

# Milford Ministries Monitor

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JUNE 2015 Issue 8

Inside

**WHY KIDS NEED VBS?**

**Praying For Strangers**

**IS THERE HOPE FOR THE HURTING?**

**STEPS TO CHOOSE JESUS**

**IT'S TIME TO LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

**CALLED WITH A GOD GIVEN PURPOSE**

**FEAR OF MISSING OUT?**

**THEORIES OF THE HISTORY & THE ORIGIN OF FATHER'S DAY**



## If Jesus Twittered?

*If Twitter had been an available app 2,000 years ago – would Jesus have used it as a communication tool to reach larger audiences?*

*techniques of his day and coined metaphors that are still employed today.*

*(There was no such thing as a “good Samaritan” before his parable.)*

*Would Jesus have used social media to spread his message?*

*Jesus made statements that were brief, punchy and full of meaning as a way of spreading his particular message of faith.*



*He would redeem the medium with divine revelation:*

*“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand”.*

*I know he wouldn't have stayed*

*Phrases like ‘Love one another’ would have fit within Twitter’s 140-character convention with room to spare for a hashtag.*

*connected all day.*

*He knew that we must breathe in to breathe out, spiritually as well as physically.*

*What if the Sermon on the Mount had been live-streamed?*

*But he used every means to reach everyone he could.*

*The clearing of the temple posted on YouTube?*

*He would have agreed with Paul:*

*What would Jesus tweet?*

*He spoke to the masses from mountaintops and boats, synagogues and city streets.*

*“I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some”  
(1 Corinthians 9:22).*

*He used the teaching*

# Why Kids Need Vacation Bible School?

Vacation Bible School will be right around the corner again! Why is VBS important? It is here that many children come to know Christ.

Unchurched families may not attend our churches, but they may send their children to Bible school. According to the Barna Group, "Nearly half (43%) of all Americans who accept Jesus Christ as their savior do so before reaching the age of 13."

One current VBS curriculum explains it's goals by using the word HELPS. It is designed to teach children how love H.E.L.P.S. others.

H - Heal Other's Hurts

E - Encourage Others

L - Lend a Hand to Others

P - Pray for Others

S - Share with Others

Have you registered for VBS yet? Register now!



Milford Church of the Nazarene

June 13-17 at 6:00pm-8:30pm

Contact the Church 302-422-7489

Avenue UMC Milford, DE June 21, 2am – June

26, Contact the Church 302-422-8111

Reformation Lutheran Church June 22-26 at

9am-12pm Contact 302-422-9117

<http://reformation-lutheran.net/vbsreg/>

First Baptist Church of Milford Contact the

Church for the VBS schedule 302-422-9795

Berean Community Church Milford, DE

VBS June 22-26 6pm-8:30pm Contact Church

302-422-2622 Register online:

<http://bereancommunitychurch.com>

## Praying For Strangers

What if there was something you could really do—something simple, yet so powerful—that could positively influence others and change your life in the process?

One woman thought all she could do was pray for her son's safety and hope to maintain her strength, until she unexpectedly came upon the perfect New Year's resolution—one that focused on others instead of herself. She would pray for a complete stranger every single day of the year.

In the process of praying for strangers, she tells that the discovery that she made along the journey was not simply that her prayers touched the lives of these strangers (in often astounding ways), but that the unexpected connections she made with other people would be a profound

experience that would change her life forever.

She began by saying, "Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_," "I have this resolution to pray for a stranger every day, and today you're my stranger so I'll be thinking about you and saying special prayers for you".

"Maybe there were other people out there who need to know someone—even a stranger—was praying for them. From that day forward I tried to be that someone. I prayed for a

stranger every day."

To find more information regarding tips from her journal and the author of the book "Praying for Strangers" go to the link below.

<http://www.riverjordan.info/12-keys-to-praying-for-strangers.html>



# Is There Hope For The Hurting?

All of us at some time or another are going to be hurt and lose hope. It happened to the best of men and women in the faith; even some of the prophets in the Bible had lost hope at times; some of them were hurt and grieved because of personal losses in their lives, and at some time in our life, it will happen to you. It will also help you to handle those who currently are hurting.

Many deal with unresolved hurt, pain in their lives over something that is still lingering. Maybe it is the loss of a loved one, a broken relationship, a failure in the workplace, or a moral failure in your life. Maybe it is a recent hurt, or a distant hurt, but one thing is certain—unless hurts are dealt with, they will haunt you for the rest of your life.

When we let the hurt linger, we open the door to resentment - resentment toward others, ourselves, even God. And instead of dealing with the hurt immediately, we hide it away, and never deal with it, and live lives of regret, resentment, and remorse.

The problem comes when we try and resolve hurts in ways other than God intended. Some people try and resolve their hurts in things, in alcohol, cigarettes, drugs, shopping, cleaning, driving, a outing, &/or all kinds of different things. But when you try to substitute your own method of resolving hurts, you will never resolve them, only postpone them. When we focus on our pains and hurts instead of the God who can solve them the hurts will not go away.

God is the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort. God never desired for you to walk this life alone. He intended to walk it with you. Yet because of our sin, because we rejected God, we now have a hole in our life that was never meant to be there. And when the problems come, and the pain comes, and the hurt comes, we don't know how to deal with it. We do our best on our own. Well, I want to give you hope. Maybe you don't know if you can ever cope with the pain. I'm here to tell you that you

never have to deal with it by yourself. In fact, you were never meant to. 2 Corinthians 1:3 shows us how to deal with the hurts in our lives—how God wants us to deal with the hurts. "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort," He is the source of every mercy and the God who comforts us. Here's the hope for the hurting: you need to go to the source. There's only one source, and that is God. He is called the Father of compassion, and the God of all comfort.

Lamentations 3:22-24 "Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." God doesn't just have compassion, He designed compassion. God doesn't just comfort us; HE IS COMFORT. When we are hurt, our first thought should be to go to Him.

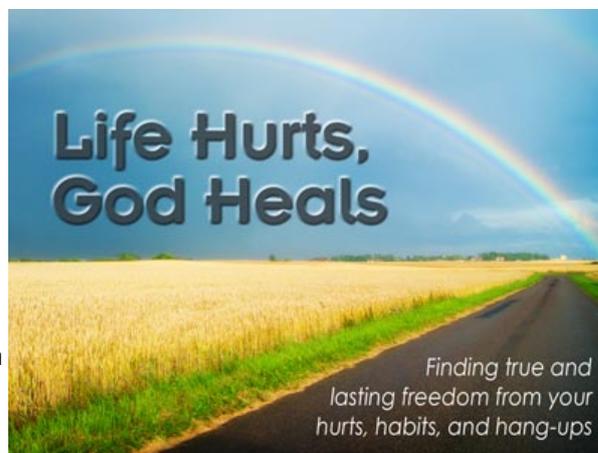
Maybe you know God, yet when it comes to the hurt and pain, you still like to hold onto it. God is telling you,

"I want to show you compassion. I want to help you—cast all of your anxieties to me in prayer, and I will help you with them."

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Maybe you don't know God personally—it's His desire that you come to know him. If you want to know more about God, and how to have a relationship with Him, a relationship that will fill that empty void in your life.

Pray this prayer: God I want to know you. Forgive me for trying to do it all alone without you God. God take these hurts, all these pains and all the troubles in my life, give me hope and comfort in you. I accept you Jesus as my Lord. Come live in my heart and help me with life. AMEN



# Steps To Choose Jesus

One by one Jesus gave each of the disciple the same invitation. Leave behind what you are doing and come follow me. Each saw something in Jesus that caused him to leave his former life behind in order to follow Him. What they saw in Jesus was so profound that it outweighed all their other options.

It seems certain that at the end of their lives none of them would have changed their decision to have followed Jesus despite the costs.

The disciples watched, listened and learned. It was a process of discovering Jesus' motivations, His attitudes and approaches to life.

They learned how God thinks about life, people and things that we do.

It was a process of training them to think the way God thinks. The impossible became possible.

Finally, in Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus tells all His followers to go out and do these same things. But the goal of following Jesus is to become like Him in motivation and behavior. It was all part of His plan to make disciples of all nations.

Following Jesus comes with a price, we must be willing to live our lives in alignment with God's purposes.

It may mean that we are misunderstood by others because we believe differently than them and we behave differently.

We choose to love others even when they are difficult to love and to serve the needs of hurting people even when it's inconvenient and we don't

feel like doing it.

We choose to do what is right even when that decision is costly to us personally. It all comes down to living our lives with the same value system by which Jesus lived His life.

Most people who make the decision to follow Jesus find that the benefits far outweigh the costs. Following Jesus is a journey of

discovering the person and nature of God. To follow Jesus is to build a personal, meaningful relationship with Him (a relationship that begins here and now in this life and continues forever throughout eternity with Him in heaven).

Since He is God and God is the source of life, it is like

plugging into the source of life. Once you develop a relationship with Him, you'll be dissatisfied with anything less.

Jesus said the first step in following Him is to make a decision. Just as He invited the 12 disciples to follow Him, He also invites me and you - all of us to share in His teachings then live and love as He demonstrated.

The first step in following Jesus is to choose.

Key References to Explore:

Luke 14:25-35 – Jesus discusses the cost of being His disciple

Luke 9:23-27 – Jesus tells Peter what's required to be His disciple

Luke 9:57-62 – Jesus gives more insights into the costs of being His disciple

John 8:12 – Jesus says His followers will never walk in darkness



# It's About Time To Let Your Light Shine!

*Matt. 5:16 "Let your light so shine among men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven."*

*The light represents God's truth which contrasts to darkness or the false system of Satan.*

*This is the challenge to let your light shine in such a way that others will see them and give glory to God.*

*How do we do this?*

*Your light shines when we act or react to*



*life in ways that contrast to the ways of the world.*

*Jesus tells us, "You are the light of the world...Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your father in heaven."*

*Peter tells us, "you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who brought you out of darkness into His wonderful light."*

## Called With A God Given Purpose

Our identity and purpose should be ordered not by an inner drive for personal success and notoriety, but by the call of God.

Characteristics of being called includes:

1. Listening to God
2. Having a deep sense of God's purpose
3. Allowing God to define you rather than something else.

God has called all of us. Reflect on God's calling.



Identify your God-given gift or purpose. God is the one who placed it there by His Holy Spirit.

The power to achieve and perform is because of the Holy Spirit.

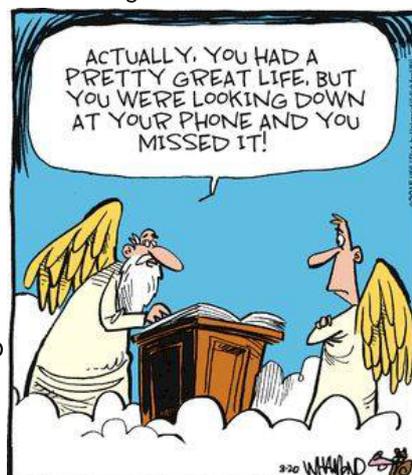
Evaluate yourself to discover your gift.

Just begin to follow God's leading.

## Fear of Missing Out

Do you have an uneasy and sometimes all-consuming fear that others are doing something or experiencing something that you're not? If so, you may be suffering from a new form of social anxiety called "FOMO," or the Fear of Missing Out. FOMO is an age-old problem that has accelerated thanks to real-time digital-updates and the smartphone.

If you realize you have become addicted to technology, then check out these twelve steps and principles which are guidelines



for members of Internet & Technology Addiction

Anonymous to live by.

You can recognize and overcome living issues by using the twelve steps and/or principles.

If you choose to embrace these steps and principles into your life, it will get better, no matter what you are having a problem with.

<http://www.netaddictionanon.org/about/ita-12-steps/>

# Theories of the Origin of Father's Day

*There are several theories behind the origination of Father's Day.*

*Some believe that the first Father's Day church service was held in West Virginia in 1908. Others believe that the ceremony was first held in Vancouver, Washington.*

*The president of Lions' Club, Chicago, Harry Meek is said to have celebrated the first Father's Day with his organization in 1915 to stress the need to honor fathers. He selected third Sunday in June for celebration, the closest date to Meek's own birthday.*

*In appreciation for Meek's work, the Lions Clubs of America presented him with a gold watch, with the inscription "Originator of Father's Day," on his birthday, June 20, 1920.*

*The world owes thanks to Ms Sonora Louise Smart Dodd, a loving daughter from Spokane, Washington as it is because of her struggle that Father's Day saw the light of the day.*

*The idea of Father's Day celebration originated in Sonora's mind when she per chance listened to Mother's Day sermon in 1909.*

*Sonora Smart Dodd was honored for her contribution at the World's Fair in Spokane in 1974. Mrs. Dodd died in 1978 at age 96.*

*Some historians honor Mrs. Charles Clayton of West*

*Virginia, as the Founder of Father's Day.*

*In 1957, Senator Margaret Chase Smith wrote Congress that, "Either we honor both our parents, mother and father, or let us desist from honoring either one. But to single out just one of our two parents and omit the other is the most grievous insult imaginable."*

*Looking at the heightened popularity of Father's Day in the US, President Woodrow Wilson approved of this idea in 1916. President Calvin Coolidge too supported*

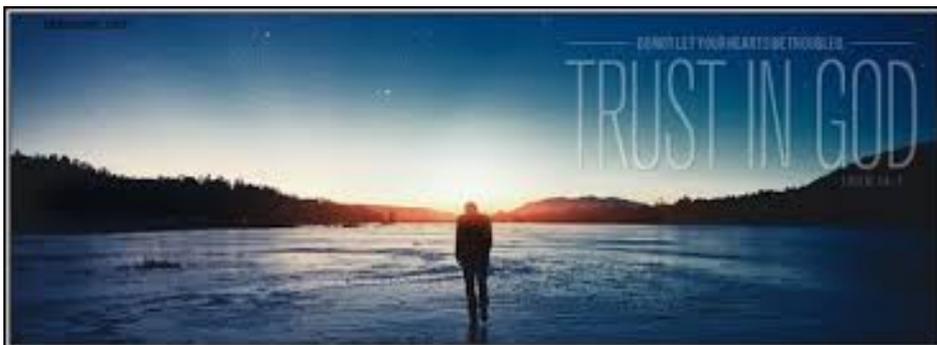
*the idea of a national Father's Day in 1924 to, "establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children and to impress upon fathers the full measure of their obligations".*

*After a protracted struggle of over four decades, President Lyndon Johnson*

*signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day in 1966.*

*Then in 1972, President Richard Nixon established a permanent national observance of Father's Day to be held on the third Sunday of June.*

*History of Father's Day in the US, Modern version of Father's Day celebration originated in United States of America, and thereafter the tradition spread in countries around the world.*



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