



Norwood Christian Grapevine

I am the vine; You are the branches... John 15:5

Pastor's Promptings...

IT'S SUMMERTIME!

I know, summer doesn't officially begin until June 21st, but for most of us Memorial Day weekend marks the beginning of summer, and boy am I ready for summer! It seems like we really haven't had much of a spring. Winter kept hanging on and on and on. Spring would make an attempt to take over but winter held spring off.

So now, winter has finally given way to summer. Praise the Lord for the sunshine! What are your plans for summer? Do you have goals for how you want to spend the precious, limited number of summer days the Lord has given us? Summer flies by so quickly it is best to have a plan for how to get the most of it.

I want to encourage you in your summer planning to include times of rest. It is easy to lose sight of our need for rest. There is so much to do, and now that the days are longer we can fit more into each day. But if you are not careful you can drive yourself to exhaustion before you know it.

Allow me to share a personal example of how I know this to be true. I recently completed preaching a string of 93 straight Sundays. 93! That's over 1³/₄ years straight without a break.

That's crazy. I didn't plan to preach that many Sundays in a row. I asked myself, "How did that happen?" It happened one Sunday at a time. It happened because I didn't have a plan for a time of rest in my schedule, and since I didn't have a time of rest planned I just kept preaching, one Sunday after another until 93 straight weeks went by.

I honestly thought I had taken time to rest during that stretch. I remembered being gone a few times. But as I looked back on it I realized that even though I had been away I didn't really have a time of rest. My last Sunday off was July 13, 2008. From July 20, 2008 I preached straight through until I took April 5, 2009 off. But I didn't really take it off. I was in California for my son's wedding on April 4, which I officiated. On Sunday, April 5th I didn't preach at Norwood Christian Church, but I did preach two services at Christ's Church of the Valley in Palmdale, CA. So that trip wasn't restful; I just changed the location of my work.

The next "break" I had was a trip to the North American Christian Convention in early July '09. The conference was great but it was exhausting, running until 10 o'clock every night. Plus, I preached here the Sunday before and the Sunday after the convention, so it provided no break either. As 2009 wore on I

began to wear out and I couldn't understand why.

Finally, my family began pointing out that we hadn't had a family vacation in a long time. When I began looking over the past year or two to prove them wrong, I discovered they were right. I also discovered how long it had been since I had had a real break.

Finally, on May 2nd of this year I took a Sunday off. My family and I got to worship together at a church out of town. Then we spent some time sightseeing at some of the nearby national parks.

The reason I shared this story with you is to point out how easy it is for us to forget to take time off. It seems hard to believe that we can be so driven as to forget to take time to rest, but I'm a living example that it is true. If you do not make a plan for how you will spend your time this summer and plan in times of rest, fall will get here and you will wonder why you are so exhausted.

Jesus told His disciples in Mark 6:31 to "Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest awhile." I have found that it is during my times of rest that I can hear the Lord's still, small voice most clearly. It's during my times of rest that God reveals His plan for me for the

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days, weeks, and months ahead. Without a time of rest with God, I end up setting my own agenda instead of hearing His agenda for my life. Then I wonder why nothing turns out so well.

So once again let me encourage you to take some time this summer to slow down and rest. Spend quiet time with the Lord and listen for His still, small voice. Let Him set your direction for the summer. I assure you, if you do this, you will be very glad you did.

Serving Christ and His family,

Pastor Ken

P.S. This newsletter is our "Summer Edition." It covers June & July. The next newsletter will come out in August. I'm going to take some rest this summer (and so is my wife)!

THAT'S HEAVY MAN

BY DAVIS WATSON

Many times my articles have been light and refreshing with their purpose being to relieve pressure in our lives. This article is not one of those, but one which will hopefully make you think!

Thinking is pretty "heavy man" and many times we avoid doing it because it is much easier for us to rely on our parents, our spouse, our boss, our employees, our friends, our minister or our society to answer the questions of life.

We have all been born with a will to live. Along with life we are all born to worship. Once we have life, we cannot continue to live without worshipping something. Is this really true? I challenge you to look around at the people you know. Do you see someone who is not worshipping something? What are they worshipping? They may be worshipping their family, their home, their work, their recreation, and their things. What common thread do all these have?

Most things we worship are good. Building up and raising your family is good. Having a nice home is good. Having a good job is great and you will be able to provide for your family. Time for recreation is great. You will be more productive at your job. Having things will keep me from asking for help.

All these things are good and we need them but they will all pass away. Your family members will pass on, your kids will leave home, your home will get too old or too big or require too much maintenance. Your job will go to someone younger or technology will do away with it. And recreation will become boring without your loved ones to enjoy it with.

What happens when we begin to lose the things we once worshipped? We look for other things to worship. We may begin to worship the bottom of a bottle, or the tip of a smoking stick, or something else which relieves the pain of losing the things we worship. We all know people who have found their answers in the bottle and many

of us have looked down on these people and have said to ourselves, "That's no way to live." But, it is also no way to live for those who spend their life worshipping their family, their home, their work, their recreation or their things. It's just more acceptable in today's society.

What are you thinking? What should we be worshipping? Should we worship the created or the Creator?

Our society tells us to worship the created, but what is created will pass away; but, the Creator is eternal.

We are given the will to live and the need to worship. Can we do both by worshipping the Creator who gave us life? Life is tough and with many heavy questions that we must answer. Start today by answering the question:

Should I worship?

- The created
- The Creator
- Both "a" and "b"
- Neither "a" nor "b"
- None of the above; "It's too heavy man."

true woman10
NOW IS THE TIME

Revive Our Hearts Ministries presents True Woman '10 in Fort Worth, Texas on October 14-16, 2010. If you would be interested in attending this conference with other ladies from the church, please contact Chris Lawrence at 327-4380 by June 27th. For a complete list of speakers and registration information, visit TrueWoman.com

June 2010

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Matthew 5:8

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 Praise Team 7:30PM	4	5 <i>Victoria Haggard</i>
6 Bible Study 10AM Worship 11AM	7 <i>Ted Earley</i>	8	9	10 Praise Team 7:30PM	11	12
13 Bible Study 10AM Worship 11AM	14	15	16	17 Praise Team 7:30PM <i>Zack Calvillo</i>	18 <i>Rich Benintendi Ruth (Boehler) Bolin</i>	19
20 Breakfast 9AM Concert 10AM Worship 11AM <i>Father's Day</i>	21	22 <i>John & Rebecca Williams—Annv.</i>	23	24 Praise Team 7:30PM <i>Kyle Howell</i>	25	26
27 Bible Study 10AM Worship 11AM	28	29	30			

The Diggles Family Father's Day Concert

Join us Sunday, June 20th for a special Father's Day concert with
The Diggles Family

Potluck Breakfast - 9:00am
Diggles Concert - 10:00am
Worship - 11:00am



July 2010

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Matthew 5:9

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Praise Team 7:30PM	2	3
4 Bible Study 10AM Worship 11AM <i>Independence Day</i>	5	6	7	8 Praise Team 7:30PM	9 <i>Bill & Kathy Row—Annv.</i>	10
11 Bible Study 10AM Worship 11AM	12 <i>Rich & Shera Nuttall—Annv.</i>	13	14 <i>Coleen Joseph</i>	15 Praise Team 7:30PM	16	17
18 Cowboy Breakfast 7:30AM Worship 11AM <i>Stacy Boehler</i>	19 <i>Terri Gabarron</i>	20 <i>Kathy Nelson</i>	21	22 Praise Team 7:30PM	23	24
25 Bible Study 10AM Worship 11AM	26	27 <i>Regina Howell</i>	28 <i>Sharon Newport</i>	29	30 <i>Sharon Pike</i>	31

2010 COWBOY SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST



The 2010 Fair & Rodeo is just around the corner which means it is time for our annual Cowboy Sunday Pancake Breakfast. Norwood Christian Church will serve a FREE breakfast to the community beginning at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 18th.

All are welcome!

Contact Davis Watson at 327-4221 if you would like to donate food for the breakfast.

I AM THE VINE; YOU ARE THE BRANCHES... JOHN 15:5



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10 AM ~ Bible Study

11 AM ~ Worship Service

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ONE YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

June / July

Week	<u>The Law</u> MON	<u>History</u> TUE	<u>Psalms</u> WED	<u>Poetry</u> THU	<u>Prophecy</u> FRI	<u>Gospels</u> SAT	<u>Epistles</u> SUN
23 (6/7)	<u>Exodus</u> 37-40	<u>I Kings</u> 5-9	<u>Ps</u> 51-53	<u>Proverbs</u> 2-3	<u>Lamentations</u>	<u>Luke</u> 9-10	<u>Galatians</u> 4-6
24 (6/14)	<u>Leviticus</u> 1-3	<u>I Kings</u> 10-13	<u>Ps</u> 69-71	<u>Proverbs</u> 4	<u>Ezekiel</u> 1-6	<u>Luke</u> 11-12	<u>Ephesians</u> 1-3
25 (6/21)	<u>Leviticus</u> 4-6	<u>I Kings</u> 14-18	<u>Ps</u> 72-74	<u>Proverbs</u> 5-6	<u>Ezekiel</u> 7-12	<u>Luke</u> 13-14	<u>Ephesians</u> 4-6
26 (6/28)	<u>Leviticus</u> 7-9	<u>I Kings</u> 19-22	<u>Ps</u> 75-77	<u>Proverbs</u> 7	<u>Ezekiel</u> 13-18	<u>Luke</u> 15-16	<u>Philippians</u> 1-2
27 (7/5)	<u>Leviticus</u> 10-12	<u>II Kings</u> 1-5	<u>Ps</u> 78-80	<u>Proverbs</u> 8-9	<u>Ezekiel</u> 19-24	<u>Luke</u> 17-18	<u>Philippians</u> 3-4
28 (7/12)	<u>Leviticus</u> 13-15	<u>II Kings</u> 6-10	<u>Ps</u> 81-83	<u>Proverbs</u> 10	<u>Ezekiel</u> 25-30	<u>Luke</u> 19-20	<u>Colossians</u> 1-2
29 (7/19)	<u>Leviticus</u> 16-18	<u>II Kings</u> 11-15	<u>Ps</u> 84-86	<u>Proverbs</u> 11-12	<u>Ezekiel</u> 31-36	<u>Luke</u> 21-22	<u>Colossians</u> 3-4
30 (7/26)	<u>Leviticus</u> 19-21	<u>II Kings</u> 16-20	<u>Ps</u> 87-89	<u>Proverbs</u> 13	<u>Ezekiel</u> 37-42	<u>Luke</u> 23-24	<u>I Thes.</u> 1-3