



The Man Behind the Pulpit

With the fall of the year fast approaching, MHBC will be looking at the subject of trust and with one goal in mind; here it is, Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

The goal is to trust the Lord with all, everything, anything! The word *trust* in Hebrew means "to lean with the full body." To trust in the Lord, then, is to rest your whole weight upon Him.

As opposed to what? Our own understanding - our own understanding of things has a way of getting in the way of trusting Him! So what do we do?

We must acknowledge Him! To acknowledge means I have enough personal experience to know I can trust God and not myself. 2 Corinthians 1:9 says, "...so that we would



Someone You Should Know

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved

through faith: and

that not of yourselves,

it is the gift of God;

not as a result of works,

so that no one may boast.

Nedra and Fran Rupp were attending church elsewhere when their son John first came to a VBS teen club meeting in the summer of 1991. He really liked our youth program and the group. It was then that Nedra and Fran with their family began attending our church, where her brother David and his wife were

already attending. Like so many others, they felt right at home.

We started our Pioneer Club ministry that fall and Nedra began teaching one of the classes. Not too many years later, she volunteered to head up Pioneer Clubs

when we needed a leader. You will still find her downstairs on Wednesday evenings teaching as long as she is able.

Nedra shared that the Matthews from LaGrange Bible Church were instrumental in getting her and her sister Marla to attend church. She says that she had a lot of not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead." Now what should we trust Him with? That He will make our crooked paths straight! To make our paths straight pictures a road that appears to be impassable. It is the road of our life. As we look at it, it appears to



be covered with boulders and rocks, issues and circumstances that make us want to lean on our understanding!

Here is God's message to us from Proverbs 3:5-6, after leaning

on ourselves for so many years, trusting our own understanding resulting in crooked paths, we conclude only God can be trusted - not even the person in the mirror.

We trust Him to make our way smooth and straight and why would we? We have enough personal experience that He has so many times before!

head knowledge about God and the Bible. But it was not until early into her adulthood, that she began to realize that the decisions she was making, did not reflect Christ in her heart. When she saw her sin and realized what God had done for her, she prayed and accepted Christ as her Savior and her heart was changed toward the things of God. Nedra has two favorite Bible verses which are Ephesians 2:8-9 and Proverbs 3:5-6.

Nedra and Fran have 7 children and 17 grandchildren. Fran went home to be with the Lord in June of 2008.

> Nedra is very involved in her children and grandchildren's lives and she loves it. Although some of her children are living in other states, she keeps very busy with those who are living in this area. She feels blessed that some of her grandchildren are able to come with her to church.

What keeps her coming back? She says MHBC is biblically sound and she feels comfortable here and she is involved. Nedra also enjoys when we sing her favorite hymn, "To God be the Glory."

For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer. 1 Timothy 4:4-5

Gospel Connection

When people are asked how they plan to get to heaven, they often respond by saying, "Be a good person" or "I believe that the good I have done will outweigh the bad that I have done." But no matter how much money you give to the poor, or how kind you treat your neighbor, or how good your church attendance is, your good works will not get you into heaven. The Bible says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9 NASB).

All of us have fallen short of God's perfect standard because all of us have sinned. And none of our good works can ever cleanse the stain of sin that we all have. But God has provided one way to cleanse sin - the blood of Jesus. By definition, "grace" is unmerited. We cannot achieve or work our way into heaven. As Ephesians says, "By grace you have been saved through faith." Faith in whom? Jesus.

Turn from trying to work your way into heaven and by faith alone in Jesus alone, receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior, and your sins will be forgiven. As Scripture says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16 NASB).



Four years ago Larry Banaszak, saw God reaching out to him to go out and do God's work. When he told his wife Denise, she was horrified. She thought her husband wanted her to uproot and move to some hostile, foreign land. As he continued to pray, it quickly became clear that God had called Larry to do his work in his local area.

Since then God has given Larry several opportunities to share His Word. Larry got a new job at a LaGrange Hospital where he shares God's Word with the patients. He has also started an evangelistic ministry here at MHBC. Larry wants to get the church involved in going out and talking to people. He also intends to follow up with the families who attended VBS. During his interview Larry said, "It's our responsibility to tell others about Jesus, if we don't share God's Word, then who will? The problem isn't with the lost; it's with us not going to tell them" (Romans 10:14).

Those who attend Marion Hills Bible Church have been encouraged to leave gospel tracts wherever they can think of and to give the tracts to people we come in contact with directly. As part of encouraging each other there is a jar in front of the church, and each time you give a tract out you are supposed to put a sunflower seed in the jar. That jar is almost full!! How many tracts does that mean have been distributed? Take a look at the jar and take a guess at the number of seeds it contains. There are many but with a bigger jar and more seeds there could be many more. Pick up some tracts, distribute them, and put your seed in the jar.

The Younger Crowd

he teens and young adults of MHBC were asked to respond to the following question about enabling. As a Christian, how do you deal with friends who are addicted to substances such as drugs and alcohol?



I show them what it means to be a Christian, and offer them any support I can.

I would pray for them.

Nicole





I would point them to the Word of God.

I would find them spiritual guidance.



ТJ

I live my life like Christ. People notice there is something different about me, allowing for opportunities to help them with their struggles.





I would help them admit that something other than their own self is controlling their life and take them to a professional care provider.

Jake

EPHESIANS 1:15-16

Marion Hills Bible Church

142 Plainfield Road

Darien, IL 60561





"You can go anywhere you want to, but nobody wants you more than we do!"



We want to pray for you! Please feel free to contact us using the information to the right. Newsletter Staff:

Pastor Michael Campo Peter Flanagan Tim Grider Karen Kruse Tim Kruse Fran McLaughlin Sandy Wagner Julianne Walsh T.J. Westerkamp



Pastor: Michael A. Campo Phone: 630.986.0108 Web: www.mhbchurch.org Email: info@mhbchurch.org

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Schedule of Weekly Events:

Sunday School	9:30 am
Morning Worship	.10:30 am
Evening Service	6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening Services	
Foundation Builders Children's Ministry	6:50 pm
Straightforward Youth Ministry	7:00 pm
Adult Bible Study/Prayer Meeting	7:00 pm

Schedule of Special Events:

Nov. 25 7:00 pm..... Thanksgiving Service

Anything you would like to tell the newsletter team? Send an email to <u>newsletter@mhbchurch.org.</u>

Editor in Chief: Janet Wheatley