

LAKE SIDE

life



Baptism Service

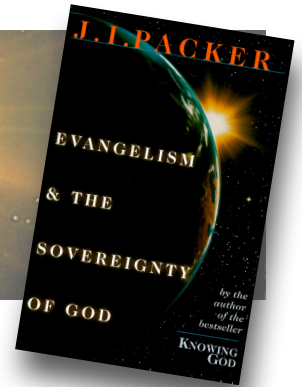
November 13, 2011 - The Lakeside family gathered at the Graystone Hills Community Pool in order to hear the testimonies of God's life-changing work in the lives of numerous believers.

January - February 2012

RECOMMENDED RESOURCE

Evangelism & The Sovereignty Of God by J.I. Packer

If God is in control of everything, can Christians sit back and not bother to evangelize? Or does active evangelism imply that God is not really sovereign at all? J.I. Packer shows in this classic study how false both these attitudes are. In a careful review of the biblical evidence, he shows how a right understanding of God's sovereignty is not so much a barrier to evangelism as an incentive and powerful support for it.



HAVING A HEART FOR THE HARVEST

by Ken Ramey | Pastor-Teacher



Throughout the history of the church there have been those who have stood out above the rest as having an intense, burning passion to reach the lost. Here is how a few well-known men expressed this passion:

D.L. Moody
evangelist

"I see the world as a sinking ship, people are trapped, destined for doom; God gave me a lifeboat and said, 'Moody, save all you can!'"

David Brainerd
missionary to the American Indians

"I cared not where or how I lived, or what hardships I went through, so that I could but gain souls for Christ!"

John Knox
Scottish reformer

"Give me Scotland or I'll die!"

George Whitfield
preacher of the Second Great Awakening

"O Lord, give me souls or take my soul!"

Paul
the Apostle to the Gentiles

"I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. For I wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsman according to the flesh, who are Israelites" (Rom. 9:2-4).

These are the words of broken, driven men. They were broken with a compassion for the lost and driven by a passion to reach the lost. They all followed in the footsteps of another broken and driven man; their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It was Jesus who said the main reason He came to earth was "to seek and save that which was lost" (Lk. 19:10). Jesus had great compassion for the lost and an even greater passion to reach the lost. While He was on earth, He sought to pass that compassion and passion on to His followers.

We are most familiar with the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19-20) in which Jesus, before returning to heaven, gave the final

orders to His disciples to carry on His mission to seek and save the lost. But we must not forget what could be called the Great Compassion (Mt. 9:35-38) when Jesus gave the first orders to His disciples to join Him in the mission to seek and save the lost. Matthew records:

And Jesus was going about all the cities and the villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. And seeing the multitudes, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.'

This passage marks a major transition in the ministry of Jesus. He had been performing all sorts of miracles in order to prove His divine power and authority. Up until this point the disciples were just spectators. They were following Jesus around watching Him work. He was working all alone in the massive harvest of souls. And after all He had seen and experienced, His heart was about to burst. It was time to get the disciples involved in the harvest.

In order to motivate them to come and work alongside Him in harvesting souls, He poured out His compassion for the lost and His passion to reach the lost. Compassion was Jesus' consistent response to the people with whom He came into contact (cf. Mt. 14:14; 15:32; Lk. 19:41). His heart was grieved by all that He saw and experienced and His natural reaction was to reach out and help people. Why did His heart break so? He looked past the fronts and façades and saw people for who they really were and where they were going. He saw them as lost sheep wandering to the slaughter. To make matters worse, there were more distressed, downcast people than there were people willing and able to share the gospel with them. So Jesus exhorted His disciples to beg God to raise up and send forth more

people who could reach the myriad of lost souls.

By telling His disciples to pray this prayer, Jesus was setting them up. Little did they know they were going to be the answer to their own prayers. It's not enough to pray. Anyone who prays for God to send workers into the fields needs to be willing to be one of them. In essence Jesus was saying, "You've been watching and praying long enough. It's time for you to get involved in the work!" And with His very next breath, Jesus commissioned and sent out His twelve disciples to spread the message of salvation throughout the land of Israel (cf. Mt. 10:1-42).

Jesus knew that if and when we sincerely pray that lost people will be reached with the gospel, we will be more ready and willing to reach them ourselves. As we begin another year together as a church body, I want to encourage all of us to be regularly praying that God would grant us a heart for the harvest; that He would give us greater compassion for the lost; that we would see people like Jesus saw them; and that we would faithfully and boldly take advantage of every opportunity God provides us to share the gospel with lost people with whom we come into contact.

Another man who stood out in church history as having an intense passion to reach the lost is Horatius Bonar. He wrote following in his book *Words to Winners of Souls*:

The fields are vast, the grain whitens, the harvest waves; and through grace we shall go forth with our sickles, never to rest till we shall lie down where the Lamb Himself shall lead us, by the living fountains of waters, where God shall wipe off the sweat of toil from our weary foreheads and dry up all the tears of earth from our weeping eyes. Some of us are young and fresh; many days may yet be, in the providence of God, before us. These must be days of strenuous, ceaseless, persevering, and, if God bless us, successful toil. We shall labor till we are worn out and laid to rest.

LADIES' NIGHT w/DANIELLE HURLEY

• Jan 30 | 7:00-8:30pm
@ Lakeside Bible Church

Ladies, mark January 30 on your calendar to spend an evening with Danielle Hurley. We have the joy of talking with a faithful missionary wife from Uganda. Nursery & toddler care will be available. Please bring a guest and a dozen cookies.



REACHING FORWARD

by Kelli Ramey
Women's Ministry Director

Happy New Year to all you wonderful ladies at LBC! As I was contemplating the new year I found myself doing two things. First, I was considering all the 'new' things for 2012 and then I was evaluating the 'old' things of 2011. Do you ever find yourself in this position? Sometimes it can bring about many emotions both good and bad. But, I would encourage you to focus on the good.

I thought about the new place of being a mom with a 'graduate' and having a son old enough to vote (wow! I guess my gray hair is not a figment of my imagination!). I thought about how Jacob would be entering Jr. high and that our days of being in the children's ministry will be over. I thought about having 4 drivers in the family and only two cars :/. I

thought about how wonderful it will be to say that I have been married to the love of my life for 22 years come this May. I thought about how I want to exercise more and eat better (isn't that the universal thought?). I thought about how excited I am to start a new year as the Women's Ministry Leader of LBC and watch God do His work in and through me. And, most of all I pondered in my heart how God was going to grow me more in love with Him this year. After all, hadn't He been faithful to do that over the last year? Even if it was just a little, which it wasn't, I can whole heartedly say, "Yes!"

And, so I visited with my memories of 2011. How had God been faithful? In January I became the wife of an author. That was new and exciting especially when I could see believers get excited about 'listening' to God's Word preached and changing to be like Christ as a result! In February, March, and April our ladies finished an exciting study in the book of Philippians which was

only enhanced by a retreat with Susan Heck teaching from the same book. And, what a joy this past Summer to revisit the story of Jim Elliott and the other four missionaries who gave the ultimate sacrifice, their own lives, for the sake of sharing the gospel with an unreached tribe. Then, November brought a riveting 'burning bush' experience with the Lord when I humbly submitted to God's will to be in leadership even though it's not what I would choose (1 Peter 5:6-7). And, finally, I rejoice in the Lord as I witnessed God's work in the lives of our precious children. To God be the glory!

I thank the Lord for the way my love for Him increased over the last year and now as 2011 is over, may we not be distracted by the past but, "reach forward to what lies ahead, and press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:13-14). Let Him be our aim in the new year! Blessings.

today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him. (Psalm 2:1-12) He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church, He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister. (Colossians 1:15-23) Who he believed what he has heard from us. And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and the was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, a servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressor (Isaiah 53) So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of it same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:1-11) My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest. Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. But you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame. But I am a worm and not man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him; let him delight in him!" Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it melted within my breast; my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. For dogs encompass me; a company of evil-doers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of a dog! Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen! I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: "You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him. The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever! All the sons of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. For his salvation belongs to the LORD, and he will save us."

STUDENT MINISTRIES WINTER CAMP

• Feb 3-5

Camp Tejas | Giddings, TX

Speaker **Andrew Gutierrez**

Theme **Do You See Jesus?**

Cost **\$120**

Register online @

www.lakesidebiblechurch.org

ANNUAL MEETING & FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

6:00pm @ Lakeside Bible Church

Jan 15

PARENT DEDICATION SUNDAY

8:00am & 10:45am @ Lakeside Bible Church

Jan 29

CONCERT OF PRAYER

6:30pm @ Lakeside Bible Church

Feb 1

LIFE AT LAKESIDE BEGINS

9:30am Equipping Hour @ Lakeside Bible Church

Feb 5

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- **SUNDAY**
 - 8:00am Worship Service
 - 9:30am Equipping Hour
 - 10:45am Worship Service
 - 6:00pm College Bible Study
- **MONDAY**
 - 7:00pm Women Of Excellence
- **TUESDAY**
 - 9:45am Women Of Excellence
- **WEDNESDAY**
 - 6:30pm Nursery/Toddler Care
 - WOL Club (Pre-K to 6th Grade)
 - Truth (Grades 7th-12th)
 - The Bridge (Adults)

For information on upcoming events visit us online at
www.lakesidebiblechurch.org

