



Praying for the Persecuted Church: Nepal

On June 13, Maoist rebels in Nepal attacked Christians at an evening prayer meeting, according to VOM contacts. The rebels ordered them to stop the meeting and then assaulted the pastor and believers when they refused.

Before the attack, the pastor had asked the Maoists to leave and return the next day to talk with him, but the rebels instead began to beat him with sticks. When church

members, including the pastor's father and women in the church, tried to defend the pastor, the Maoists attacked them, too. The rebels also burned Bibles and hymnals during the attack.

The following day, local villagers accused the Christians of not paying the "temple tax" and of "converting the local people to Christianity." Each family was ordered to pay the exorbitant tax, and Christians have been

warned that they will be expelled from the village if they do not pay. Some believers have voluntarily left the village, and those remaining risk losing their homes.

Pray that God will heal the pastor and others who were beaten during this attack. Pray that they will look to Christ for strength and direction and that their testimonies will draw non-believers into fellowship with Christ.

New Van Ministry

The Van Ministry began July 11th after weeks of prayer and planning. Andrew Salter and David Christensen will drive the van for our new ministry. Beth Cheatham and I will be riding with the small children. We picked up a man, his wife and their two small boys ages 4 and 5; their neighbor came with them; and a three year old girl. They came for Sunday school, witnessed a beautiful baptism service and shared a fantastic pot-luck dinner with us. The hymns were so beautiful

and went along with a challenging service.

I had a vision of a van picking up children but God has other plans. I realize now there are many adults within our city who do not have transportation on Sunday morning.

God is giving us an opportunity to reach out to those He might put on our heart and invite them to come to church. We can not do this alone but our God certainly can and He will if we but ask and then do our part to help. Our

hope is to have a bus filled with new believers by this time next year. Please remember to make them feel loved and welcome. Lets ALL pray and ask God to use us to bring the increase.

If you know of someone who might like to come on the van, talk to them then give me a call so that we can pick them up.

I am excited and anxious to see God working on this mission. I KNOW HE WILL!!!

Mildred Thompson—
918-8810

Summer is here and with it a variety of activities only enjoyed by criminals or bored children on vacation. The unoccupied ruffians begin prowling early; wandering around looking for windows to break or hubcaps to steal. Armed with whatever they can find, the hooligans slouch from room to room from refrigerator to television. The air is hot and oppressive; tempers are short and even the lightest of nudges instantly spirals out of control into a full-scale brawl. The inactivity compounds the angst and each conflict becomes a smoldering bed of angry coals ready to blaze again at a moment's notice. Soon individuals begin to section off portions of the house; plans are made and assaults attempted. The unrest grows and as the battle lines are drawn the danger of war looms ominously on the horizon like the summer thunder clouds. All this takes about fifteen minutes and so, soon after breakfast the kids are thrown through the door with simple instructions, "Go play outside!" as if all this was not bad enough, someone was foolish enough to invent squirt guns.

Squirt guns are sold

surrounded by cardboard, so that fiends selling them can lie as much as possible. The packaging is covered with pictures of happy children, all equally well armed, running around a \$50,000 lawn, laughing and shooting each other gleefully with happy spouts of tepid water. Sitting inches from the frolic are calm and beautiful adults, who are sipping drinks, reading books. There may even be a picture of a child in a lavishly expensive swimming pool, pretending to shoot an unidentified object outside the field of vision; we are to assume that object is perhaps a floating volleyball or a tree beside the pool. These pictures all serve to cover the fact that squirt-guns are nothing more than parent-sanctioned bullying; encouraging wickedness and the increase of all sorts of evil.

If squirt-gun packaging were to show the actual use of the toys the pictures would look much different. They would show one perpetrator running out the door and then laying in ambush waiting for the rest of the kids to come out. Most of the kids would still be dressed and in the first five seconds of "play" the only sounds would be the wailing of the bullied and the maniacal laughter of the only one with a

gun. Finally all the kids will receive their weapons and the filling process will begin. The oldest child will always volunteer to "help" the other kids fill their guns. In this situation, "help" can be translated into the phrase, "spray them in the face with the hose while they hold out their empty guns". After all the guns have been filled there are two options; either the strong gang up on the weak and spray them mercilessly until they give up and go inside crying; or if no alliance can be formed, one perp simply grabs the hose and dominates while the others weep about injustice. At this point the adults (the words calm and beautiful certainly do not apply) venture into the war-zone to try to provide medical assistance and level the playing field. Immediately, because of their dry clothes and propensity for screaming, bellowing and leaping in terror, these peacekeepers become targets. I do not understand why we are surprised. Trees do not let out screams of freezing anguish. Volleyballs do not bellow with surprise and shock. The joy of the squirt-gun is found in its abuse. Proponents of non-violent/aggressive/persecutory squirt-gun use argue, that while this misuse occurs, it is not

typical or necessary to the proper enjoyment of the toy. This squirt-gun lobby blames the parents and says that squirt-gun crime only happens when not all the kids have squirt-guns or lavishly expensive swimming pools (the Lobby is clearly in cahoots with Sales and Marketing). I would like to invite these lunatics to spend an hour in my back-yard on a hot summer afternoon; they could sit peacefully reading Lord of the Fly's; while the children happily play beside them, maybe that would cure them of their materialistic optimism.

It is interesting how wrong our culture is about kids. We live in a society that continues to declare that kids are a burden, they spoil all their parent's fun, and their arrival should be delayed as long as possible. Then, once these little curses actually disembark, it is assumed that everything they want is something they should have. We immediately make it a crime to deny them any whim and make our purpose to spin the planet around them. The kid is always right and they should not be corrected but encouraged. We do not want to squelch their developing personalities or indoctrinate

them to our way of thinking. So we are told to leave them alone and allow them to find their own way. Kids will be kids and as long as we don't get in the way they will become a wonderfully creative and productive member of society.

The Bible paints a much different picture, a lot like the one in my backyard. Kids are a blessing, a reward, a gift from God. The joy of having and loving children cannot be calculated. God has given us the opportunity to produce offspring that (terrifyingly) have our genes and who will live forever. We are the only one of God's creatures who produces eternal beings with the potential to glorify God and enjoy Him eternally. It is impossible to explain the joy a mother feels when she holds her son or how the heart of the father swells within him to kiss his daughter. To think that God loves us even more than that, and that He gave His Son to die for us, truths made so much more significant because we have children. But the Bible also says that kids, as part of Adam's line, are sinful and fallen, that even in the womb have a sin nature (Psalm 51, Romans 5). This heart of a child and it is the

parent's discipline that teaches wisdom. Our kids need to hear the gospel, need to grow to be like Christ, because they did not start out like that. Our world says that kids are a curse but will turn into blessings without interference. The Bible says kids are a blessing but because of the curse need interference. The job of parents is to interfere in the sins of their children with the gospel of Jesus Christ; to teach and train, encourage and equip, to do everything except leave them alone. So go get the hose (parental prerogative) and enjoy your kids and grandkids, grateful to God for this marvelous gift and eager to lovingly interfere.

Psalm 127:3

³ Sons are a heritage from the LORD, children a reward from him.

Psalm 51:5

⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

“Jesus wants us to be without pretense when we come to Him in prayer. Instead, we often try to be something we aren’t. We begin by concentrating on God, but almost immediately our minds wander off in a dozen different directions. The problems of the day push out our well-intentioned resolve to be spiritual. We give ourselves a spiritual kick in the pants and try again, but life crowds out prayer. We know that prayer isn’t supposed to be like this, so we give up in despair. We might as well get something done. What’s the problem? We’re trying to be spiritual, to get it right. We know we don’t need to clean up our act in order to become a Christian, but when it comes to praying, we forget that. We, like adults, try to fix ourselves up. In contrast, Jesus wants us to come to him like little children, just as we are. The difficulty of coming just as we are is that we are messy. And prayer makes it worse. When we slow down to pray, we are immediately confronted with how unspiritual we are, with how difficult it is to concentrate on God. We don’t know how bad we are until we try to be good. Nothing exposes our selfishness and spiritual powerlessness like prayer.

...‘Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest’ (Matthew

11:28). The criteria for coming to Jesus is weariness. Come overwhelmed with life. Come with your wandering mind. Come messy. What does it feel like to be weary? You have trouble concentrating. The problems of the day are like claws in your brain. You feel pummeled by life. What does heavy-laden feel like? Same thing. You have so many problems you don’t even know where to start. You can’t do life on your own anymore. Jesus wants you to come to him that way! Your weariness drives you to him. Don’t try to get the prayer right; just tell God where you are and what’s on your mind. That’s what little children do. They come as they are, runny noses and all. Like the disciples, they just say what is on their minds. We know that to become a Christian we shouldn’t try to fix ourselves up, but when it comes to praying we completely forget that. We’ll sing the old gospel hymn, ‘Just As I Am,’ but when it comes to praying, we don’t come just as we are. We try, like adults, to fix ourselves up. Private, personal prayer is one of the last great bastions of legalism. In order to pray like a child, you might need to unlearn the non-personal, non-real praying that you’ve been taught.” (30-32)

I am an awful pray-er, probably because I try so hard to

be good at it. Like Paul Miller states above, I often try to get the “prayer right.” I need to be reminded often that my life is messy and that my prayer life is going to reflect that messiness and that’s okay. I need to remember that I don’t worship an idea, a principle, or a machine, but a personal God. When I pray to God, I am talking with a person, granted a person that is wholly different than me, but a person nonetheless. I don’t have to do something special or transform myself every time I pray, I just need to come to Him as I am, and talk. I think I can do that more. Do I need to continue to grow in my understanding of God through His Word and His Spirit? Of course. And should my prayer reflect that knowledge and growth? Certainly. But that doesn’t mean I have to wait to talk with Him until I reach a certain understanding, or that I have to fake it until I get there. I just need to come to the real God as the real me.

Pastor Jeff’s Book Club will meet to discuss the July book “Foxy’s Book of Martyrs” on August 7th at 9am.

The book to read for August is “Attributes of God”

Edna Martin Circle

The American Baptist Women's Edna Martin Circle will meet Tuesday, August 3rd, at 9:00 am at the church with Pat Snow hosting. Lesson and devotions on "A Promise Fulfilled" will be presented by Marilyn Peterman. Pat Snow will also be presenting a report from Summer Conference. Our Community Outreach Opportunity for August will be sharing items with the Women's Resource Center – baby

wash, pacifiers, baby lotions or creams, Q tips, receiving blankets, baby bottles, newborn diapers & sleepers, onesies, and baby food. We invite anyone in our congregation to participate in this Outreach Opportunity – just give your items to Marge Hughes or Mary Jane Porter.

This Circle is available to any woman in our church who has a heart

for missions, wishes to participate in learning more about the ministry of American Baptist Women, and desires to share in Christian fellowship with other women. Please join with us. You may phone Mary Jane Porter—362-6687, for further information.

One Day Retreat—September 11, 2010

"Being a Proverbs 31 Woman in 2010"

- ◆ General Sessions—Ange Humphrey-Relyea, Director of Women's Ministries at American Baptist East, Evansville.
- ◆ Work Shops—All based upon a different part of the character of the woman in Proverbs 31. Proverbs paints a picture of the power of a woman, for good and for bad. It closes with this lovely story about the ideal woman: she is many things to those around her.
- ◆ A Homemaker—Kristi Strickland. Kristi will share ideas to plan and prepare food in advance. Family meals are so important to both the body and the spirit of our family. With a little planning ahead it is possible to have a good meal to share together on the busiest day.
- ◆ A Mother—Julie Zull. Whether you have little ones at home, grandchildren or neighbors it is

important to have Devotional time with them. Julie will share ways for you to share the love of Christ with your family and those special children in your life. We all have a desire for Family Devotions but, would like some ideas for getting started.

- ◆ A Neighbor—Mary Jane Porter. Mary Jane will share ideas for reaching out to our neighbor with compassion and the Love of Christ. She has some very practical ideas for us.
- ◆ A Woman of Influence—Dawn Colavita. As women of influence it is important that we have a personal relationship with the Lord. Dawn will share ways we can encourage others to have a desire to get into God's Word, ways to bring the stories of the Bible alive.
- ◆ This retreat is designed to help us find ways to better serve our Lord as we serve our family and the world around us. As always the day will be filled with good

teaching, great work shops, music, fellowship and good food. Be a friend and invite a friend. Cost for the day is \$20.00 this will include breakfast and lunch. Registrations are on our display table in the Narthex.

Passion Groups Monday, August 16

10:00 am
Marge Hughes at
Terri Duncan's
105 Woodlawn Drive

7:00 pm
Patti Kinslow at
Mildred Thompson's
251 Center Drive

7:00 pm
Nancy Kline
in her home at
2459 W Del Mar Dr



ABW Women's Day—October 9th

It's time to mark your calendars for a Wonderful Day in the Circle City to celebrate Women's Day for American Baptist women of Indiana.

Hosted by—The First Baptist Church of Indianapolis

8600 N College Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46240

Some of the highlights include:

Friday night girls Sleep-over. Exercising made easy, A Bible Study,

Scrappy ABW and making baby blankets

Information about the NEW Edna Martin Christian Center

location and more . . .

Cost: only \$15.00 for women.

Contact Tracy Karnes for registration for the girls.

Come join us right in the center of the beautiful state of Indiana of renewal and re-commitment to the ministry which has been entrusted to ABW.

**Coming in
September**

**Wednesday Night
Activities**

Church Picnic

Note From Julie

In August, we start the preschool season again. We are almost full in the daycare. We have one three year old opening and some room in the fives. As fall approaches, we will continue to get more enrollments. We are looking forward to chapel time and kids club again this school year. The children love getting to spend time with Pastor Isaac and Linda. We are continuing to shut-

tle kids from South Montgomery Schools. We have quite a lot of parents that really appreciate this service. We were able to help one family financially with some of the money we received from the garage sale. Thank you again for all your donations.

Continuing to Serve,

Julie and the Guiding Light Staff



News from the Library

There are some very good DVD Study's and books in the Library. Perfect for your individual study or for your small group. We have added Max Lucado's New York Times

Best-Selling, 3:16 The Number of Hope. Timeless and powerful, these words proclaim a message of love, a source of hope, and a promise of life.

Randy Alcorn's If God Is Good, answers the question . . . What if suffering is God's invitation to trust him? And to hope for a better world.

MOVIE NIGHT

August 6th @ Church—a drive-up movie for families to enjoy! Movie starts at dusk. We will have free popcorn; come to the field behind the church with your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a family friendly film free, free, free
Rain Date: August 13th



Thank You from the Congregation

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank you, my church family who called, sent cards and shared their time with me at the open house for my 85th birthday. It was a special time for my family and me. By the Lords grace and mercy I was able to have an 85th birthday. I thank and praise him daily for his abundant love I am truly blessed.

Humbly, Peggy Caldwell

To My Church Family,

Thanks for the 18 years of support! Thank you for the gift card. I appreciate it so much. Please continue to pray for me as I enter the next phase of my life.

Kelly Thompson

Congratulations to

Doug & Brooke Martin

on the birth of:

Danielle Christena

born on July 8th at 6:30 pm. She weighed 7.75 lbs. Grandparents are Rick & Chris Bymaster and Tom & Tina Martin.

AUGUST CALENDAR

- 3 Edna Martin Circle 9am
- 6 Movie Night at dusk
- 7 Back to School Program 8am
- 15 FPU Preview noon
Man Night 6pm
- 18 FPU Preview 6pm
- 19 Keenager Lunch
ABW Beef & Boards 5pm
- 26 GLCCM Meeting 5:45
- 29 ABW Sunday
Board Meetings
- 30 Assemble Newsletters 9am

Joyce Hultz—colon surgery
Lucy Moore—spinal surgery postponed
Libbie Blickenstaff—cancer
Frances Crawford—health concerns
Sarah Pinchin—thyroid surgery, recovering
Phyllis Krout—broken pelvis
Beulah Thomas—heart concerns
Dorothy Tague—health concerns
Marilyn Peterman—testing
Margaret Plank—health concerns
Jeff Kamphausen—Grade 2 cancer
Jordan Garrett—deployed to Iraq
Phil Cochren—leg concerns
Brandy Ratcliff—kidney stones, with child
Jeannie Loonstein—under hospice care

Jack Triplett—lung infection
Isaiah Ross—life support
Caroline Patton—broken pelvis
Glenna Nevitt—health concerns
Layla Moore—health concerns, infant
Kale Galloway—lung cancer, 3yr

Extended prayer needed:
 Don Nevitt—advanced cancer
 Jim Conger—advanced cancer
 Floyd Padgitt—lung cancer
 Howard Holt—cancer

Our deepest sympathy to the families of:

Leonard Tubach
 Jeannie Loonstein

August Birthdays

1	John Vaught		Judy Whitlow	22	Steve House
2	Linda Deck	13	Becky Risner	23	Larry Davis
	Duffy Thornburg		Doris Boone		Fred Earl
Sr.		14	Philip Morris		Kyle Ward
3	Tom Gourley		Cami McMurry	24	Lucile Moore
	Rhoda Ames		Paige Pittman		Art Rice
	Jan Whitecotten		Bae'lee Jewell	26	Floyd Padgitt
4	Charlene Gobble	15	Joe Enlow		Chase Patton
	Zachary Kincaid		Martha Lewellen	27	Mary Kay McMahan
5	Naomi Mitchell	16	Dick Baker		Rozella Clore
	Lefty Shermer		Steph Strickland	28	Chris Blickenstaff
6	Heather Shirk	17	Marilyn Peterman		Loraine Burns
7	James Conger		Brian Watkins Jr.		Betty Carver
8	Linda Gallatin	18	Jeff Overpeck		Rex Plank
	Sharon Kenny		Jill Bretney	30	Willie Rowe
	Angela Light	19	Richard White	31	Madonna Grimes
	Christian Ranard	20	Jon Day		Carla Lippencott
11	Bonnie Terry		Quinten Anderson		Thomas Veach
	Marie Reath	21	Leesa Shahan		
	Don Ratcliff		Mark Barclay		
12	Doris Archer		Dan Taylor		

Anniversaries

<u>Anniversaries</u>	
2	Russ & Doris White
	Dennis & Patti Kinslow
4	Carl & Lucile Moore
7	Duffy & Melissa Thornburg
8	Steve & Judy House
	Dale & Cindy Thompson
11	John & Marcie Sands
15	Ray & Pat Seale
21	Frank & Lucy Moore
	Tom & Tina Martin
22	Rich & Mona Clouse
23	Wayne & Ros Tate
	Terry & Kathy Wear
24	Dennis & Deborah Ward
27	Andrew & Carolina Salter
30	Art & Tyke Rice
	Meredith & Debbie Manges