

# Shadrach Youth Ministry

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## “Precious Stones”

Witnessing report - August 18, 2006

I was all ready for the night. I had been looking forward to it. I wasn't overly excited, but I was excited enough. Especially because it was my girlfriend Roz. It would be another night of fun hanging out with the girls. Because I was at Roz's house an hour before the 'party' began, I helped her set up a little. Well everyone was running about a half-hour behind schedule, including the presenter: Virginia.

When everyone had finally arrived and settled down, Virginia began setting up. She was full of apologies for being late, but no one was bothered by it. We were a laid back sort of group, not too uptight about things like traffic jams and wrong turns. It happens to everyone. We understood.

When Virginia was all set up we turned our attention to her and the items set before us. The coffee table was arrayed with gold, silver and other fine jewelry; earrings and necklaces that shimmered and sparkled; beautifully colored stones, rings and the like. We oooh-ed and awed and then her presentation began.

At first I was all involved, listening intently, trying on the jewels, not at all bothered or troubled in spirit about what was before me. And then a little voice said, “Store up your treasures in Heaven, for where your treasure is there your heart will be also.” It caught me off guard at first, but then my heart agreed. “Yes Lord, I thought, yes, why am I so impressed by these things, they will all perish.” At that moment, the Lord had my utmost attention and I could hear clearly all that He was saying and all that He was about to say.

The more He spoke the more my posture and countenance changed. I knew that only because friends of mine had begun to ask what was wrong, I couldn't say anything. He was talking to me. Virginia had begun trying to book more shows and parties and a member of my church agreed to host one. Virginia had specifically stated that she didn't prefer Saturdays because those were days set aside for her husband, but Sundays and weekdays worked out the best. By this time, just through talking in a group setting (them talking, me listening) I learned that Virginia was retired. She used to work at a casino as a dealer. She stopped doing that to sell jewelry and has loved it ever since. These were clear enough signs to me that she was not a believer, not to mention that she opted to have a party on a Sunday.

Much to my bereavement, my sister in Christ agreed to a Sunday. Before I knew it, I said, “That is the Sabbath” in a disappointed, heart-broken way; but not loud enough where everyone could hear, just the two sitting next to me. I knew that His heart was grieved.

After that, the Lord directed my heart to 1 Corinthians 3 and A Chance to Die: The life and Legacy of Amy Carmichael. My heart was pointed to the sections on precious stones, gold and silver being tried by the fire. In my heart, it was in a slightly different way though and my mind was directed toward Virginia.

I thought “Here she is, selling these precious stones, silver and gold, but these things will perish and fade away. She needs to know about eternity and being a stone that lasts and does not perish. I knew the Lord was up to something and that He was asking me to join HIM. I couldn't shake it, not that I wanted to, but it was so heavy on my heart. “I have to talk to her, I have to” is all I could think of along with the thoughts of temporal gold and silver and eternal works tried by His holy fire and lasting. How amazing our God is, that He would take a woman who sold precious stones, to make her a member of His precious collection; a precious stone of eternal value, His own treasured jewel. The Holy Spirit empowered me and by His power accomplished His work.

I got up as she was putting her things away and I asked her how hot she thought the jewels would have to get until they melted and were destroyed. She laughed, “No one has ever asked me that question before.” I told her that I would think it would have to be really hot to get gold and silver and other things to melt away and she agreed. I asked her that if she could be any stone what would she be, and she said a diamond because they are virtually indestructible. I told her that the reason I was asking was because I was thinking about something I read in God's word once about precious stones and gold and silver. She said ohh, ok. Then I said, “Can I ask you a question?” She said ok. I asked her that if she should die today if she knew where she would spend eternity. She said she would hope to go to heaven. I asked her if she was sure that is where she would go. She said yes because she was saved, she served God and she was a good person. Then I told her that there was nothing good that we could do that would save us. She asked. “Well then, what could save us? I told her it was only by Jesus' blood and that it had nothing to do with us or our goodness. She asked what church I went to. I told her, and she said she might stop by to visit. She also gave me her phone number and told me to call her so that we could talk. I was so overwhelmed by what God had just done that I went to the bathroom and cried and prayed after I told her that I would be calling her. She encouraged me to call. A door was opened. God is so great! All I could do was Praise Him and thank HIM. A Precious Stone, I thought, soon to be added to HIS KINGDOM AND GRAND TREASURY. To God be the Glory! —Danielle Underwood

### Assignments Due!

~*Intoxicated with Babylon, servanthood, and witnessing reports due September 30<sup>th</sup>*

~*Work on memorization:  
Genesis chapter 1*

### Fall Weekend

**October 27-29!**

*Shadrach Weekend at Kokomo Christian Fellowship. Please e-mail Jenn if interested!  
lookingtogo@hotmail.com*

