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Newsletter—August 2024

Saved to Serve



Jennifer, my wife, recently came across a fascinating video post by an apiarist (beekeeper). The beekeeper found a bee that was helplessly wrapped in a spider web. Out of curiosity she decided to lay the bee in the web beside a beehive. She had thirteen beehives so she had no way of knowing which hive it belonged to but thought she would see what would happen. Immediately, bees landed by the distressed bee and began pulling at the sticky web. Multiple bees worked at it until the bee was completely freed from the webbing. The apiarist's comment was something to the effect of how great it would be if people treated others who needed help like that.

Jennifer and I thought that this is a good example of the way Christians should treat others (Matthew 7:12, the "Golden Rule"), especially those in need, and certainly those within their local body. There are ample New Testament exhortations to help others in their need. One example is in 1 John. It says, "But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth." (1 John 3:17–18, NASB95). When someone in church steps in to help another, it's a beautiful thing to see or hear about. When the opposite happens, nobody shows up, a hurting person often feels isolated. Unfortunately, it happens, and I'm as guilty as anyone of failing to show up with help.

In the upcoming ministry year, an area of focus will be **serving God by serving others**. We'll be unpacking that this fall, but for now I wonder why we don't see the needs of others better and respond with help. No doubt busyness would be suggested as the chief cause. It's always the first answer for why Christians aren't practicing Christian growth disciplines, or serving, or reaching out to those who have yet to believe. The word selfishness also surfaces as a reason, which is sometimes also attached to busyness. Lack of communication (I didn't know), lack of relationships, or lack of resources are among other reasons suggested for why Christians don't do things they know they should.

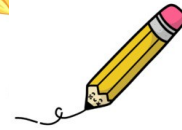
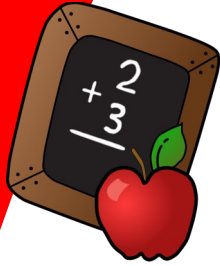
I'm sure there's no simple answer. Perhaps that's why a short portion of an interview I heard on the radio this week motivated me to find and listen to the full podcast. The author of a ministry and curriculum that started 21 years ago is on a mission to instill character in children, especially humility, respect, and resiliency. The author traces our current cultural state of widespread disrespect to the introduction and adoption of the belief that began in the 1970's that we need to build self-esteem in children. No one recognized it at the time, but its outcome has not been better adjusted young people, but self-centeredness, and the gradual erasing of humility, compassion, and respect.

Obviously, there's a lot more to this, but it makes me wonder if this is why serving others seems to be less and less common. I'm challenged to think about how we can reverse self-centeredness in our lives and in our church. How do we cultivate humility? How do we learn to respect those who don't believe, or those who hold different views on issues not essential to Christianity? How do we develop courage to speak up, and know when we should? How can we emphasize speaking always in respectful ways?

As I think about the illustration of the bees, a few thoughts come to mind. It didn't matter why the bee got caught, just that it needed help. Bees don't condemn other bees for being stupid, making bad decisions, or even blame spiders for making webs! There are "spiders" who work through people all around us with webs of untruths that catch us and those around us. The worst thing we can do is move away from one another. To leave someone alone when they're entangled, or vulnerable, is not living like Christ wants us to live. Jesus set the example, "We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." (1 John 3:16). So, have you helped someone out of a spider web lately?

Saved to Serve,
Pastor Dan





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	MBC Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8 AM—4 PM & Fridays 8 AM—Noon			1 VBS—9 am-Noon, All Church in use Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—7 pm, S	2 VBS—9 am-Noon, All Church in use VBS take-down—Noon until done Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Softball at Twining Park	3 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC
4 Single Worship Service, Picnic, & Games at Twining Park—10:30 am Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S	5 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Men's Grp.—7 pm, NC	6 Missions Meeting—5 pm, LL #102	7 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Discovering Daniel study—6-7:30 pm, NC	8 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—6:30 pm, S	9 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Softball at Twining Park Women's Campout—Lake Kegonsa	10 Men's & Kids' Canoe Trip—VI River Women's Campout—Lake Kegonsa Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC
11 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Cafe 10:30 am Next Steps-Step 1—Noon, NC Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Men's & Kids' Canoe Trip—VI River Women's Campout—Lake Kegonsa	12 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Elder Board Meeting—6 pm, LL #106 Deacon Board Meeting—6 pm, NC	13 Awana Training Meeting—6:15 pm, NC	14 No Sr. Life Group Discovering Daniel study—6-7:30 pm, NC	15 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC No MBC Worship Practice	16 Primitimers Pizza Hut Lunch—11:30 am, Pizza Hut, Monroe Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Softball at Twining Park (Pastor Dan throws 1st Pitch)	17 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC
18 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Cafe 10:30 am Next Steps-Step 2 (a 1)—9 am, Library Bridal Shower—1-3 pm, NC/K Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Youth Campout—Governor Dodge State Park	19 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Men's Grp.—7 pm, NC Youth Campout—Governor Dodge State Park	20 Awana Training Meeting—6:15 pm, NC Youth Campout—Governor Dodge State Park	21 No Sr. Life Group Discovering Daniel study—6-7:30 pm, NC	22 Blood Drive—Noon-6 pm, NC Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #101 MBC Worship Practice—7 pm, S	23 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Ministry Leader Training Dinner—6 pm, NC	24 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC
25 Lord's Table Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Cafe 10:30 am Next Steps-Step 2 (a 2)—9 am, Library Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S	26 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102	27	28 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Discovering Daniel study—6-7:30 pm, NC	29 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—7 pm, S	30 Homeschool Co-op—8:45 am-3:45 pm Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	31 Bridal Shower—11 am-3 pm, NC/K Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC



Newsletter—August 2024



- 1 Karla Chiquito
- 2 Jan Wyss
- 3 Donna Garwell
- 6 Meghann Holverson
- 7 Rita Chambliss
- Daniel Skoumal
- Jill Skoumal
- 9 Jovani McNett
- Tom Rossing
- 10 Bernadette Wong



- 14 Ross Simler
- 15 Cindy Demianiuk
- Clare Thoman
- 18 Eva Haworth
- Laura Holverson
- 21 Ashley Clark
- 23 Walter Ohlrich
- 25 Isabelle Clark
- Chelsea Hardacre
- 26 Don Bartelt



- 2 Shane & Kara Schulte
- 5 Ron & Barb Bernhagen
- 8 Rick & Cheryl Hartwig
- 12 Kim & Kathy Markham
- 14 Richard & Jane Thoman
- 15 Nate & Kay Bloom
- Paul & Andrea Brunner
- 17 Troy & Crystal Watson
- 22 Justin & Jaclyn Miller
- 23 Michael & Beth Figi
- 24 Jason & Kristi Covert

With Sympathy

*We offer our sympathy to these families
who have lost loved ones:*

*Jillian Capes and her family.
Jillian's son, Gavin Welch, went home to
be with the Lord on Sunday, June 23rd.*

*Gladys "Gladdy" Scheppele family.
Gladdy went home to be with the Lord
on Wednesday, July 10th.*



*May our God of all comfort bless you and
keep each of you in His perfect peace.*

Child Protection

It's Summer—Your Child Protection Certification has Expired!

If you are 11 years old or older, and plan to work with youth in any capacity at MBC, you need to complete Annual Child Protection Training. Summer months are the best time to do this! Training consists of online video certification; reading the MBC Policy & Rules, signing, and returning the last page; and completing background checks on all adults every two years. Contact the church office to get certified.

Don't wait!



Newsletter—August 2024

The November election is a few months away. I trust you are remembering to pray for our Federal, State, and Local government officials as well as the coming election. I have to remind myself to pray for these officials even if I don't agree with their philosophies, decisions, and policies they promote.



I Timothy 2:1-2 admonishes us to pray for our elected officials. The most important prayer would be that these officials would accept Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. We should also pray that they would have wisdom in the decisions they make. Only God can give them this wisdom and they need to be willing to accept it. We should pray that they won't be deceived by Satan. It would be a great idea to tell our officials that we are praying for them and ask them for prayer requests they may have. When we held the National Day of Prayer breakfasts, our officials told us they appreciated being prayed for. Prayer changes things.

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader



Planning is underway for several mission activities coming up the next couple months. First, the Ackerman family will be here to preach on September 22nd. They will be moving overseas later this year with their three daughters to continue serving with CRU and the Jesus Film Project. MBC has supported him since 2005 as God has led him in a variety of ministry areas. Try not to miss this opportunity to hear about this next step in their missionary work. They plan to rent their Minnesota house, and temporarily stay here in Green County from August 4th until mid-October. Because moving overseas requires families to downsize their belongings, they will arrive with what fits in suitcases. Once they get settled, we may need to help them out with some items for the children, the kitchen, etc. They will let us know later if they need anything.

Harvest Weekend this year is scheduled for October 12-13th. Our guests will be Randy and Shirley Haglund, who serve with Commission to Every Nation, and Trevor, who serves in a closed country with Reach Beyond. This will be Haglund's first visit to MBC, so take advantage of the opportunity to learn about their unique work in Africa and several other areas. Trevor will be on his first furlough and will have plenty to share about his experiences and how God has been working. We will again have the men's breakfast and ladies' luncheon on Saturday, as well as a visit to Sunday School and the sermon given by our guests on Sunday. Be sure to keep the dates open for this special annual event.

We are also hoping to bring a unique play called "Fish Eyes" to 18 & 8th this fall. It is humorous but thought provoking, as Peter and Andrew encounter Jesus. More information will be shared as the opportunity develops.

Crystal Zimmerman, Missions Ministry Leader



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Community Celebration Worship Service, Picnic, & Games

Monroe Bible Church will have a Single Worship Service on Sunday, August 4th at Twining Park behind the west bandshell.

We are combining with Hope and Redemption Churches for this community worship service.

Service at 10:30 am followed by a Picnic, Games, & Bounce Houses, with Cotton Candy, Snow-Cones, & Popcorn!

Brats, hotdogs, & drinks will be provided.

*Please bring a side dish (or two!) and dessert to share.

Don't forget to bring lawn chairs or blankets!

Volunteers are Needed to Help with Games, Snacks, Set-up, Take-down & Clean-up. Canopy Tents, Trucks & Trailers are needed.

Sign-Up at the Welcome Center!

What's Your Next Step at MBC?

Through each of the Next Steps classes you will learn more about MBC, how to get involved, become a member, and grow personally in your relationship with the Lord. Pick up a 2024 Next Steps brochure at the Welcome Center for a listing of this year's classes. Sign up for all Next Steps classes on our website, use the Chromebook at the Welcome Center, or contact the church office (325-3966).

**NEXT
STEPS**

**Next Steps-Steps 1, 2, & 3 are required for membership.*

Next Steps-Step 1 (1s.) – “Our Mission & Vision”

Sunday, August 11st at noon in the Nehemiah Center. Lunch is provided. Learn what our vision is and how you can become a part of it.

Next Steps-Step 2 (2s.) – “Our Core Beliefs”

August 18th & 25th at 9:00 AM in the library. Find out what our core beliefs are and learn some basic Bible doctrines.

Next Steps-Step 3 (1s.) – “Our Commitments”

September 8th at 9:00 AM in the library. We'll address the topics of eternal life, spiritual growth, baptism, and church membership.



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Blood Drive
Thursday, August 22nd
Noon-6:00 PM
Nehemiah Center



Pizza Hut Lunch
Friday, August 16th
11:30 AM

Monroe Pizza Hut

**Contact Carol Hasselmann with
 questions at 815-505-3324**

English-Spanish Classes

A unique opportunity has presented itself to us. A retired Spanish teacher from the area, who has begun attending Iglesia Biblica's worship services, has offered to teach classes to help Spanish speakers learn English, and English speakers to learn Spanish.

More information will be coming soon!



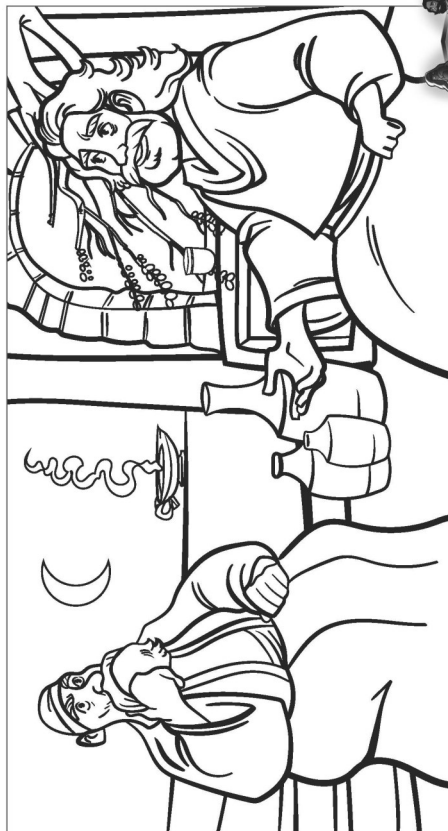
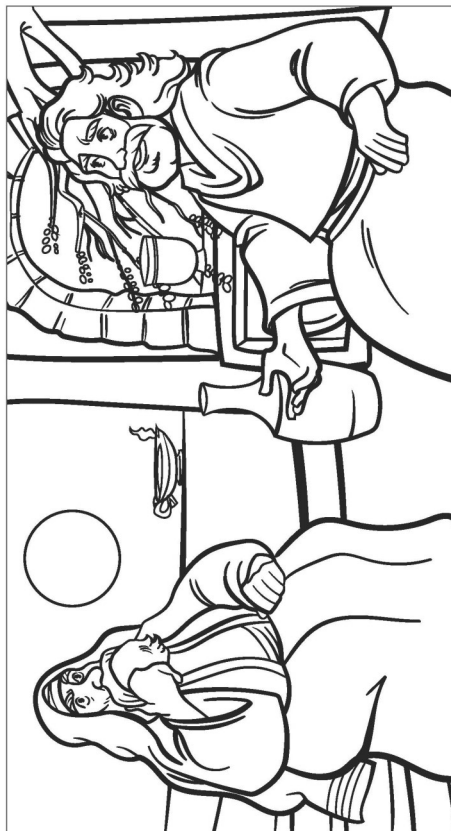
MondayMandala.com



Activities Page

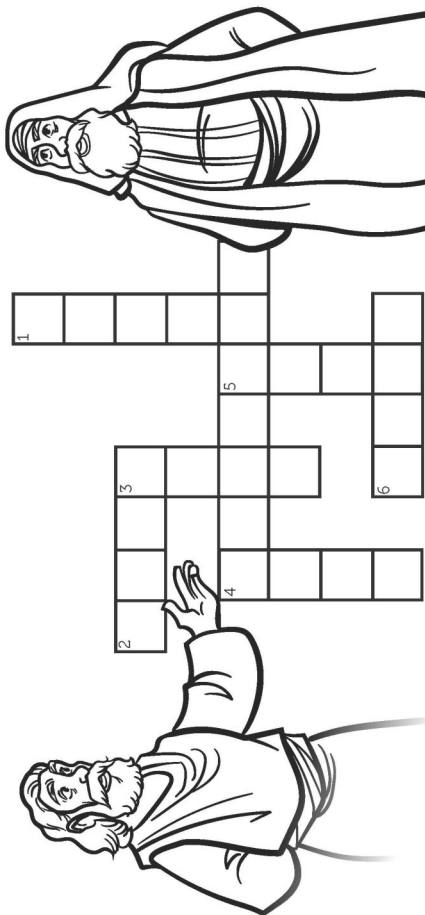
BORN AGAIN

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



BORN AGAIN

John 3:1-21



Across

2. You can feel the _____, but you don't know where it came from.
4. Moses help up a _____ for the people in the desert
6. Jesus came to Earth to _____ not to condemn.

Down

1. Nicodemus didn't understand how a _____ person could be reborn.
3. Nicodemus visited Jesus when it was late and _____ outside.
4. Jesus said that He only spoke of what He had _____ with His own eyes.
5. People who do _____ deeds love the dark and hate the light.

