



# The Trinity Times

May 2013

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## Little Character with Big Messages Bathsheba the Role Model

So, is Bathsheba a bad girl of the Bible, or a good girl of the Bible? Just asking the question proves I am a truly stupid man, because I am in trouble already, and I asked it with premeditation.



Many will say she was equally as guilty as David in their sin. That she knew what she was doing when she chose the rooftop as a bathing place, perhaps even hoping to catch the mighty king's eye. Since she was old enough to be a married woman, she was old enough to know better.

Others will answer that she was a victim, not a perpetrator. The poor young woman was innocent and powerless in the face of the king's advances.

Personally, I think she gets a full share of the blame. Regardless of who initiates the relationship, it takes two to, well, you know.

Regardless how you answer the question; good girl or bad girl, either way you would say, at this point at least, she is not a role model. Which is why I want to write about her, because I think she finished much better than she started.

She was likely unaware of David's actions after the fact, when he learned of her pregnancy and was unable to hide the fact. Unaware of his attempts to first maneuver, and then to murder her husband. Perhaps, even after hear-

ing that her heroic Uriah was dead, she only thought it the results of battle, not of intrigue.

But when the brave prophet Nathan faced the now-shameful David; when he confronted the King about his sin and guilt, David did his first admirable act in this story—he confessed. By now, whether she realized it before or not, Bathsheba knew that her new husband had murdered her old one. Then her newborn child became sick; and seven days later, died.

This is, to say the least, a crushing series of events. She is at best not honorable; her husband is reprehensible. Their child is dead.

Where do you go from here?

This is where, behind the scenes, we see Bathsheba do well. Because she doesn't do the wrong things. This is where some give up. We know the saying that when you've hit the bottom there's no place left to go but up. If only it were true. Many people have found and proven that you can hit bottom and stay there. You can go left, right, forwards and backwards without ever going up. Some people become mean and bitter; some become unstable; some turn to drugs and alcohol. Bathsheba continued on with life, and seemed to handle it well.

How much credit does she get for raising the wisest man who ever lived? Solomon's wisdom was a gift from God;

## Photo of the Month



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

And the winners are...! Here are the design winners from this year's Awana Grand Prix. A lot of work went into designing Tow-mater, a battle tank with turning turret, and a railroad hand car! Great work! See the Awana article for other winners.

but it was given in answer to a wise prayer. *“In that night God appeared to Solomon and said to him, “Ask what I shall give you.” Solomon said to God, “You have dealt with my father David with great loving kindness, and have made me king in his place. Now, O LORD God...give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people, for who can rule this great people of yours?”* (2 Chron 1:7-10) She must get some credit for raising this son.

There are other things Bathsheba did as well. She most known for her affair with David, and second must be her place in the lineage of Christ, as is scandalously pointed out in Matthew 1:6. Much less-well known is that she bore David three more sons; Shimea, Shobab, and Nathan, as shown in 1 Chron 3:5.

Still obscure, but somewhat better known is that she played a significant role in gaining the throne for her son. Another of David’s sons, Adonijah, tried to claim the throne shortly before David’s death. Bathsheba acted with tact and wisdom to move David to appropriate action, as he had already designated Solomon as heir to the crown. (2 Kings 1).

These feel like a lot of disconnected pieces. What consistent point can be made from them all? Bathsheba is an example of a life gone wrong, then made right. She is a picture of grace, to be sure. I keep returning to the fact that after the first child’s death, the Bible tells us, *“David comforted his wife Bathsheba”* (2 Sam 12:24). What right and ability did he have to do that? He was more guilty than she! But he had received mercy, and he understood mercy. He was able to comfort her even as he had received comfort himself.

Bathsheba’s world fell apart, and then, by God’s grace, she put it back together again. Bathsheba is a role model for all of us who have made mistakes—call them sins—that life is not over, and we don’t have to wallow at the bottom. Up isn’t the only way to go when you’ve hit bottom, but its certainly the best.

## Darwin on Darwin a guest column by Dick Wandling



Who made the following quote? “Have we any right to assume the Creator works by intellectual powers like those of man?”

Was it (a) Martin Luther; (b) Charles Darwin, © William Jennings Bryan (the attorney in the Scopes Monkey Trial) or (d) Billy Graham? If you said Charles Darwin, you are correct.

But you are saying Darwin is the father of evolution. However, Darwin also wrote “To suppose the eye, with all its inimitable contrivances for adjusting the focus to different distances, for admitting different

amounts of light, and for the correction of spherical and chromatic aberration, could have been formed by natural selection, seems I freely confess, absurd in the highest degree.”

But the Father of Evolution has also said, “If it could be demonstrated that any complex organ existed which could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight modifications, my theory would absolutely break down.”

Mr. Darwin was a brilliant man who put a lot of effort to develop a theory that even he wasn’t completely comfortable with. It is so much

easier to quote David in Psalm 139:14 where he says, “I will give thanks to Thee because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”

Why is evolution so widely accepted? Too many people don’t want to accept God so they don’t accept Genesis 1:1 which states, “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” We can’t pretend God isn’t there and make Him go away.



## Heart Talk

by Mark Smith

Have you ever been mad at God?

I find relief and comfort to see that God’s Word includes the stories of real people who, like ourselves, could express anger at God and, because of His great love and grace, lived to tell about it. God’s response in those situations demands consideration as well.

Moses was a leader under pressure. It seemed that all the Israelite people wanted to do was gripe and moan about the terrible situation in which they found themselves – by God’s design. Finally, according to the account in Numbers 11, Moses had enough. The people griped one more time, making an awful comparison of their current situation against how “good” (as slaves?) they had had it back in Egypt. Moses finally cracked under the strain.

He went to the Lord and laid it all out before Him. Verse 10 describes how the people wept and how the Lord’s anger was being kindled like a fresh fire, and how Moses himself was troubled or displeased.

“Why have You been so hard on me?” he asks God. “Why do I have to go through these painfully unpleasant circumstances? You really must not like me at all, God, to put me through all of this trouble – when You could handle it all Yourself!”

Moses accused God of being unfair – but that would violate His character of perfect justice and righteousness.

Moses also misrepresented God’s purposes, crying out, “You’ve laid the whole burden on me!” He doubted God’s provision, asking, “where am I to get meat for these people?” (verse 13). The answer: From the same God who took him through the Red Sea and delivered the manna! Then Moses evaded his legitimate God-given responsibility: “I can’t do it; I’d rather die first!” (verses 14-15).

We’ve all been there, haven’t we? Like Moses, we struggle with a basic problem of false expectations of God. Despite his previous experience with the Lord, Moses actually believed the old lie that if you’re at the center of God’s will, everything must be smooth-sailing.

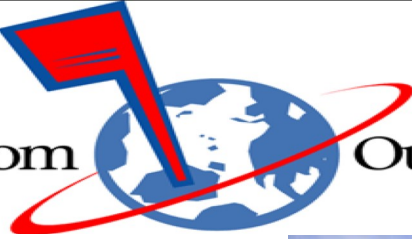
How did God handle His worn-out servant’s anger?

Without any condemnation of Moses. God gets Moses involved in finding trusted men with whom to share his burden – because Moses was right about one thing: The burden was too difficult for him to bear on his own. Moses was hoarding a responsibility that at the very least, God expected to share in!

And, even though Moses had requested God to kill him, God even refused to fire him from his job as God’s spokesman! Instead, he was invited to see “whether My Word will come true for you or not” (verse 23).

If you’re perplexed about life’s struggles, follow Moses’ example: Don’t run from God, but to Him, anger and all. Then open your eyes to the provision that, as it was in Moses’ case, is already nearby.



from  Our Missionaries

Missionaries of the Month:  
**Randy and Lynne Anderson**  
Serving with InFaith.

Trinity Bible Fellowship is the original sending church for Randy and Lynne, way back in the 1980s! They were among the founding members of TBF, and Randy has served as a deacon. Randy attended Inland Empire School of the Bible, along with such notaries as Pastor Steve and Robert McDowall, and was part of the same graduating class as Steve (1987).

They have three adult daughters, Lindsey, Ashley (Peterson), and Kelsey. Lindsey plans to get married this summer, to a man, coincidentally, with the last name Anderson. The question is whether she will take his name, keep her own, or hyphenate. Ashley is married to Dave Peterson and the two are preparing to go on the field as aviation missionaries. Kelsey is a student at the University of Idaho.

Randy joined InFaith (then the American Missionary Fellowship) in 1985 as a youth missionary, serving the North Idaho/greater Spokane area (the same position now held by Tim Karr), serving under Rich Bath. He took on many responsibilities at Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp, and instituted the highly successful Youth Leadership program. He later became the area missionary himself, and has had such youth missionaries serving under him as Ben McLachlan, Josh Cooper, and Tim Karr.

Randy's ministry today includes interim pastoring, guest preaching, leading Bible studies, helping churches in difficult situations, and assisting churches in pastoral searches. He serves on the board at Cocolalla, and in the summer, especially in July, you can still often find him serving at camp.

The couple live in Spirit Lake, Idaho. You can drop them a note at:

PO Box 509  
Spirit Lake, ID 83869  
Or call them at (208)  
623-4041

The Anderson family at Ashley & David's wedding in 2008



Dear Pastor Steve McLachlan and the saints at Trinity Bible Fellowship,

Thank you so much for your prayers and regular financial support to our ministry. You have been such a great blessing to us. Please continue to pray and help us.

Kindly convey my hearty thanks to all the saints for their generosity and wise investment here in India. I am sure each dollar will go into the mission field. Once again thank you. I will write more in detail and send with some pictures by mail. Thanks.

I did receive a message from Elim Bible College that they have accepted Victor and sending his required papers for student visa. We are expecting them soon and I will let you know as soon as we receive them. Kindly pray for his visa. The US consulate tightened so much because of recent events in your country. We have been praying for the protection of your country and your people. I think the Lord is reminding us to look un to Him because He is coming soon!

Last night only I returned from the R C Puram crusade held during 15th to 17th of this month and it was a great success. Hundreds made their decisions for Jesus and our Pastors were encouraged and strengthened so much. Thank you for praying for these meetings.

Mary and Victor are sending special love and greetings to you and to the whole body of Christ. Thank you once again. God bless!

Yours in His service,  
Ch.Daniel



Dear family and friends,

Thanks for your love, prayers and support. We can never thank you or our heavenly Father enough for the encouragement and partnership that enables us to fulfill God's calling on our lives.

Praise and Thanks:

- For a restful spring-break trip for Margo, Tristan and me.
- For a great No Ruz (Iranian New Year) outreach last week
- For leadership of our team members who planned and hosted the No Ruz outreach while we were away.
- For Jesus, who died on the cross, as an atonement for our sins.

Requests:

- For energy and Christ-centered conversations as we host people for Easter dinner and Christian Passover meal.
- For good health for all our team members and their families.
- For the Muslim guests who attended the No Ruz outreach, that they would come to a deeper understanding of the gospel as they reflect on what they learned about Jesus.
- For ongoing follow-up
- For our Afghan fellowship monthly meetings and annual retreat. Pray these Afghans would continue to grow in their faith.
- For someone to join our team who is called to minister to Afghans. (There are over 30,000 Afghans in our area.)
- For our team members to reach their financial support raising goals.

With many thanks,

Randy and Margo



Guess who's coming for a visit? I guess the picture gives it away; but Brad, Shilo, and the kids are coming for a brief visit in May, and will be speaking at Trinity on the 19th!

Be sure to mark this on your calendar, because it may be years before we see them again.



Remember when the family looked like this? They change so fast!

## Elders Report

DATE: 5 April 2013

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

### AGENDA ITEMS

Intercessory Prayer: Time was devoted to prayer for the trials and hardships some members of the congregation are experiencing.

#### Pastor's Report:

- Our drummer, Jona, asked the pastor for the opportunity to give his testimony. Pastor Steve will work with him to finalize how much time he will need and which Sunday will work best.
- Pastor Steve reviewed the Church Calendar for everyone
  - 5 May: Life Services will be visiting TBF with their van
  - 12 May: Mother's Day Breakfast
  - 13-27 May: Josh and Kim Cooper are on vacation
  - 17-18 May: Cocolalla Men's Retreat
  - 19 May: Brad and Shilo Cain will be visiting TBF
  - 31 May – 1 June: Cocolalla Camp workdays

Treasure's Report: Another \$14,000 was moved from the General Fund into the Building Fund, bringing the total to \$205,000.

#### Old Business:

- Quarterly Meeting: Everyone was reminded that the next Quarterly Meeting is scheduled for the 9th of April at 6:30 pm.
- Building Program: We had a short review of the status of the Phase 1 project. All is proceeding well and we are very grateful to Ken Horner for stepping in to head up the project.

#### New Business:

- Supporting our Church: We briefly discussed some of the recent hardships a few of our church family members are experiencing and some of the ways we may be able to be of more help to them in the future.
- Mission Team: We talked about the status of our team preparing to go China. It was brought up that we need to set a time for them to address our church (date TBD). We also decided that the elders should meet with the team members at the next Mission's Committee Meeting on the 8th of April to talk with them about the mission.

Next Meeting: 3 May, 2013

### Life Services Visit!

Life Services is the Christian Crisis Pregnancy center in Spokane. Sunday, May 5th, plan to hear a message from a Life Services representative, and then tour the mobile clinic after church! It's Coffee Fellowship that day—a perfect day to stay after church, visit, and see what you are helping to do for life in Spokane.



by Josh Cooper

## Youth Stuff

What is faith? "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). In the high school Sunday school class we have been going through the book of Hebrews this year. After some time we finally made it to chapter 11. What is in Hebrews 11? The Bible's one and only Hall of Faith.

This next month we are going to look at the men and women in this chapter and see the faith they put into practice and see what we can learn from their faith. "*And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that He rewards those who seek Him*" (Hebrews 11:6). Some of the people in Hebrews 11 that we are going to learn about are Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and Rehab. We are going to look at the

lives of these people and what their faith looked like and see how we can have faith like these people.

If you are interested in learning about this I would love to see you come and check it out for yourself. The high school Sunday school class meets every Sunday at 9:45. Hope to see you there.

### Up Coming Events

May 12th—Come join us for some **Frisbee golf**. We are going to check out the new Frisbee golf course here in town. We will meet at the church at 6:30 for some pizza and then go for a round of Frisbee golf.

June 9th—**Pie Social**. Come join us for a fundraiser for the youth leadership mission trip. We will have some pies to share with everyone and see who gets a pie in the face.

## Church Funds

3/31/13

Benevolence Fund	1,108.02
Missionaries Reserve	2,100
Missions Fund	6,210
<u>General Fund*</u>	<u>23,459.40</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$32,877.42</u>

Building Fund	\$206,906.95
Overall Total	\$239,784.37

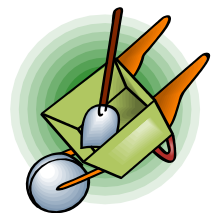
### Ladies' Events

- ♥ A Baby Shower for Carey and baby Jude Falk! Saturday, May 4, 2 pm at TBF. Contact Joan McLachlan or Deanna Fitzpatrick for info.
- ♥ Ladies, You're invited to attend a prayer meeting to start a Bible Study Fellowship Class (BSF) in Davenport. Tuesday May 7th, at 7:p.m. United Methodist Church in Davenport. Please call Kim Tarbert 725-1810
- ♥ Scrapbook Retreat at Cocolalla, May 10-11. Brochures are available at church
- ♥ You are invited to a Ladies Tea, at 11 am on Saturday, May 18th. See Carol Horner for more information.
- ♥ And of course, we can't forget Mothers Day! Join us for breakfast, prepared and served by the men, on Sunday, May 12th. Show up with your family any time between 8:30 and 9:30, and prepare to be spoiled!

### Church Clean-up Day

Show up Saturday morning, May 11th, ready to work! Cleaning, repairing, yard work, etc. This is our day to take care of our church!

Talk to the Trustees beforehand, or just show up with a will to work!





## WON'T YOU PLEASE HELP ME?

by Josh McLachlan

I would like to take this chance to first of all thank my un-sung heroes in some of the departments I oversee. This would include Rachel Lacy serving as the Nursery Coordinator, Tiffany Abell serving as Beginners Church director, and Joan McLachlan serving as Children's Church director. These three women have made my job a lot easier. They have been willing and faithful in these positions for several years. They are responsible for making schedules, training (if necessary), and making sure material is ready. I like them there, and I want to keep them there. I am asking for your help to make their jobs easier.

I am asking you who have signed up to help in these areas as teachers or helpers, to please make sure you know your working dates, and make sure you work them. If you can't, please follow the guidelines they set up for you when you signed up to help. For those of you who feel

inadequate, or feel like you have already done your time, or perhaps never gave it a thought before, please consider signing up when the sign-up sheets are passed around. There are enough kids to keep this ministry going, and there are enough adults (men included) that we can lighten the loads of these three women.

There are a great number of you who work faithfully each time you are called upon, and I appreciate it, your directors appreciate it, and Jesus is proud of you, too!. Jesus has a special place in his heart for little children. I know He cares about those who care about these little ones.

Dates to put on your Calendar:  
May 25<sup>th</sup> 9 am V.B.S. meeting  
June 17-21 9-11:30 am V.B.S.

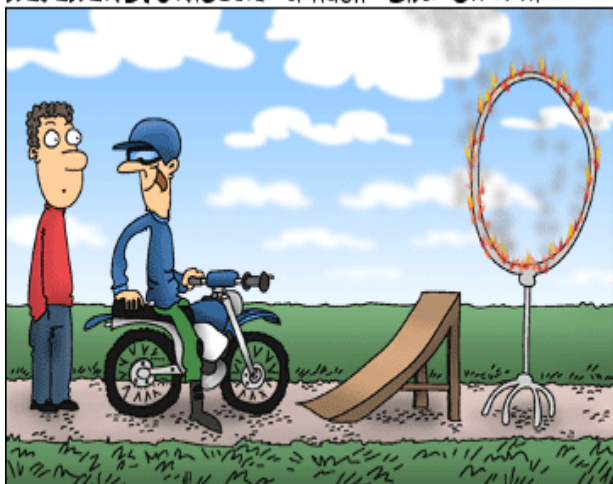
Serving together with you,  
Josh McLachlan

# Teachers Corner



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

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(See Matthew 7:13-14)

04-22-2013

THERE'S NO REASON THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW CAN'T BE AWESOME!

### Wrapping Up Another Year of Awana

Only Two Special Nights:

May 1 Step Up Night  
May 8 Awards Night

Grand Prix Results:

Sparks: 1st Place: Austin Vaughn 2nd Place: Brady Gustaveson 3rd Place: Evan Gunning  
T&T Speed: 1st Place: Spencer Tarbert 2nd Place: Ethan Plasencia 3rd Place: Joseph Abell  
T&T Design: 1st Place: Daniel Coriell 2nd Place: Mariah Coriell 3rd Place: Alex Plasencia  
Leaders Speed: Dave Fitzpatrick  
Leaders Design: Jason Wandling

Not sure what to do this summer?

Vacation Bible School! June 17—24. Fun and Bible for all Awana-age kids!

Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp! 11-12 year olds, July 14-18; 9-10 year olds, July 21-25; 7-8 year olds, July 28-Aug 1 (Teen camp July 7-12). You can register online at [www.clbcamp.org](http://www.clbcamp.org).

**Missionary of the Month:**

Randy & Lynne Anderson  
Serving with InFaith Missions  
In North Idaho



# May 2013

*Women's Ministry Leader: Sarah Sweetser*


*Group Members: Carolyn Ross*

*Wendy Cronrath*

*Carol Horner*

*Debbie Beckstrom*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Awana Step Up Night 6 pm Ladies Bible Study 6:15 pm  Noah Hamm Terry & Debbie Anderson	2 Worship Team Practice Ladies Bible Study 6:30 pm	3	4 Baby Shower For Carey & Jude Falk 2 pm @ TBF  Kariya Lacy Cliff & Verneta Carstens
5 Life Services Mobile Van Visits TBF Coffee Fellowship RIOT 6:30 pm Becky Oehlwein	6 Men's Coffee 8:30 am  Emalee Walker	7 BSF Prayer Meeting 7 pm @ Davenport United Method- ist Church  Kathleen Payne	8 Awana Awards Night 6 pm  Jared McDowall Ethan Plasencia Charles Turk	9 Worship Team Practice  Joseph Abell	10  Ladies Scrapbook Retreat @ CLBC  Katie McDowall	11 Church Clean-up Day 9 am  Retreat @ CLBC
12 Mother's Day Breakfast 8:30—9:30 am 	13 Men's Coffee 8:30 am Youth Leadership 7 pm  Josh & Kim Cooper on Vacation	14 Young Marrieds' Bible Study 6 pm  Kathleen Payne	15	16 Worship Team Practice Ladies Bible Study 6:30 pm  Savannah Damschen Carlin Shumway	17  Men's Retreat @ CLBC	18 Ladies Tea/Brunch 11 am Jon Knittel Cruz Plasencia
19 Brad & Shilo Cain Visit RIOT 6:30 pm	20 Men's Coffee 8:30 am  Megan Holbrook Dylan Holbrook Duane & Janice Emery	21  Elizabeth Wandling	22	23 Worship Team Practice Ladies Bible Study 6:30 pm  Stacy Oehlwein	24  Fred Bell Dan & Tiffany Abell	25  Dawn Dehn
26 Communion/Benevolence Offering RIOT 6:30 pm  Paul Scott	27  Tommy Plumb Katelyn Vaughn	28 Young Marrieds' Bible Study 6 pm	29	30 Worship Team Practice Ladies Bible Study 6:30 pm	31  Cocolalla Work Days  Bryan Morris	