



WindSong NOTES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Formerly Sixth and Izard

SERVING THE GREATER LITTLE ROCK AREA

Volume 4

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Number 4



Being Yourself and Being Evangelistic Part 6

Bobby B. Boaldin

Month six in our series of articles on evangelism brings us to John, chapter nine, as we consider what Randy Becton called “**The blind man’s testimonial approach.**” Consider the context of the story. Jesus and his disciples are traveling along and they encounter a man who had been blind from birth. The disciples want information about reward and retribution because they asked Jesus, “Who sinned?” to cause this man to be born in this condition. Jesus replied, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life.” I am convicted that “the work of God” to which Christ refers is not only the miracle of sight, but the testimony of the formerly blind man to his neighbors who questioned him, and to the religious authorities who later interrogated him.

Notice that **the sudden change** in the man’s physical condition provides the window of opportunity for his testimony. To his neighbors he explains the events that transpired that brought about his eyesight. “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.” To the religious authorities who wanted to argue with the formerly blind man regarding Jesus’ origin and authority he said, “Now that is remarkable! You don’t know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. Nobody ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”

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WINDSONG FAMILY MISSION TRIP 2006

WINDSONG FAMILY MISSION TRIP

WEEK OF JULY 16, 2006
KATRINA RELIEF IN NEW ORLEANS

IN COOPERATION WITH...



...OF MANDEVILLE, La.

SIGN UP BY PAYING
\$100/PERSON
BY APRIL 30TH

NEW ORLEANS



JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL FAMILY MISSION TRIP THE WEEK OF JULY 16. WE WILL BE DOING CLEAN-UP WORK IN NEW ORLEANS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE TAMMANY OAKS CHURCH OF CHRIST IN MANDEVILLE, LOUISIANA. THE COST OF THE TRIP IS \$100 PER PERSON, \$300 MAXIMUM PER FAMILY. **EVERYONE**, YOUNG AND OLD, IS INVITED TO COME HELP—NO SPECIAL SKILLS NECESSARY. SIGN UP BY APRIL 30. SEE JOE CHESSER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

ARE YOU GIVING TOO MUCH TO GOD?

It happened several years ago but the memory lingers. Little Luke Frauenthal told his mother he didn't want to put change in the collection plate anymore. He wanted a bill. His mother, Jeanie, opened her billfold which contained a one dollar bill and a five. Luke took the five out and put it in the plate. Jeanie confessed that tears came to her eyes. She asked, "How do you tell a child that he is giving too much to the Lord?"

Ah, that's a good question isn't it! Children don't do all of the calculations we do. If they are touched, they will give away everything they have. They will not only give you their money—they will also throw in the piggy. What simplicity! What beauty! They have been known to give away their favorite doll, or even their bicycle.

As adults we have to sit down and figure. With a sharp pencil, or calculator, we take note of percentages. We figure not only what we are giving, but how much we are going to keep. Rarely is our giving a spontaneous thing. It's often cold, calculating and precise. Generally respectable, but not necessarily generous. Maybe more out of duty than desire.

We speak of the widow's mite when we don't have a clue what we are talking about. We admire the broken alabaster box—without feeling the love of that woman. Such acts of generosity aren't neatly tied up in percentages. Maybe that's why they stun us so. It's just not the way we frequently give.

How do *you* go about giving to someone who was crucified for you? Careful now. You don't want it to be too much.

JOHN GIPSON
WINDSONG CHURCH OF CHRIST



The Ship of Life

Bill McDonough

Five years of planning, working and praying have finally culminated in the “Ship Of Life” being launched in Saigon, Vietnam, March 14, 2006. This one hundred nine foot, three deck, state of the art, vessel will cruise the Mekong River providing thousands of poverty stricken people with health care, the Good News, and eternal hope.



The opportunity and need was recognized as we began working in Southeast Asia more than twelve years ago. A feasibility study was done that confirmed our thinking—it was the only way to reach the millions living on the river. Governments, missionaries and medical personnel encouraged us to move forward. NBS Shipbuilders in Ho Chi Min City were contracted to design and build a vessel that would navigate the Mekong River and fit our needs. The beautiful ship, pictured above, is the result.

Although there is much work to be done on the interior cabins and clinical rooms, the X-ray Unit is installed and the Dental Operatory is set up. The “Ship of Life” is in the water and schedule to be tested for seaworthiness in the near future. Red tape, material and



Continued from column 1

parts suppliers, and work delays have lengthened the time needed to build the ship but the end is near. Although it has taken nine months longer than first forecasted, we are thrilled and thankful.

We wanted you to celebrate and give thanks with us as we move one step nearer to implementing this great tool for the Lord.



March Madness

Joe Chesser

My bracket is shot. I’m tied for last place in one competition, and in sole ownership of the cellar in the other one. Unless Gonzaga loses to UCONN in the final game, the cellar is probably where I’ll remain. At least I’m winning at home in the Joe v. Sherry bracket challenge (she usually wins!).

I find March Madness to be a rather appropriate term for the NCAA tourney each year; The Big Dance doesn’t quite do it justice. What is it about March Madness that creates fans of so many people—people who have no reason to band together and cheer on teams such as Iona, Bradley, George Mason, and Monmouth, much less even know what city or state the school calls home!

But come together we do, cheering our lungs out, rooting on our “new” favorite team. We don’t have any other reason to be passing out high fives to total strangers in the sports pub or posting “Go Golden Flashes!” on the Yahoo! message board—these are people we have no other connection with. Yet the tournament brings us together—the tournament is what we have in common—the tournament generates topics for conversation—the tournament is what brings such a wide variety of people together in a unified cause—the tournament causes us to hurt with those who are hurt—the tournament is what has us passionately cheering on people we wouldn’t otherwise know—the tournament is what creates this family of fans...kind of reminds me of another family I belong to.

Being Yourself and Being Evangelistic, Part 6—from Page 1

Who is best suited to apply this approach today? It seems to me this is a method that can be used by any new Christian or a Christian who has rededicated his/her life. **The key to making this method effective is a changed life.** The openly obvious change in the man’s physical condition provided the opportunity for others to question him concerning his change in circumstances. When one becomes a Christian or rededicates his/her life to Christ, there should be an obvious change in the behavior and activities of the believer. As radical as the change was in the blind man’s physical life, the change in the believer’s spiritual life should be more radical. If this transformation occurs, it will not take long for the people around the believer to begin to question him/her about their new attitude and actions. Worldly folk will want to know what has brought about this change which will provide an opportunity to “testify” about what has taken place in one’s spiritual life. The changed lives of believers are what afford the opportunity for the testimonial approach.

How can one use this approach?

One of the beautiful things about the testimonial approach is that one does not have to have a theological foundation or know book-chapter-and-verse answers to any questions that may arise. Remember, the blind man didn’t even know who Jesus was. He only knew what Jesus did for him. If you can communicate what Jesus has done for you (specifically that he loves you, has forgiven you, given you purpose and a brand new life), then you can apply this method. The formerly blind man was able to communicate the blessings he received because of what Jesus did in his life and that is all one has to do to make this method effective today. So, tell those who ask about your changed life, what Jesus has done for you, what he means to you, and let them know he can do the same for them. Through your testimony, perhaps they will want to become His disciples as well.



3 Windsong Dr., NLR, AR 72113
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 228, Little Rock, AR 72203-0228
Phone (501) 753-7050 Fax (501) 753-0070
www.windsongchurch.org office@windsongchurch.org

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BULLETIN BOARD

OUR MARCH RECORD

Average Attendance.....215
Average Contribution.....\$9,663
Building Campaign Funds....\$993,026

CONNECTIONS

Congratulations to Tom and Mary Keathley on the birth of a new great granddaughter, Lindsey Kate Hicks, who was born on February 27, in Rogers, Arkansas. Lindsey weighed 8 lbs. at birth. Congratulations also go to the proud parents, Matt and Holly Hicks, and the grandparents, James and Lisa Hicks.

A big "Thank You" to everyone who worked to set up the church library in the new office building on Saturday, March 4, and to Carol Coffey for heading the work crew. We really appreciate all of your help.

Rose Minor will be moving to Hot Springs to be near her family. We are sorry to lose her, but we wish her well in her new home. She will be greatly missed.

Congratulations to Sherry Chesser on her new job as CPA for Thomas and Thomas, LLP.

Our WindSong 201 Adult Bible Class will begin in mid-April. If you have any questions about the class, please see Bobby Boaldin.

Our WindSong Growth Groups are beginning a new series entitled "Heaven on Earth: Experiencing Eternal Life in the Here and Now." If you are not currently meeting with a group, please pick up a brochure in the foyer or talk to Don Johnson or Tony Fowler.

THANK YOU

Dear Windsong Family, Thank you for the cards, calls, and especially the beautiful azalea plant while I was in the hospital last week. Your kindness and caring mean so much to me. In Christian Love, Aileen Bishop

I want to thank every one for the nice cards, phone calls, etc. and the lovely flower you sent me at the hospital. It helped to make each day a little easier. With regret, I must tell you that I am moving from Maumelle. Work situations with my family, and my own failing health, makes it necessary to be nearer my son and his wife and to move to a facility where I will have more help with daily living. My association with this church has been a blessing to me, and I expect to hear more and greater things that you will accomplish in the future years. May God richly bless you all. Sincerely, Rose Minor

Helping Hands Ladies, Thank you for the sweet quilt for Dyllan. Your caring and kindness mean so much to us. Julie Priest

Dear Helping Hands Ladies, Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl and for the many prayers sent up on my behalf. I took my shawl to chemo last Monday and it got many "ooohs" and "ahhs". Best of all, it kept me warm in the cold treatment room—I don't know why they keep it so cool in there. Anyway, thank you all again for your loving kindness. Sincerely, Sharon Hart

Dear WindSong Sisters, Thank you for such a beautiful shower. We appreciate all of you ladies and all your hard work. We are so grateful for all the wonderful gifts for Victoria. The Lord has blessed us with such a kind and loving church family. Love, The Hill Family

Dear WindSong Family, Your kindness is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers, cards and prayers while I was in the hospital. Your love, care and prayers mean so much to me. In Christian Love, Margie Johnson

To My WindSong family, Words cannot express how grateful I am for the cards, calls, and comfort I have received from you. I want to send a special thanks to all who kept Linda company during my long surgery. Please continue to pray for both of us. In Christian Love, Harold Powell

With Sympathy To...

Jane Hefley and Pat McRee on the death of their aunt, June Sutherlin Leu.

Stan and Judy Jones on the death of his uncle, Spence Jones, on February 27.

The family of William Clinton McDonald on his death February 27.

Monnie Bowen on the death of her sister, Jane Thompson. The funeral was March 5.

Thelma and Frank Hall and their family on the death of Thelma's mother, Ruby Earl Shackelford, on March 13.

The family of Robert McClenathan who died on March 13, in San Antonio, Texas.

The family of Samuel Young on his death on Saturday, March 25.

The family of Brittany Marlar Sharp on her death on Monday, March 27.