

# Shadrach Youth Ministry

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## Delighted in God's Arrangements

Psalm 1:1-2, *"Blessed is the man...whose delight is in the law (the arrangements) of the Lord."*

David wrote that the man who delights in the law (the arrangements) of the Lord is blessed. When Isaiah penned "the Lord is a God of judgment" (30:18), he meant a God of **order, method, system, plan**. God operates by laws which He Himself has designed: laws of nature, laws of health, of the mind, of human relationships, laws of prayer. In Beyond Humiliation, J. Gregory Mantle wrote that the Almighty, All-merciful God is also All Methodical – that He is "the most orderly Being in the universe."

**God as Arranger** is revealed throughout the Scriptures. How carefully He delineated Adam and Eve's conduct in Eden. The Lord "mentioned by name" those whom He chose to be leaders of the divisions (tribes) of Israel (Num. 1:17). He indicated how and when manna was to be gathered. He listed the exact duties of Aaron, his sons, and the three Levite families; and specified on which side of the tabernacle each tribe should camp. When people obeyed, He blessed them greatly; when they violated His arrangements, defeat always ensued. David said, "God broke out against us, because we did not consult Him about the proper order" (1 Chron. 15:13). **"Proper order" is important to God.**

The Holy Spirit is an expert Engineer, not only of the cosmos—the orderly, systematic universe—but of every detail of every life. "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you..." is the promise (Ps. 32:8 NKJ). And His guidance leads into the way of holiness—always! Christlike conduct, engineered by the Holy Spirit, is the "proper order" for all who seek His approval.

And thus, with Enoch, we too may have the testimony that we please God (Heb. 11:5).

(from Overflowing with Thankfulness, by Mrs. Alice Fisher, August, 1988)

— How much this contrasts with much of the church's attitude today: "Nothing much matters except I have a claim to salvation – not my attitude, not my fear of man, not my dress – Jesus doesn't really care!!"

***And His guidance  
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of holiness—always!***

For my book report I read Praying Hyde. This book is about a man named John Hyde who gave his short but effective life to prayer. Thus the name *Praying Hyde*. While in college, he totally surrendered to God. His prayer life started to change drastically and he felt called to the mission field. More specifically, to India. Once there, Hyde started praying for one soul a day, then two, then four. Throughout the years he was in India, the number of souls he would pray for each day went up. He would pray, "Lord, give me souls or I die!" During the revival services in India, Mr. Hyde would often be off in the prayer room praying that the people would hear and that souls would be saved. He was not the only one in the prayer room, of course. Often he would pray many hours. Then sometimes when he was simply exhausted, he would lie down in the corner of the prayer room to sleep. When the prayer seemed to be slacking a little bit, he would wake up and pick up the gauntlet, so to speak. When he would preach, the power would fall because of all the prayer and not so much the preparing that went into his sermons. Finally, after years of the stress and agony that he endured while praying, it took a toll on his body. But even to his dying day, he prayed and prayed and prayed! This book challenged me to pray more. <>> Peter Hubbard

## Servanthood Report

My family went to a homeschooling conference in Indianapolis from August 9 through the 11<sup>th</sup>. Before going, my mom asked if I would be willing to help with one of the children's programs along with my brother. My previous experiences had not been good with the Children's Institutes, but the Lord had brought up the thought of CI's (Children's Institutes) before my mom had even mentioned it. I knew it was the Lord's will because of that and because my parents and brother wanted me to do it. I consented, and my brother and I ended up being in charge of twelve four to seven-year-olds for eight hours a day for two days and three to four hours the last day. (There were large assemblies, which helped tremendously.) All I can say is that the Lord's strength was sufficient in my weakness. First, He helped me not become spiritually depressed like I have been at all my previous CI's. Although it was stressful, He gave me grace and got me through it. Plus, not all the children were present the entire time. The Lord knew what I could handle. Thank you, Lord. -Evangeline Rupp

**Measure Your Life** was a book with the purpose of explaining how God measures your life and how you should also measure your life, by what God thinks. Different ways by which you can measure yourself are God's guidance, intercession, joy, love, etc.

One aspect that showed me something was in sacrifice. It hit me more when he talked about how the cross is an instrument of execution, and we are supposed to voluntarily take up our cross. Another aspect was in world dimensions, about where it talks about how you are making Jesus unhappy when your prayers do not reach around the earth daily.

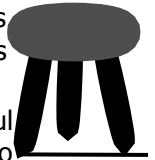
God helped me, or convicted me, in many of the areas touched upon. **Measure Your Life** is a great book, and I'm thankful that I read it. —Morgan Litchfield

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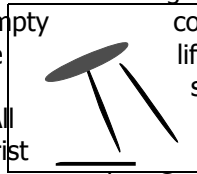
## Like a Three-Legged Stool

*"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:"*—Hebrews 12:14

Dr. Phillip Speas, president of Kentucky Mountain Bible College, shared with me recently that he believes "holiness" is like a "three-legged stool," the three legs being *consecration, purity, and separation*. He believes that if you remove one of the legs, the stool will topple over.



This toppling affect is seen among many Christian youth today. There is no shortage of wonderful testimonies, proclaiming a consecrated life to Christ. Yet most are involved in activities that show little or no separation from the world, and they are entertained with things that would show a lack of purity of heart. The progression is clear, leading to what I call "empty consecrations": *the leg of separation is removed* when people do not feel the need to be separate from the world around them. And because there is no separation, the impurities of those worldly activities taints the heart, *thus removing the leg of purity*. All that is left is the leg of consecration. But what kind of consecration is it if we have cast off purity in Christ and have conformed ourselves to the patterns of the world? It is an "empty consecration." It has become what God spoke through Isaiah, *"Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:"* (29:13). An empty consecration is nothing more than a one-legged stool that needs the legs of man—"the precept of men"—to help it stand. In the end, such a consecration will not endure. May your consecration be true, one that's committed to purity of heart and separation from the world. —Don



### \*\*\***Shadrach Fall Weekend**\*\*\*

November 25 to 27, 2005 at Rainbow Christian Camp, Converse, Indiana, starting at 3PM on Friday afternoon and ending after lunch on Sunday. Any youth hungering for more of God are invited. Assignments not required. \$20/person to defray costs. (details in the November newsletter)

#### A Word from Pastor Schultze... HOW TO GET BLESSED

All over the Christian world, people are trying to get blessed. But I have to tell you that we should never come to Jesus with the motive to be blessed. Rather, we should come to Him to bless Him. He is worthy to be praised, adored, exalted and blessed. The four creatures around the throne of God seek to bless Him by saying continually, *"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty..."* (Rev. 4:8). The elders and angels, thousands upon thousands of them around the same throne, keep crying, *"Worthy is the Lamb...to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength...and blessing"* (Rev. 5:12). If you live to bless Jesus, you someday shall be in that great company.

But yet, it is in the nature of God to want to bless us, exceeding abundantly above all we could ask or think. And the condition that brings the blessings of our benevolent God upon us is obedience. You don't have to ask God to bless you. He will bless you automatically if you obey His Word and do His commandments.

Abraham, because he obeyed God by putting his son Isaac on the altar, was told by an angel, *"...because thou hast done this thing...That in blessing I will bless thee...And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed"* (Gen. 22:16-18). Because Abraham obeyed, God blessed him and would bless him in the blessings to the extent that all the world would benefit from it. You and I are blessed because Abraham obeyed God 4000 years ago.

But what holds true about blessings also holds true about curses. If we obey, God will bless us without our asking for it. If we disobey, God will curse us. All of us either live in blessings or curses. Nothing brings this out more clearly than Deuteronomy 28. There, God says that if we do all His commandments, we will be blessed in the city, in the field, by the fruit of our bodies, by the fruit of the ground, by the fruit of our cattle, our kine, our flocks and our sheep. We will be blessed by our going out and coming in. We will be blessed in the presence of our enemies, etc. The only condition is *"if ye observe to do all his commandments."* Likewise, in that same chapter, God puts a curse upon us if we do not obey all His commandments. And that curse will be on us in our city, on our land, on our labors, and on all we possess. It will be upon us in on our goings and comings, etc.

Assignments Due on October 10th: One book report, one ser-vanthood report, and one witnessing report.

Oh, my friend, God is yearning to bless you, why don't you let Him by just obeying Him in all He commands you to do?