

The LCF Connection

November 2014

With ALL Your Heart

by Audrey Maust

On the first day of school I dared my students to take the Colossians 3:23 challenge: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward." This school year, as you parents and teachers work to guide and motivate your kids at home, in school, or in Sunday School class, here are a few suggestions from a teacher perspective to help them do their best for God.

Give them a reason to work hard.

- Encourage your child to "Do it for God". He loves them and wants them to succeed.
- Teach your child that education is important. If they want to be successful in life, they need to start now. Developing good habits begins in childhood.
- Hard work deserves a *great* reward.
- Let kids know there is a reason for every assignment given or job you want them to do.

Give motivational rewards.

I use these in the classroom, but you can easily adapt them for home or Sunday school.

- Daily rewards – For every hundred they earned, they will get a star on their chart. After 20 stars they get a candy bar.
- On certain papers they could earn a special flavored jellybean. It's amazing how hard they work for a jelly bean!
- Each day they get two pennies. If they keep their pennies because of good behavior we will collect them at the end of the day. When they earn \$10.00 worth they get a pizza party and a movie.
- Students also have a chance to earn three candy bars every month by saying their memory verses on time, handing in homework on time, and by participating in the



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monthly reading assignments.

- Kids need immediate and also long term rewards. I almost always have given their papers back the next day. If they know they won't see a paper for a week they will not put as much effort into it.
- Decorate your room with a theme in mind and display their achievements.

Let them know that YOU are their biggest cheerleader.

- If my students know that I am on their side they are able to accept criticism much more easily.
- They also need to know that I am there for them when they feel they can't do a certain assignment. Encouragement goes a long way. Letting your students or children know you believe in them speaks volumes.

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London Christian Fellowship seeks to develop authentic and passionate followers of Jesus Christ.

"Give thanks to the Lord and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done."

1 Chronicles 16:8





Something May Be Inside You

A Message from the Pastor
by Reuben Sairs

What are we made of? We have a body, but very importantly our body has a brain which somehow or another matches our mind. No one knows how, and there are big arguments about it. Our brain and/or mind develops throughout our lives and seems to be something like a hard drive where our experiences and memories are stored and from which our personality emerges. Our brains/minds are also the means by which we process our lives and the world through thoughts and all the stuff that our senses feed into us. It's also the communication center from which we speak, sing, or move our bodies to do things. We feel through the brain/mind—you might close your finger in a car door, but it is your brain, not your finger, that will register the experience. All our emotions work in and through our brains or minds.

Christians believe in yet another element. We believe that we also have a soul or spirit. Is the soul the same thing as the mind? I don't know the answer. I don't know why we would need two things that do the same thing, but I don't know why not either. If there is a difference between the mind and soul, then it is not something the Bible cares to divulge to us. I find all this fascinating, but I recognize that there are no certain answers.

Some also say there is a difference between the soul and spirit, but I don't think their Bible interpretation is sound. I think these are one thing. For us the idea of a soul is primary. Our soul mirrors all the elements we think of as mind and more. Our soul is the detachable part of us—it can go on without the body. Although the separation can be painful and scary and only happens once, our souls are immortal.

Is there anything else to us? The Bible would say yes. This element is different, because we can live without this other item. We have a mind, we have a soul or spirit, and we can't live in these bodies without it, but the person who gives himself or herself to Christ is also possessed, occupied, or as it is usually said, indwelt by the Holy Spirit. Where exactly he lives inside us I can't say. Is he in our heart, our brains, or our fingers? The Bible simply says 'in us.' I think that is meant to be taken literally.

The Bible indicates that the Holy Spirit is working in us several ways—in our minds, and with our souls (even if those are the same thing). What does he do there? Some of it is operating mysteriously on a subconscious level. Romans 8:26-27 says, "We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God."

The Spirit is in us calling out in primal communication to God. Galatians 4.6 says, "God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'" These kinds of

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With ALL Your Heart...continued

Set high standards

- Kids are not wimps. We should not treat them like they are! They will only do what we expect them to do.
- I had a student whose parent did everything for her. She had no responsibilities. By the time she got to my class she had no motivation to do anything. She did not believe in herself and she didn't seem to care. To this day she is still struggling. I felt frustrated because I could not change her work habit and I could not motivate her to care. I can tell when parents give children responsibilities; it reflects in their work habits in the classroom.
- I also had a student who was not required to do as much as her classmates. I believed she could keep up with her classmates if she was willing to work hard. After two years of hard work she came to me and thanked me for setting those high standards for her. This year is much easier for her because of the hard work she did in the past.
- Setting high standards produces confidence and a work ethic that will last a lifetime.
- Memorizing scripture not only teaches children godly standards but it teaches them memorization skills. It is a tool that will assist them educationally and spiritually for the rest of their lives.

Create a positive atmosphere.

- I tell my students that they are the ones creating the atmosphere that they live in.
- Do not allow complaining or tearing each other down.
- Children need to feel safe emotionally and physically if effective learning is to take place.

Recognize we need Jesus to help us know what our children need.

- Pray for wisdom every day.
- Pray for God to fill you with his love for each child.
- Pray with your students.
- Have devotions every day with your children.



I depend on God's wisdom and I know the ideas I get are from God and not from me. God has given us the honor and joy of raising and teaching our kids. My hope is that LCF adults and kids alike will "work at it with all (our) hearts."

Audrey has been a teacher at Shekinah Christian School for 18 years. This year, she's teaching third and fourth grade. She loves that age, because they are still learning who they are and what they are capable of doing. She says that at this age, it's easier to develop good habits, and she has so much fun helping children to do the things that they had no idea they could do. In her free time, Audrey enjoys biking, gardening, reading, hiking, and visiting with friends and family.

Getting to know...*Goldie Rosati*

As told to Candice Mast



Can you tell us a little about where you're from and a bit about your growing up years?

I grew up in Bruceton Mills, West Virginia, and lived there the first 17 years of my life. There was my mom and dad and eleven of us children (I was number six, right in the middle). We all worked very hard on a small farm. It was the 1930s and we were just coming out of the Great Depression, so everyone was poor. It didn't bother me too much because it was normal to be poor. If you don't have it, you don't really miss it. I remember all the corn we had to hoe, churning milk to make butter, doing a lot of canning, and making molasses. We had to work hard if we wanted to eat! During this time, my father had to go all the way to Pennsylvania to get work as a coal miner. He would come home just on the weekends and the rest of us kept the farm going. I remember sometimes people came to the house who were hungry. My mom would give them coffee and a sandwich and they would eat it on our porch and go on their way. Although times were tight, I also remember fun times- especially making molasses candy and vinegar candy. My older sister made the vinegar candy and it was my favorite. I haven't had it since, and since I was so small, I don't know how it's made.

Tell us about your children and how you ended up in Ohio.

I have three children- Susan, Janet, and Jack. We moved to Morgantown, West Virginia, and then later my husband was transferred to work in Woodsfield, OH. He worked for Monroe Manufacturing.

What do you enjoy doing?

Sewing has been my life. I really love to sew. I took in sewing (wedding dresses, pillow slips, anything they wanted) about the time Jack was born and then I did that until 1992. In 1992, I was taking care of Jack Sr.; his health was failing after he retired. So, I quit sewing for the public, but I couldn't quit for myself. I loved sewing quilts during that time, in the living room with Jack. Jack passed away in January 2005. I sold the house and moved in with my daughter, Janet, for about four years and then I've been here with Jack and Molly ever since.

When did you start sewing? What are your favorite memories about sewing?

I began sewing when I was 2 years old. My mom said she could never find a needle because I would lose them all! She would hide them in a cookbook so I wouldn't lose them. I loved making dolls- I used buttons for eyes and would embroider the mouth, and for the hair, I would use whatever I could find. One time, my dad was fixing something wooden. He was shaving the wood and it was curling, so I caught all the wood shaving curls and used them for doll hair. My sister always wanted boy dolls so I would make them for her and I'd make myself girl dolls and we'd play house. Otherwise we didn't have many toys- there were so many kids. If you were interested in a toy, you needed to make it. My brothers made sleds. Now, I still love sewing. I make potholders, aprons, bags to hold plastic grocery bags, and toys. I'm currently making stuffed teddy bears, dolls, cows, fish, elephants, cats, and dogs for Operation Christmas Child boxes.

What is your ideal way to spend a day?

It would be a beautiful day in summer and I'd do some sewing, some Bible study, and puzzle books.

What's one lesson that you've learned in life that you would like to advise younger people about?

I'm full of advice! Attend the church of your choice and make sure you read the Bible and try to understand what your part is in God's plan.

What is a favorite verse of yours?

I really like Proverbs 3:5, 6: *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."* That's really good advice.

Anything else to share with us, Goldie?

I truly love the church at London Christian Fellowship. I love everything about it - it's friendly, comfortable, and just a nice place to be.

Goldie, thanks so much for taking the time to chat with me and for sharing your life and memories with your friends at LCF!



Jesus is on His way.

passages indicate to me that a person is never to be described as a 'vegetable' no matter how many other markers of human presence have been lost. We simply don't know what's going on at the most profound level—where Spirit meets body.

What else is the Spirit doing in us? The Gospel of John shows us that the Spirit is working with us to teach and remind us (14:25), speaking for Jesus, and guiding us into truth (16:13). You might say the Spirit is taking over. Paul expresses this by saying, "It is no longer I that lives, but Christ lives in me." So you see, Christians are in an unimaginably deep and immediate relationship with God. Our lives are spiritual every moment of every day, because the Holy Spirit is in us and connects us in ways that are often imperceptible to us.

Here at LCF I think we can never lose sight of this. We should repeat it often and remind ourselves of it in worship. What we offer here is the message of a deep relationship with God. Our message is most powerful for those for whom nothing else will satisfy. A church may offer fellowship, friendship, emotional support, and all the growth that come from these social dimensions of life. What really comes first, though, is the message that God will connect directly with you, and bring his light, healing, and purpose into your life.

LCF PRAYER FOCUS

The Leadership Team

- Pray that the Leadership Team would have a refreshing and a productive time together at their upcoming Leadership Team retreat, November 7 & 8.
- Ask God to give them wisdom as they give counsel and direction, and make decisions concerning the church, such as adding a church council.
- Pray that God would be calling and preparing the person he wants to become the new elder on the team, and that the selection process would go smoothly.

Note: The Leadership Team met with our overseer, Roger Hazen, and his wife, Sharon, over lunch on October 19, but did not have an official meeting; thus, there are no Leadership Notes this month.



LCF Leadership Team (from left):

- Elder, Abraham (& Naomy) Ndungu
- Elder, Bob (& Bettyjo) Zachrich
- Associate Pastor, Reuben (& Vicki) Sairs
- Overseer, Roger (& Sharon) Hazen, from Vassar, Michigan
- Lead Pastor, Rob (& Doris) Swartz



THERE IS
always, always,
ALWAYS
something
to be thankful for

- Nov. 1
- Nov. 7 & 8
- Nov. 8
- Nov. 8
- Nov. 15
- Dec. 1
- Dec. 14

Upcoming Activities

- Craft Day, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Leadership Team Retreat
- Men's Breakfast at Phat Daddy's, 8:00 a.m.
- Operation Christmas Child packing party 9 a.m.
- Computer Repair Day, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Caroling at London's Old Fashioned Christmas
- LCF Christmas Program, 6:30 p.m.

Harvest Party

LCF's annual Harvest Party was held at Dale & Sharon's barn on October 25. It was a perfect fall evening to hang out with friends, see harvesting taking place, and enjoy a big pot of chili, along with lots of wonderful pumpkin and apple dishes!



The LCF Connection

A monthly newsletter designed to enhance communication at London Christian Fellowship

What did you think? If any of the stories in this Connection sparked an idea or opinion you'd like to share, email us at connection@lcfweb.org. Editors: Doris Swartz, Trish Eaton, Candice Mast and Amie Smith. If you prefer that we do not use photos of you in the Connection, you may opt out by emailing us at connection@lcfweb.org.