

# Colton SDA Newsletter

September 2011

## Up Coming and On Going Activities

### Evangelism

We are well into the 40 days of prayer to be spiritually prepared for the evangelistic meetings. Strategies are already in place to make the event run smoothly. On the 10th of this month a group of volunteers went door to door in the community offering both invitations and prayers to individuals. What have you done? Do you have a list of people to invite? Have you asked them yet? If you are having trouble with how to approach those individuals then pick up a flyer in the foyer to casually hand out. Keep praying and the Lord will provide the right opportunity to invite those on your list.

Here is the list of the topics that will be covered:

**Opening Session: Friday, Oct. 7, 6:30 p.m.**

*How to Know the Future*

**2nd Session: Saturday, Oct. 8, 11:00 a.m.**

*Secrets of the Ancient Scrolls*



**3rd Session: Sunday, Oct 9, 6:30 p.m.**

*Created for Something Better*

**4th Session: Wednesday, Oct. 12, 6:30 p.m.**

*One Life Changed the World*

**5th Session: Friday, Oct. 14, 6:30 p.m.**

*What Happens When You Die?*

**6th Session: Saturday, Oct. 15, 11:00 a.m.**

*Born to Live Forever*

**7th Session: Sunday, Oct. 16, 6:30 p.m.**

*Set Free by the Truth*

**8th Session: Wednesday, Oct. 19, 6:30 p.m.**

*Let Freedom Ring*

**9th Session: Friday, Oct. 21, 6:30 p.m.**

*Making a New Start*

**10th Session: Saturday, Oct. 22, 11:00 am**

*The Best is Yet to Come*

For any questions see the Pastor or any Elder. Come and bring a friend to these Bible studies.

### Community Services Corner

Don't forget the Parking Lot Sale/Fund Raiser Day on September 25th, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. All are encouraged to come and support this function and your church community. Who knows, you may find that very thing you have been looking for at a very reasonable cost. Additionally, for those in need of any household items, and for those who have something to donate, or can fulfill

the need of a church member, you may put a small note on one of the "boards" in the back hallway. For example: "Pots and pans needed, please call Moses at 123-4567" or "I have a dining table and chairs to give away, call Esther at 987-6543". If you have any questions, you may call Laura at 909-799-9502.

Laura Bauchert

### Personal Ministries

If you would like to begin or know someone, family, friend, neighbor, who would like to begin a Bible Study contact James at 99-799-9502. We will

structure the study to match the level sought, beginning, to advanced.

James Bauchert

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## Verse of the Month

Whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

1 John 3:22

## Del Rosa S.D.A. Steel Orchestra



Coming to our church on October 1 for the worship service! The Del Rosa S.D.A. Steel Orchestra is a gospel steel drum band whose purpose and function is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ while utilizing the most recently invented instrument of the twentieth century. Their motto is "to make God real through sounds of steel."

Currently, the orchestra's membership consists of 17 pannists that utilize a total of forty-two steel drums. The repertoire comes from a wide variety of traditional gospel songs and hymns arranged and composed in the Classical and Caribbean Rhythm styles.

## Gary Smalley Video Presentation

THE BEST-SELLING RELATIONSHIP VIDEO SERIES OF ALL TIME!

Gary Smalley presents his 19 Keys to Loving Relationships on six DVD's. Each session gives practical insights and a greater understanding about the need for close, intimate relationships. Some of these topics are important even if you are still single. This information will help you understand others in a new way thus improving all of your interpersonal relationships.

If you came to the relationships seminar by the Singhs you saw some clips from these presentations. Gary Smalley is both funny and inspirational. We are excited to begin the Gary Smalley series in November followed by prayer for our marriages and children. The meetings will be the 2nd Sabbath of each month following potluck. Childcare will be provided for a donation.

Session 1: Recognize and Value Your Mate's Differences

Session 2: Four Essential Elements Every Relationship Needs to Succeed and Grow

Session 3: Overcoming the Major Destroyer of Relationships

Session 4: Using Emotional Word Pictures To Increase Intimacy and Understanding

Session 5: Becoming Best Friends With Your Family

Session 6: Freedom From Negative Emotions

Session 7: Discovering the Value of Your Personality

Session 8: Recognizing and Transforming Unhealthy Relationships

Session 9: Using Communication to Move into the Deepest Levels of Intimacy

Session 10: Transforming Trials and Hurts Into Life-Changing Benefits

Session 11: Mutually Fulfilling Sexual Intimacy

Session 12: Changing Unwanted Behavior and Habits

Session 13: Reducing and Overcoming Conflict

Session 14: Building Boundaries in Your Relationships

Session 15: Discovering the Barrier to Intimacy ~ Anger

Session 16: Destroying the Barrier of Intimacy ~ Forgiveness

Session 17: Divorce-Proofing Your Marriage

Session 18: How to Energize Your Mate

Session 19: Understanding Stages of Life



## Pastor's Perspective

*"Thou Shalt Not Kill": What Kind of Killing Is Forbidden? Is All Killing Forbidden? Part 2*

*(Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 5:17)*

*By Dr. James J. North, Jr.\**

### Text Study of the Hebrew Word רָשָׁה

With these several points in mind, let us plunge into a study of the Scriptural meaning of "kill" as derived from a study of the use of the Hebrew word רָשָׁה. The Hebrew wording of Ex 20:13 and Deut 5:17 is identical. The commandment in Hebrew consists of two words. The first takes two English words to express, "do not." The second is רָשָׁה, "kill", or "murder."

The Hebrew lexicon/dictionary defines רָשָׁה as "to murder, kill, crush." (Koehler and Baumgartner, *Lexicon in Veteris Testamenti Libros, or Lexicon of Old Testament Words.*, 907).

Keeping in mind our three hermeneutical principles, particularly since the 6th commandment carries no explanation, and the rest of the commandments does not provide any context to ascertain the scope of the commandment, we must look at all of Moses' uses of the word and all the uses in the rest of the Old Testament.

רָשָׁה, in its verb, participle, and noun forms, is used a total of 47 times in the Old Testament. These uses are summarized here:

- The commandments (Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5) ~ 2 times;
- Numbers 35 ~ 20 times
- Deuteronomy 4, 19, and 22 ~ 6 times;
- Joshua 20 and 21 ~ 8 times;
- The rest of the OT ~ 11 times.

### Cities of Refuge

We start with an overview of Numbers 35, the fullest description of the cities of refuge and the most uses of רָשָׁה. This chapter is entirely devoted to God's mandate to Moses to specifically designate as Cities of Refuge 6 of the 48 cities assigned as inheritance cities for the tribe of Levi (Num 35:6-8). The purpose of the 6 cities of refuge was so that someone called a "slayer" or "manslayer" (the Hebrew word is רָשָׁה) could escape and find sanctuary there (35:6). In these verses רָשָׁה is used as a noun, a participle, and a verb. It is translated "slayer," "manslayer," and "murderer" as a noun or participle and "slay," "kill," or "murder" as a verb (RSV).

The terms "slayer" or "manslayer" are defined in vv. 11 and 15 as someone who kills a person without intent. The Cities of Refuge were selected, so an unintentional killer might not die at the hand of an "avenger of blood" until he was judged or tried by his peers (the congregation, v.12). This provision included Israelites, strangers, and sojourners (v. 15). Deut 19:1-3, 7-10 and Joshua 20:1-6 repeat and expand this information, as Moses reminded Israel of the divine provision and Joshua executed the land apportionment mandate. Unintentional killing is further defined as killing some-

one without having been at enmity with the person in the past (Deut 19:4, 6; 4:41, 42).

In two passages God gives very concrete examples of unintentional killing or manslaying (killing unintentionally or unwittingly and without previous enmity - Joshua 20:3, 5).

Num 35: 22-25:

- stabbing someone suddenly without enmity
- hurling an object without lying in wait
- casting a stone on someone without seeing him.

In each of these cases the slayer must not have been the slain person's enemy and the slayer was not seeking the victim's harm.

Deut 19:4-6:

- In cutting wood, an axe head slips off an ax handle and kills a neighbor.

Inspiration is quite clear that although the slayer has killed, he is innocent of murder and does not deserve to die because he was not at enmity with his neighbor. Yet, because life is irreplaceable, there is responsibility, and the slayer must outrun the avenger to a city of refuge to be safe (Deut 19:6).

God instructs Joshua further in 20:1-6 that, upon arriving at the gate to a city of refuge, the manslayer must there explain his case to the elders, who must take him into the city, where he must remain. If an avenger is pursuing him, the elders shall not hand him over to the avenger. But the slayer must remain in that city until the current high priest dies. He is then free to return to his own home and the avenger cannot kill him. Num 35:24, 25 indicates that the congregation should judge between the slayer and the avenger, and in this case they shall restore him to the city of refuge, where he must live until the high priest's death. If the slayer should venture from the city of refuge and the avenger finds him, the avenger may kill him and not be guilty of blood, that is, guilty of murder (Num 35:26-28).

### Intentional Killing

6 examples of intentional killing are clear, as is the penalty.

Num 35:16-21:

- striking someone and causing death
- - with an instrument of iron
- - with a stone in hand
- - with a wood weapon in hand

Each of these statements is followed by the instruction, "he is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death." The set of cases is followed by the instruction, "the avenger of blood shall himself put the murderer to death; when he meets him, he shall put him to death."

*(Continued on page 4)*

The last 3 examples of intentional killing are:

- stabbing someone from hatred
- hurling at someone from lying in wait
- striking someone in enmity with one's hand.

The last case is followed by the instruction, "he who struck the blow shall be put to death; he is a murderer; the avenger of blood shall put the murderer to death, when he meets him." In every case "murderer" is **rsh**.

Deuteronomy 19:11-13 gives the case of a murderer who flees to a city of refuge.

A man hates his neighbor, ambushes him, and mortally wounds him, and then flees to a city of refuge. The instruction is, "The elders of his city shall send and fetch him from there, and hand him over to the avenger so that he may die". No pity is to be shown. The guilt of innocent blood is to be purged from Israel . . ." (RSV).

In a single instance in Num 35:27, **rsh** is used of the avenger of blood, the next of kin to the deceased, who is legally permitted/instructed to kill the one convicted of murder and not be guilty of murder himself.

Deut 4:43 names three of the cities of refuge all six are named in Joshua 20:7-9 and 21:13, 21, 27, 32, 36, and 38. In these passages **rsh** is the slayer or manslayer who kills (**rsh**) unintentionally. It is clear that these cities are refuges only for persons who kill unintentionally.

#### Exodus 20:13 and the SDA Church

We have taught, since the Civil War, that SDA persons who are drafted (under the Selective Service Law) should apply for a 1-A-O classification, which exempts them, in the military, from being required to train with or use a weapon at any time during their military service. 1-A-Os have been trained only in fields that do not require use of a weapon, e.g., the medical field. This stance is called "noncombatancy." And we have strongly advised against volunteering for military service because those who voluntarily enlist must be trained in the use of firearms and must use them to kill the enemy when ordered to do so. One of the key texts used in support of noncombatancy has been Exodus 20:13, "Thou shalt not kill" (KJV), thus interpreting the commandment as a broad prohibition of killing, which the word **rsh** does not support. The translation of the commandment with the word "kill" has provided conveniently, but somewhat erroneously, a doctrine-like prohibition of military killing. If one is breaking a commandment in participating in military killing in war, that person is committing a grave sin, equivalent to breaking any of the other commandments—stealing, committing adultery, idolatry, and Sabbath breaking. Such offenses require ecclesiastical discipline – censure or removal from membership – which the Church in its General Conference sessions has never attached to any of the legal forms of arms bearing.

Much as we might dislike having to say so, Bible translations have been errantly influenced by the philosophical and theological views of the translators or by lack of proper information concerning the meaning of the original language. One notable example of this is what Jesus promised to the thief on the cross, who asked Jesus to

remember him at His coming. We take a view that is not in agreement with the translators' punctuation of Jesus reply. Every translation places the comma so that Jesus said, "I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise" (Luke 23:43). We oppose this unanimous translation on the grounds that it is inconsistent with the rest of Scriptural teaching on the condition of persons in death. We believe the Scripture should be punctuated, "I say to you today, you will be with me in paradise."

So, it seems that in Exodus 20:13 and Deuteronomy 5:17 we must differ with the translation "Thou shalt not kill" on the grounds that it is too broad, and thus is inaccurate and inconsistent with all the contexts in which **rsh** is used in Scripture.

#### Conclusion

We must study what the whole of Scripture contributes to our understanding of the topic. Presently, our teaching on noncombatancy has a basis comparable to that of vegetarianism. Based on Scriptural evidence and the health principles with which that evidence has been found to be consistent, we forbid the eating of unclean meats. The matter of whether to eat the clean meats or be vegetarian in diet is a matter of conscience. But we do teach that an appropriate vegetarian diet is a much more healthy diet than a non-vegetarian diet. There is no statement in Scripture prohibiting the eating of clean meats. In fact, Jesus and His disciples are clearly eaters of clean meats—lamb and fish, in particular.

So noncombatancy has also always been a matter of personal conscience and we need to consider whether the New Testament does or does not support that status.

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\*Born and raised in the Bronx, NY, James North graduated from Atlantic Union College (BA in Theology, 1960), Andrews University SDA Theological Seminary (M Div, 1963; D.Min. 1989). He pastored in the Oregon Conference when he accepted a General Conference call to the US Air Force Chaplaincy, where he served 20 years in different countries, including Viet Nam.

Since 1988 James North teaches at the SDA Theol. Seminary, Andrews University as Professor of Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy, and serves there as Seminary Chaplain, sponsor of the Seminary Chaplains Club and Seminary Student Forum, and advisor to Seminarians entering military, health-care, correctional, and campus chaplaincy. In this last area, he is also a representative of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM) at the General Conference, in which position his work is also to give realistic advice and spiritual counsel to academy and college youth who are interested in or who have joined one of the US military services and to share the spiritual support that ACM provides to SDA military persons. He is married to Audrey and they have 3 daughters, a son and 6 grandchildren.



## Ten Commandments Series: Part Six

### Thou shall not commit adultery.

The Seventh-day Adventist Commentary, vol. 5, comments on the historical and sociological understanding of the word “adultery” and its meaning is derived from the cultural usage and the interpretation understanding of the Hebrew and the Greek language. The Hebrew and Greek words thus translated describe specifically sexual intercourse of a married person with one who is not a lawful spouse. Under the Levitical law such an act was punishable by death in Leviticus 20:10; “And the man that committeth adultery with another man’s wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour’s wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death” (KJV).

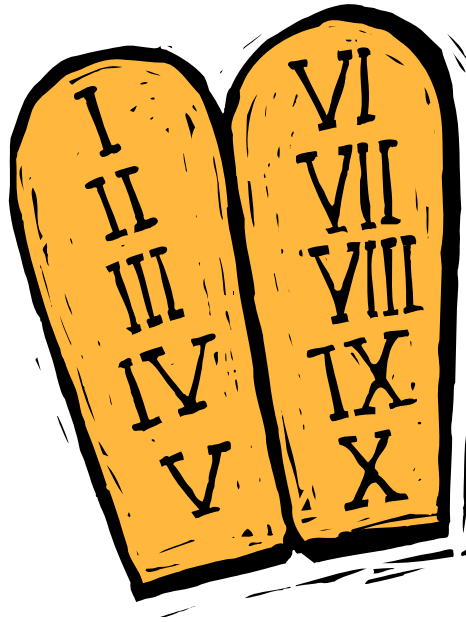
However, the seventh commandment, “thou shall not commit adultery” (Ex 20:14) seems to comprehend sexual impurity of any kind, whether in act or thought. Traditional accretions to the commandment obscured the idea of spotless moral purity and provided loopholes for conduct patterns neither sincere nor guiltless, but in His Sermon on the Mount Jesus clarified the intent of the commandment in Matthew 5:27, 28, 32; “<sup>27</sup> Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: <sup>28</sup> But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart... <sup>32</sup> But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery” (KJV).

We live in a cultural society that is sickening and saturated with immoral behavioral of evil fantasies and wickedness. The advance technology of all different media communications especially on show business entertainments and computer programming networks of worldly game entertainments make it so convenient to promote and spread such wicked immoral worldly lifestyle. Almost every American home has a television set and a computer network to connect to the outside world. Unfortunately almost all communication networks interconnected to the point that we cannot avoid our children and ourselves from being exposed to the immoral behavioral lifestyle that is becoming an accepted normal lifestyle of this generation. The outcome of the media dominating society with worldly influence that penetrate every level of our society and community and even our homes make moral and decent people stumble over immoral temptation of the lust of the flesh almost every day.

It is a solemn warning message for the people of God and a proper understanding of the seventh commandment, “Thou shall not commit adultery” (Exodus 20:14). Matthew 5:27, 28 points out that Jesus in His sermon on the mountain clarified what the seventh commandment meant. “Ye have heard that it was said by them of

old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman (or a man) to lust after her/him hath committed adultery with her/him already in his/her heart.

What will be the biblical counsel to help moral people from being lured into temptation of committing adultery outside of marriage? What does the Scripture say to people who are falling in the category of lustful adultery in the heart? The Scripture praises David, the adulterer, who made a confession and admission to his adulterous life after committing adultery with Uriah’s wife, Bathsheba. First, David made a confession in 2 Samuel 12:13. “I have sinned against the Lord” (NKJ). Second, David called on God for a heart replacement of an adulterous heart to a new heart. “Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.” (Psalm 51:10-12) And third, live victoriously according with God’s gracious forgiveness. “Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit” (Psalm 32:1, 2).



The solution for not breaking the seventh command, “thou shall not commit adultery,” is to follow the model of godliness that Joseph made when Potiphar’s wife tempted Joseph to commit adultery with her. “No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?” (Genesis 39:9). Joseph by faith in the holiness of God’s word makes a decision to please God but not his own lustful desires. “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires” Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts

of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.” (Romans 6:12-14).

God reckons David to be a person of a pure heart according to Paul in Acts 13: 22. “God testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do’ (NIV). David recognizes that he has an adulterous heart and then he confesses that he had committed sin against God. He then asks God to create in him a new heart in him. He also lives in a victorious life to honor and pleases God. He is reckoned as a person after God’s own heart.

*Pastor Mataafa*

# Activities Report

## Children's Church



*These puppets can sing!*



*Making big fish wall hangings.*

Children of all sizes and a few lucky parents enjoyed children's church on September 10. While the adults received a message for them in the sanctuary the youngest members and visitors enjoyed action packed stories and music just for them.

To begin the program the children sang songs they had learned at this year's VBS. They even got to watch 3 puppets sing a song too. Then story time was led by Nestor who brought the story of Jonah to life. The kids were totally engaged with the story of how Jonah tried to run away from God. Can you run from God? No! Because "God watches over you." This was the key phrase for the day and the kids were very familiar with it and were ready to respond with "Thank-You God!"

No Jonah story is complete without a really big fish. So everyone swam in the ocean to the Junior room where they were swallowed up by a fish! It was really dark in there, but everyone felt safe be-

cause "God watches over you."

Back in the Fellowship Hall a very favorite friend made an appearance, Panda Party! The kids enjoyed the antics of the panda loving girl, and learned that God loves them just the way they are.

Next it was time to make a craft to reinforce the story of Jonah. Each child made a wall hanging with a big fish which said, "Where are you going Jonah? You can't hide from the Lord!" With these reminders in hand the children gathered to watch another famous VBS friend, Chadder the Chipmunk.

A few more songs and one song by the puppets brought the event to closing



*Inside the belly of a really big fish!*

prayer.

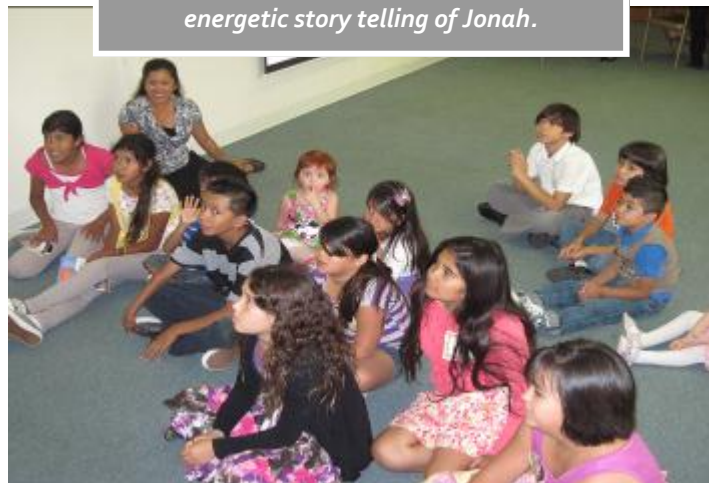
A big thank-you to the planners and volunteers of this event. The kids truly enjoyed children's church!

*Jonah, what were you thinking? I may be little but I know God watches over me!*



*Nestor telling Jonah's story.*

*Children and adults raptured by Nestor's energetic story telling of Jonah.*





## Family Ministries Prayer Groups: What We Learned



Attendees of the Friday night prayer group share what they learned by reading *The Praying Parent*, *The Praying Wife* and *The Praying Husband*:

**Kristi Cruise:** Before these meetings, I was searching for more information on prayer. It didn't make sense to me to tell God anything when He of course already knew, and if He

was truly a loving caring God then He would already do the best for everyone anyway so why bother praying. Now I shudder to have to admit to that thinking! I learned that by our prayers the Lord can release His power without objections from Satan. Through Jesus we have power to combat the evil in this world through our prayers. It is amazing!

These books also gave me specific things in which to pray and scriptures to show that these things are within the will of God. Through these meetings my prayer life has taken on new meaning and new dimension as I pray for specific things for my children and husband based on their individual needs and tendencies. I recommend these books to everyone! Thank—you Gordon and Tammy, James and Laura for your ministry.

**Rob Cruise:** The meetings, for me, were a good time to fellowship with other Seventh-Day Adventist men and discuss our concerns. I got to know the other attendees on a fuller level than before. God has made us need each other and social interactions. It was good to have a safe forum for open discussion on issues that were troubling us. I would recommend the books for all our church members searching for the power of prayer.

**James Bauchert:** Months ago, we were impressed by God that we needed a ministry at Colton designed to help couples avoid the pitfalls of marriage, the issues they can work together to resolve using Biblical principles as a guide. Little did we know that at the same time Tammy and Gordon were being impressed to start a group that would work with the same couples using prayer for the other spouse to work through their problems.

Pastor put the four of us together and the result is a group that meets on Friday evenings, first and third devoted to men and women separately, second and fourth for parents and grandpar-

ents learning to pray for children.

The results have been humbling to the team as God is using us to reach families who were in one form of crisis or another and help them. We have seen breakthroughs with husbands and wives who have learned to pray for their spouse's needs in a way that strengthens their relationship. This creates a positive growth experience that can be passed on to others.

Our next step will be to invite more couples to attend the viewing and discussion of a series of Gary Smalley Videos. More on this will be shared after the Evangelistic Series in October.

**Laura Bauchert:** Our intention was and is to use what we have experienced to be of help to others, to be a sounding board, a shoulder to lean on. I am glad and in awe myself to hear from some of those attending -the answers to prayers put forth to God. There is elation, joy, humility, and a sense of awe that our heavenly Father chooses to give us what we ask because He loves us and He knows our intentions and that we do not ask for things that are selfish and self-serving. I myself feel that the time we spend together inviting God into our midst gives me and us strength to take care of our daily lives, all the stresses and other things we face. I hope that this will be an inspiration to others to come fellowship with us.

**Gordon & Tammy Figueroa:** Unless you've attended the prayer groups for spouses and children over the last few months, you probably don't know our marriage was close to falling apart. The Lord gave Tammy a book which she read and it completely turned our marriage around. I read the one for husbands and it brought our marriage to a new dimension in Christ. We now take praying for each other and our children very seriously as it seems the enemy is more determined than ever to devour us. We have had numerous miraculous prayers answered since we've been gathering with other church families to pray for our marriages and children.



## *Sometimes I Forget Who God Is*

Sometimes, I forget who God is. That He's alive. He's real. He knows what's best for me. And He's the only one concrete. I don't mean He's a statue, molded and placed at every entrance of my house like some religions do. He's not a cross, tied to a chain around my neck that someone told me to pray to. He's not a feeling, an idea, or belief. He's more real than anything I've ever seen. And the one thing I like about Him, other than that He loves me, is that He's nothing like me. His emotions don't get twisted. His mood doesn't change every hour of the day. He doesn't struggle with letting go of grudges. His thoughts aren't perverted with sin. He doesn't say, 'I hate you,' or 'go away.' His eyesight is pure. His talk is heavenly. Even the smell He permeates is something extraordinary. For when I breathe Him in and I mean really breathe Him in. When I plan my day not to include Him, but make my day about Him. That's when these bones, the ones that I carry, the ones that are filled with doubt, deceit, jealousy, and hate, they loosen, but not turn limber and yet stay in a strong gentle mental state.

And sure, man can break my bones, bruise me, cut me, make me bleed in every way they think they should. But I'd like to see them destroy my soul, the only entity that only God can hold. And now I don't say this lightly, but this is the reason why God can only be and truly be my dearest closest friend. I'd like to call Him Best, but to be honest, I'm not sure I'm quite there yet. There's still things I hold onto. Areas of my life that I foolishly think He can't or won't rightly do. Yet I still think He knows me better than I even do. Cause I know he's still chiseling. I can feel the pain most times. Especially, when the tempest rises and Satan pulls the winds on full blast. But that's when God calls me to solitude and I make myself an outcast. For how can I trust Him if I don't know Him? You see, I don't want God

to be an acquaintance or a so-called friend. Cause I'm on a mission. A mission to fully love Him and make Him my dearest and closest Best friend. I may have minutes, hours, days, or even years ahead of me. But today, I choose to brush up and read into His story. Like who He is and what did He do? Who were His friends? What was so great and different about Him? And maybe ask some deeper questions, like what was His favorite food? Now I'm not trying to make God more real. He does that perfectly well on His own. I'm just saying I've had a taste of hell within myself. I've separated myself from Him even when everything's going right and my days are awesome, but I feel empty if I didn't talk to God those days; If I turned and did something better to feed my own selfish ways. Yet there He stands. Arms stretched in front and palms faced up. Calling me His. His child. His princess. I'm a daughter of the King of Kings. A daughter of the Creator of everything. And I'm beginning to understand, slowly understand, this hole that people speak of. The hole only God can fill. Cause I can lean on people, anyone I please, but let's face it. We're setting ourselves up for a never-ending tease. People can only mend, but what's the point of mending if nothing is yet filled? So I don't know where you're at, where you were, or where you want to be. But I want something more. Something heavenly. So I'm not gonna look to my sides, see who's behind me or in front. Cause all I need to do is trust and look up. And what I see is a smile of a friend. The One who knows me. I call Him God and He's not finished writing my story.

Leanne Galvan



# Coloring Page



Place Stamp Here

Mailing Address

880 W. Laurel Street  
Colton, CA 92324

Street Address

1291 Rancho Avenue  
Colton, CA 92324

Phone: 909-825-9344

Increasing member communication

We're On the Web!  
colton.adventistfaith.org

Church Mission Statement

To provide a grace-filled environment where a diversity of worshipers may experience the healing love of Jesus through the ministry of the Word, the community of prayer, the fellowship of God's family, and the opportunity to serve.

Contribution Instructions

The mission of this newsletter is to provide communication and inspiration for our church members. If you would like to contribute, please contact Kristi Cruise at jrkljccruise@sbcglobal.net or home phone (909) 872-0394. The next Newsletter will be distributed October 22. Please turn in your articles or photos by Tuesday, October 18 before 5:00 pm.

Mark Your Calendars



**Come join us for Study & Worship Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. and for the following activities.**

Sep 24 (Sat) 2:00 PM - Evangelism Team Meeting

Oct 2 (Sun) 9:00 AM - Community Health Fair

Sep 25 (Sun) 9:00 AM - Community Services Yard Sale

Oct 7 - 22 - "New Beginnings" Bible Seminar

The Full Armor of God

"Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground..." Ephesians 6:13

Fill in the blanks:

- 1. Belt of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. Breastplate of \_\_\_\_\_.

- 3. Feet fitted with \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Shield of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5. Helmet of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6. Sword of \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers to Last Months Trivia

The Plagues in Order:

- 1. The Nile was turned to blood.
- 2. Frogs came from the water.
- 3. Dust was turned into gnats.
- 4. Flies were everywhere.
- 5. All the livestock died.
- 6. Everybody had boils.
- 7. Hail destroyed the crops.
- 8. Locusts ate what the hail missed.
- 9. There were three straight days of darkness.
- 10. The first born son of every family died.

And God Said...

- 1. Abram. Genesis 13:16
- 2. Rebekah Genesis 25:23a
- 3. David. 2 Samuel 7:16-17
- 4. Hezekiah via Isaiah. 2 Kings 20:5-6
- 5. Isaiah. Isaiah 6:8
- 6. Jeremiah. Jeremiah 1:5
- 7. Satan about Job. Job 1:8
- 8. The earth. Genesis 1:20
- 9. Moses. Exodus 3:5
- 10. Hosea. 1:2