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E-Touch Newsletter March 2009

In This Issue

[Primetimers Schedule](#)

[His Way Cafe](#)

[New Women's Bible Study](#)

March/2009

PASTOR'S CORNER

Quick Links

[FCOG WEBSITE](#)

[HIS WAY CAFE
ARTIST OF THE
MONTH](#)

Join Our List

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BREAKTHROUGHS

Every Christian experiences frustration from time to time when it comes to spiritual breakthroughs. Whether it's removing a roadblock in a relationship, overcoming a destructive habit, or tuning your life to God's agenda, we all have areas that God wants to change.

Here's the question that has to be answered: "Will you choose to traverse the mountain?" Yeah, will you rise to the challenge and overcome the obstacle in your spiritual walk? I can promise you this much, it will require that you make a commitment on the front end. It can't be a partial commitment. It can't be a "feel good" commitment. That's because to experience a spiritual breakthrough, you have to go where resistance meets desire.

If you seek a breakthrough in your life then you will come up against resistance. Like a climber who stands at the base of a rock wall and looks up. He knows two things: 1. This is going to be painful. It's going to be hard work to get to the top. 2. I'm committed to the challenge. My goal is to make it to the top! By the way, did you know that this is where God shows up in our lives? It's after we make the commitment.

As long as we're sitting in the lodge, roasting marshmallows over the fire, we're pretty much on our own. But when we become serious about change, we have to abandon the "comfortable" and begin to face our fears, trust in God and become accountable to our Biblical friends.

God loves it when we get serious about spiritual breakthroughs

because He knows that we will rely upon Him more than ever before. He also knows that each breakthrough will bring us closer to His will and purpose for our lives.

This year, let me challenge you to press in close to God. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where God wants to begin breaking down the barriers in your relationship. And by faith, follow His leadership. If you are committed to the process, you will see the victory. God has never once failed at anything. He's not about to fail you. You are part of His master plan and He will continue His work in you and through you.

"For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 1:6

"... for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure."

Philippians 2:13

PRAYER MINISTRY



Assurance of Answered Prayer

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have what we ask of Him.

[1 John 5: 14-15]

The emphasis here is on God's will, not our will. When we communicate with God, we don't demand what we want; rather, we discuss with Him what He wants for us. [reference Jeremiah 29: 11] If we align our prayers to His will, He will listen; and we can be certain that if He listens, He will give us a definite answer. Start praying with confidence!

Paul tells us in I Timothy 2: 1-4 to pray for everyone and all in authority. He tells us this is good and pleases God our Savior.

God wants all to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Peter agrees in 2 Peter 3:9.

Our Lord Jesus Christ tells us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. In this we must trust the Holy Spirit to help us show love to those for whom we may not feel love. After reading Jonah, this command becomes very real. How God sent Jonah to a cruel Nineveh to preach, we too resist as Jonah did. But to have obedience has many rewards. God's message of love and forgiveness was not for the Jews alone. God loves all the people of the world. The Assyrians didn't deserve it, but God spared them when they repented. In His mercy, God did not reject Jonah for aborting his mission. God has great love, patience, and forgiveness.

We are made in the image and likeness of God and therefore we should show the same character as our Lord Jesus Christ.

Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart. [Psalm 37:4]

Be blessed in your daily walk and talk with Him.

Mickey M. Fox

PRIMTIMERS

Primetimers

Senior Adults

Schedule of Events

Tuesday, March 10, 11:30am - Patricia Moody is a very special young lady with Down Syndrome, whose life and gifts are an inspiration to all who have ever used the words, "I can't". You are guaranteed a blessing as Patricia shares her special story and giftedness with us. Chicken salad croissants will be served today. We need members A-L to bring desserts and M-Z bring fruit & veggie dishes.

Please bring enough to serve 8 persons.

Saturday, March 21 - we will travel by coach to Orlando for the HOLY LAND EXPERIENCE. When you pass through the Jerusalem City Gate, you will travel back in time to an ancient land 2000 years away. Be inspired by biblical stories, music and dance and watch an awesome film, shot on location in Israel. We will leave the church at 8:30am and return approx. 7pm. Cost of entrance and coach is \$50.00 with lunch on your own inside the grounds. Send check ASAP. - made payable to FCOG to Ken Watson, 3450 58th Ave. VB 32966

Back by request.....we were so enthralled with the HOBE SOUND BIBLE COLLEGE PIANO EXTRAVAGANZA last Spring, that

we simply must go again.

Join us at the church parking lot at **3:30pm Saturday, March 28** as we travel to Hobe Sound for a light supper and this SIX GRAND PIANO & PIPE ORGAN CONCERT. Free will offering and supper is your only cost.

We are still taking reservations for the **Aug. 17-31 ALASKA CRUISE-TOUR**. If you have any interest at all, don't hesitate to call and get all the details. Any discounted prices that become available will be retroactive to our group.

We can't say enough about the way so many volunteers have made themselves available for the various aspects of this huge ministry!

WE STILL HAVE MANY AREAS THAT NEED MORE HELP!

If God is leading you to help out in any way, don't hesitate to call Pastor Bill & Elaine Jerrils at 772.766.0356

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



New Bible Study Beginning Thursday, March 26th

Two times to choose from:

9:30 am in the Oasis and 6:30 pm
in room D-53

He Speaks to Me: Preparing to hear the voice of God

Are you longing to hear God's voice but feeling disconnected? If you like Beth Moore's studies, you will enjoy Priscilla Shirer's teaching in this 6 week video series with workbook. This study looks at God's call to Samuel and uncovers six characteristics essential for hearing from God, which you can cultivate in your own life. Workbooks are \$17, but please do not let that hinder you from participating in this dynamic study. Scholarships are available just let your facilitator know if you need partial or even full assistance covering the cost.

More Than a Willing Servant

God has placed a desire in Sue Bartl's heart to come alongside single women, single mothers and the young married women in our church. Sue's daughter is a single mom. So, she knows how challenging it can be. Sue also worked with single women in the Crown Financial Ministry of our church and could see the difficulty they faced and the need for mature Christian women to mentor and encourage them in everyday living. God has also given Sue the longing to come alongside young married women. Not because she has all the answers, but because Christ does and He wants us to put feet and hands to our ministry.

Currently, Sue is leading her life group through the book of John. Sue loves to stay in the Word, using it to encourage brothers and sisters to allow Christ, not the world to set our standards.

God has impressed upon Sue the need for a spirit of love and service to others, helping each other stay strong by helping those who have fallen behind. As Sue says, "Forgiveness is a wonderful thing. After all, we all fall behind sometimes. If I get nothing else right, I want to love and serve as Christ did and I am sure, God in His wisdom and humor, will give me ample opportunity to get better at it."

What a blessing that God has called Sue to serve on the Women's Ministry Council!

Sue and her husband Ken have attended FCOG for 8 years, after moving to Vero from Fairport, NY. Ken and Sue love to travel and play golf together. When Sue isn't traveling or on the golf course with Ken, she enjoys reading and listening to music from the 30's and 40's. If you haven't met Sue yet, look for a tall redhead with a beautiful smile.

IN SYMPATHY WITH

Ellie Freytag on the death of her husband Harley Freytag 2/3
Vicki Potter on the death of her mother Betty Wise 2/3
Jeanette Wicks on the death mother Sara Wicks 1/13
Jackie Harvey on the death of her husband Joe Harvey Jr. 1/24
Gloria Gibbons on the death of her son Darby Gibbons 1/23
Linda Gossett on the death of father Ray Moore 12/30
Debbie Harrick on the death of her father Donald Jackson 12/30

IN CELEBRATION WITH

Craig & Cynthia Callan on the birth of their son
Liam Callan 1/27