

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY

REMINDER

Volume XV

March 1, 2009

Number 9

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Renee LaRonge
 Cradle Roll 2: Caryn Quinnelly
 Floater: Derek Quinnelly

6:00 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Piper Martin
 Cradle Roll 2: Ryan Quinnelly
 Floater: Andrea Hooper

Wed. Eve. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Nathaniel White
 Cradle Roll 2: Rebekah White
 Floater: Shirley White

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of February 22, 2009

Sunday School ----- 25
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 40
 Evening Service ----- 30
 Wed. Eve. Service, 02/25/09 ----- 24

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of February 22, 2009

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 739.42
 Love Off'g, Malcome Ellis (we're saving up) ----- \$ 32.00
 New Hymnals Fund ----- \$ 10.00
 Love Offering, Eric Barger ----- \$ 255.00
Total Received for Week of 02/22/09: \$ 1,036.42

**Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed
 to operate the church
 EACH WEEK,
 as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00**

FUND DRIVE REPORTS

NEW HYMNAL FUND

Offerings Received To Date: \$ 1,170.00

NEW PIANO FUND

Offerings Received To Date: \$ 560.00

PARSONAGE RENOVATION FUND

Total Received, To Date: \$ 304.00

Visit Us Online At - www.southheightsbaptist.com

**DON'T FORGET - EVANGELIST
 MALCOM ELLIS WILL BE HERE 4/8-12!**

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*



**Please Remember To
 Be Faithful to Give!**

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start *today* - OK? Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter
 Larry Mathews, Caryn Quinnelly, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford,
 Jeannie Knight, Nathaniel & Rebekah White ----- Outreach
 Jamie Davis ----- Sound Technician

BE PLANNING NOW TO BRING SOMEONE TO HEAR -

**EVANGELIST
 MALCOM ELLIS**

Wednesday, April 8 - Sunday, April 12



- Old-Fashioned Bible Preaching*
- Old-Fashioned Singing By Kent Buttram*
- Old-Fashioned Revival Services*

PLAN NOW TO BE HERE!



**ATTENTION ALL YOUNG MARRIED'S OR TO-BE-MARRIED'S! WE
 CONTINUE OUR NEW CLASS ON THE -**

Secrets of An Ultimate Marriage

TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE:

- The Complement, the Curse, and the Cure**
- Personal Responsibility: The Key To Oneness**
- Full Forgiveness: The Way To Inner Peace**
- Exposing Enemies**
- Success: Standing Against The Storm**
- Self-Acceptance: The Way To Accept My Spouse**
- Anger: Recognizing Its Roots**
- Lust: The Enemy To Intimacy**
- 7 Basic Needs Of The Wife & Husband**

Classes Begin Promptly Every Sunday In The Auditorium @ 9:45 a.m.

Staying By The Stuff

This past Sunday, we were blessed to have as our guest speaker Bro. Eric Barger of Take A Stand Ministries. In each session, he shared with us so many wonderful truths from and about the Word of God.

In Sunday School, he expounded on the need for more believers to get involved in Christian Apologetics - the defense of the Truth of the Word of God against heresies, lies, and false teachings.

In the morning service, we were thrilled to hear how God saved him from a life of Christ-less-ness, drugs, alcohol, and despair.

In the evening service, I encouraged him to take all the time he needed to share with our people the errors of one of, if not THE, greatest threat to biblical Christianity - **The Emergent Church Movement**. He did an excellent job presenting the position of this dangerous and heretical cult in a way that all of us could grasp and understand.

I was particularly pleased that so many of our younger folks, teens and adults alike, were able to see how unscriptural, anti-Bible, and anti-Christian the Emergent Church Movement is. I wondered if it were a topic that a younger believer might not appreciate the seriousness of, and am glad to see that they certainly did comprehend it. Many asked lots of questions and seemed genuinely concerned over what is happening in the Christian world, and how important it is for all who name the name of Christ to “stay by the stuff”, and not allow these “winds of (pseudo) doctrine” toss them about. If I do not live to see the Rapture from the vantage point of this earth, their response and understanding of the errors of these kinds of unbiblical teachings give me hope that there will be at least some holding forth the truths of the inspired, infallible, inerrant, preserved Word of God at that great day.

Recordings of Eric Barger’s messages are available in mp3 format on our Media Ministry page at the church website, www.southheightsbaptist.com - you can listen to them in streaming audio or download them, whichever you prefer.

In addition, we have uploaded all of the following audio recordings of the pastor’s verse-by-verse preaching through the Bible:

- ROMANS** **I CORINTHIANS**
- EPHESIANS (ongoing)** **REVELATION**

We will be adding more each week Please use these to assist you in your personal study, and encourage others to do so, as well. ■



A Philosophy of Worship Music

by Chris Anderson

Few words are as apt to elicit a passionate response as the words worship music. Churches, institutions, and homes have been rocked (pun intended) by debates over what is—and more often, what is not!—acceptable music. While I understand the debate and tend to land on the conservative side of it, the fact that the term worship is heard by many as a call to arms instead of a call to prayer grieves me. I fear that one casualty of the “worship wars” of the last generation has been worship itself. We have focused more on style than on substance. We have spoken loudly and often regarding what we are against, but we have said and thought too little about what we are for. We have given more thought to the manner of worship than to the Object of it. I’d like to see that changed, and therefore I ask, What are we for? What should we be aiming at as we produce or select worship music? I believe that the following six principles can provide some help as we work toward an answer.

Worship Music Should Be Intentionally Scriptural

Worship music, like the rest of the worship service, should be filled with biblical quotations, imagery, and allusions (Col. 3:16). In some cases (as with the metrical psalms), that means that the hymn lyrics should essentially be thought-for-thought paraphrases of the biblical text. Even in cases when hymns pursue a biblical theme or doctrine, however, the biblical content behind the lyrics should be clear. **We should be singing the Scriptures!**

Further, worship music is able to both express and advance the singer’s theological understanding. Thus, what we value in hymn texts is not merely creativity or artistry, but biblical and theological accuracy. The songs we sing in worship should be doctrinally rich and meaty. People should meditate on spiritual truths as they sing, both in public worship and in private, so we should be endeavoring to provide fuel for such meditation through theologically astute texts, especially regarding the doctrines of God, Christ, and salvation.

Worship Music Should Be Intentionally God-Glorifying

Worship music—and the rest of our lives!—takes place for the glory and pleasure of God. Our chief end is “to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.” More importantly, Scripture teaches that just as all things were created by and for Christ (Col. 1:16; Rev. 4:11), all believers are saved by and for Christ (Eph. 1:6, 12, 14). Thus, we should strive to produce music that encourages the Lord’s people to “magnify” and “exalt” Him (Ps. 34:3) by reminding them of His titles, attributes, words and deeds—by helping them to see Him as He has revealed Himself in the Scriptures. While songs should be enjoyable and edifying for the Lord’s people, they should be intentionally focused upward so

that the church might fulfill its purpose of glorifying God by singing directly of Him, for Him, and to Him (Eph. 1:12; 3:20-21; Rom. 11:36).

Worship Music Should Be Intentionally Christ-Centered

Worship music should be distinctly Christian. Our songs should make much of Jesus Christ and the glorious gospel. Because we believe that Christ crucified is the centerpiece of human history (I Cor 1:23a; 2:2) to which the entire Old Testament prophesied and to which the entire New Testament bears witness (Luke 24:47), we should be determined to produce music that will point people Christ-ward and help them appreciate in fresh ways the glory of Jesus’ person and work. We should want to sing about Christ—His perfect life, sacrificial death, victorious resurrection, intercessory ministry, and glorious return!

Worship Music Should Be Intentionally Congregational

Worship music should encourage every-member ministry. While we should appreciate purposeful and appropriate special music, we should believe that God is uniquely glorified by congregational singing. Worship belongs not just to those who are specially trained or gifted, but to every believer in Jesus Christ. Further, singing praise is the responsibility of the entire body and not of a select few (Eph. 5:18; Col. 3:16). These truths should motivate us to produce music that is accessible, both textually and musically. We should not try to be academic or classical. While we may genuinely admire oratorios by Handel or cantatas by Bach, we should write music that will be useful for the average, musically untrained church member. The text and music may and sometimes will stretch the worshiper, but it shouldn’t be “beyond” him.

Worship Music Should Be Intentionally Fervent

Worship music should have texts and tunes that affect the entire person—mind, will, and emotions (Matt. 22:37-38). At times, that will require musical scores that are quiet and meditative, inspiring wonder or sorrow. More often, I believe, it will require musical scores that are joyful and celebratory, inspiring a heartfelt and exuberant response consistent with the many “Shout to the Lord!” commands of the psalms and the worship of Nehemiah 12:43 that was heard from afar! We should strive to produce texts and tunes that stir the imagination and affections, encouraging appropriate emotional responses to the grand truths being sung. We should help congregations engage biblical truth and respond with thoughtful, wholehearted fervency (John 4:24).

Worship Music Should Be Intentionally Distinct

Worship texts and music should reflect the character of God in His holiness, glory, weight, majesty, love, grace, joy, and other perfections (Ps. 96). Though I recognize that the implications of this point to musical styles is necessarily somewhat subjective, I believe that we should desire our music to promote a biblical reverence (Heb. 12:28-29) and have a sound that is distinct from most of what is heard outside the church. We should also desire

that our music be distinct in its quality. Of course, God accepts praise because of Christ (Heb. 13:15; 1 Pet. 2:5), not because of our abilities. However, I believe that one way in which we demonstrate God’s glory and our esteem for Him is by offering Him that which is excellent. Our songs, like the Old Testament sacrificial lambs (Ex. 12:5), should be choice offerings, not the “lame” or “blemished” (Mal. 1:8, 13-14). To that end, we should strive to produce music that is excellent artistically as well as doctrinally—that is “skillful” (Ps. 33:3; 47:7). Hopefully, the result will be Christ-honoring music that will point Christ’s people to Him for years to come.

To God alone be glory! (Ps. 115:1) ■

Chris Anderson is the founding pastor of Tri-County Bible Church in Madison, Ohio. He enjoys writing, and his writing projects include hymns, a blog, articles, and Buckaroo Bible Club.

GOD USES ALL KINDS OF MUSIC?

We often hear from the Christian rock crowd that God must love all kinds of music because He invented it all. This takes away from Satan any power that he might have in this realm. After all, even Christian rockers would probably admit that the devil is a crafty fellow. But when it comes to the area of music, they want us to believe that the devil has no power and no tools that he might use to take men away from God.

Why wouldn’t the devil use music to lead men into sin? He uses pornography, doesn’t he, or would they have us believe that God also created every kind of magazine? The devil uses greed, doesn’t he? He uses lusts of every kind, doesn’t he? Why not music?

We don’t believe it’s reasonable to deny the influence of Satan in every area of life, so let’s give the devil his due and think a little about what kind of music Satan would create.

If the devil created a form of music, it would surely appeal to the flesh, for we know from Scripture that the flesh and the spirit are already in a vicious war with each other (Galatians 5:17).

If the devil had a kind of music, it would probably promote sexual sin, as that is one of the great destroyers of men.

If the devil had his own music, without a doubt it would glorify drugs and alcohol. Drugs have always been associated with paganism and witchcraft and what heathen debauchery would be complete without alcohol to fuel the flames of lust?

If the devil had a kind of music, it would be loud and brash and exciting, as opposed to quiet and humble and uplifting.

If the devil created a type of music, it would have an attitude of rebellion at its very heart, for he is the first and greatest rebel.

The devil doesn’t write music? Those who believe that seem to have a little too much sympathy for the devil. ■

- Brian Snider