



JUST IN TIME

Have you ever considered how faith and perseverance go hand-in-hand? The child who asks, “Are we there yet?” might be wondering if dad really knows the way or if he’s lost. And how many times have we cried out to God for help, only to find ourselves still waiting for some answer—and over time doubting whether He even heard or even cares.

And yet, many of us can also tell stories about how God came through at “just the last moment!” In fact, you might start to think—with all of these stories sharing the common tune of *just in time*—whether that might be God’s preferred way of answering prayer.

And you’d be right—because there is a direct connection between faith and perseverance. That is the way we change and grow in our relationship with God. That is the way we become like Jesus. It is the way God works. “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” (James 1:2-4).

But we can trust our Father to know the way. We must believe with all our soul that He heard and He cares. Just remember how God met our greatest need—just in time.

Howard Hendricks wrote,
“Driving up a narrow gravel mountain road at night, I depended on my headlights to show me each sharp

curve, but I missed one. With my wife’s low scream, “No!” I cringed as the front wheel dropped probably six inches over the roadbed. Tilting at a precipitous angle, Jeanne gingerly opened her passenger door and slid out, trying to find a foothold on the steep, muddy incline. I sat motionless, afraid the car would tumble. Her prayer was audible as she grasped clumps of grass, climbing and sliding, unable to find footing. With superhuman effort, she finally made it to the headlight beams and hoisted herself up to the road with her elbows. But what next? What if the car rolled when I tried to get out? Even if I did get out, it was too dark to see where to walk.

“Muddy, scratched, and bruised, my wife stood up, and suddenly headlights appeared coming down toward us. The only other occupants along that road had decided to get some ice cream before bedtime. A coincidence?

“God knows exactly the time when we need Him most, and so it was with the whole world when His people cowered under the heel of relentless domination by Roman rulers.

“Once a proud nation, keeper of the keys to God’s kingdom on earth, Israel had suffered captivity, persecution, and attempted genocide. Costly wars culminating in outright victory for General Pompey of Rome had left only a pathetic few looking for a Savior, the promised Messiah. Undeserving, yet desperately seeking escape, they heard from heaven. God sent His Son, His lifeline to the human race held captive by sin. The Apostle Paul wrote, ‘At just the right time, when we were still powerless Christ died for the ungodly’ (Rom 5:6, NIV). No longer are we without hope. Jesus, the Light of the World, came, and ‘to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God’ (John 1:12, NIV).”

~ *Phil Powers, Senior Pastor*

Soul Winning

Forcey

“He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, we have found ... the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus” (John 1:41-42). One of the great blessings for soul winners is when those they have led to Christ become concerned about lost souls. Even as Andrew sought out Simon to bring him to Jesus, so today God stirs the hearts of new converts to tell others about the Lord. Recently at a local hospital, a Forcey member experienced this working of God firsthand.

As the Forcey member entered a certain room, the patient in the first bed was asleep. Passing to the second patient (Sean), the Forcey member introduced himself and offered him a gospel tract. Sean responded that he had just been reading that very tract, stating that he did not understand the message fully, but that its warning of the second death (Hell) scared him. As the Forcey member explained the gospel to Sean, he listened intently, commenting that since childhood he had wanted to be saved. When the Forcey member completed the gospel presentation, Sean joyfully called upon the Lord Jesus for salvation.

While the Forcey member was following up with Sean, his now-awake roommate (Montay) asked for a New Testament. Looking around the curtain, the Forcey member realized that he had led Montay to Christ the previous Sunday. Montay had given his New Testament to his brother and the gospel tract to Sean, as a witness to both. At this testimony the Forcey member rejoiced. Montay was not only seeking to win others to Christ, but that with Sean's salvation, he was already seeing fruit from his labors.

~ Ralph Zimmerman, Evangelism Team

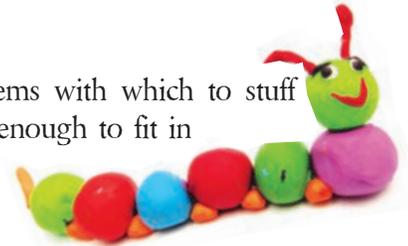
CHRISTMAS
GIFT
BAGS

As they have for years, many of our Sunday School children are decorating Christmas gift bags to be delivered in December to the Forcey-supported Anacostia Gospel Chapel, which distributes them to needy families in the Anacostia area of Washington DC and uses the opportunity to witness to both the children and parents. In the words of missionary Sharon Mathieu, "These gifts are a BIG HIT!"

While the children prepare the bags, we need everyone to provide the items with which to stuff them. Gifts should be 'new', appropriate for children 3-12, and small and/or flexible enough to fit in the bags. So that we may best distribute the gifts among the bags, please do not wrap your gifts.

Suggested items: pens, pencils, small notebooks, stickers, Nerf balls, small craft projects, small stuffed animals, play-doh, paints, rubberstamps and ink pads, matchbox cars, travel games, McDonald's certificates, kids Christian CDs and books, and Legos.

If you have a child in Pre-K thru 5th grade, please drop your gifts off at your child's Sunday School class; otherwise please leave them in the box in the foyer. Drop off through December 8th. Thank you so much for your help.





Journey of Hope The Birth of a Savior

A FORCEY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

This Christmas Season the Forcey Choir, Orchestra, Dance/Banners combine to present the story of the Savior, the only true hope for mankind.

Journey of Hope begins with the celebration of Emmanuel, God with us. There is hope for God's people and for all people of all generations. That Hope arrived in Bethlehem on a silent Christmas night with a Child in a manger. Angels declared "Glory to God in the Highest" and the prophet Simeon declared "my eyes have seen Your Salvation." This Savior surely was a wonderful Child, the Son of God, who came down to earth to save us from our sin. The story ends with a new "Joy to the World" for the same Child in the manger, now the risen and glorified Savior who will return to earth as King. Yes there is hope for today and even brighter hope for tomorrow.

**It's
Family
Gathering
Sunday!!**

**NO
Children or
Adult Sunday
School Classes**

Sunday, December 15, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.

Guest Musician this year is Bill Itzel

Original Narration by Vivian Cross

Dance directed by Carmina Adams & Lauren Woo



ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE

CONCERT SPECTACULAR

Here we go again!!! 

Jump-Start your celebration of 2014 at 6:00 pm NEW YEAR'S, with a wonderful worship concert at Forcey Bible Church featuring Maryland's Premier Recording Artists: Bill and Karen Itzel. For the past 17 years, Bill and Karen have held their annual Homecoming concert at Forcey, and this year is no different.

On New Year's Eve Bill & Karen will present their brand new recording as they kick off their 2014 "*THE NEW LIFE*" Tour. With the powerful lyrics and exciting music that always comes from this award winning team, you can depend on a challenge and blessing WITH SOME NEW TWISTS as you begin 2014. YES, this is SURELY for the WHOLE family.



 Make your plans now as we fill the Forcey sanctuary with praise. The concert begins early so that you can move on to celebrate the New Year at your Home Group party, family gathering, or wherever the evening may take you.

TUESDAY, December 31, 6:00 sharp! 

Join Bill, Karen, Jessica, Ryan, Shannon Bailey and the newest family member Serenity Grace, for this very special New Year's Eve Homecoming concert!





We welcome Vikki Myers for TWO wonderful events this coming January! Many of you got a glimpse of Vikki in the second service last summer. She is coming back to bless us again with her amazing voice and contagious energy! Vikki is a Chicago-based actress and vocalist who has appeared in numerous plays and musicals across the U.S. She is an ensemble member of the Pacific Garden Mission radio drama series, "Unshackled". She mixes well-known jazz and R&B with original and traditional Gospel songs to present a fresh lyrical focus on Jesus that you don't want to miss! *Kingdom Impact Theater Ministries.* kit-ministries.com .

Saturday, January 18, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Are you a worship leader, worship team member, musician, actor, or anyone who gets in front of an audience? Then you'll want to join us for our *MINISTRY COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP*. Through a combination of exercises, role plays, prayer sequences and testimonies, you will explore your purpose and motivation for taking the platform and how to effectively prepare for your unique public ministry! Adults AND Teens are enthusiastically welcomed.

Sunday, January 19, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

WORSHIP & DRAMA NIGHT Come for an evening of singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs - both old and new- joining our hearts in musical worship! Then watch the serious-comedic testimonial drama of night club singer turned worship leader, TINA JOHNSON, in the solo women's ministry performance *JOURNEY TO JOY*, written and performed by Vikki Myers. This is a great opportunity to invite friends and co-workers who are curious about what it means to walk with Jesus.

Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year
from your Forcey family!

