



Maupin's Corner

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May 2010

I'm Not OK, You're Not OK

I recently read something concerning forgiveness that really made me think about our sinfulness and salvation in light of a book title popular many years ago called "I'm Ok, You're Ok."

What I read said most of the time "people operate primarily out of their own self-interest." If that is true then maybe I'm ok but the other person might not be ok.

If I'm honest with myself and others, even though I would like to think I'm unselfish and generous to a fault, I know that at times I'm selfish to the point of hurting others.

But what I don't often consider is that when another's selfishness hurts me, that selfishness is pretty much a universally expected behavior because we all operate due to our own self-interest.

Which makes me think: "Why is it so hard to forgive others when they hurt me because they are just behaving in the same selfish way I do?"

This turns "I'm ok and you're ok" upside down on its head. The reality is "I'm not ok and you're not either," but we are both the same, selfishly motivated in our actions and far from where God wants us to be.

A core principle of our Christian faith is that before I'm willing to give up my self-centeredness and forgive, I must first be truly forgiven.

To know how really bad we need forgiveness the Scriptures tells us it takes the work of the Holy Spirit to bring conviction in our hearts, and when He does we know our great need of forgiveness and it matters to us.

When this happens it becomes crucial for us, whether raised in the church since birth or not, to know there was a time and a place where we told Christ that we believe He came to die for our sins; that only by His shed blood on Calvary, as God's Son, was our sins atoned for, our wrongs pardoned.

Then in repentance we turn away from our desire for selfishness and control of our life, and we tell Jesus that our hearts are all His. This is due to the grace and faith He has given to us.

Then by the mercy of His grace in faith, believing on His name do we receive forgiveness of our selfishness, pardon for all our wrongs, and are saved.

Why is making sure we have this conversation with God our Father, that we are sinners in

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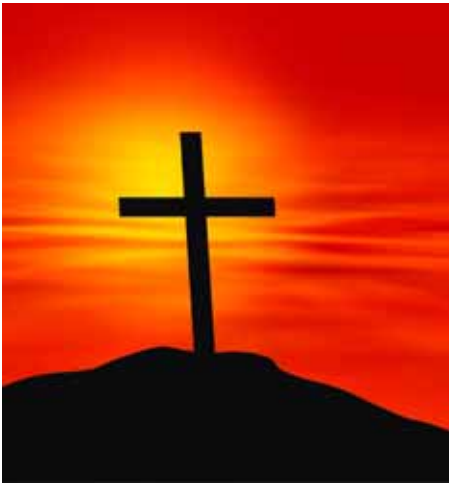
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[www.maupinavenue
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The wonderful thing about the foot of the cross is the ground is level for all, but getting there is an essential journey we must all make; where after hearing God's Word, we must with our words give Him our heart and soul.

need of His grace, so important?

Because neither infant baptism, being raised in the church, having Christian parents, doing good, none of these things tell God personally that we are a sinner in need of His grace to be saved.

No one but ourselves can willingly "speak our hearts away to Jesus" so that every day we want to do His will of loving God with heart, mind, soul and strength and our neighbor as self.

The wonderful thing about the foot of the cross is the ground is level for all, but getting there is an essential journey we must all make; where after hearing God's Word, we must with our words give Him our heart and soul.

Unless we "confess

Jesus as Lord with heart and mouth there is no salvation."

As your pastor I want, in the kindest way possible, to be certain that along your spiritual journey you have made your personal confession, because your eternity hangs in the balance.

If you haven't, then do not delay; do it now, even as you're reading this. And then don't be afraid to share this with an elder, teacher, or dear friend. Don't be afraid, for you are sharing your witness and the Gospel of which is the "very power of God for salvation to all whom believe."

God so loved the world that He forgave us by the sacrifice of His only Son. Due to this compassionate sacrifice, we are forgiven and receive eternal life with

God, and not eternal separation which, due to our sin, we deserve.

What of our forgiving others? We, in Christ, want to forgive because after salvation we understand how He first loved us. He sacrificially loved us first that we might love others as He does, even when we are hurt by them. This is forgiveness, that we were all first loved by Jesus, and we can love each other in no other way.

"Jesus talk" is truth spoken in love with a pure heart.

I'm not ok, you're not ok, but if we are sold out to Christ, we are eternally, in Him, ok together.

Grace and Peace This May,

Pastor Randy

WOMEN' S M I N I S T R I E S / P r a y e r B r e a k f a s t

The Day Circle will meet Monday, May 3 at 2:00pm with Mary Ruth Harrill hosting.

The Night Circle will meet Monday, May 10 at 7:00pm in the fellowship hall with Cathy Foster hosting.

The next Maupin Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, May 8 at 8:00am. Following breakfast we will have a work day in and around the church.

Consignment Sale

We are having a fine consignment closet sale on Saturday, May 22 from 10:00-3:00pm in the church fellowship hall. The youth will be selling hotdogs, with the proceeds going toward their mission trip.

This sale will be clothes in top-notch condition; like in-store. The proceeds from this sale will benefit the building/maintenance fund.

We are soliciting non-yard sale clothing, including men's slacks and shirts. We will ac-

cept vintage clothing and retro items (styles from many years past). We will also accept nicer costume jewelry and shoes.

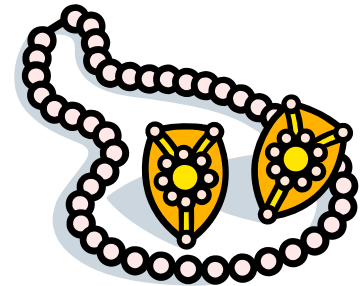
We need display items, such as hanging racks and display cases. We need stand-alone full length mirrors. If anyone has racks, cases, or mirrors please let Shirley Goodman know.

We also need helpers to organize clothes on Friday evening and to help with the sale on Saturday.

The church, Fulton Heights neighborhood and guests are all encouraged to attend.

So come on out Saturday, May 22 and buy relatively inexpensive clothing items and help the youth out by buying hot dogs!

For more information please contact Shirley Goodman.



VBS

Send kids to Egypt to join Joseph on a journey from prison to palace! Children will build pyramids...jostle through a colorful marketplace...squish mud to make bricks...and join Joseph on the family friendly adventure of a lifetime! Bible Points:

1. God gives us hope - Jeremiah 29:11 Joseph interprets dreams in prison.
2. God gives us special abilities - Romans 12:6 Pharaoh puts Joseph in charge.
3. God gives us wisdom - James 1:5 Joseph leads Egypt through famine.
4. God gives us forgiveness - Nehemiah 9:17 Joseph forgives his brothers.
5. God gives us a family - Galatians 3:26 Joseph settles his family in Egypt.

VBS is June 20-24.



Welcome the Newest Member of our Maupin family

Luke Graham Dickert was born on Monday, April 19 at 1:47pm. He weighed 9 lb 5 oz and was 21 in long. His proud parents are Carissa and Reid Dickert. Maternal grandparents are Jeff and Debbie Fisher. Paternal grandparents are Nathan and Bettina Dickert.



May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:00am-Sunday School 11:00am– Worship/Children’s Church 5:00pm-Youth night	3 Day Circle 3:00pm Pastor’s day off	4	5 Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 5:45pm Choir Practice 6:45pm	6	7 Breakfast 6:15am at Cracker Barrel	8 Prayer Breakfast 8:00am Work day
9 10:00am-Sunday School 11:00am– Worship/Children’s Church	10 Night Circle 7:00pm Pastor’s day off	11 Deaconate meet at 5:30pm	12 Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 5:45pm Choir Practice 6:45pm	13	14 Breakfast 6:15am at Cracker Barrel	15
16 10:00am-Sunday School 11:00am– Worship/Children’s Church	17 Pastor’s day off	18	19 Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 5:45pm Choir Practice 6:45pm	20	21 Breakfast 6:15am at Cracker Barrel	22 Consignment sale/Hotdog sale 10:00-3:00pm
23 10:00am-Sunday School 11:00am– Worship/Children’s Church	24 Pastor’s day off	25	26 Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 5:45pm Choir Practice 6:45pm	27	28 Breakfast 6:15am at Cracker Barrel	29
30 10:00am-Sunday School 11:00am– Worship/Children’s Church	31 Pastor’s day off					



May Birthdays

May 3	Michael Swenson
May 7	Brittany Harris
May 10	Carissa Dickert
May 21	Jeff Fisher

Mark Your Calendars



Youth night is Sunday, May 2 starting at 5:00pm. The youth will be doing something special for Moms.

Don't forget: **Mother's Day** is Sunday, May 9!

Graduation 2010 is June 11. We have 3 seniors graduating from high school this year, Brandy Harris, Jessica Lesslie, and Michael Swenson. See next months newsletter for info.

Danny Funderburk will be in concert Saturday night, July 13 at 7:00pm. He will also be singing a few songs during worship on Sunday, July 14.