

The Encourager



“Therefore encourage one another and build up one another...” 1 Thessalonians 5:11

North Harford Baptist Church

4008 Old Federal Hill Road

Jarrettsville, MD 21084

410-836-6994

Worship Opportunities

Sunday Morning

Church Café & Prayer
9:15 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Classes for all ages
Worship Service 11:00 am

Sunday Evening

Evening Service 7:00 pm

Wednesday Evening

Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm
Youth and Children's
Groups meet at 7:00 pm
Adult Choir 7:00 pm

Family Opportunities

Sunday

Orchestra 6:00 pm
Training Classes 6:00 pm
Children's Choirs 6:00 pm

Monday

Women's Softball

Tuesday

Men's Softball

Wednesday

Fellowship Dinner on the
5th Wednesday @ 6:15 pm

Friday

Youth Activities 7:00 pm

Saturday

Events

Young Adults events call

For more information, call
410-836-6994

Check web site for
schedule updates

Service & Prayer Opportunities

Couples Retreat at Skycroft

Conference Center
sponsored by the

Men's Ministry

Friday, November 4

through Saturday,

November 5, 2005

Cost \$90.00

For more information, call
410-836-6994

The Encourager
an outreach of
North Harford Baptist

John Manry Managing Editor
Gerry Mack Editor
Janice Proctor Design Editor
Verla Evans Production Assistant

September 2005

Counseling Corner

Remember, the July issue? I emphasized that God has given us all we need to lead a life of godliness. God has given us His Word which contains the knowledge we need to lead a life pleasing to Him. It is with this in mind that I would like to show the practicality of the Scriptures in our lives. But first, we must address the problem.

Any wise counselor desires to know why the one he is counseling is experiencing problems. If the person has no organic dysfunctions (i.e. a real physical problem) then the problem is spiritual or psychological depending on your point of view. It is interesting to note that the word “psychology” actually means the study of the soul. I have already discussed the fact that only God has access to the knowledge of man’s soul. Psychology, with its more than 450 theories, has proclaimed a variety of causes for “emotional difficulties”. They must change continually to keep up with modern man. This month, it could be low self-esteem. Next month, it could be high self-esteem. Whatever the “cause of the month” is, it will surely shift the blame to someone or something other than the individual. I suppose you could go to 450 counselors and come up with 450 different reasons for your emotional difficulties with 450 different causes.

God has said that our difficulties stem from just one problem. Surely this one problem has caused many more, but the root of man’s problems will always come from one source and that is sin.

Reading Through the Bible

With the beginning of Fall coming some of us may realize that we are not on track to finish reading through the Bible before January 2006. What do you do now? Well don’t give up even if it seems like you won’t make your goal. Just continue reading. See how much you can accomplish by continuing to read through the Bible. Remember it

Bible Study Helps

Ken Miller has been a Sunday School teacher for many years. He is well grounded in his biblical knowledge and has expanded his teacher preparation by incorporating tools from the internet. One of the web sites which Ken uses is the link to Bible Search Tool at www.lifeway.com. This site is a part of the Southern Baptist network having the typical biblical helps and search tools. It has also a good section on Christian apologetics and gives you the Christian perspective on current issues. In addition it has a Sunday School guide which ties in with the current lessons.

Gospelcom.net (www.gospelcom.net) is another site which Ken recommends as having similar types of helps and search features. You can search by passage and keyword in the various Bible versions.

A third site is Bible.org (<http://bible.org>) which has comparable search features on its site. Also it has Book and Media Reviews and Sermon Illustrations.

Another site is Crosswalk.com (<http://crosswalk.com>) which again has similar search features using various versions.

A fifth site is Christian Classics Ethereal Library at <http://ccel.org>.

Monkey Trial: The Scopes Trial and the Decline of the Church

The Monkey Trial: The Scopes Trial and the Decline of the Church is a video produced by Answers In Genesis.

If you have ever attended a creation conference and had the opportunity to hear Ken Ham, you know you were blessed. In the video, The Monkey Trial, you can see Ken Ham go through many of the arguments for creation. This video presentation will impress you and also sadden you. You will see how the Christian church has compromised the Bible to submit to the views of science. If you can only watch one video,

The third chapter of Genesis tells us that Adam’s sin caused the human race to become guilty and corrupt. The corruption was total in that all parts and aspects of a person’s life are depraved. Jeremiah emphasized this fact several ways. The best known being, “The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; Who can understand it?” (Jer. 17:9) What this means is that man, in his totality, is affected by sin and becomes a further source of sin.

In the New Testament, Paul reiterates this fact in Romans 5:12 when he indicates that it was Adam’s “one” sin which plunged the whole human race into corruption and guilt. Ephesians 2:3 tells us that our nature was affected by sin to the point where we were children of wrath. We are not sinners because we have sinned. We have sinned because that is our nature and there is nothing you or any counselor can do about it. Of course, God has provided the only way around this dilemma. “For as through the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous”. (Rom. 5:19)

As I progress in the future on the practicality of Scriptures in our lives, it should be noted that this practicality is only practical for those who have surrendered their lives to the One (Jesus) who has made us righteous by His sacrifice and have surrendered their will to Him who has called us unto a life of righteous living, love. †John McDonald

takes time to read and we have so many distractions in today’s world that it is easy to get off track. Just recommit yourself to continue reading. Reading the Bible daily is what is important and if it takes you two years, so what! You can never lose by reading God’s Word. †Gerry Mack

It has Classic Christian books in electronic format. They are in public domain and you can copy them freely for any purpose. You can use the site’s search features to find the passage or book you are looking for. In addition it has the World Wide Study Bible which organizes scripture versions, commentaries, sermons, study guides, and book references according to scripture passage. This is great for studying a particular passage. Also, it has the World Wide Encyclopedia of Christianity which is intended to provide one-stop access to a number of dictionaries and encyclopedias of Christianity and other topical references.

Finally there is the Blue Letter Bible site at <http://www.blueletterbible.org> which has bible search features similar to the other sites. It has many exciting featured items, the most prominent being 806 sermons by Charles H. Spurgeon in electronic format. Realize that these sites contain much additional information and some you may find easier to use than others. Spend some time with each site to find those features which you enjoy. We hope that these electronic resources will help you in your teacher preparation and Bible study. †Ken Miller/Gerry Mack

this is the one. It is easy to understand and will interest you into watching others.

Learn how the real trial of the 20th century was a major turning point in society and in the church in particular. Hear why Christians often believe the scientists over the absolute authority of God and His Word - the Bible. This video and others about creation are in our church library waiting your viewing pleasure. †Gerry Mack

Saudi Summit Coming to the East Coast in September

Thursday, September 22 will be your opportunity to attend an all day summit at the Baptist Convention of Maryland and Delaware Conference Center in Columbia. Gary Witherall, a missionary to the Middle East, will be the keynote speaker. Gary’s wife was killed by extremists in the Middle East while they were on the mission field. In

addition to Gary, there will be many other speakers from around the world telling of their testimonies in regard to reaching out to the Muslim world. There is a minimal fee which includes lunch and many hand outs. More information along with brochures are available from John or Denise McDonald. †Gerry Mack

Bible Seminar and Exhibition will be held at our church on **Saturday, Sept. 10th** from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM by Dr. Scott Carroll. The seminar will focus on the formation of the Canon of the Bible. Dr. Carroll will also share antiquities from Biblical times..