



THE RAINBOW BEACON

September 3, 2008

Volume 40 Issue 36

What is God Telling Me?

What is God telling me with the problems He permits in my life? The problems we face will either defeat us or develop us, depending on how we respond to them. Unfortunately, most people fail to see how God wants to use problems for good in their lives. They react foolishly and resent their problems rather than pausing to consider what benefit they might bring.

Here are five ways God wants to use the problems in our lives:

1. God uses problems to **DIRECT** us. Sometimes God must light a fire under us to get us moving. Problems often point us in a new direction and motivate us to change our ways (Proverbs 20:30).
2. God uses problems to **INSPECT** us. People are like tea bags. If you want to know what's inside them, just drop them into hot water! Has God ever tested your faith with a problem? What do problems reveal about you? "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience" (James 1:2-3).
3. God uses problems to **CORRECT** us. Some lessons we learn only through pain and failure. It's likely that as a child our parents told us not to touch a hot stove, but we probably learned by being burned. Sometimes we only learn the value of something like health, money, or a relationship by losing it. "My lips shall utter

praise, when thou hast taught me thy statutes. My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness" (Psalm 119:71-72).

4. God uses problems to **PROTECT** us. A problem can be a blessing in disguise if it prevents you from being harmed by something more serious. Last year a friend was fired for refusing to do something unethical that his boss had asked him to do. His unemployment was a problem—but it saved him from being convicted and sent to prison a year later when management's actions were eventually discovered. ". . . ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good . . ." (Genesis 50:20).

5. God uses problems to **PERFECT** us. Problems, when responded to correctly, are character builders. God is far more interested in your character than your comfort. Your relationship to God and your character are the only two things you're going to take with you into eternity. "And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope" (Romans 5:3-4). Here's the point: God is at work in our lives—even when you do not recognize it or understand it. However, it is much easier and profitable when you cooperate with Him.

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9 WOMEN BAPTIZED AT THE ECDC

God's harvest at the Etowah County Detention Center continues as **Tony Cleveland** immersed nine women into Christ last week! The women had been taught in class and via correspondence by Rainbow's women. **Betty Hale** accompanied Tony and helped him preparing the women spiritually and physically for their "new birth". There was much rejoicing afterwards in the elation of the women knowing the burden of sin had been lifted.

Baptisms at the jail are emotional. The new Christian, just a babe in Christ, has hope through the gospel of Christ, a hope not found elsewhere. One of the women wept throughout the baptisms, reminiscent of the woman in Luke 7 who had lived a sinful life washed the feet of Jesus with her tears and anointed them with perfume. It was a memorable day for another who was also celebrating her graduation from the Substance Abuse Program.

This is a tremendous ministry! Souls are being won for the Lord! The Rainbow women can take great satisfaction in the teaching they do. Teachers at present include Betty Hale, **Cheryl Bowling**, **Suzi Morgan**, **Barbara Brown**, **Jane Watkins**, **Susan Stroup** and **Sherold Bordenave**. Betty Hale is doing most of the teaching by correspondence. Great efforts continue in following up on these new Christians with additional teaching to mature them in their faith.

66 Books of the Bible

39 - Old Testament

27 - New Testament

*** Shortest Book - 2 John (13 verses)**

*** Longest Book - Psalms (150 chapters)**

1,189 Chapters in the Entire Bible

929 - Old Testament

260 - New Testament

*** Shortest Chapter - Psalm 117**

*** Longest chapter - Psalm 119**

Verses:

31,173 Verse in the Entire Bible

23,214 - Old Testament

7,959 - New Testament

*** Shortest Verse (Old Testament) - 1Chronicles 1:25**

*** Shortest Verse (New Testament) - John 11:35**

*** Longest Verse in the Bible - Esther 8:9**

Words:

773,692 Words in the Entire Bible

592,439 - Old Testament

181,253 - New Testament

Letters:

3,566,480 Letters in the Entire Bible

2,728,100 - Old Testament

838,380 - New Testament

Address

As was announced in last week's issue of the Beacon, **Jeffrey Jenkins** was baptized last Wednesday evening by Tony Cleveland. His address is listed below for those of you who would like to drop him a note of encouragement:

Jeffery S. Jenkins

1003 Egypt Mountain Road

Altoona, AL 35952

The **Olan Mills Directories** have arrived! If you have not done so already, please be sure to pick up a copy. A table has been set up in the foyer for your convenience.

Rainbow Church of Christ

3rd Annual Singing

Friday, September 19th

7pm - 9pm

Refreshments will be served following singing. If you can help out with the refreshments, sign-ups are on the hallway bulletin board!

A "**Work Day**" has been scheduled for Sat, **Sept 13th**, beginning at 8:30am.. We will start the day with a delicious breakfast before we roll up our sleeves and work to prepare the building for the upcoming Gospel Singing on Sept 19th! Please make plans to be here!

Ladies Bible Class

The Ladies Bible Class will resume meeting Wednesday, Sept 10th at 10:30. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend. The class meets each Wednesday morning in the classroom in the new fellowship hall. Lunch is served following

Crestview Church of Christ in Boaz, AL will be holding a Gospel Meeting Oct. 5th through Oct. 9th. Guest speakers will be Frank Chesser and Colin McKee. See the hallway bulletin board for more details.

Bloom Where You're Planted!

Is your place a small place?

Tend it with care! He set you there.

Is your place a large place?

Guard it with care! He set you there.

Whate'er your place, it is

Not yours alone, but His

Who set you there.



BLAKE'S BOX

*With all humility and gentleness,
with patience, showing tolerance
for one another in love being
diligent to preserve the unity of
the Spirit in the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:2-3*

New Adult Bible Classes

This Sunday, September 7th, three new Bible classes will begin for our adults. They are the following:

Becoming the Women God Wants Us to Become (women's class)

Teacher: **Rebekah Jones**

Place: *Classroom in new fellowship hall*

Becoming the Men God Wants Us to Become (men's class)

Teacher: **Blake Jones**

Place: *Old fellowship hall*

I, II Timothy

Teacher: **Norman Flynn**

Place: *Auditorium*

These classes will begin this Sunday at 9:30 a.m. We would encourage you to pick a class and become an active participant in that class so that it can be the best Bible class possible. We look forward to seeing you there.

Remember In Prayer...

Carrie Dowdy came through last week's surgery well and is now at home recovering while awaiting results.

Tina Quarles' dad, **Bill Kinsey**, underwent an arteriogram last week and received great news - the blockage was not as bad as they had previously reported.

Rose Logan, daughter-in-law of Wanda Logan, is not doing well. Please remember Rose in your thoughts and prayers.

Dewey East will be having a defibrillator put in on Sept 11. Also, Janet's mom, **Catherine Langley**, is not doing well at this time. Please keep the Easts in your prayers. Cynthia Wendorf's grandchildren's father, **Elwin Arnold**, passed away. Please remember the Arnold family in your prayers.

Jerry Reeves was released from the hospital on Tuesday. Please keep him in prayer.

Roscoe & Joyce Terry, friends of Rita Phillips, lost their son last weekend of a heat stroke. Please remember the Terry family in your prayers.

The Bellew Family, Gayle Bellew's brother in law, Bobby Bellew passed away Monday after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Elizabeth Khan, mother of Rita Phillips and Susan Wallace, will soon begin chemotherapy treatments.

Joyce Flynn is still having problems with her knee. Please remember her in your prayers.

Calvin Henderson Jean Bowling's daughter's father-in-law, is at McGuffey's Rehab.

Robert Guyton is in need of our prayers at this time.

Marie Colvett, mother of Nancy Wallace, is not doing well at this time.

Doug Argo, grandfather of new member, Cody Worthy, is suffering from cancer and has requested our prayers during this difficult time.

Jerrie Whorton is not doing well and is need of our prayers at this time.

Sarah Simmons, mother of Gene & Doug Brown, is not doing well at this time.

Rita Bowdoin, Catherine Bowen, Paige Buckner, Kim Clay, Addie Lou Dover, Dewey East, James Gardner, Bobby Golden, Carol Golden, Betty Campbell, Jennifer Davis, Perry Hathcock, Elmus Honeycutt, Kathleen Honeycutt, J.R. Jackson, Gene Mayhall Sr., Ruth Mayhall, Arlie & Joyce Neal, Redda Norton, Don Parker, Ron Patterson, Max Pruett, Jerry Reeves, Berry Shirley and Isleen Wallace, Joey Weathermax.

Shut In Members: **Martha Austin, Charles Bell, Leona Chance, Sarah Foote, Gurnie Foote, James Gardner, Dot Greenhaw, Vennie Guyton, Betty Jones, Butch Jones, Cathy Langston, Hassie Moon, and Inez Quarles.**

**Rainbow Church of Christ
2201 Rainbow Drive
Gadsden, AL 35901
Phone (256) 547-3731**

ELDERS

Mike Bowdoin 442-0389
John Bowling 442-6608
Eugene Brown 438-5548
Norman Flynn 413-1688
Craig King 442-1630
David Wallace 546-0642
John Wallace 442-5887

MINISTERS

Norman Flynn 413-1688
Blake Jones 442-0988

DEACONS

Jeff Birchmore 547-3718
Tony Cleveland 538-5295
Wayne Gobble 613-3500
Steve Lorren 442-8192
Chris Mikle 413-1038
Tim Parker 442-4877
Bruce Phillips 549-1236

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Class 9:30 A.M.
Worship Hour 10:30 A.M.
Worship Hour 5:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 P.M.
Wednesday morning Ladies
Bible Class will resume
meeting in the Fall.

OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESSES

rbowcoc@bellsouth.net
tracyedmonson@bellsouth.net
raycox1927@bellsouth.net

BUILDING LOCKUP FOR SEPT

Bruce Phillips/Dax McDonald

CONTACT ELDER FOR SEPT

Norman Flynn - 413-1688

INTERNET LINKS

Church Website: www.rainbow-coc.org
Beacon Online: www.rainbowbeacon.org
Joint Worship: www.jointworship.info
Zimbabwe Info: www.zimbabwe-report.info

RAINBOW RECORD

SUNDAY MORNING	263
BIBLE STUDY	188
SUNDAY EVENING	n/a
MIDWEEK STUDY	145
LOCAL BAPTISMS	12
OTHER RESPONSES	21
WBS/JAIL BAPTISMS	105
ZIMBABWE BAPTISMS	109
CONTRIBUTION	5,560

SERVANTS

SUNDAY, Sept 7, 2008

Welcome Norman Flynn
Scripture Reader Daniel Lorren
Opening Prayer. Gary Udaka
Closing Prayer. Polk King

MCGUFFEY CLASS: Group No. 4
Leader: Jeff Birchmore

WEDNESDAY, Sept 10, 2008

Announcements John Wallace
Prayer Roy Harris

SERVE THE FAMILY

Jack Lasseter, Presiding
Colton Thompson. Coty Worthy
Collin Jarbo. Jeremy Krienke
Kevin Gobble Will Stroup
David Lasseter. Jason Mikle

USHERS:
Roy Harris. Wayne Gobble
P.J. Duncan Doyle McCarver

GREETERS: Jerry & Michelle Stanley

SUNDAY AM COMMUNION CUP PICKUP:
Steve Lorren Family

NURSERIES:
BABY: A.M. Dana Johnson
P.M. Megan Brooks
TODDLER: A.M. Kellie East
P.M. Jane Naler

COMMUNION PREPARATION: Norman & Joyce Flynn

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL

We had another superb week as our Rainbow WBS teachers taught 337 people the gospel of Christ! This means that, on average, our teachers taught 48 people a day! 14 Rainbow teachers taught last week and these are the names and number of people each taught:

Bobby/Carol Golden	3
Tony/Jane Cleveland	46
Ray Cox	44
Eugene/Barbara Brown	69
Becky Bagley	16
Kathy Overbey	96
Alan Gentry	3
Jan Hamrick	14
Joyce Flynn	38
Tina Quarles	3
Betty Hale	4
Jessica Sims	1

MEMORIES

10 YEARS AGO: A bridal shower was held for Ginna Scott in the Fellowship Room.

20 YEARS AGO: Our youth group traveled with the youth from the Glencoe congregation to Youth Day '88 at Madison Academy in Huntsville, AL.

25 YEARS AGO: Zone 3 had a hot dog supper at the home of Gene and Barbara Brown after evening worship.