness, He did provide shelter by day, a fire by night, and daily bread straight from heaven.

However in the next verse we get the rest of what God spoke:

"... keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the

third and to the fourth generation."

This verse suggests that there's a connection between God's provisions and our actions. It appears that Moses understood this connection very well as we read his response in verse 8:

"And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped."

Good idea! It's not a novel thought that we should worship God, when He provides for us in so many ways. Just remembering where the air we breathe comes from should be enough to bring us to our knees. Yet in times of ease we can so easily forget His faithfulness.

Another Scripture comes to mind and is often recited during national calamities.

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14

Again, we have a very sensible response to hard times, and maybe even a solution to hard times—worshipping God. True worship involves humbling ourselves before Him, praying, and repenting of sins.

We know He has provided that forgiveness of sins through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Jesus said: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I

am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30.

God only knows if the coming year is really going to be as bad as they say. But whether or not the dire predictions are on target, this would be a really good year

for us all to make a simple, and fairly easy New Year's resolution: Worship the Lord this year. Get back into the habit of going to church on every week. Read the Bible, and pray every day.

Remember, times are hard, but God is good.

Eric Haley is pastor at Calvary Chapel.

# DIRECTORY OF AREA CHURCHES

SS=Sunday School SW=Sunday Worship

- AMERICUS 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.
- BURNETTSTOWN FIRST BAPTIST:** Second & Main, Burnettsville. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 11:15 a.m.
- BURNETTSTOWN CHRISTIAN:** Sixth & Washington, Burnettsville. John Wright, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
- BURNETTSTOWN CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:** First & Main, Burnettsville. 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 - 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 Bingaman, 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, pastor. Tue. 9:30 a.m. Women's study, SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:45 a.m., Monthly Youth Group
- 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., SS: 10:30 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.
- PLYMOUTH 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

## Teaching good writing skills starts at home

**QUESTION:** I've always had an interest in creative writing, primarily because I had a teacher who encouraged me to express myself and gave me the skills to do it. My kids, however, have not had that exposure. The school system just doesn't teach writing skills anymore. How did you come to be a writer, and how might I give my children a nudge in that direction?

**DR. DOBSON:** It is true that writing skills are seldom taught today. That was evident a while back when I was considering hiring a Ph.D. candidate from a large university. I called her major professor for a recommendation. He spoke highly of this woman and said he was sure she would do a good job for me. I then asked if she was an adequate writer. He said, "Are you kidding? None of my students has strong writing skills. Young people don't learn to put their thoughts on paper these days." He was right!

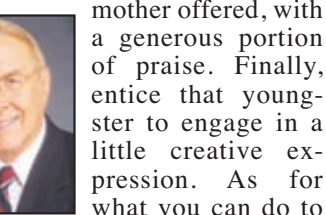
It hasn't always been that way. I remember diagramming sentences and learning parts of speech when I was in elementary school. It was a major part of the curriculum. Also, my parents encouraged and helped me grow in this area. I wrote a letter to a friend when I was nine years old. My mother then suggested that we read

it together. I had written, "Dear Tom, how are you? I am just fine." My mom asked me if I thought that sounded a little boring. She said, "You haven't said anything. You used a few words, but they have no meaning." I never wrote that phrase again; although that is the typical way a child begins a letter.

Looking back, I can see how, even at an early age, my mother was teaching me to write. In addition, I was also fortunate to have a few English teachers who were determined to teach me the fundamentals of composition. I had one in high school and another in college who insisted that I learn grammar and composition. They nearly beat me to death but I'm glad they did. I earn a living today, at least in part, with the skills they gave to me. Especially, I would like to say "thanks" to Dr. Ed Harwood. His classes were like Marine boot camp, but what I learned there was priceless.

It's not terribly difficult or time-consuming to encourage and teach kids some of the basics of grammar and composition. One approach is to ask a family member to correspond with your child and encourage him or her to write back. Then when the reply is

written, sprinkle a few corrections, such as the one my mother offered, with a generous portion of praise. Finally, entice that youngster to engage in a little creative expression. As for what you can do to compensate for the de-emphasis on writing in school, I really don't know — except to seek instruction outside the classroom.



Dr. Dobson

The teaching of writing has gone out of style — much like the old "homemaking" classes for girls. But it is an incredibly valuable craft that your child can use in a wide variety of settings. Don't let him or her grow up without developing it.

**QUESTION:** Does the middle child really have greater adaptive problems than his or her siblings?

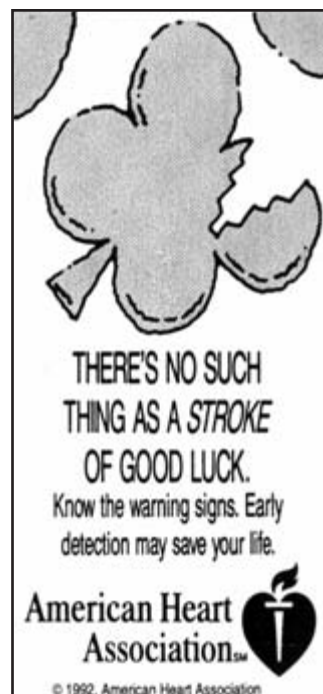
**DR. DOBSON:** The middle child does sometimes find it more difficult to establish his or her identity within the family. She enjoys neither the status of the eldest nor the attention given to the baby. Furthermore, she is likely to be born at a busy period in the life of her parents, and especially her mother. Then during her preschool years, her precious territory is invaded by a cute little newborn who steals Mama from her. Is it any wonder that

she often asks, "Who am I and where is my place in life?"

## Pray for our nation to seek God

Wait for the Lord, and keep to his way, and he will exalt you to possess the land; you will look on the destruction of the wicked. Psalms 37:34 Pd. Adv.

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.fof.org](http://www.fof.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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