

Colton SDA Newsletter

October 2011

Up Coming and On Going Activities

Evangelism



Pastor Mataafa presenting the word of God.

Today is the final day for our Bible Study series. Each night of the meetings there have been familiar faces and the unfamiliar faces of visitors from our community. Our church leadership,

with the Pastor, have presented important topics of faith. All of these topics came back to the most important Person in the Bible: Jesus! We hope that in the next newsletter we will be able to report on the baptisms that have resulted from these Bible studies.

attention.

Child care was provided and the children enjoyed games, crafts, snacks and movies. This made it easier for parents to enjoy the presentations in the sanctuary. It also made attending the church fun for the children.

Going to church 4 times a week is easy when there are fun children's activities provided.



This a cappella group presented beautiful harmony.



The health information presented before the Bible presentations were excellent. Anne Mears, Young Hong, and Charles McConnell brought different areas of health concerns and management to our

praised the Lord in music. Your efforts are a blessing to all who attended, may the Lord richly bless you!

Special music was provided by many different individuals and gave harmony to our worship experience.

Thank-you, to all who planned, prepared, presented, provided child care, provided security, provided hospitality, and

Key Sup Hong reading the scripture.



Anne Mears providing valuable health information.



Mary Lemos and Maribel Rangel planning the Children's program.



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Verse of the Month

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. Colossians 2:8

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

Inspiration Section

Pastor's Perspective

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

(Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 5:17)

By Dr. James J. North, Jr.*

Survey of 12 Other Texts

Now we will complete this study with a survey of the other 12 texts, which are in other contexts than the cities of refuge.

1. Deut 22:26. Rape of a woman where her screams cannot be heard is analogous to murder. Only the man is to be put to death, for "this case is like that of someone who attacks and murders [r sh] a neighbor."

2. Judges 19:4. An act of murder by a Levite or by Gibeonites. 400,000 armed soldiers ask, "How did this criminal act come about?" (20:3 NRSV). The Scripture refers to the Levite as "the husband of the murdered (r sh) woman . . ." The Scripture is not clear whether she died from the multiple rapes or from the Levite's knife. In either case, her death is referred to as r sh , murder.

3. 1 Kgs 21:21. An act of murder attributed to Ahab. Naboth is executed by stoning based on Jezebel's false charges so that Ahab can possess his vineyard. Elijah rebukes Ahab at God's order (v. 21), "Have you killed (r sh), and also taken possession? . . ." Stoning, a legal form of execution, is here used illegally based on a false charge, and is thus a premeditated murder.

4. 2 Kgs 6:32. The king of Israel, intending to execute Elisha, is defined as a murderer. The King of Israel blames the prophet for infanticide (6:26-32)

resulting from the siege by the King of Syria or Aramea, and sends a person to put Elisha to death. Elisha says to the elders before the messenger arrives, "Do you see how this murderer [r sh] has sent to take off my head?" Note also that the setting here is one of armed aggression by the Syrians (6:24), but r sh is used, not concerning the inter-tribal hostilities, but concerning an interpersonal conflict between two Israelites.

5. Job 24:14. The indigent are murdered because God is an absentee God. Job accuses, "The murderer [r sh] rises at dusk to kill the poor and needy, and in the night is like a thief." Clearly he is referring to intentional killing.

6. Psalms 62:3. In spite of the murderous actions of his assailants, David trusts God. David, using the third person rather than the first person, questions those assaulting him, "How long will you assail a person, will you batter (r sh) your victim, all of you. . . ?" (NKJV). The New American Standard Bible translates r sh very literally, "How long will you assail a man, that you may murder (r sh) him, all of you . . .?"

7. Psalm 94:6. David prays divine vengeance on the wicked. He accuses, "They slay the widow and the sojourner; and murder (r sh) the fatherless" (RSV.)

8. Prov 22:13. Solomon characterizes the sluggard as excusing his laziness because man or animal will murder him. "The sluggard says, 'There is a lion outside! I shall be slain (r sh) in the streets!'" (RSV). This is the only time that r sh is attributed to an animal. Of course, the sluggard could be using personification.

9. Isa 1:21. Isaiah says that while Jerusalem was once the lodging of righteousness, murderers now inhabit the city. He mourns, "How the faithful

city has become a harlot, she that was full of justice! Righteousness lodged in her, but now murderers (רִשָּׁה).”

10. Jer 7:9. Jeremiah personifies Jerusalem as presumptuously committing murder, while facing God and saying, “We are delivered.” Clearly pointing out the sins, God says, “Will you steal, murder (רִשָּׁה), commit adultery, . . . and then . . . stand before me . . . and say, ‘We are delivered!’—only to go on doing all these abominations?”

11. Hosea 4:2. Hosea states “. . . the Lord has a controversy with the inhabitants of the land. There is no faithfulness or kindness, and no knowledge of God in the land.” V.2 continues, “There is swearing, lying, killing (רִשָּׁה), stealing . . .” (RSV).

12. Hosea 6:9. Hosea describes the priests as banding together to commit murder. “As robbers lie in wait for a man, so the priests are banded together; they murder (רִשָּׁה) on the way to Shechem . . .”

Several facts have become obvious: 1) In Numbers, Deuteronomy, and Joshua, in the context of the cities of refuge, רִשָּׁה is principally used of only two types of violence—accidental or unintentional killing and intentional or premeditated killing of one individual by another. The former is termed manslaughter and the latter, murder—in today’s legal system, homicide. 2) Numbers 35:27 uses it to indicate that when the avenger of blood kills the manslayer outside a city of refuge, the avenger is not guilty of blood, that is, guilty of murder. The avenger is performing an appropriate act of vengeance. 3) In its other 12 occurrences, רִשָּׁה refers to intentional killing or murder. 4) רִשָּׁה is never, in all of the 47 citations, used in connection with war or in relation to the killing that takes place in war. 5) רִשָּׁה is never used of any other kind of killing, such as animal sacrificing.

We might note at this juncture, that to institute a commandment to prohibit unintentional/accidental killing would be irrational. So God has made a clear distinction between manslaughter and murder. The 6th Commandment is a prohibition of intentional, premeditated, and malicious killing. רִשָּׁה, employed in the commandment, “Thou shalt not kill,” is thus more accurately translated, “thou shalt not murder.”

This satisfies the three rules of hermeneutics mentioned earlier: 1) The Scripture has interpreted its use of רִשָּׁה; 2) The Hebrew word רִשָּׁה has a more limited scope of meanings than the English word “kill”; and 3) the contexts of the use of רִשָּׁה have determined and limited its meaning and scope. **Additionally there are numerous opportunities in the OT for רִשָּׁה to be used in connection with war, as the OT is replete with war, but it is never used in this connection (see 2 Kings 6:32-7:20).

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 רִשָּׁה 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 רִשָּׁה 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.

*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

Activities Report

Del Rosa Steel Orchestra



Sabbath, October 1 our church experienced a truly inspiring and fascinating concert by the Del Rosa Steel Orchestra. I had no idea what a steel drum would sound like and I wasn't sure I would enjoy and whole service dedicated to drums. Boy was I wrong! I loved it! The music that came out of those drums was closer to the sound of an organ than any drum I have ever heard before. It was mesmerizing to hear the orchestra members find just the right note to make Amazing Grace, What A Friend We Have In Jesus, Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho and more, come alive with harmony and unique beauty. Not only was the music a feast for the ears but there was a special beauty in the movements the musicians executed to not only find the right note but to, dare I say, dance to the beat. How amazing that the waste product of the oil industry is now being used to glorify the Lord and to open doors to new evangelism

opportunities. By winning a CD I will be able to enjoy this music again and again in my home, you can also have this joy by ordering your own CD by contacting the Orchestra Director: Gary Olton (909) 844-0454 or Band Manager: Steve Lewis (909) 804-0652. I hope to see these musicians on the event calendar for next year!

Kristi Cruise



Evangelism Preparation

You can do the Lord's work at any age. The group at McConnell's home are a great example. This group is composed of individuals in their 80's and 90's. No they can't go door to door and have some limits on hand movements, but they did the task of folding the Bible study request forms for the kits that were given to the people who could go door to door. Thank-you for your participation and hard work for the evangelism effort!

Shirley Purucker

Photo by Charles McConnell



Vernon James, Ellamae Jones and Elizabeth Sorrels with willing hands and hearts doing God's work.

Health Fair



Vi Bell and Anastasia Espiritu gave away food.

Where were you October 2, 2011? Many of us along with our neighbors were at our 2011 Health Fair. Such events find people working many weeks before promoting the happening.

Between our P.R. person Jerry Johnson and our M.C. James Bauchert who had connection to a person who has access to local papers. The advertisement was visible to areas of Colton, Grand Terrace, San Bernardino, and Loma Linda.



Young Hong performed body mass index on willing participants. She gave the results with unparalleled tact and kindness.

People were thinking of ways to give out flyers. I would like to recognize one such person, who one month before ordered 400 flyers; Oliver Moura gave them out at the Annual Route 66 gathering.

Anne Mears also gave out flyers at her booth at the Redlands market night.

I will mention a few areas but by no means does this mean the rest of the areas were not great. Our neighbors gave



Esther Neil spoke on the importance of dietary fiber in the main sanctuary.



Volunteer nurses, Ivy Flores, Martha Mulugeta, Virginia Maghuyop, Le Dalisay and Judith Carrad administered flu shots and mists to attendees.

excellent comments on how friendly everyone seemed to be.

Yes—we have a few “kinks” to work out as to better placement of some booths. That’s on schedule for 2012.

Here come some thanks again—please forgive if I left anyone out:

1. As always hats off to our security, set up crew, and blood mobile.
2. Thanks again to our registration crew. This year it was a beautiful sunny day. No dodging raindrops like 2010.
3. I and others were really impressed with “The Kids’ Corner.” Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves and everyone seemed to be included doing something. A big kudos—to Natanya and all involved.
4. Thanks to the roamers: Pastor Mataafa, Nestor Domingo, Carlos and Mary Lemos for keeping tabs on thins and answering questions.

This young lady enjoyed all “The Kid’s Corner” had to offer.



No other Health Fair has this much class. James Bauchert was M.C. and prize presenter.

5. Among things to be had was good food and lots of it! The kitchen was full of a variety of good food. Once again the kitchen crew, Robbie Felix, Blanca Gonzalez, and Delilah Ramirez, did fantastic.

6. The free food booth gave off aromas of chili beans, rice, popcorn and apples. Thanks to Cathy and the Kohl’s Volunteers. I really want to bring attention to two volunteers who stepped up to help, both being 80 years old, Vi Bell and Anastasia Espiritu. They do not give us much room for not meeting our obligations when we say we will be

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

there.

7. I was good to see the prayer booth was visible and attracted visitors. Some chatted, prayed and put requests in the prayer box. Some also picked up free books and bibles. Thank-you Elizabeth Sheffield and Pastor Oli.

As we know in doing these projects it is not just one person. There is great unity in doing a project like this. Some where around 54 or so church volunteers made the day a success. Yes the neighborhood noticed us, but the important part was not our suc-

cess but the Lord's name was brought forward. May these contacts have planted seeds for the future. Thank-you Lord for the opportunity to serve You.

A special thanks to Kohl's Volunteers, the tortoise people, Vicki and Marcelion Romero, Young Hong, Rob Cruise, Jerry Johnson, and James Bauchert and the one who keeps thing orderly for me Mary Lemos.

Shirley Purucker

Photos by Charles McConnell and Rob Cruise



Loma Linda University's dental bus participated.



19 pints of blood were collected by the Blood Bank.



Jorge Rangel, Pastor Mataafa and Laura Bauchert enjoy fellowship at the Community Services Table. All sorts of clothing and home items were given away along with a loaf of Ezekiel bread.



Thank-you to Dr. Gregg of Loma Linda dentistry who provided dental services.



Here are just 3 will health professionals who provided their services for the health fair. From R to L Dr. Poni, Dave Bennett P.A., and Dr. Tribhuvan.





Genesis 15:5

"Then He brought him outside and said, 'Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.' And He said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.'"

Place Stamp Here

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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.

Mark Your Calendars



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

- Oct 22 (Sat) 11:00 AM - "New Beginning" Bible Seminar: Final Meeting
- Oct 22 (Sat) 1:00 PM - Fellowship Potluck
- Oct 23 (Sun) 8:00 AM - Work Bee
- Oct 23 (Sun) 11:00 AM - Church Board meeting

- Oct 29 (Sat) 1:00 PM - Deacons & Deaconesses Council
- Oct 30 (Sun) 6:00 PM - Game Night: Fontana SDA Church
- Nov 2 (Wed) 8:00 PM - Board of Elders meeting

All Shook Up

Rearrange the "all shook up" letters below to spell some of the kings. Then decide whether they ruled Israel or Judah.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. MHABOARE | 5. AAAMIZH |
| 2. SABAAH | 6. SMALULH |
| 3. SHPHTHJEOAA | 7. KAHAHIEP |
| 4. HHEOAJAZ | 8. SHAIJO |
| | 9. LAATHIHA |
| | 10. DEEKIHAZ |

Answers to Last Months Trivia

The Full Armor of God:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Belt of TRUTH. | 4. Shield of FAITH. |
| 2. Breastplate of RIGHTEOUSNESS. | 5. Helmet of SALVATION. |
| 3. Feet fitted with READINESS. | 6. Sword of THE SPIRIT. |

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.