

# Shadrach Youth Ministry

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## Excerpts from a Revival for our Day newsletter:

"I think a Christian needs to be as enthusiastic for the lost, the testimony and the winning of souls as little children are that want to play with some new things. I mean without prompting. Where are we? We have to be so careful, because if you watch movies and pictures, and this one is falling in love with that one, you haven't got much fire when you try to pray. These things just crowd out the victory. The spirit that is in boxing matches and wrestling will also just take all the glory right out of your soul and all the power out of your heart and you will be cold. There won't be any fire on your soul. You'll be wrapped up in this game and that game and you will not have prayed or witnessed enough and won't be on the firing line to win souls. The things of this earth will just take you down. We kind of go into a form, leaving our first love and are cooled off. We just cool down. I have to press all the time. It is by the grace of God."

"If you get on an elevator or are at a restaurant and they ask how you are, tell them you are praising God and thankful. Sometimes people will respond to that and other times they will not. Don't let people's silence dampen you any. Most people just go to coldness before long."

"...I am trying to encourage us to be on the firing line. We don't always have to get loud and say a lot of things, but if we are on the firing line we will be telling it in some way. We will have the victory and we will love people and love God."

"Don't worry about this. Just trust and rest. God doesn't want us to get really uptight and say, 'I've got to really get in this.' No. Just relax and let the Lord work through you. The lights of the world are the persons just walking with Jesus and rejoicing, helping, reading the Word, praying and letting the Holy Spirit lead. This is practical Christianity." —Loran Helm

Pastor Michael and Carla have directed us to a website that has many good things about revival on it. It is [www.plow.org](http://www.plow.org). If you click on the icon for Revival Fire, you will hear some wonderful revivalists from the past.

## Moving!!!

As many of you are finding out...the Lord is leading the Litchfields out on a faith adventure! Don has ended his employment with the Kokomo Christian Fellowship, and we are trusting the Holy Spirit to lead for the next step. We will continue to do the Shadrach ministry and stay in close touch with KCF. Correspondence by e-mail will remain at [dlitchfield@truevine.net](mailto:dlitchfield@truevine.net). We will alert you to our address change when we have it  — for now, continue to contact us at the Kokomo address. Keep us in your prayers, and we'll keep you posted!

~ Here are some quotes from The Barbarian Way by Erwin Raphael McManus recommended by Voice of the Martyrs:

"Two thousand years ago, God started a revolt against the religion He started. So don't ever put it past God to cause a groundswell movement against churches and Christian institutions that bear His name."

"(Christians) live their lives with every step moving forward and with every fiber of their being fighting for the heart of their King. Jesus Christ has become the all-consuming passion of their lives. They are not about religion or position. They have little patience for institutions or bureaucracies. Their lack of respect for tradition or ritual makes them seem uncivilized to those who love religion."

"It is true that the enemy will essentially leave you alone if you are domesticated. He will not waste his energy destroying a civilized religion. If anything, he uses his energy to promote such activity. Religion can be one of the surest places to keep us from God. When our faith becomes refined, it is no longer dangerous to the dark kingdom."

**Why Shadrach?** I think Shadrach is a good name, because we should be like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; who stood firm in their faith even when King Nebuchadnezzar threatened to throw them into the burning furnace. Shadrach is the first one listed so when someone says Shadrach you remember all three. If we have faith in Jesus like Shadrach did, we could impact the world for Christ. That is why I believe Shadrach is a good name for this youth group. —Christa Neal

**Witnessing Report** – Since about halfway through the school year, I've been helping at the Good News Club at Fayetteville Elementary. God has saved many souls. I'm thankful that I've gotten to be a part of it.

This week at C.R.E.W. (Christians Reaching EveryWhere), I participated in a skit w/Jordan, Nicky, Amanda, and Esther. It was a court room trial entitled "Shockey vs. Judgment Day." In the story, I was killed in a car wreck, and when I got to heaven, the angel couldn't find my name in the Book of Life, so I go to court protesting that my name should be there. Nicky was my attorney (Mr. Slick), Amanda was the judge, Jordan was the prosecuting attorney (Mr. Realtruth), and Esther was my witness (Mrs. No-bigdeal). We reviewed lots of evidence and, in the end, we took a secret ballot and asked the jury (students) to vote. Since I was a very bad kid and Jordan put a whipping to me & Nicky , I was voted guilty. God has been helping at the schools. —Chris Shockey

Shadrach Retreat '05 will be held at Walnut Hills Retreat from June 20<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>  
We look forward to seeing you there!

### Assignments

**Whew!!** The assignments are pretty much done, and now we're planning for the retreat in June! Look for your applications in this newsletter if you have participated this year. If you don't have the papers, please let us know. Can you commit together to some extra prayer for the retreat week? Of course, the Dare to be a Daniel's have until June 1<sup>st</sup> to finish their assignments. Thank-you for all of your hard work! It was a shorter year going from August until June. You all did a great job and I always enjoy reading your reports!

I read a really neat biography on **Gladys Aylward**. Throughout it all, I was really challenged by her servant spirit and willingness to give all to the children. Time and again, she would give her sleep, food, and time to preserve the lives of the children. In fact, after the long trek over the mountains, she had a nervous breakdown that lasted two years because of her efforts of love. Another challenging thing was that when they came to the Yellow river, they did not have a way to get across and the Japanese were coming. Gladys did not know what to do but one young child re-

minded her about the Red Sea crossing. When Gladys said that she was not Moses, the child countered by saying that she had the same God. By the grace of God, I am determined to get that kind of faith. —Jordan Litchfield

## Letting the Holy Spirit Lead Your Vacation

I am going to share with you a personal experience in order to help you to have faith that Jesus wants to lead the 'surrendered' Christian in every area of their lives!

**God has His own plan for us to follow!** Not long ago, Don and I felt the Holy Spirit impressing on us that it was time to use some vacation time. Having talked and prayed over Florida, West Virginia, Montana (!), Tennessee and Kentucky, the first direction we received was either Tennessee or Kentucky. Don asked me to search the web for possible lodging in those states. We were to leave within a few days, so we didn't have much notice! Tennessee, in the area around Gatlinburg, had prices lower than in Kentucky. Personally, I was looking forward to going to Tennessee. Kentucky also had fewer openings over the weekend we were to be there. As I was telling Don my desire to go to Tennessee and the economy of it to boot, he said, "I believe the Lord wants us to go to Kentucky." Later, we found out there were divine appointments for us there.

**There are obstacles!** After many more calls, I was able to book a cabin in Kentucky – it wasn't as economical as we wanted, but it was available and sounded nice. It was listed as very secluded and a perfect location for even honeymooners. We had beautiful weather driving south, and upon arriving we stopped at the rental office. Once we saw the cabin, our hearts sank! It was a beautiful cabin, mind you, but...secluded it was not!...there were cabins on either side!...a strip mall across a stream in front!!!...and a highway beyond that!!!! When we inquired to whether this was the same place we saw on the internet, they assured us it was and that it really was secluded because people who drive by on the highway never even look up in that direction so they don't know you're there! Besides there was a row of (bare) trees there. And they were serious! ☺ It took me a bit to adjust to this internally – thankfully our children encouraged me that we would still have a great time because we were going to spend a lot of time hiking and doing outdoor things. And, you know, once we settled in, it wasn't a problem at all, and we enjoyed it very much! The cabin was actually in walking distance of the state park we would do some hiking in.

**Divine appointments and blessings!** – what you're there for! One divine appointment we had was joining in anointed, Spirit-led intercession for revival with a gentleman in the area. Tears flowed and we just knew we were at the petition Jesus desired for that time! Praise the Lord! Don also encountered a man at a rock climbing place who had a tender

spirit. He decided to take the plunge and offer this man a Voice in the Wilderness and an Abiding in Christ even though Don didn't know if he was a Christian. The two of them ended up in about a 30 minute sharing. The man, Eric, was very hungry for more truth and direction. He was at a crucial time in his life. His family is inheriting 100 acres of property, and Jesus had laid a desire on his heart to turn it into a Christian camp for handicapped children. He needs prayer because he wasn't sure that the rest of his family would be willing to do this. When Don shared his desire with me, the Holy Spirit worked in my heart so we have been endeavoring to pray for Eric and his vision and calling. You can pray, too, if you think of it. There were other seeds planted through witnessing and literature distribution that eternity will reveal the fruit of. We also had blessings of wonderful fellowship/prayer times as a family, beautiful outings and weather that seemed to work with what we needed to do.

**God will provide!** When preparing for vacation, as I was doing some shopping, I kept having an impression to go into a Kroger's and check out any sales in their health food section. Somewhat reluctant to go there, I made a couple other stops, but still felt this impression to go to Kroger. Here they were replacing a freezer in the health food section, and they had all kinds of vegetarian foods that normally are \$3 to \$4 marked down to 99 cents each! I wouldn't normally buy these because of the cost, but it was just perfect because here we were going to go on vacation (I assumed), and I always like to take something special to eat on our trips that is still healthy. Praise the Lord! Then regarding the finance of the cabin and the trip. Our church usually gives us vacation money when we go away, but we knew money was tight for them, so we were prepared that that might not happen this time –which was true. However, our God who owns the cattle on a thousand hills provided \$500 through two different sources which took the edge off the cost of the trip. Where He leads, He will provide!

**God will protect!** I don't ever want to take God's protection for granted. We had safe travel and safe hikes. When Jake and I capsized our canoe in briskly moving water where there were big rocks and logs underwater, we were protected from injury. When I was thrown from a horse the next day (a calm one, mind you!), I had no broken bones or cuts, only bruises – which gave me very little pain. Praise Him for protecting!

At the risk of sounding very corny: "Don't leave home without HIM!" ☺ —Karin

### Book Report

I read The Heavenly Man by Brother Yun and Paul Hattaway. It's about Brother Yun, a leader in the underground Church in China, who went through extreme torture and ridicule because of his faith. I suppose that the most helpful thing I got from the book is that even if you love Jesus, it doesn't mean that you won't be persecuted heavily. I already knew that, in a way, but reading about Brother Yun helped me understand it more thoroughly.

The book, very graphic in its descriptions about the torture, was hard on me emotionally to read. The overall effect, however, was positive.

It was amazing how God brought him through his times of incarceration and persecution. For example, once they smashed his legs so he couldn't escape the prison. But God told him that it was time for him to leave, so he got up and walked through some open doors that were supposed to be shut. The guards didn't even see him when he walked directly in front of them.

I recommend this book to anyone who wants to learn more about the persecuted church. —Charles Morey

**Pilgrim's Progress** – We read Pilgrim's Progress as a class and it greatly helped me. It was really good the way the author turned the Christian life into an analogy. It helped me understand even some basic things even better. The part about the pond of despond helped me because I saw the two ways (actually there could be three ways) that we can handle sin. When we sin, we can either turn around and give up or we can let the Holy Spirit help us and guide us out of our sin. The third thing would have been to wallow in our sin and drown in the pond of despond. It also helped me at the part where Christian falls asleep and loses his assurance. How often have I been spiritually asleep when Christ wanted to use that time to get me farther along. I know I have wasted months maybe even years selfishly taking a nap, so to speak. The character Talkative convicted me. God has been dealing with me with holding my tongue, and I don't want to be like Talkative, just talking about God but not truly being in His will in my life. Praise God that Christ is pouring in the oil to keep the flame going, even though Satan is trying to put out the fire of Christ. That part helped me a lot. There were many more things that God helped me with throughout the book and of course the end, what we will come to after the journey of life, eternal life with Him. —Lori Keen