



# Light of Faith

Faith Baptist Church of Godfrey, IL

## FROM THE TOP

by Pastor Tom Olney



Yesterday I did a really dumb thing. I forgot that I am a few years past 19. Those other 50 years slipped by so quickly I had hardly noticed that physically I can't do some of the things I used to do.

Today I sat myself down and gave ol' Tom a lecture on common sense. I was reminded of Daniel in Psalm 13:2 when he said, "How long must I take counsel in my soul?" In other words, "How long shall I have to counsel and correct myself?"

Our soul makes us self-conscious; as in my case, conscious of whom I am, and sometimes conscious that I have just done something ridiculous that I am paying for with aches and pains in my body. I should have known better.

Our spirit makes us God-conscious; conscious that He is there, ever present and ever seeing as the Bible tells us, "The eyes of the Lord go to and fro

throughout the whole earth..." (II Chronicles 16:9) Sometimes we need to talk to ourselves. Sometimes we need to sit down and let God talk to us and give us His counsel.

To violate the body is foolish and causes a man physical pain. To violate the spirit is to sin against God, grieving His spirit and bringing pain to one's own self and to others.

We are wise to listen to God and to pray every day as did Jabez in I Chronicles 4:10:

*"And Jabez prayed unto the God of Israel, saying, 'Oh, that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me!' And God granted him that which he requested."*

—I Chronicles 4:10



# THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

by Mr. Jerry Fair, Administrator



Over the years of my teaching I have come across these quotes from unknown sources. Please reflect upon their nuggets of truth

“We leave traces of ourselves wherever we go, on whatever we touch.”

...

“The object of teaching a child is to enable him to get along without his teacher.”

...

“Teach your students to use what talents they have; the woods would be silent if no bird sang except those that sang best.”

...

“The mediocre teacher tells, the good teacher explains, the superior teacher demonstrates, and the great teacher inspires.”

...

“Education is what remains when we have forgotten all that we have been taught.”

...

“Christian education initiates the process of building a life that is dedicated to the Lord.”

“What we hope ever to do with ease, we must learn first to do with diligence.”

...

“If you think education is expensive, try ignorance, and if ignorance is no excuse, there doesn't seem to be much use for it.”

“You cannot kindle a fire in any other heart until it is burning in your own heart.”

...

“It is not a question how much a man knows, but what use he can make of what he knows.”

...

“The person who is wise enough to change his mind in the presence of facts is wise indeed.”

...

“The finest education is senseless without common sense.”

...

“Smart people believe only half of what they hear. Smarter people know which half to believe.”

...

“What the pupils want to learn is as important as what the teachers want to teach.”

...

“From the very beginning of his education the child should experience the joy of discovery.”

...

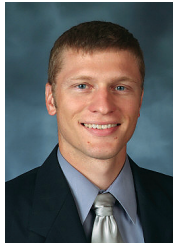
“We cannot discover new oceans unless we have the faith to lose sight of the shore.”

...

“There is no greater pleasure than to bring to the uncluttered, supple mind of a child the delight of knowing God and the many rich things He has given us to enjoy.”

# WHY YOUTH GROUP?

by Pastor Brent Van Sickle, Youth & Assistant Pastor



Why should a teenager get involved in his church's youth group? I suspect there are many teens and even parents of teens that ask that very question. I would like to discuss a few reasons as to why youth group involvement can be a great blessing to the teen and his family.

One reason to become involved in youth group is to grow in one's personal relationship with Christ. Teens have the opportunity to hear the Word of God and to have things applied to their specific life situations. What a great chance to be taught more about God and then to be challenged with every day life application. Believe it or not, most youth pastors try to accomplish this without boring you into a deep sleep.

Not only should youth group be a chance for spiritual growth, but it should be a lot of fun. Many youth groups do all sorts of stimulating activities ranging from paintball, bowling, capture the flag, and scavenger hunts to going to camp or even mission trips. Teenagers love to have fun; it is important for them to realize that Christians can have fun as well, and to do so in a manner that is glorifying to God!

Youth group is also an excellent chance to become networked with other like-minded teens. Some of my best friendships were developed within the context of my local church and the youth group. It is a very difficult balance for today's teenager to be “in the world” but not “of the world.” Everyone can sure use some encouragement and prodding from others that have the goal of living for Christ.

## Little Bits of Wisdom

“I'll trust in God's unchanging Word  
‘Til soul and body sever:

For, though all things shall pass away,  
His Word shall stand forever.”

—Martin Luther

## A Teacher's Prayer

Lord, who am I to teach the way  
to little children day by day,  
so prone myself to go astray?

Lord, if their guide I still must be,  
oh let the little children see  
the teacher leaning hard on Thee.

“...teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Jesus Christ.” (Col. 1:28b).

# What's Happening

## January

4	Welcome Back to School!
7	MVCS Homecoming Game
8	Homecoming Banquet
13	Ladies' Bible Time begins
15	Teen Rally, Columbia, MO
17	No School
22	Ladies' Prayer Breakfast
23–26	Prophecy Conference Rev. Gary Candlish, 7 p.m. nightly
28–29	FBBC Basketball Tournament
30	FBC Youth Night A great evening of blessing for all!
31	MVCS Spirit Week begins

## February

3–4	MVIT Basketball Tournament
12	Adult Valentine Banquet Rev. Udell Meyers, guest speaker
13	Ladies for Christ/Men of Valor
21	No School
27	FBC Youth Night

## March

1	Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:30 a.m., Golden Corral
2	Missionary Jim Bunton
8–9	MVCS Pre-Registration
11	School Half-Day
12	Sports Banquet
13	Daylight Savings Begins
17–18	Senior High Fine Arts
27	Youth Night
21–28	MVCS Spring Break
29	School Resumes



## Dates to Note

### JANUARY 13

#### Mid-Winter Ladies' Bible Time

Linda Baysinger will be teaching a Mid-Winter Ladies' Bible Time at the church on Thursdays, beginning January 13 – February 17, weather permitting!

### JANUARY 23–26

#### Rev. Gary Candlish—Bible Prophecy

President of the Jewish Ministry Institute, Pastor Candlish will bring a series of timely and very interesting Bible prophecy messages, good for the entire family, 7:00 p.m. each evening.

### FEBRUARY 3–4

#### Mississippi Valley Basketball Tournament

A sure-cure for cabin fever! Be a part of the excitement! Cheer our boys on to victory, feasting on a chili-dog and chips between games!

### MARCH 6

#### Missionaries Jim and Bonita Bunton

Serving under the International Board of Jewish Missions, Jim and Bonita Bunton, church planters and ambassadors to the Jewish community of St. Louis will be our guests during the Sunday morning services.

### MARCH 8–9

#### MVCS Open House

During Pre-Registration week, March 7-14, there is an Open House the evening of Tuesday, March 8 and the morning of Wednesday, March 9.

*"If the New Year outlook is dark,  
try the uplook!"*

# Faith Baptist Church

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Godfrey, IL 62035

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Pastor Tom Olney

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## Got a Minute, Ladies?

by Lee Olney



"2,081,376,000 seconds have clicked by, not one tick missing, since the moment of my birth until today," was my eye-widening conclusion during a quiet-of-the-midnight living room talk with God.

The repetitive ticking of the kitchen clock aligning perfectly with that of the mantle clock resounded like *gongs* in the perfect stillness as the Lord and I were again considering the subject of life and what it was all about.

In rapid succession, God's word flew into my mind from James in 2:14, "*What is life but a vapor that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away?*" David, Psalm 31:15, "*My times are in thy hand...*"; Ethan in Psalm 89:47, "*Remember how short my time is;*" Job in 7:7, "*O remember that my life is wind...*"; Moses, Psalm 90:10, "*The days of our years are threescore years and ten, and if by reason of strength they be four-score years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow: for it is soon cut off, and we fly away;*" and our blessed Lord Jesus in John 9:4, "*I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.*"

Ah, yes; life is all about God. He set into motion the tick of the first second on the clock of time. He alone knows when that ticking, along with the ticking of our lives (Psalm 139:13-18) will end (Job 14:5; Rev. 10:6). *That's why Jesus came.*

This New Year I praise God for opening my ears (along with the eyes of my heart) to the steady sound of seconds methodically ticking by. He alone knows all about life and death, for He holds them in His hand, just as He does me... and you. What marvelous comfort! How good to look up and listen to the Living Word of the Living God!

*"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."*

—Romans 13:11

## to be sure of Heaven

1. Acknowledge to yourself and to God that you have sinned and deserve the penalty of death.  
*"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23)*  
*"There is none righteous, no, not one." (Rom. 3:10)*
2. In sorrow for your sins, turn from them to God and ask His forgiveness.  
*"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." (Isa. 55:7)*
3. By faith receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, believing that he died in your place on the cross of Calvary.  
*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)*

## Weekly Services

### Sunday

Bible Study Hour . . . . . 9:00 a.m.

Morning Worship . . . . . 10:00 a.m.

Evening Service . . . . . 7:00 p.m.

### Wednesday

Bible Study . . . . . 7:00 p.m.