

The PRISM



Sunshine Church of Christ

20 Barklow Road

Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

Phone (740) 820-3415 Fax (740) 820-5450

www.sunshine-church.org

August 6, 2006

Vol. 41 — Issue 32

Who God Says He Is

Do you remember that Old Testament story when Moses asked to see God's glory? When God told Moses to stand in a cleft in the mountain, when He covered him with His hand and allowed Moses to see His back? God told Moses at that time that He was going to pronounce His name. Yet He had already told Moses the Divine Name, which we pronounce as Jehovah or Yahweh. Just what did God announce to Moses at that special moment? *"The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."* (Exodus 34:5-7)

I shared with my Wednesday night class that I have not given this passage the attention it deserves. God is telling us who He is. We should surely pay attention. Our brothers of old paid attention. Moses reminded God of these words in Numbers 14, when God was on the verge of destroying the Israelites (Numbers 14:18). David referred to these words three times in his psalms (Psalms 86:15; 103:8; 145:8). The prophet Jonah, told God that he had not wanted to go to Nineveh because he remembered how God described himself and knew that God would not destroy Nineveh. After God's people had gone into captivity in Babylon and had returned from there, Ezra used this description of God in his prayer before all the people (Nehemiah 9:17). And after a swarm of locusts had destroyed the crops of the land, the prophet Joel remembered these words and held them out as hope of God's mercy (Joel 2:13).

It's interesting that in each case, except for Numbers 14, the speakers remembered God's description of mercy and grace without referring to His promise of punishment. It's my guess that this description of God was so well known to them that they would always think of one when they heard the other. Yet it is obvious that what stood out in their mind was not the jealous, punishing God, but the merciful, forgiving God.

As Christians, we have a duty to speak the words of God. We have been entrusted with His message and our job is to speak it to others. As Paul said in Acts 20:27, we are to speak "the whole



Prayer Requests

For our national leaders and world leaders as they lead their respective nations.

For our troops in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Haiti and other places.

For the lost in our families and community.

For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chetri

For Tim and Jennifer in the adoption process

Praise Report: Joanne Miller reports that all of her medical tests have shown positive results.

Praise Report: David Graff starts his new job tomorrow as news director for WQHY radio in Prestonsburg, KY.

Gwen Skaggs is suffering with serious breathing problems at home and other serious complications.

Sharon Rogers is scheduled for foot surgery at Grant Hospital on August 11. She will be homebound for several weeks following. Pray for her healing.

Sam Miller is in Survivors School. He asks his brothers and sisters to pray for him.

Praise Report: Derek Miller made it safely to the Columbus airport from Kandahar. The whole family is in Canada this week.

Earl Hale (Julie Gahm's father) has been diagnosed with prostate cancer.

Norma Lavendar (Geneva Miller's sister-in-law) is losing her sight and hearing.

Darryl Pinkerton (minister at Elm Grove church) has been having some serious health problems.

Sharon Stewart (Patsy Graff's sister) had an MRI on Thursday, no news yet on what they found.

Juli and Jayma Rase are leaving for Dallas this afternoon. Prayers for safe passage.

Jack and Mary Strickland as they are both having serious chronic health problems.

Helen Preston (Delores Gamp's mother) is now under hospice care at Heartland.

Wes Workman (15 yrs old son of Aaron Kallner's coworker) struggling with drug addiction.

Special Request

Tammy Sexton's family suffered a total loss of home and furnishings this week. She is a South Webster resident. Jim Jacobs is familiar with this case and is trying to round up appliances, furniture, household type things for them. If you have something you would like to give, see Jim this morning. He is making a list.

Invitation to Reception

Josh Coriell and Christian O'Rourke will be married in a private ceremony on Saturday, August 19. We are all invited to the reception which will follow at 6 pm at the church annex. If you plan to come, please sign the list on the bulletin board ASAP.

Sunday PM Services

To be announced.

Lily Chapel:

Speaking and Song Leading

For the next 6 or 8 months, Mike Lemon, the minister at Lily Chapel, will be traveling to and from a construction project in the Caribbean several times. Therefore, Lily Chapel needs help with song leading and speaking. If any of you men would be willing to lead singing and/or preach for the church either Sunday morning or Sunday evening, see Steve Miller for details or call Kenny Bartley (574-6288) who is handling the scheduling of speakers, etc.

Bible Curriculum

Sunday

8/6 Luke 1:26-56

8/13 Luke 3:23-38
Matt. 1:1-17

8/20 Luke 1:57-80

8/27 Matt. 2:1-18

Wednesday

8/9 1 Sam. 26-27

8/16 1 Sam. 28-29

8/23 1 Sam. 30-31

8/30 2 Sam. 1-2

Looking Ahead at Sunshine

8/15 Teen Back To School Devo

8/19 Reception for Josh & Christian

9/22-23 24 Hour Prayer Vigil

9/29-30 Roundlake Men's Retreat

9/30 Spirit Club Big Bash

10/6-7 Sunshine Men's Retreat at FHCYC

10/15 Sunday PM Home Groups begin

Teen Devo

Tuesday, Aug. 8, Terry and Debbie's, 6:30 pm.

The special Back to School devo on August 15 starts at 3 p.m. at Terry and Debbie's. Bring your friends.

Spirit Club Pictures Today

In the teen room. Fill out the Spirit Club slip and leave with the photographer even if you are not getting a picture made.

Fitness Class

Normal Schedule.

Devo Hosts Needed

There are signup sheets on the bulletin board to sign up for hosting Senior and Junior devotionals. Many dates are open at this point, please, **PLEASE** sign up *ASAP* if you are willing to host a devo in your home.

Next Junior Devo

Thursday, August 31, 6:30 pm, Jacob Book's house. No devo on August 17 due to Open House at Minford Schools.

Who God Says He Is

Continued from page 1

counsel of God." We do not pick and choose what to teach; we are to declare it all. At the same time, the Bible makes it very clear that certain parts of the message are more important than others. And I think it clear that this description of God in Exodus 34 is one of those important parts. It's message is two-fold, and we fail in our duty if we declare part of it and not the whole.

The first and most emphasized part is that our God is a gracious, forgiving God. He is slow to anger and quick to forgive. This should be the aspect of God that we present the most. When people hear our message, they should hear a message of hope and forgiveness. If we only preach God's punishing nature, we do not portray Him as He portrays Himself. That's one of the reasons that I have proposed to myself never to refer to Nadab and Abihu without also telling the story of their two brothers. If we preach God's judgment without God's tendency to excuse and forgive, we have not done right.

Yet the message of God's grace also requires the message of God's punishment. God is slow to anger, but He does get angry. He is abounding in love and forgiveness, but He will punish sin. While we do wrong to overemphasize that part of the message, we do as much wrong if we leave it out.

Let us praise God for being who He is. He is merciful and faithful, loving and forgiving. He will wash away all of our unrighteousness and let us stand holy in His eyes. And He will punish those who never turn to Him for that forgiveness.

Tim Archer
Stockdale Church of Christ
Stockdale, TX

Those Who Serve

Sunday Morning

Bible Class Text
 Welcome & Prayer
 Song Director
 Scripture Reading
 Prayer
 Lord's Supper - Server 6
 Server 5
 Server 4
 Wine
 Bread
 Server 3
 Server 2
 Server 1
 Message
 Closing Prayer

August 6

Luke 1:26-56
 Jon Coriell
 Ralph Gampp
 Matt Cram
 Troy Gahm
 Chuck Allison
 Ryan Coriell
 Tim Coriell
 Jeff Hayward
 Jamie Riley
 Brent Frazier
 Barry Gampp
 Dale Gampp
 Steve Miller
 Mark Risner

August 13

Luke 3, Matt 1
 Wayne Gampp
 Shaun McCray
 Steve Williams
 Jason Coriell
 Aaron Franke
 Andrew O'Dell
 Ed McLaughlin
 Dewey Cordle
 John Berry
 Dale Kuhn
 John Gampp
 Ike Hardin
 Steve Miller
 Travis Scott

Sunday Evening

Song Leader
 Opening Prayer
 Lord's Supper
 Closing Prayer

Rich Book
 Tim Gampp
 Terry Sullivan
 Nick Gampp

Mark Gampp
 Mike Gampp
 Matthew Hoskins
 Gary Glispie

Wednesday Evening

Song Director
 Prayer
 Bible Class Text

August 9

Shawn Gragg
 Zach Sims
 1 Samuel 26-27

August 16

Jamie Riley
 Josh Coriell
 1 Samuel 28-29

Scheduled Services

Sunday

Bible Study - 9:45 am
 Worship - 10:30 am
 Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

The Prism is a publication of the Sunshine Church of Christ. To learn more about the Church of Christ you may contact us at the telephone number or address on the front cover.

Deadline for each issue is 5 p.m. Friday. News items may be called to Al Graff or Steve Miller or e-mailed to:

tech1@algraff.com

or

srmler1522@yahoo.com

VISIT US ONLINE AT
www.sunshine-church.org
sunshine-church.blogspot.com

Elders

Don Coriell	776-6346	dcoriell@sunshine-church.org
Jon Coriell	776-3248	jcoriell@sunshine-church.org
Wayne Gampp	820-3444	wgampp@sunshine-church.org
Tom Kelley	259-2258	tkelley@sunshine-church.org

Ministers

Steve Miller	820-4379	smiller@sunshine-church.org
Pager	290-0156	
Jamie Riley	820-3348	jriley@sunshine-church.org
Pager	290-0158	
Terry Sullivan	776-7056	ply642002@yahoo.com
Cell	935-7056	

Building	820-3415
Building Fax	820-5450
Campus Ministry	355-3186

Church Office Hours
 8-12 M-F

Deacons & Areas of Ministry

Rich Book	820-3213	Education, Elbrooke Services, Library
Jason Coriell	820-4739	Treasurer, Benevolence
Scott Gampp	820-3545	Worship, Special Events
Gary Glispie	776-4279	Church Directory, Program of Work
Alan Graff	776-7905	Bulletin, Advertising, Front Sign, Computers
Dick Havens	456-5009	Building Maintenance, Supplies
Shaun McCray	776-7738	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Homer Miller	776-7550	Funerals, Hospital Visitation, Attendance
Eugene Risner	820-2256	Fire, Health, Seniors, Joy of Giving
Willis Shumway	820-2833	Building Use & Security, Baptistery