



## EXHULTING IN CHRIST

Dear FGBC,

Reflecting back on the past editions of the LINK, I have noticed that my articles have given Gina a serious challenge. My length has spread into almost taking up a full side of the edition. I know that I talk a lot (and I guess it carries over into writing). Therefore, for the sake of us all, I will try to limit my words in this article!

Two weeks ago, Allison, the boys, and I planned to meet my parents in Fort Lauderdale for dinner. We got on the turnpike at the Lake Worth Rd exit and within one mile ran into a law enforcement vehicle. Well, we did not literally run into the car. Nevertheless, he was ahead of us by a few hundred yards and his very presence caused the entire flow of traffic to slow pace. I watched, with some delight, as car after car would fly past me only to see him in front of us and then hit the brakes. For much of the trip, however, I found myself frustrated. I kept wishing he would get off the road so that I and others could increase our speed and get on with our travels. Finally, at the Turnpike extension in Boca Raton, the car exited the road. For more than 20 minutes, however, this one sheriff's car had a drastic effect on turnpike travelers.

After I continued driving, I began to reflect on the situation. What I realized was that my view of the law enforcement vehicle was of a negative bent. Never did I stop to think, while he was on the road, how his presence was actually creating a sort of safety net for me and my family. As I continued to reflect, I also found that I was obeying the speed limit law but not with a joyful heart. I saw the law, and the vehicle which was indirectly enforcing the law, as a burden to be obeyed rather than a blessing to me and my family.

In that moment, God grabbed my heart. He showed me that this illustration is how many, including me, often see the Law or the instructions found in the Bible. Truth is that all of God's commandments, both in the OT and NT, are glorious. They are for my good. They provide protection and guidance. God then began to ask if in my heart, I obey His laws, commandments, and instructions out of joy or out of obligated obedience. Do I see the Bible's commandments like the law enforcement vehicle, regulating my life? On the other hand, do I see the commandments as a gift from my heavenly Father? Is my heart's passion to obey with joy or to obey begrudgingly?

How would you answer these questions? Do you see the commandments of God like a law enforcement vehicle "hindering" your freedom or do you see them as "honey to your lips" and good for your soul? How you answer reveals things regarding the nature of your relationship with Christ and your progress in sanctification. This question gives us all something to consider prayerfully this August!

PASTOR TRAVIS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Food Pantry - August 8th

2nd Sun., place food items in the receptacle in the rear of the sanctuary

### Men's Prayer

Breakfast is Sun., Aug 15 at 7:45 AM

### Church Wide

Missions Pot Luck Dinner

Wednesday, August 18 at 6:30 PM

Please bring your favorite dish to share

Steve & Monica Allen,

Missionaries from Swaziland, Africa

**Deacon Election Packets** are available for you to take and read the information concerning the election process:

- " August 8 - September 5: The Pastor and deacons will interview all nominees to determine their willingness and eligibility to serve
- " September 12: The church will be presented with a final list of deacon candidates
- " September 19: Church Members will vote, by secret ballot, to elect those individuals we feel the Lord would have serve as deacons at FGBC
- " October 3: An ordination service for newly-elected deacons who have never been ordained will occur
- " October 3: New deacons will begin serving

**Senior Breakfast** is Sat., Aug., 21

at Cracker Barrel in Boynton Beach at 9:00 AM

See Don Sloan or Candy Cook for info!

**Church Council** is Sun., Aug., 22 at 4:45 PM, in the Library.

**Deacon's Meeting** is Sun., Aug., 29 at 4:45 PM



## Don's Notes

Dear Church Family,

The choir has been working on a song titled "God of this City." A band from Belfast, Ireland called Blue Tree originally performed this. It came out of an experience in a bar in the red light district of Pattaya, Thailand. They were allowed to lead praise and worship as long as the people continued to buy drinks. (This is reminiscent of the Jesus movement beginnings in Southern California).

"As the band worshipped and prayed, a message of hope for the people of Pattaya emerged—a revelation that even in that darkness, God was still the God of these people. Despite all the depravity and darkness, whether they were the victims or even those who chased after the darkness, God loved them and pursued them—even if they weren't even aware of it. And before long, it became apparent that this "prophetic shout over the city" wasn't just for those living in Pattaya, but for the whole world."

There is a dark, lost world "out there." The church has gotten comfortable meeting, singing songs of praise, hearing the word preached and then going home. There is no calling to account of lives. "No one is really being set free, but no one is really at odds with one another, either. We have settled for safety in numbers- a comfortable, anonymous distance. An army that keeps meeting for briefings, but never breaks into platoons and goes to war."

You're the God of this city  
You're the King of this people  
You're the Lord of this nation  
You are

Marantha,  
Don

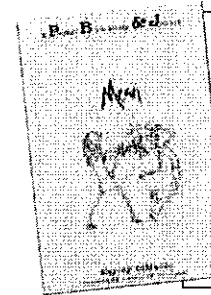
## YOUTH NEWS

Dear Church Family

WOW, How do we begin to thank you for all the prayers and support for all the students that went to camp. Camp was awesome. We saw a lot of our students make decision that will impact the rest of their lives and others. "Kairos" was the theme. Meaning "Defining Moments". We all have defining moments in our lives that we can look back on. Are we still walking in those moments that we know God shared something with us? Continue to pray for our students as they get ready to go back to school and as they are tested in their new found decisions.

Serving Him,

Jonathan Gibson



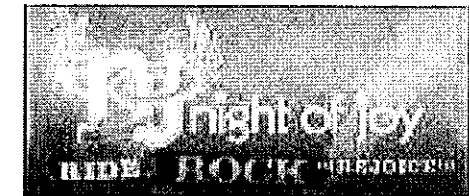
### GIRLS BIBLE STUDY

Begins Monday, August 2nd

@ the Gibson's 6:30-8:00PM

SEE ETIA FOR DETAILS

Upcoming event:



**Night of Joy Sat., Sept. 11th**

**Cost \$50 Signup in the Youth Room**

**See Jonathan for Details**

AUGUST NEWS

# Florida Gardens Baptist Church

## August 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 <b>Weekly...</b>            9:30 Sunday School            11:00 Worship            6:00 Worship            (nursery provided for all services)</p>	2	3	<p>4 <b>Weekly...</b>            6:30 Bible Study, Children, &amp; Youth Ministries            (nursery provided)            7:30 Worship choir            (nursery provided)</p>	5	<p>6            Marlins Faith &amp; Family Night 7:10 PM</p>	<p>7            1:00 PM NURSING HOME MINISTRY</p>
<p>8            Children's Bells             Food Pantry</p>	9	10	11	12	13	14
Jonathan on vacation		Pastor on vacation		Jonathan on vacation		
<p>15            7:45 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast</p>	16	17	<p>18  <b>Mission Meal</b>  <b>Church Wide Pot Luck</b>            6:30 pm - <i>Speakers are Missionaries to Swaziland, Africa!!!</i></p>	19	20	<p>21 <b>Senior Breakfast at Cracker Barrel</b>  <b>9:00AM</b>  <b>Boynton Beach</b>            1:00 PM NURSING HOME MINISTRY</p>
Jonathan on vacation						
<p>22   <b>Church Council 4:45</b></p>	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p>29 AM              Lord's Supper</p> <p><b>Deacon's Meeting 4:45</b></p>	30	31				