

Shadrach Youth Ministry

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Fall Weekend

We just returned from our fall weekend in Kokomo, Indiana! There were about 35 Shadrach youth who gathered to fellowship with other youth and for iron to sharpen iron. The first night was wonderful as Pastor Mike preached on the importance of earnest, intercessory prayer. How we need intercessors in our day and age!! May God help us all to intercede as we should on behalf of the Kingdom. Many were at the altar renewing their commitment to pray and to pray with *earnestness*. Saturday morning Pastor Street preached an excellent sermon on being men of the Word and becoming people who will disciple and mentor others. It needs to be a consuming passion within us to be able to disciple, coming alongside others with prayer, time, love and instruction to help them walk with God. After this service we had a rousing game of Capture the Flag! The boys played football after lunch, and then Robert talked to them about resting and waiting upon God. The girls went to the Schultze's home to fellowship a bit more and to have a girl's meeting. We spent some time pouring over the old Shadrach photo albums. Sweet memories, but oh, how times have changed! In our girl's meeting, I shared a little on the power of the tongue and Esther shared on trusting God with our major life choices. Jesus helped us! Saturday evening, Don used the story of Joshua and Caleb (Hey, bubba, come over here! What is that little bug on the ground – a new kind of grasshopper?) to illustrate how we need to trust God and walk in faith with what God has told us to do. We need to believe the truth of God (Joshua and Caleb's side) versus what the majority says (the other 10 spies)! In the evening we had a songfest, singing hymns and choruses together. Another sweet memory! It was wonderful to see the shining faces! Sunday morning, Bro. Martin preached on how God is always the same and His people will be, too. Our culture wants to pick and choose and custom-make beliefs to fit our society, but God is unchanging. We can count on it. We hope some of you who receive this mailing but have never attended a Shadrach event will join us in the spring for our next weekend! –Karin

Mark your calendars: Summer Retreat at Kentucky Mountain Bible College is June 17 - 24 (Yes, we may be starting on Sunday evening!)

Intoxicated With Babylon: by Michael Dietz

One of the most interesting things for me about this book is the history of Babylon that it gives. I was captivated by what all is behind the influence of the world. While we may think that a certain thing might not be all that bad, allowing it to seep into the church and into our lives, we do not know what is behind it - all that took place back in Nimrod's day and how the devil worked there. It is the spirit of KOSMOS; the spirit of the world; the devil himself. This was a fascinating new 'revelation', if you will, for me, helping me to see why certain things are the way they are in Shadrach, and why they should be in our lives. Not just because it is the good and moral thing to do or not to do, but because of the influence, motive, and spirit behind it. Praise the Lord! I was thankful for how God helped Steve Gallagher to write such straight-up truth in the midst of such watered-down, lukewarm Christianity.

Another thing that stuck out to me was the Scripture he used from the GNB in 1 John 2:16-17, "Everything that belongs to the world - what the sinful self desires, what people see and want, and everything in this world that people are so proud of - none of this comes from the Father; it all comes from the world. The world and everything in it that people desire is passing away; but those who do the will of God live forever."

The different version is nice, I think, because it explains what the 'lust of the flesh', 'the lust of the eyes',

and 'the pride of life' are. Pastor Michael refers to this Scripture quite often.

I could copy from the book paragraphs of things the author said that helped me, but I do not know how useful that would be. ☺ The book was very enlightening, and truly did help one to understand the definition of a Christian:

"To be part of the true, living Church of Jesus Christ does not mean one has joined the ranks of the Evangelical Movement. It does not mean he has had some kind of spiritual experience in the past and now lives on the fringes of Christianity. Nor does it mean he has incorporated the ideology of the American Evangelical Movement into his life. It means he is a saint, devoted to and set apart for the Master's use. He has been called out of kosmos and divorced himself from her. While he has not yet achieved sinless perfection, he is being conformed to the holy image of Jesus Christ."

I really want to thank God for the book, and thank you Karin for making us read it. If I personally would have had somebody recommend the book to me, I would have been instantly turned off by its cover ☺ and by what the cover says, "The Seduction of God's People in the Last Days." It is always hard for me to discuss or read about 'the last days' because it seems like there is so much doctrinal division and so much of man's opinion surrounding the issue, but this book really got to the core of what is in the heart of man. Praise the Lord. Thank you Jesus.

Note on "Dare to be a Daniel" tapes: The emphasis of these five tapes is on the spiritual disciplines, and Kenaston does a wonderful job on that topic! There is brief mention on one of them favoring nonresistance. Please do not include your views on this subject in your report – the purpose of the tapes/your report is the importance of the basic spiritual disciplines. I trust that you will respect Bro. Kenaston's words on this subject as there are some godly saints, both past and present, who hold this view at least for themselves personally (i.e. D.L. Moody) yet still morally support and prayerfully support our troops.

A Word from Pastor Schultze...

Let me talk to you today about **THE CROSS AND THE GLORY**. "God forbid..." (Romans 6:14). Know that the cross and the glory are indelibly linked together in the life experience of a disciple of Christ. You can never have the one without the other. As long as you seek the glory of man and shun the cross you will be barred from the mercy, favor, blessings, and comfort of God. Man has nothing to give you spiritually. The best he can do for you is to spoil you, to deceive you, and to make you think that you are a somebody when you are a nobody: destitute of divine life, light and transforming power.

Do not seek man's glory, man's honor, and do not seek popularity. This quest could only lead to the lowering of your standards, lying, cheating, conniving, pretending, conforming, and self-deceit. It will cause you to put on a mask and become a hypocrite. Dear Shadracher—payday someday. You need the cross to get the glory. That is what matters now and forever, and I mean the glory of God. Do not mistake your God or Jesus as a Santa Claus or a parent who is suffering from dementia and void of good hearing and good vision. God is not handicapped. He sees you as you are, through and through, and He is a God who will not bless the flesh in all of its accomplishments. Oh, again, do not seek popularity with man; seek God's glory or you shall never be His disciple. Paul said, "...no flesh should glory in his presence" (I Cor. 1:29).

Know that God is a God Who put His Son on the cross with one hand, and Who lifted Him to glory with the other. God will do no less with you once you surrender to Him. So, as God had a cross for His Son, He has a cross for you. Your cross is His way and not your way in everything. You have to get this principle into your heart or you shall die forever. The servant is no greater than his master: rather, the servant shall be as his master. No cross—no glory. Again, until you get this principle and live it, you will only live on the front porch of the Kingdom of God and never enter it.

Oh, dear youth. Stop chasing after God's trophies, blessings, and honor. Take up your cross daily to follow Him, and He shall share His glory with you in His throne forever.

New assignments
due on January 13th.

Work on memorization –
Genesis chapter 1

Intoxicated with Babylon

By: Mikah Litchfield

Intoxicated with Babylon is not just a book; it is an important message that I believe every Christian needs to read—whether they are committed to Christ and truly serving Him or whether they are deceived and polluted with the world. With clarity, Mr. Gallagher points out how the devil has come in and slowly but surely deceived the Christian world—especially the American church—into thinking that sin *isn't that bad*. True repentance is now practically non-existent, Christians calmly sit through violent videos without the slightest concern, and many of the believers in today's America have a mindset that is so much like the world's, that you wouldn't be able to tell the difference in most cases.

While reading this book, God began showing me that in many ways I was still tainted with *kosmos*, the spirit of the world, and that it was imperative that we, as Christians, needed to withdraw ourselves away from the world. In the concluding chapter, Steve Gallagher points out how Daniel, although living high up in the Babylonian Empire, remained unsoiled by the ungodliness around him. He knew that he must obey God—no matter what the consequences. I believe in America, where sin is so blatant and normal that many times it hardly bothers us, we compromise our standards when we want to do something or look a certain way that appeals to our flesh.

In another illustration, we see that while the King of Babylon and his dignitaries were feasting in the palace (unprepared for the SUDDEN invasion by the Persian army), Daniel was absent, probably spending time alone with God or fellowshiping with other believers. Daniel was ready, both spiritually and physically, and was enough "in tune" with God that he could read the writing on the wall. But I believe many (can I say *most?*) of the Christians in America are not ready for the Second Coming. They are totally unprepared, feasting on the sins that Satan has set before them. Are we ready? Can we truly say that if Jesus came tonight, we would be watching, waiting to go with Him, or are we like the "wicked slave of Matthew 24 who was eating and drinking with drunkards when his Master returned?" God help us, and give us His wisdom to know what areas of our life are not pleasing in His sight.

Shadrach Report—summer 2006

God surprised us and helped again in such a wonderful way at this past Shadrach. From the moment of arrival at Kentucky Mountain Bible College God was moving and drawing each one to Himself in a powerful way. I was so blessed when the service started Monday evening with Pastor Schultze exhorting the youth to carry the service with prayers and testimonies. The response that followed was just that as youth got up to cry out for God to help us, sanctify us, and help us to get everything right with Him. The altar was full and the week possibly began on such a higher level than any other Shadrach retreat had ever started. What a blessing to see people weeping at the altar. Rev. Rouintree's messages on keeping the victory and being filled with the Holy Spirit and Blanche's testimony about her healing were very powerful and many were convicted, changed, and filled with the Holy Spirit. Tuesday night, many were sanctified. Praise the Lord! One of the messages I was so thankful for was the message on the media that Pastor Schultze gave, encouraging us to stop taking Hollywood supplements for our Christianity. The girls' discussion afterwards painted such a beautiful picture of getting out of the world now so that we can raise godly families without the garbage of the media. It was so refreshing and made me so thrilled that we could know this all now and save our families from so much! Pastor Robert's exhortations on getting out the root of our sin really helped me as well. Nicky prayed with me that God would show us by the end of the week the root of why we keep doing the same things to each other over and over. Praise the Lord! Friday night he showed each of us at the same time, individually, that it was the pride in our hearts. Since then God has been getting it out of us, and may He continue. Pastor Mike's exhortations on being like David and having a soul burden made me excited to go home and forget about myself and do the things I know God is calling me to do. I praise God for this year's camp and for all the seeds that were planted and the lives that were changed, including my own. –Jenn