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JANUARY 2015

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The Tough Years Are Often the Most Blessed Years by Bill Powell



her beautiful baby girl. Sandy Liesner, one of Cornerstone strong was very successful, too Cornerstone Broadcasting's founders, sister- numerous and awesome to mention. in-Christ, and great friend, has been battling the difficulties of breast cancer. Praise the Lord, she is through the worst. She's a tough cookie and doing well.

We had some real lightning issues this year. At the New Smyrna transmitter site the lightning literally blew the phone box off the wall and fried several things inside the building including our cameras and internet router. Three days after observed many tears of joy. This was showing we had everything replaced, the same thing your faith by your works. Remember also you happened, only worse. This time it took out not only touched each individual that received our remote control unit that will take \$1,500 a gift but this was a witness to many lost people. to replace.

has had to resign because of overwhelming health issues. Please lift him and his family up in your prayers.

Although we love the rain, it has brought some difficulties. It is becoming near impossible to get to the transmitter site because a small portion of the road is so muddy we get stuck making the attempt. I have just gotten over the worse case of bronchitis of my life, and that is saying something. Anyway, I think I made my point - it has been a tough year. Can I get an Amen!

On the other hand what a blessed year it

must admit this past has been. 2014 was the first year we made year has been a tough our financial goal in a long time, hallelujah! year. Several dearly A special thanks to Providence Church that loved saints went to be put us over the top, including enough for us with the Lord. They are in to be able to buy the equipment to put the St. a wonderful place but we Augustine translator on the air soon. This is miss them. We all lost our another blessing. We have a verbal agreement day-to-day friend Edie whom we all loved and with a tower company and hope to have it on enjoyed. No, she has not passed away but is the air before March. Our goal to do many enjoying being a stay-at-home mom raising of the special summer projects that keep The

> One final blessing I must mention is the humongous outpouring from you our listeners - support for the seniors, foster children and homeless. Wow, this article falls short of what it would take to share how wonderful and caring the Lord's people are. I want you all to realize what you gave went to the needs they were intended for, and everyone was so grateful. We

To God be the glory for the things he hath The pastor of Riverbend Church, my pastor, done. It is only by His love, grace and mercy that all blessings come. We are so thankful He allowed us to be used by Him to do His work. Thank you all for your support this past year. It will be exciting to see what the Lord will have in store for us in 2015. I always feel overwhelmed keeping you all up to date, so feel free to call me anytime if you ever have any questions or would like anything clarified. Sometime through the social media misunderstandings are created, so feel free to give me a call

Looking Ahead

Jan 18 Sanctity of Life Sunday

Sharathon March 17-20

Check out the Community Bulletin Board at www.wjlu.org for more reminders about upcoming events, concerts, and special services.



Scan The Cornerstone **QR** code with your iPhone or Android

Prayer Corner

s we begin a New Year, pray for the Gospel to go forward to redeem hearts and change lives. Pray for our St. Augustine transmitter to be up and running by March.

What Does Love Look Like? by Mary Solari



"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord

your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (Matthew 22:36-40)

As imperfect and sinful humans, it's hard to understand what real love looks like. Since the days of Cain and Abel, siblings, families, friends and nations alike have experienced turmoil. Whether it's sibling rivalry, desire for power, money or control, mankind has succeeded in harming each other greatly.

With all the bad examples history has taught us, what examples do we have of love? 1 John 3:16-18 tells us: "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our

s a test, a Pharisee brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth."

> To define love even further, we can look at 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 which says: "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not selfseeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."

> Practicing this kind of love may not come easily, but as we draw closer in our relationship with Christ, the love of God will fill our hearts and our actions will then naturally display the fruit of God's spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). May we strive to live as Paul instructed at Colossians 3:12-14 with compassion and forgiveness, and most importantly, love which binds all virtues together in perfect unity.



Moments in Bible Prophecy - Pastor Raymond L. Shockley WKWJ FM - Monday - Friday 9:00 am • Website - http://www.momentin.us/

Pastor Raymond Shockley has been in the ministry for more than 45 years and has spent the greater part of that time studying and teaching Bible prophecy. This is his ministry passion, and God has gifted him with a mind to retain and a voice to teach that message. His program is heard in several US states and in Africa. Listeners in Key West can tune into 91.9 FM each weekday to hear Pastor Shockley, and those outside the Key West area can stream his messages at www. wkwj.org. Check out his website for the Moments in Prophecy Newsletter, sermon archives, and other resources.

Who Raises a Prodigal? by Donna Bramlett



dren; bad parents have bad children." Ever heard that one? It's not often verbalized, but it is frequently expressed, in a glance, a "kind" suggestion, in cutting eyes and not-so-hushed whispers.

When I was a young parent with small children, this idea was fed to us in large doses by well-meaning Christian leaders (who also believed it), and I for one swallowed it whole. I firmly believed that if I did everything right, my children would grow smoothly into responsible, godly adults, and of course they would rise up and call me blessed. I never even tasted the hook in that line.

First of all, I can't do everything right. I've tried, but even some of my best attempts turned out to be big flubs. Second, God is not glorified if I get all the credit. If raising children is purely a mathematical formula - good numbers in, good numbers out - where is the need for Christ? But if in my weakness and failure I bring my children to my Father and theirs and plead for their good, He rightfully receives the glory when they do well. Third, I know many families with multiple children, raised by the same parents, in the same home, under the same rules and standards. Yet not all of them turned out the same. There is often a mixture of wise and foolish,

ood parents have good chil- those who choose well and poorly in the same family. What's up with that? Were they only good parents to some of their children and not others? If so, that would certainly make them bad parents, and the whole dynamic falls apart anyway.

> Finally and most compelling of all is a simple truth that radically alters my thinking. My Heavenly Father is all good. There is no darkness or error in Him. He always does right and is always wise, always loving. Yet not all His children do well. Some make a good start and veer off course. Ever hear of sin in the church? As if we haven't witnessed it ourselves, the Bible is replete with failures of godly men and women. If this great and perfect Father has a mixture of good and bad children, why in the world would I think that I am exempt? The truth is my early confidence was just arrogance. I unknowingly thought myself a better parent than God. But knowing that now and going forward, I look to His example for how to interact with my kids when they stray, loving them unconditionally and hoping for better days. I must trust the faithfulness of our Father as I stand watching for any hint of repentance, running to them while they are still a long way off, eager to embrace and restore. I myself have been the prodigal, and my Father did that for me.

May this New Year be one of fresh grace, given and received.

Wise Men Still Behold Him by Chris Johnson



uring the Christmas season we often see or hear the phrase, "Wise men still seek him." It's a powerful statement that ought to resonate in our hearts, but as we move into this fresh New Year I'd like to encourage us to not only seek him but to behold him. The Scripture records for us that John the Baptist was calling sinners to repentance and baptizing many as he fulfilled his God ordained role of being the forerunner of the Messiah.

He spoke plainly of the fact that the Savior was soon to arrive and the people ought to prepare their hearts. While many humbled themselves under John's message a great number equally mocked and scorned him. All the while the Lord of glory was soon to make his presence known as His earthly ministry was set to begin. In John 1:29 the Bible says, "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.(KJV)"

For the last month or so we have been surrounded by the sights and sounds of the Christmas season. Parties, musicals, plays, church services and gift giving are just a few of the many things that might have taken up much of our time as we closed out 2014. For most, the decorations are packed away until next year and we're beginning to settle into the fact that somehow it really is 2015. With all the new I'd like to hearken back to an "old" message that will never truly grow old but instead will be celebrated throughout all eternity, the Lamb of God who has taken away sin. It is my prayer for myself, my family and for you that today we would stand amazed as we look to Jesus. 2015 will surely bring many things but one thing is certain, He is the same yesterday, today and forever. Oh come let us behold him!

