

As in water face reflects face,

Rockville Reflections

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So the heart of man reflects man.
Proverbs 27:19



God's Promises

I am the Lord your God, and I never change. Malachi 3:6

I am full of mercy and grace and I overflow with love for you. Psalm 103:8

The intentions of My heart for you will remain steadfast forever. Psalm 33:11

I created you in My own image with My special blessing. Genesis 1:27-28

I chose you to be adopted into My family before creation. Ephesians 1:4-5

Since you are in Christ I have made you an heir of all My promises. Galatians 3:29

I have given you a new heart and put My own Spirit in you. Ezekiel 36:26-27

My plan for your future is filled with hope. Jeremiah 29:11

I am at work in your life through the desires of your heart. Philippians 2:13

I will give you rest in green pastures and lead you to still waters. Psalm 23:2

I will take hold of your hand to keep you from falling. Psalm 37:24

I will provide every good thing you need to do My will. Hebrews 13:20-21

I will bless your life and keep watch over you always. Numbers 6:24

If you search for Me with all your heart you will find Me. Jeremiah 29:13

Cast all your worries on Me for I really care about you. 1 Peter 5:7

You are more than a conqueror through My love in Jesus Christ. Romans 8:37

I knew you before you were born and I designed you for My purposes. Jeremiah 1:5

You are holy and free from blame because of Jesus Christ's death. Colossians 1:21-22

Trust in Me with all your heart and I will guide you. Proverbs 3:5-6

My power will rest on you when you are weak. 2 Corinthians 12:9

submitted by Flossie Steiner

Teresa and I were sharing about our journey through life one day and the next Sunday I found God's promises in my mailbox. This is an awesome reminder of how God cares for each one of us.



SAFE

*For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble.
Psalms 27:5*

*I am safe, not because I have no trouble,
or because I never experience danger.*

I am safe, not because people affirm me, or my plans always work out.

*I am safe, not because I am immune from disease,
or free of the potential for poverty.*

*I am safe, not because I am protected from disappointment,
or separated from this fallen world.*

I am safe, not because I am wise or strong.

I am safe, not because I deserve comfort or have earned my ease.

I am safe, not because of money or power, or position, or intellect, or who I know, or where I live.

I am safe because of the glorious mystery of grace.

I am safe because of the presence of boundless love.

I am safe because of divine mercy, divine wisdom, divine power, and divine grace.

I am safe, not because I never face danger.

You have not promised me a life of ease.

You have chosen to place me in a fallen world.

I am safe because you have given me one thing that is the only thing that will ever keep me safe.

You have given me You.

*I am safe from my evil heart and this shattered world, not because I can escape them both,
but because in the middle of temptation and trial, danger and disappointment, sickness, and want,*

You give me everything I need to fight temptation and avoid defeat

and point others to the safety that can only be found in You.

*So, I will wake up tomorrow and face the anxiety of not knowing the fear of my own weakness,
and the reality of the fall.*

I will live with faith, courage, perseverance, and hope.

And when danger comes, and it will, I will whisper to my weakening heart,

“Emmanuel is your shelter; you are safe.”

quoted from the book “A Shelter in the Time of Storm” meditations on God and trouble. by Paul David Tripp
submitted by Marla Ranck by request after sharing it as part of her testimony at the Talent Show at Tel Hai Camp.



RELATIONSHIPS

Topic shared by Pastor Leon

at Young Adults Bible Study on August 17

Relationships are important. You might ask-why? Because we need them. But, an even more accurate answer would be because God created us as relational, social creatures. "It is not good for man to be alone" – that reaches beyond the conjugal paradigm.

Relationships come from different places and in varied sizes and depth – employment, neighborhood, church, family and marriage. And, most certainly our relationship with God, our Father through Jesus Christ. We can observe vital relations within the Godhead – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These relationships should charm our hearts and challenge us in our relationship with God and our fellow earthlings. Relationships are impossible apart from our hearts – mind, will and affections. Proverbs 4:23 “. . . for from it flow the springs of life.” Everything we are, say, do and experience runs through our heart – the #1 subject in Scripture and the thing about you that God is most interested in.

There are a few imperatives for meaningful relationships.

1. Faith - our earthly relationships are shaped by our heavenly relationship with God.
2. Trust – relationships either die or are non-existing where duplicity prevails. Trust is a must.
3. Respect – we must honor and value others. “Love one another” in what we say and how we treat them.
4. Truth – Ephesians 4:15 “Speak the truth in love.” Relationships are shaped by God’s truth and truth-telling is mandatory where valued relationships can be found.
5. Mutual gratification, joy and satisfaction must be present. Relationships must be mutual, not one-sided. There must be input, contributions and met expectations for relationships to grow and be valued.
6. Beware of changing or lost relationships. Not all relationships need to be for a lifetime. Only two as I understand God’s word- with God Himself and our spouse. Toxic and co-dependency relationship are unhealthy and generally require serious assessment.
7. Forgiveness- conflicts will come. Forebearance, forgiveness, confession and reconciliation, when sincere, can restore what has been lost and the relationship will go on, often at deeper levels.
8. Other factors which contribute to healthy relationships are likeability, common interest and cultural background.

The Bible gives 6 guiding principles which assist us in choosing and developing relationships with others:

- A. “Not to be unequally yoked” – II Corinthians 6:14
- B. “No greater love” – John 15:13
- C. “Bad company corrupts good morals” – I Corinthians 15:33
- D. “Faithful are the wounds of a friend” Proverbs 27:6, 9, 14
- E. “Iron sharpens iron so one man sharpens another” – Proverbs 27:7
- F. “Two are better than one.” – Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

When you meet someone for the first time which of the following are more important to you for a pending relationship?

Physical – appearance

Personality- qualities

Piety- spirituality

Purse – money

Parents – family history

***Enjoy your relationships and thank God everyday
for the ones that help you to be a better person.***

Library Update



Correspondent: Ruby Lerch

Children's Titles:

God Gave Us the World
A Band of Angels
The Flowerin Cross
The Dragon and the Turtle Go On Safari
The Garden Wall
The Oak Inside the Acorn

Youth Fiction Titles:

Conrad Cunningham: The Scripture Sleuth
Conrad Cunningham Returns: The Scripture Sleuth II
Andrea Carter and the Price of Truth
Sir Quinlan and the Swords of Valor (Knights of Arrethtrae - Book 5)
Sir Rowan and the Camerian Conquest (Knights of Arrethtrae - Book 6)
Glennall's Betrayal - Passages Book 4
Draven's Defiance - Passages Book 5
Fendar's Legacy - Passages Book 6

Teen and Adult Fiction:

Inside Threat (Riley Covington #3)
Lion of Babylon

Teen and Adult Non-fiction:

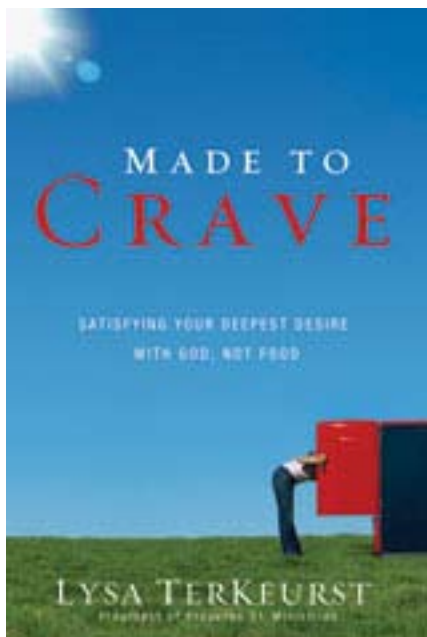
Fasting - Jentezen Franklin
Beautiful in God's Eyes - Elizabeth George
One Thousand Gifts - Ann Voskamp
To Fly Again - Gracia Burnham
Walking His Trail: Signs of God Along the Way - Steve Saint
Think No Evil: Inside the Story of the Amish Schoolhouse Shooting - Jonas Beiler
Family-based Youth Ministry - Mark DeVries
Who Calls Me Beautiful - Regina Franklin
Now I Walk on Death Row - Dale Recinella
Unsinkable: A Young Woman's Courageous Battle on the High Seas - Abby Sunderland
Pujols: More Than the Game - Scott Lamb
Trevor's Song - T.A. Beam
Every Man's Battle - Stephan Arterburn
Family Fragrance - J. Otis Ledbetter
Weaving the Family Tapestry: Biblical Principles for Counseling Couples and Families - Dr. James Johnson
The Shelter of God's Promises - Sheila Walsh
Life is Tough But God is Faithful: How to See God's Love in Difficult Times - Sheila Walsh
Choosing to See: A Journey of Struggle and Hope - Mary Beth Chapman
Under the Overpass - Mike Yankoski
The Silas Diary - Gene Edwards
Son of Hamas - Mosab Hassan Yousef
How Do We Know the Bible is True? - Ken Ham and Bodie Hodge
Thunder Dog - Michael Hingson
By the Hand of Providence: How Faith Shaped the American Revolution

Audio, Video and DVD Titles:

The Fanny Crosby Story
Robber of the Cruel Streets: The Prayerful Life of George Muller
More than Dreams
C.H. Spurgeon: The People's Preacher
The Reckoning: Remembering the Dutch Resistance
NIV Audio Bible: The Complete Bible on 64 CD's (donated in memory of Sam Stoltzfus)
The Green Ring Conspiracy (Adventures in Odyssey #53)

Coming Soon:

Growing Up Amish - Ira Wagler
Clanging Cymbals and the Meaning of God's Love (Adventures in Odyssey #54)
Blackgard Chronicles - Adventures in Odyssey



Book Report

Made To Crave
by Lysa TerKeurst

A recent addition to the library has been the book Made to Crave, along with the DVD teaching sessions by Lysa TerKeurst.

Lysa is the president of Proverbs 31 Ministries and the author of several books. In this book written primarily for women, Lysa helps us to see that we all crave things in life, perhaps food or material things or recognition, etc. But we are made for more, mainly a deeper relationship with God. This book is helpful on so many different levels, no matter what we are presently struggling with.

This summer, several ladies met at Rockville on Wednesday afternoons for seven weeks to view the DVD teaching sessions.

Here are some comments from ladies who attended:

- I need to saturate my mind with God's Word to be empowered to make the right choices.

- The teaching inspired me to be more deliberate in my choices for food, use of time, connecting in relationships, and to understand God's design for us to be well-disciplined

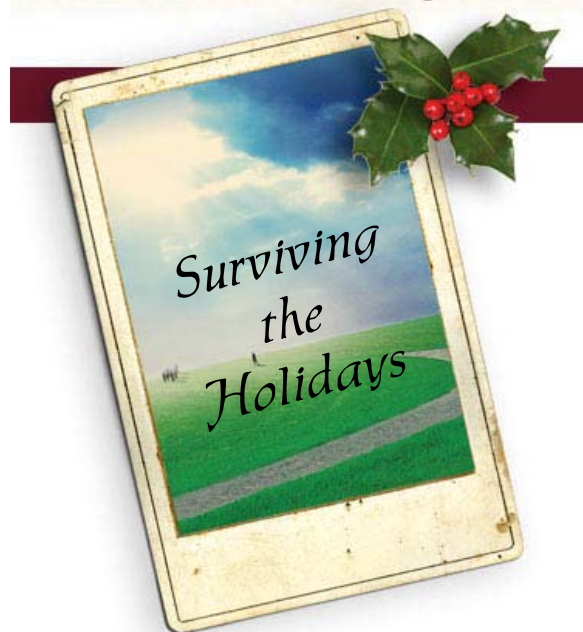
- There were so many nuggets of truth from the series that I want to go back and read it again...truths from God's Word that apply to any area of life where we struggle.

A few quotes from the book that blessed me...

"We were made to crave-long for, want greatly, desire eagerly, and beg for-God. Only God. Satan uses tactics to try to lure us away from loving God. Truth is powerful. The more saturated we are with God's truth, the more powerful we'll be in resisting our temptations. It's a battle, sister. But we aren't rendered powerless."

submitted by Ruby Lerch

GriefShare Event



GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays is a warm, encouraging and helpful event.

Featuring video instruction and group discussion, it helps you deal with the intense pain of grief during the holiday season.

Rockville Mennonite Church
will sponsor one of these seminars

at 210 Cupola Road, Honey Brook, PA 19344

**Friday, November 11th, 2011
7 - 9 pm**

**Register yourself and a friend for the event
by calling Twila Ranck 717.442.1287**

The Surviving the Holidays will give you the tools you need to make a plan to get through the hustle and bustle of the holidays that are fraught with family traditions and bittersweet memories of your loved one.

During the event you will:

Watch a 40-minute video,
filled with practical tips on how to survive the holidays
Hear from others in your group who are dealing with grief this holiday season
Have the opportunity to share if you'd like.
Receive a personal Holiday Survival Guide

"It gives 'permission' to take care of myself above perceived social obligations." Participant

"There was such a sense of hope and healing."
Grace Durham, NC



By Francine Fulton

Honey Brook Congregation Begins “We’re Here Initiative”

Every Sunday afternoon from now through Oct. 23, community members surrounding Rockville Mennonite Church (RMC) in Honey Brook will see a group of congregation members prayerfully walking through their neighborhood as part of the “We’re Here Initiative” (WHI) that recently began at the church.

RMC Pastor Leon Shirk said that the main goal of the WHI is not to try to encourage people to attend church. Rather, it is a way for the community to get to know the church and vice versa.

Rockville Mennonite Church recently began a “We’re Here Initiative,” an effort to get to know neighbors around the church. Participants include (back from left) Clair Smoker, Richard Burns, Derek Burns, Pastor Leon Shirk, (front) Nancy Smoker, Carol Ann Burns, Shirah Burns and Shelley Burns.

“I’ve been trying to figure out what our church could do to get to know our neighbors and to reach out to people and build relationships with the community,” said Shirk. “The ‘We’re Here Initiative’ is designed primarily to discover our neighbors along Cupola Road from Route 322 to Forrest Road.”

Shirk said that there are over 60 households along the aforementioned short span of roadways. “We want to find out who are our neighbors are, what issues they face in life and what can be mutually shared for the good of the Rockville community - by both RMC and neighborhood folk,” he said.

The WHI began on Sept. 11, when approximately 70 church members took part in the prayer walk. All walkers wear bright green shirts for identification and safety purposes. One group walks from RMC out to Route 322 and back while the second group prayer walks to Forrest Road and back.

“The cars and drivers have been very respectful. (Participants) walk single file; they don’t talk to each other. They are praying that God will bless our community,” Shirk said. “A lot of cars pass us on the 40-minute walk out and then back to the church. Every car slowed down and respectfully passed us. I was pleased.”

On the seventh week of the walk, Oct. 23, the neighbors will be presented with a gift bag containing a loaf of bread, a jelly jar, a Gospel of John booklet, and a \$15 gift certificate to a local pizza restaurant. Also included will be an invitation to a free community activity at the church on Sunday, Oct. 30, that will feature a free chicken barbecue beginning at 5:30 p.m. and a free showing of the movie “Fire Proof” at approximately 7 p.m.

“We (want to) make every family know that we want to be a church that freely and graciously wants to bless our community. We want to know them,” Shirk said, noting that the seven weeks of the walk is based on the biblical story of the Walls of Jericho when Joshua and his soldiers walked around the city seven times. “We simply want our community to know we’re here and we care about them,” he said.

Rockville Mennonite Church is located at 210 Cupola Road, Honey Brook. Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m., with Sunday school for all ages starting at 9:30 a.m. Coffee and other hot beverages are served from 9:15 to 9:30 a.m.

For more information about the “We’re Here Initiative” or other church activities, interested individuals may call 610-273-9577, email rmchurch@ptd.net or visit www.rockvillemennonite.com.

Elverson-Morgantown-Honey Brook Community Courier - 09/28/2011