

“In the Heart of the Community with the Community at Heart”



October 2011



The Biblical Counselor's Corner

“I have someone in my life I just can't forgive. I don't know how to deal with all the anger and bitterness toward this person. I can't stand to even see or think about this person. What can I do?”

(The following response is adapted from the notes on forgiveness by Dr. Ernie Baker of the Master's College at the Biblical Counseling and Discipleship Association of Southern California training on Saturday, September 24, 2011, in Reseda, California.)

An excellent biblical text that addresses anger, bitterness, and forgiveness is **Ephesians 4:31-32**, *“Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ has forgiven you.”*

Paul writes to the Ephesians in chapters 1-3 about how great salvation is; about all that God has given them for *“He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.”* (1:3) Christians lack nothing from God; He has given us everything we spiritually need. And not only this, but He has given us everything we need spiritually **even though we don't deserve it** (this is called grace). *“But God being rich in mercy because of His great love for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions made us alive together with grace, for by grace we have been saved.”* (2:4-5) In fact, we have absolutely nothing at all to contribute to our salvation from our sins and our eternal life in heaven. We have received forgiveness and salvation in spite of ourselves, *“For it is by grace we have been saved through faith and that salvation is not from ourselves but it is the gift of God.”*

So here is the key to forgiving someone who has hurt us or wronged us and who certainly does not deserve it: **think about the fact that God in Christ has forgiven you.** To soften our hearts and minds toward those who have wronged us, we must consider how God has forgiven all of our wrongs against Him. Ephesians 4:32 says *“Forgive each other **just as God in Christ has forgiven you.**”* What is the result? Kindness and tender-heartedness!

The penalty of our sin is separation from God (Genesis 3). When God forgives us, the penalty of that sin and the resulting separation from God is removed, we are released from it. Likewise, when we forgive another, we are releasing him from the penalty of his offense, and restoring the separation between us that has occurred as a result of the offense. If God has forgiven me when I don't deserve and He doesn't hold my sin against Him, why would I treat others differently? (Ephesians 2:13; Jeremiah 31:34; Isaiah 59:2).

The key issue at stake is **how does Christ's death affect my human, earthly relationships?** Jesus' death for me has wide-ranging and deep implications for my relationships with others. Primarily, I must love others as He has loved me. This is where we must start forgiveness. But does forgiving mean forgetting? Next month, Lord willing, we will see!



11005 Foster Rd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

www.gracelive.com

Join us for our...

Missions Sunday

November 6, 2011

10:45am Worship Service
& 6:00pm Prayer Service
With Wayne & Ellen Patton.

More details to come.

OCTOBER 2011 MONTHLY EVENT CALENDAR

The ROCK

Raising Our Children
for the King -
Children's Ministries on
Wednesday evenings at
6:30 pm -
Kidmo room

College/Young Adult

Small Group

See Tim Lansing for
details

DRIVEN NEWS

Our DRIVEN youth
ministries meet Wednesday
evenings at 6:30 pm in the
Fellowship
Hall. All youth are
welcome to attend.
Please see the DRIVEN
page for more details.

MOMENTUM
2012
Kentucky



CHILDREN'S CHOIR -
Every Sunday at 9:00am

WOMEN OF GRACE

Join the Women of Grace for
their October meeting on the
11th at 6:30pm covering
ch. 19.

Ladies Ministries

Oct. 8, 2011 - 5pm
Ladies Gala \$12.00

MISSION NEWS...

WAYNE & ELLEN PATTON BRAZIL MINISTRY UPDATE

Praise God!

For the completed water tower project; the tower is on the island of Cotijuba.

Ellen's eye surgery went well. She is healing but there is more...

Jacob and Carla are now married and it was a most beautiful wedding.

Caleb has taken the step and is now at college and has a driver's license.

For providing airline tickets for Ellen to travel to Cincinnati for a follow up visit with the surgeon.

PLEASE NOTE: Wayne, Ellen & Josiah Patton will be with us Nov. 1-9. Here is a list of their needs:

1. Tuesday, Nov. 1, they need someone to pick them up at the Yucca Valley Grace Brethren Church.
2. Someone to loan them a car during their 9 day visit. Wayne has insurance.
3. Someone to open their home to them for the 9 days.
4. Meals provided at various homes for lunch and dinner.
5. Wednesday, Nov. 9, they need someone to give them a ride to the train station, Amtrak.

If you are interested to ministering to them through any of these ways, please see Pastor or Victor Pearce. Thank you.

From PATTON'S EMAIL

PATTY MORRIS FRANCE MINISTRY UPDATE

Greetings from France! This note is to send my congratulations on the celebration of your 100th anniversary. Of course, thanks goes first to our Lord because it is His church, but thanks also goes to those who have so faithfully ministered over the years (seen and unseen) to keep a testimony of the grace of God in "my" city. I will always be grateful because it was at Norwalk GBC that I first heard the good news and became a child of God.

You have faithfully prayed for me and have supported me financially, and I wanted to take the occasion of your anniversary to say a special "MERCY". You have had an impact in my life for half of your existence (and almost all of mine!) I wish I could be present for your celebration; I will be in spirit. Have a great time reflecting on God's goodness and mercies.

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From PATTY'S EMAIL

CECIL & DEBBIE O'DELL TOKYO MINISTRY UPDATE

PLEASE PRAY FOR THEIR FINANCIAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS. PRAY FOR THEIR OUTREACH TO THE JAPANESE IN LONG BEACH.

From O'DELL'S EMAIL

DRIVEN 2011

youth ministries

Be Transformed! It's our theme for the 2011-12 School Year. Don't be transformers (*who have a tendency to change back and forth between forms*), but rather be TRANSFORMED. This is a continual process of change from one form to another. Romans 12:2 says, "Do not



conform any longer to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." It's a choice! It's a decision we must

all make! And the only one that can transform you is Jesus Christ! So are you willing? Will you let God take hold of your life and transform it for His use? Make plans to join us this year as we take a look at Scripture and see examples of real people God has transformed for His Glory!

MAKE SURE YOU INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO OUR FRANTONE'S PIZZA & SPAGHETTI VILLA DINNER NIGHT IN NORWALK ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 10TH. 25% OF ALL SALES FOR THAT NIGHT WILL GO FOR THE DRIVEN YOUTH MOMENTUM YOUTH CONFERENCE.



Go Deeper this summer with Operation Barnabas. If you are a 10th, 11th, or 12th grader and want to learn ministry and do ministry, then see Timothy Lansing for an OB application for this coming summer.

Month @ A Glance

DRIVEN WEDNESDAY

6:30pm - 8:00pm
Every Wednesday Night

WORSHIP TEAM PRACTICE

8:00pm - 9:00pm
Every Wednesday Night

Service Opportunity for Guys

4:30pm - 8:30pm
Saturday, October 8th

FRANTONE'S FUNDRAISER

5:00p - 9:00p
Monday, October 10TH

CRAZY DRIVEN (Bring a Friend)

6:30pm - 8:00pm
Wednesday, October 26th

MOMENTUM 2012 INFO MEETING

8:00pm - 8:30pm
Wednesday, October 26th

"WE CARE"- LIGHT THE NIGHT

Neighborhood Outreach
5:00pm - 9:00pm
Monday, October 31st

Important Dates

Wednesday, October 26th @ 8:15pm - Parent/Student Info Meeting for Momentum Youth Conference for the summer of 2012.

Wednesday, November 16th - Final Deadline for Operation Barnabas Applications

OCTOBER 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						01
02 9:00a Children's Choir	03	04	05 Jeff Medina FAMILY NIGHT: 6:30p DRIVEN/ROCK & ABS 8:00p Worship Team	06	07 Sandra Molina Millie Stiff	08 8:00a-noon WORK DAY 4:30-8:30p Service Opportunity for Guys 5:00p Ladies' Gala
09 9:00a Children's Choir 4:30p Trustee Meeting	10 5-9:00p DRIVEN Fundraiser – FRANTONE'S in Norwalk	11 Steven & Jessica Yrineo 6:30p Women of Grace – Ch. 19	12 FAMILY NIGHT: 6:30p DRIVEN/ROCK & ABS 8:00p Worship Team	13	14 Jennifer Gonzalez	15
16 9:00a Children's Choir	17	18 7:00p Elder Board 7:00p Ladies' Discipleship (Pattons)	19 FAMILY NIGHT: 6:30p DRIVEN/ROCK & ABS 8:00p Worship Team	20	21 7-10:00p Biblical Counseling Training	22 Jade Lansing Tyler Lansing Isabelle Posada 8:30a-5:30p Biblical Counseling Training
23 Lisa Patton 9:00a Children's Choir	24	25	26 Candi Blodgett Sonny & Corazon Medina FAMILY NIGHT: 6:30p crazy DRIVEN/ ROCK & ABS 8:00p Worship Team 8:15p Momentum Info	27 Carol Hancock Ayiana Smith	28	29
30 Maggie Olmedo 9:00a Children's Choir 6:00p 3 rd Qtr. Business Meeting	31 5-9:00p WE CARE – Light the Night					