

# The Trinity Times

January 2013

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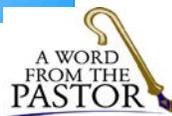
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## Little Characters with Big Impact The Philippian Jailer

How long does it take to tell someone everything he needs to know to get to heaven? A man I know told about two visitors at his door, supposedly for the very purpose of getting him there. So, he put them to the test.

“Suppose I had a knife in my back,” he told them, “and I had three minutes to live. What could you tell me that would get me to heaven?”

Surprised, the men tried to answer. “Well, you need to read your Bible and do your best to be good.”

“But I’ve only got three minutes,” he persisted. “How can I do that in three minutes?”

Conceding they had no help for him, one of them suggested, “Maybe you’ll get another chance after you die.”

With that, my friend proceeded to tell them what he could offer in three minutes, now in the hopes of showing them the way to life.

Really? Can it be done in three minutes? I think the Philippian jailer would say so.

We find his story in Acts 16. Paul and Silas have been thrown into prison for casting a demon out of a servant girl. Normally, this would be considered a good deed in any circle, but this girl made money for her masters through fortune-telling; for which purpose she was no longer of any use.



Angry, her owners had the two preachers arrested, beaten, and thrown into jail. Once in jail, their feet were put in stocks for good measure.

The faithful two will not be stopped by things as trivial as stocks, bars, and beatings, and spend the night singing praises

to God. God in turn decides to send an earthquake, which breaks the stocks without breaking their legs, and knocks the doors wide open.

At this point, our afore-mentioned jailer rushes onto the scene, and seeing the doors wide open, thinks he is ruined. Assuming his prisoners have all escaped, he sees only one honorable escape for himself, and prepares to kill himself.

“Do not harm yourself!” Paul cries out from the cell. “For we are all here!” No less stunned than he was at the damage done by the earthquake, the jailer falls on his knees before Paul and Silas and asks the desperate question all this has put in the forefront of his mind: “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

This is where our friends at the door might start explaining Bible study, church attendance, and a long process that leads to a likelihood of eternal life. Paul and Silas had a much simpler answer, though. “Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.”

It is amazing, when you think about it, how little one really needs to know to be saved. Granted, this jailer knew



What a precious Nativity Scene! The angels, shepherds, wise men and, of course, Mary and Joseph all made their appearance. A big thanks to Tyson and Rachel Lacy for finding the perfect baby to play the baby Jesus! (Photo courtesy of Krissi Bell)

“Our mission is to proclaim the Word of God, leading people to a saving faith and a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.”

something. Paul and Silas had been working openly in the city; he may have been aware of their message. He may have overseen the beating they received, and taken note of their character through the ordeal. He apparently made a connection between the earthquake and their declining to escape when given the chance. With this much background, it may seem unfair to describe Paul and Silas' short answer as being so short.

On the other hand, any time someone sincerely asks, "What must I do to be saved?" they are already at that point. It is not a minor point but a major one that the answer is simple. No Bible study is required, no tests must be taken, no great deeds must be done. To require anything of the sort is to deny that Jesus Christ is the One who did the deeds that save us.

In essence, Paul and Silas are saying, "You don't need to do anything. Everything that needs to be done for you to be saved has already been done. You simply need to accept that gift."

There is a second story that supports this conclusion (actually, this is the second, the other comes first), that of the dying thief on the cross. He, in fact, much more closely resembles our man with the hypothetical knife in the back. He had more than three minutes to live, but not much more.

As he hung on the cross, this doomed man rebuked the other thief, who was rebellious even while dying, and

then said, "Jesus, remember when You come in Your kingdom." Can you imagine the defeat, if Jesus had answered, "Sorry, but there's no time. If only you weren't dying, then I could teach you what you need to know." Our Savior doesn't say that, though; because He is the Savior.

This dying, guilty man has just acknowledged who Jesus is, and asks Jesus to remember him. Jesus, in response, says simply, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in paradise."

These two men and their stories make an instant and complete rebuke to anyone who places prerequisites on salvation. What do we need to know? We need to know He's the Savior.

How long does it take? For Jesus, it took a lifetime of perfection and innocence, ended in several hours of horrible suffering and separation from God. But that work was completed long ago, once for all. So for us, salvation takes very little time. Much less, in fact, than three minutes.

## In the Library



Today we explore part of the library that isn't found in the library. Enter the Sunday School wing, and about a third of the way down, on your right, you will find a small bookshelf completely stocked with books for 3rd—6th Graders.

Kids love mysteries, and there are a lot to choose from. There are several episodes of the "Three Cousins Detective Club" and the "Mandy" se-

ries. Want to be sure you're combining Bible truth with mystery? The Three Cousins also have the "Beatitudes Series!" "*Blessed are the merciful*" somehow leads to "The Mystery of the Candy Box."

Moving from mystery to history, The Christian Heritage Series (no connection to the school) uses fiction to explore the role of faith and family in shaping American history.

In other fiction, there are children's books by Frank Peretti and books from the Adventures in Odyssey series, to name a few, but not all.

Young minds need more than fiction; so there are several missionary biographies as well. These are written at a level the kids can follow and enjoy; and Mom and Dad might learn a few things as well.

Check it Out!



## Heart Talk

by Mark Smith

My conviction is that our Lord wants us to be "intentional" in the expression of our faith – to *know* who we are as a result of what Jesus did for us, *why* we're here (our purpose in life), *where* we're going (both for eternity and in time), and *how* to live (genuinely, authentically for Him).

The consistent demonstration of the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) is evidence of our developing Christ-like character. Since we are "in Christ" and our purpose as Christians is to have God reproduce Himself in our lives, we must be intentionally allowing His character to show through them.

Our Lord wants us to be people of:

- Love – for God and those around us (1 John 3:17, 4:8, 16; John 13:34-35, 14:15; Matthew 22:34-40; 1 Corinthians 13; Ephesians 4:32).
- Joy (Philippians 3:1, 4:4-7; John 15:11, 16:24).
- Peace (John 14:27; Romans 5:1, 14:17-19; 1 Thessalonians 5:13; Ephesians 4:3).
- Patience (Ephesians 4:2; 1 Corinthians 13:4).
- Kindness (1 Corinthians 13:4).
- Goodness (Acts 10:38).
- Faithfulness (1 Corinthians 4:2).
- Gentleness (Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:12; Matthew 11:29).
- Self-discipline (1 Corinthians 9:24-27).

"Intentional" Christians also recognize that the Holy Spirit uses our lives to reveal Jesus Christ to those around

us.

Christ has assigned us to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20). We aren't sent out to go it alone, but He has given us His power to enable that witness (Acts 2; Ephesians 5:18; Acts 1:8). He also has given us the model of how the job gets done (Matthew 9:35-38). Motivated by compassion for the lost and a vision for the harvest, Jesus went, taught, preached, healed and prayed. We also can teach others about the one true God, proclaim His message of love and hope through Christ, minister to the needs of others and continually stay in touch with Him.

We are witnesses because there is a real hell awaiting those who do not know Christ as Savior and Lord (2 Corinthians 5:11; Matthew 23:33). It's not pleasant to think that family and friends may be separated from God and us forever, but that should motivate us to share God's good news with them.

Jesus wasn't shy about describing the reality of eternal judgment (see Matthew 8:12, 13:50; Mark 9:43, 48; Revelation 20:15). It is a place of excruciating pain, hopelessness, conscious suffering in mind and body, loneliness, despair and torment.

God's desire is that no one should experience hell, but He leaves it up to individuals to make their own choice. Our God has provided the way of escape (2 Peter 3:9; 1 Timothy 2:4). As we live authentically for Christ, people will find us ready to show them "the Way, the Truth and the Life" (John 14:6).



Randy and Laura Damschen's

Prayer Requests and Praises for the New Year

Hi Friends and Family,

Prayer Requests for 2013:

1. Wisdom sourced only in the Word of God that is well above our years for working with partners, each other, students, missionaries, and co-workers.
2. Laura and I have been married 33 1/2 years. It was at 25 years I said we would do something special and I'm thinking we will get to do that this February.
3. I have students asking from time to time, "Randy, will you come when we need you to help build our house or set up our solar or..." So many good things, so little time/resources. Lord, help us use our time and resources in a way that honors You. We tend to get over-involved—so having a healthy balance in life is the prayer.
4. We are trusting the Lord for new monthly sponsors. Maybe you haven't been a part and would like to. Or maybe you could speak on our behalf. We'd love to have you join in. If that's you, we'll be glad to let you know how.
5. Vision and good leadership on my part her at the MTC and NTM Tech Center.

Praises going into 2013:

1. You prayed and God answered—we continue to expand our impact by serving others here at the Tech Center. We helped NTM, 19 other mission organizations, and 7 independent missionaries sent out by churches. The Word of God is going out and the impact potential is exciting!
2. New used little pickup to use here around campus—good economy—yeh!
3. Past mid-life crisis, but opportunities still abound in which we can trust the Lord.
4. For all of our partners!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
5. A new grandchild—now makes 3—Yes! (little elbow action there.)

Have a Merry Christmas!  
Randy & Laura Damschen



So Many Things to Be Grateful For!

"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!" Psalm 118:1

The Christmas season always comes with a spirit of thankfulness. It is good to reflect on the many blessings from God, primarily the gift of Jesus. We have so much to be grateful for, and we invite you to rejoice with us.

We are thankful for the many people who partner with us in ministry—through prayer, volunteering, and financial support.

We are thankful for a full ministry schedule, and all the young people that are growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are thankful for the provision of a house! We have moved into one of the on-site houses at Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp, where we are able to provide additional care for the camp facilities and guest groups

"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" Philippians 4:19. God is rich in so many things: Mercy, kindness, grace, love, and more! We hope that you are resting in the riches of God!

Sincerely,

Tim & Teresa Karr  
Youth missionaries, InFaith

### Merry Christmas

#### From our Missionaries!

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" - Luke 2:14

Merry Christmas Saints at TBF, I hope this finds you rejoicing in our Savior. Our "season" has certainly begun down here. Big concert tonight (18 Dec) and last day Christmas chapel and party tomorrow. We are passing our Christmas in Puebla a little lonely but we plan to skype w/ our kids on Christmas Day. Our church is involved in both orphanage and hospital ministry and we re participating in both.

Thank you for your love, support, prayer, and encouragement this past year.

"May the good news of Christ's birth bring you great joy."

Feliz Navidad y prospero año nuevo.  
Yours by grace,  
Bruce & Lynda Morock

Two thousand years ago, in the dark of night in a field far from town a group of shepherds were watching their flocks. Suddenly, with the brilliance of the glory of God, an angel arrived and said, "Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of the great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord" Luke 2:10-11. What an amazing gift we have been given. God gave His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for each of our sins. Jesus died on the cross, then three days later rose from the dead so that we can be given eternal life if we trust in Jesus. Jesus is the Reason for the season. Merry Christmas!

In Christ,  
Robert & Cindy McDowall

Joy  
With love, Randy, Margo & Tristan Hoffmann

With Warm Thoughts from all of us at Christmas

To Pastor Steve and Joan McLachlan and TBF family,  
"We all are thinking of you and wishing you sweet memories, happy times, and beautiful moments shared with those you love. Have a Great Christmas, and a very Happy New Year."  
Ch. Daniel

Dear Friends,  
We have 34 new missionaries graduating next week from the New Tribes Training Center. We're excited and encouraged to see them heading around the world. Will also miss them, especially the 2 couples we've been advisors for and spent a lot of time with.

We so appreciate being able to partner with you in spreading the Light into the world.

May you have a wonderful Christmas season and a blessed New Year.  
Randy & Laura Damschen

by Mike Anderson

## Elders Report

30 November 2012

IN ATTENDANCE: Steve McLachlan, Knute Hernas, Mark Smith, Mike Anderson, Dave Fitzpatrick, Trustee

Intercessory Prayer:

Pastor's Report:

- The Ugandan Children's Choir contacted us to ask if TBF would like to have them visit the church on the 21st of April. If we decide to have them come, we will need to find four homes to host the children and their chaperones overnight. Additionally, there would be a \$350 cost to cover their expenses. Knute Hernas voiced a concern that there might be a significant scheduling conflict with a local event. It was decided to look into the situation a little more before making a final decision.
- The Pastor discussed his vision for TBF; that he believed we are currently and should continue to be focused on Missions, Children's ministries, and the community
- James and Kym Faulkner would like to host a movie night at TBF as a community outreach. The members discussed and approved the proposal.

Old Business:

- Pastor Evaluations: The topic of having a formal evaluation done for the Senior and Youth Pastors was discussed. The merits and concerns were reviewed and the item was tabled until next meeting.
- Sunday Services: The possibility of going back to two Sunday services was discussed. The main focus was on ensuring we are ready to do so should the need arise. We also asked the trustees to start taking weekly attendance.
- Annual Meeting Item: The subject of Youth Pastor Cooper's compensation was discussed, mostly to bring Pastor Steve up to date since he had not been present for the portion of the Annual Meeting when the pastor's salaries were covered.
- Christmas Day Service: Plans for the Christmas Day service were finalized and approved.

New Business:

- Communion: The 2013 communion schedule was coordinated and agreed to.
- Ushers: we talked about having our greeters and trustees take a more active roll in helping people find places to sit on crowded Sundays. Also, all agreed the Elders and the greeters need to do their best to know the names of everyone who attends TBF.
- Commissioning Ceremony: it was discussed and agreed to that we should have a short commissioning ceremony for the new church offices at the next Sunday Services (2 December).



by Josh Cooper

## Youth Stuff

### Are you going all out?

Jesus says in Revelation 3:15-16, *"I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth."*

I am sure you have heard these two verses before over and over again. As I have been reading through what Jesus said to the seven churches in Revelation I was reminded of these verses and had a big thought. What does it mean to be lukewarm?

Being a lukewarm Christian is like those who want to try and do something big and they do it without going all out. If you play a game of basketball, do you play to win or do you play to lose? Being lukewarm is like the person who wants to win, but does not give all their effort to win. Would you want that kind of person on your team? Jesus doesn't, but that is what you are doing if you are living a

lukewarm Christian life.

Joe Namath, a quarterback for the New York Jets during the 60's and 70's, once said, "If you aren't going all the way, why go at all?" I think that is a great quote that helps us understand what being lukewarm is all about. If you are not willing to go all the way for your faith in Jesus Christ, why follow him at all?

### Upcoming Events

January 19-21—**Winter Camp** at Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp. It costs \$60 for winter camp, come for a fun weekend at Cocolalla. There will be an ugly sweater contest on the first day, so find your ugliest sweater for a chance to win a prize. We will be sledding, playing indoor games, outdoor games, and we will be encouraged in God's word. Jerry Larson will be the speaker for the weekend.



### Church Funds

11/30/12



Movie Night at Church



January 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30. The movie many of us know line by line, **The Princess Bride**, will be showing on the big screen. Learn about T'woo wuv and the dangers of the Fire Swamp. Elementary age and below need to bring a parent, but this is really a family event. Blankies and the peanut gallery are welcome. Bring your own drinks and enjoy "missionary" popcorn! Questions? Ask a Faulkner.

### Thank You So Much!

The love and support you showed by the thoughtful cards, gifts, and cash you gave us for Christmas far outshine the gifts themselves. It is our privilege to serve at a church like TBF.

Love,  
Steve, Joan, and Bethany  
Josh & Kim

### Snow Closure Policy

The question is, "How will we know if church is closed for snow?" The answer is, "It won't be." Of course, it may be modified, depending on who can get here!

The unofficial title for our policy is "No Closure, No Guilt." Please don't feel pressured to take foolish risks to be here, regardless what your responsibilities may be on a certain day. But, if you can get here, the doors will be open and we will have Church!





by Josh McLachlan

Resolve: to come to a firm decision about; determine (Webster's dictionary). This term becomes very popular this time of year. People resolve to begin, or quit doing anything from saving money to losing weight, but what about being more godly?

In 1 Timothy 4:8, Paul tells Timothy that physical training is of some value, but godliness is more important; both for this life, and the life to come. Godly living will bring rewards and blessings for eternity.

Many people live that verse backwards without realizing it. They spend more time, money, energy, etc. trying to improve their physical body, than they do on their spiritual one. Physical training will help you look good for a while; it keeps you healthy, makes it easier to get around, and may even gain man's praise; but it's temporary. There is some earthly benefit, but no eternal rewards or blessings will be waiting for you as a result of all your effort.

Godliness is beneficial for both the present life and the life to come. This, like physical training, may require some sacrifice, but God's blessings and reward await you here, and in heaven. One way to learn to be more godly is by going to Sunday school.

Whether you are for or against making New Year's res-

# Teachers Corner

olutions I want you to consider making one. For some this may not be hard, while to others it may be a great challenge just as is my resolution to finally bend over and touch my toes. I want to encourage you to come to Sunday school every Sunday. If that is too much of a resolution, consider resolving (make a firm decision) to improve on your past year. If going to Sunday school or church one time a month was the norm, consider making it two times, and if you never came to Sunday school, why not come give it a try. We have classes for all ages ranging from 2yrs up to or seniors' class. Inter-mixed are also a woman's class, and a college class. There are great teachers who work hard to prepare their lessons, love their students, and want you to join them.

I resolve to come to church/Sunday School \_\_\_\_\_ times a month.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Give this to someone who will hold you accountable, put it in my box, or put this in a place you will see every Sunday morning.



Trinity Bible Fellowship  
P.O. Box 853  
Davenport, WA. 99122

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Thanks to Pam Winn

12-29-2006

THIS YEAR THEY PLANNED TO STICK TO THEIR NEW YEAR'S REVOLUTIONS

## Happy New Year at Awana!

Special Nights in January:

- January 2 Middle of Summer Night
- January 9 Hat Night
- January 16 Sunglasses Night
- January 23 Inside Out Night
- January 30 Teeny-Tiny Night

It is so good to get back to a regular schedule at Awana. Everybody loves a break, but we love Awana, too! In January, we have five whole nights! I hope nothing happens to spoil it, but Awana follows the Davenport schools for snow closure. If they have school, we have Awana. If they close for snow, so do we. Any changes from that, we'll give you a call.

Missionary of the Month: Brad & Shilo Cain



With New Tribes Missions  
Serving in Paraguay  
brad\_cain@ntm.org

# January 2013

Women's Ministry Leader: Deanna Fitzpatrick

Group Members: Katie Laflin  
Tiffany Abell  
Carol Horner  
Joan Wintersteen



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1  Kym Faulkner Kerry & Kelly Hensley	2 <i>Awana 6 pm</i> <i>Summer Night</i> <i>Ladies' Bible study at</i> <i>McLachlan's 6:15 pm</i>  Emily Abell	3 <i>WT Practice</i>  Elizabeth Faulkner	4 <i>Church Un-decorating 6-8</i>  Maddie Shumway	5
6 <i>Coffee Fellowship</i> <i>Intro to Theology 5 pm</i> <i>HS Awana 5:30 pm</i> <i>180° 6:30 pm</i>	7 <i>Men's Coffee 8:30 am</i>  Nathan Choate	8 <i>Quarterly Board Meeting</i> <i>6 pm</i> <i>Young Marrieds Bible Study</i> <i>6 pm</i>	9 <i>Awana 6 pm</i> <i>Hat Night</i> <i>Ladies' Bible study at</i> <i>McLachlan's 6:15 pm</i>  Rebecca Seim	10 <i>WT Practice</i>  James & Leanne Wilson	11	12  Will Copeland
13 <i>Hermeneutics 5 pm</i> <i>HS Awana 5:30 pm</i> <i>180° 6:30 pm</i>  Sandy Buchanan Randy Damschen	14 <i>Men's Coffee 8:30 am</i> <i>Youth Leadership 7 pm</i>  Missions Committee meeting at Church 6 pm	15 <i>M &amp; M's 6 pm</i>  Joan McLachlan	16 <i>Awana 6 pm</i> <i>Sunglasses Night</i> <i>Ladies' Bible study at</i> <i>McLachlan's 6:15 pm</i>	17 <i>WT Practice</i>  Micah Choate	18 <i>Princess Bride Night, 6:30</i>  Millie Guhlke	19 <i>Winter Camp @ CLBC</i>  Denise Hayes
20 <i>Winter Camp @ CLBC</i> <i>Intro to Theology 5 pm</i>  Katelyn Bell Noah McLachlan	21 <i>Winter Camp @ CLBC</i> <i>Men's Coffee 8:30 am</i>	22 <i>Young Marrieds Bible Study</i> <i>6 pm</i>	23 <i>Awana 6 pm</i> <i>Inside Out Night</i> <i>Ladies' Bible study at</i> <i>McLachlan's 6:15 pm</i>	24 <i>WT Practice</i>	25  Mary Bell	26  Dion & Annie Ricketts
27 <i>Communion/Benevolence</i> <i>Offering</i> <i>Hermeneutics 5 pm</i> <i>HS Awana 5:30 pm</i> <i>180° 6:30 pm</i> Seyler Lacy	28 <i>Men's Coffee 8:30 am</i> <i>Youth Leadership 7 pm</i>	29  Denise Stone	30 <i>Awana 6 pm</i> <i>Teeny Tiny Night</i> <i>Ladies' Bible study 6:15 pm</i> Murray Eaton Kim Tarbert Dave & Deanna Fitzpatrick	31 <i>WT Practice</i>		