



“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.” Eph 4:32

While attending The Cove, me and Ronda heard Pastor Jim Henry of the First Baptist Church of Orlando tell a story of parking his car in a local retail parking lot. Before he could get out, the passenger of the car parked on his left, opened her door too wide striking his car door. Agitated he got out of his car thinking to himself, "Lady, how could you not see my car?" But the offender who made the mistake said apologetically, "Oh pastor Henry it is you! I am so sorry I bumped your car. But I felt so relieved when I saw it was your car. I was afraid of what might happen until I realized it was your car I bumped."

Forgiveness is the conscious deliberate decision to release another from the obligation caused by harm. Forgiveness is not forgetfulness, though the ability to forget can sometimes be a blessing. Forgiveness is what we need from God for our trespasses against Him. Forgiveness is what we often need to be free from others for our relationships to be at peace. “And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us...” (Luke 11:4)

These scriptures give us two significant insights. First, being born-again and in Christ, we are forgiven. Second, as Christians, we should be known as the people who are willing to forgive. Why are we known as those who forgive? Because we are under the influence of a God who is known by forgiveness. (Psalm 103)

We once attended a family Bible camp where Pastor Jim Newcomer spoke eight times about forgiveness. The entire series was rather exhausting. Jim was a professor of Biblical counseling and a staff pastoral counselor at his church. Jim shared that one of the primary spiritual conflicts his parishioners came to him with was often rooted in their inability, or at times unwillingness to forgive. Though I do not have Jim's counseling experience, there have been occasions where I could tell someone was a captive to bitterness rooted in an unwillingness to forgive. Colossians 3:15 invites the God of peace to rule over the heart. The preceding concept is in 3:13, “Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another.... even as Christ forgave you.”

*Senior Pastor Toby Cambron,
Westphal Avenue Baptist Church*

Tim Connell's Testimony of a Life Transformation Through Jesus Christ



"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." (1 John 2:16). My lust, pride, and spiritual blindness took me down a seemingly endless path of sin and wickedness that I was powerless to stop. Unbeknownst to me, Jeremiah 17:9 was my defacto life Bible verse. But, even worse than this, I was separated from the face of the living God (Isaiah 59:18). "O, wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"

By the early 1980's I had married Jill Robarge, who was also unsaved at the time. Some of her family and friends were justifiably worried about her being married to me. We then had our first child who we named Eric. We were existing in a damp, moldy, basement apartment in Monroe Falls, Ohio. Most of our meals were literally popcorn and/or white rice. I could go on about this time period, but very thankfully space does not allow it.

"...If that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus." God allowed me to finally reach a point where I eagerly could receive Jesus Christ as my personal savior. In other words, I was ready to give it ALL to God! On November 1, 1983, I believed in and confessed Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Savior. (Romans 10:9-11).

"... Old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." After receiving Christ as my Savior and Lord, my heart, spiritual life, and morality changed quite quickly and dramatically. "Lest I should be puffed up," I must give God ALL the credit and glory for this life transformation. In a very short period of time, I was enabled to quit cussing, drinking, smoking, and so forth and so on. During my spiritual infancy, I talked on and on about Jesus, being saved, and the Devil, who I had been unchained from at last!

On Sunday just a few days after I was saved, Jill and I visited a Baptist church that she had visited once. She had been saved some time in 1982. Our salvation experiences were quite different, but complimentary and very much linked together. Mine was sudden and dramatic. Jill's was more of a search. Her journey led her through the doorways of different churches (some that were not so Biblically sound). I only had to go through one church doorway.

Well, we suddenly found ourselves in the midst of an "old-fashioned" revival week. Praise God! They had a somewhat older and very gifted evangelist named Nathan Meijer speaking at every service. We were so richly blessed and spiritually thrilled! Jill and I gladly "went forward" together on that Sunday night in November of 1983. Shortly after that week, we were baptized together by Pastor Paul Rohart. Come to think of it, it will be 40 years ago this November... "to God be the glory"!

DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ Mission of Faith kids, who attend Bible class on Wednesday evening had a record breaker totaling 32 on 2/15/23 and averages each week in 20's. Please continue to pray for this Ministry and our devoted teachers.
- ◆ LifeWise continues to grow. There is currently 289 students enrolled at Beechwood Elementary and 147 students at Etna school.
- ◆ Church Events can be viewed on Church Calendar at Church web site. westphalbaptist.org and click drop down "News & Events/Church Calendar"
- ◆ Daisy Shoemaker is due to arrive in March. Congrats to Hunter & Sarah!
- ◆ Linda Berridge is a Great-Grandmother again. Micah arrived 2/21/23.

"Praise the LORD for his mercy is good...."



But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good... Genesis 50:20

After being hated by his brothers, left for dead, and sold into slavery, Joseph was able to forgive his brothers, recognizing that God's sovereign goodness overrides all. Joseph tells his brothers "*But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good... Genesis 50:20.*

Joseph's story begins in chapter 37 of Genesis, the second to the youngest of twelve brothers born to Jacob, also known as Israel. *Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, Genesis 37:3-4.* This caused his brothers to have hate and jealousy toward him and one day plotted against him. Joseph was thrown into an empty well and later sold as a slave to traveling Midianites. In the meantime, Joseph was taken to Egypt and sold to Potiphar as a household slave. Joseph's family was shattered by his brothers' actions and lying to their father that Joseph was dead!

Years later when their father, Jacob died Joseph's brothers feared that Joseph would take revenge for their actions against him. They came to Joseph and begged for his forgiveness presenting a request their father made before he died (see Genesis 50:16-17). Joseph wept when he heard their request. His desire was to be reunited in complete unity and love with his family. Rather than respond with hate and anger, Joseph was able to respond with love and forgiveness. This is the example for all of God's people. We are to make reconciliation and forgiveness top priority in our lives. When we learn to do this, it will be a strong testimony to those around us. James 5:16 says "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another,

Is there someone you need to reconcile with today?

*In Christ Love,
Nancy Mitchell*



Yes! Family Game Night is back!

Bring your favorite board game and meet us in the fellowship hall on the last Friday of each month starting at 6:00 pm.

There will be **F**ood, **F**un, and **F**ellowship.

Contact Dave Hagemann for more details.
614-390-8058

The Power of Forgiveness

by Deborah Ann Belka

There is nothing quite like,
the power of forgiveness
nothing is so freeing
as letting go of bitterness.

There's nothing quite like,
forgiving and forgetting
undoing the damage done
without doubt or regretting.

There is nothing quite like,
a heart willing to believe
the words ~ I am sorry
so, peace it can receive.

There is nothing quite like,
mending hurt feelings
resolving lifelong issues
to bring inner healing.

There is nothing quite like,
the attitude of humility
letting go and letting God
turn discord into tranquility.

There is nothing quite like,
the power of God's grace
the pure joy of release
when forgiveness we embrace!



Ladies Spring Luncheon Saturday, March 18th at 12:00 pm

Spring is coming! Grab your girlfriend and let's meet for lunch at **Hickory House** 7051 E Main St, Reynoldsburg on Saturday, March 18th at 11:30 am.

RESERVE YOUR SEAT

Send a text or call Nancy at 614-530-0977



WESTPHAL AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

780 Westphal Avenue
Whitehall, Ohio 43213
Senior Pastor, Toby Cambron 614-313-5881

SPRING QUARTER EVENTS

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 7, 2023-7:00 pm
Reobath Baptist Church Choir will sing

Easter Sunday Events

Sunday, April 9, 2023
* Breakfast 9:00 am
* Worship Service 10:30 am

Memorial Day Picnic

Sunday, May 28, 2023-6:00 pm
Location TBD

WEEKLY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday Adult Bible Class.....9:30am
Sunday Worship Service.....10:30am
Wednesday Morning Prayer.....11:00am
Wednesday Teen Discipleship.....6:45pm
Wednesday Mission of Faith Bible Club.....6:45pm
Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study.....7:00pm
Thursday Women of Warfare Bible Study.....6:30pm

Facebook Live:

Sunday Worship10:30am

Monthly Bible Studies

Men’s and Women’s Classes.....9:30am
(2nd Saturday of Month)

Have a Story or Suggestion to Share? Email Editor, Nancy Mitchell njmitchell510@gmail.com

TRINITY TRIBUNE

Westphal Avenue Baptist Church
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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP