

The Monthly Vine

January & February 2010

Staying connected on the latest happenings...

Loving God, Investing in Community, Following Jesus, Engaging Our World

Pastor's Corner..... By Ian Prichard

Every man dies. Not every man really lives. – Braveheart

My son, John, works at Starbucks. In the Wall Street Journal on December 29 there was an article extolling the virtues of coffee drinking, asking if coffee was the new wonder drug. Surveys have shown that coffee drinking can cut the risk of stroke, gallstones, Alzheimer's, prostate cancer, type 2 diabetes, and lower the risk of suicide. Fantastic! At last we coffee drinkers could validate our habit! I now drink for medicinal purposes. Armed with my new found reasons for needing my morning coffee, I decided to go through the drive thru lane at Starbucks. John greeted me on the intercom and I decided to have some fun with him by putting on an accent and confusing him with my coffee selection. I got him! The staff there laughed when they found out it was me. It's good to have fun. My coffee came in its usual to-go cup and I was on my way.

Often on the back of coffee cups there is a phrase, saying, or

slogan to stimulate your thinking.

One of Starbucks' rivals, Caribou Coffee, has this phrase as its mantra.. Life is short, stay awake for it.

Well I like good coffee and it does help me stay awake, but this slogan is also a reminder about the pace of life. Life goes by fast. We only have one life to live. One day we won't be here. We'll leave behind memories for those who knew us. So, how are we living? Are we living to create a legacy of goodness or are we simply creating a legacy of possessions? Are we living each day for God and for other people or are we simply living for ourselves?

Psalm 90 talks about living life. It says, "teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." (Psalm 90:12). Moses encourages us to respect God and to find satisfaction in him. He goes on... "Satisfy us in the morning with your unailing

love, that we may sing for joy, and be glad all our days" (Psalm 90:14). Many people can't get by without their morning coffee. It 'picks them up'. But God invites us to be daily touched with His love and then 'we will sing for joy' – in other words, this is God's 'jolt' and our living will truly be better.

Moses ends the Psalm with a cry for God to show people his favor and to uphold and establish the work that they do on earth. In a sense, Moses is saying something similar to the coffee cup slogan. "Life is short, stay awake for it"...by looking to God for strength in our work, and for satisfaction and joy in life." Moses is crying out to God that he would help his people live with purpose in life. One way we can 'stay awake' is to be aware of those around us. It is to find ways to brighten their days - to encourage and to strengthen others. In so doing we will find that it is our life that is encouraged and strengthened.

Mark your Calendar -

January 1 - Happy New Year!

January 27 - Community Group Leader's Potluck 6:30

February 4 & 18 - Moms & Tots 9:30 -11:30 a.m.

February 5 & 6- Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage Seminar

February 9 - Plug Into LIFE begins 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

February 11 - All Youth to Jumpstreet 6:15 - 8:30 p.m.

February 16 - Plug Into LIFE 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

February 21 - Lakra Baby Dedication

February 23 - Plug Into LIFE 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

February 26 -Middle School Youth Movie Night 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

February 27 - Women's Bible Study begins 10 a.m. - 12 noon

February 28 - Welcome Lunch 12 noon

For additional information on these dates, please visit our Website littletonvineyard.org or contact the church office at 303.797.0201.

Spotlight on Marriage.....

Whether you are already married or planning to be married in the near future, you won't want to miss this humorous and insightful marriage seminar. "**Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage**" will have you laughing and learning as you explore the underlying dynamics of male & female relationships.

Plan to join us for this video seminar presented by Mark Gungor. Experience Mark's hilarious, practical, no-hold barred advice about relationships. Mark's insights will give practical solutions to common relationship woes. Through his teaching you'll be able to make real positive

changes in your relationships, while enjoying some laughter together.

This two session seminar begins Friday, February 5th. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and the first session will run from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Session two is on Saturday, February 6th 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon. The cost of the conference is \$15 for individuals and \$25 for couples which includes seminar materials.

Reserve your seat and Mark's hilarious book today online at www.littletonvineyard.org.

Loving God, Investing in Community, Following Jesus, Engaging Our World



It's no-holds barred honesty & relationship help!



Plug Into LIFE

New to the Vineyard?

Check out our 4 week small group beginning February 9th. dinner is included!!

Prayer needs -

Praise- Praise for Curry Gardner's unexpected recovery, That Dave Young's injuries weren't more severe, and for Cassidy Paris' healing.

Missionaries - Sue M., The Hitchman Family and the Fairweather Family; Prayer for safety, and that God would bring them divine encounters. Please also pray for Daniel Krohn as he travels to Greece with YYAM.

Church Family- Shirley LaBarr, continued healing and improvement in her eye; Dave Young, healing for his arm; Many of our church members are currently unemployed or underemployed, please pray for new jobs and better jobs, raises and commissions.

A promotional graphic for a Bible study. At the top, a banner reads "The next chapter in your story is still unwritten." Below this are handwritten notes: "I rejoice + first time ever in my life; I have hope that my life can be different!" and "I am so thankful that God loves us. He knows our every hope, and He cares! He set me free! For the first time ever in my life, I have hope that my life can be different!". The main text reads "Bible Study for Women on BREAKING Free beginning February 27th". On the right is an image of the book "BREAKING Free: The Journey, The Stories" by Beth Moore.

Spotlight on Origins.....by Paul Myrant

Since the mid 18th century, biblical authority and the Christian faith have been directly challenged by an alternative world view, the theory of natural selection (evolution). This highly controversial subject has been the source of many battles in our schools, universities and courts. The challenge remains.

Richard Dawkins the famous atheist said, "It is safe to say, if you don't believe in evolution you are ignorant, stupid or a fool..." "Faith is the great cop-out, the great excuse to evade the need to think and evaluate the evidence. Faith is belief

in spite of, even perhaps because of, the lack of evidence."

What do you believe? Why do you believe it? Is it blind faith? If you believe in a Creator, are you as ignorant as Dawkins claims?

If you were unable to attend this remarkable seminar please pick up a copy of Paul's book "The Challenge of Evolution" from the book store for just \$15.00, where you can find answers to these and other questions. Find out about how we got here and why it matters.

Littleton Vineyard

Experience Real LIFE.

6657 W. Ottawa Ave, A11
Littleton, CO 80128
303.797.0201 (phone)
303.979.3476 (fax)
info@littletonvineyard.org