



the forcey focus

Forcey Bible Church Newsletter
January 2014

Knowing Jesus

Do I really want to know Jesus?

Consider this:

- **To know Jesus** is to know your Creator who brought you into existence from nothing, to have body-soul-spirit from this point on forever, who made you to share His perfect glorious nature, and in love to always be at *home* with Him.
- **To know Jesus** is to know the mercy that rescues you from what you deserve to give you the grace that you cannot earn.
- **To know Jesus** is to know the transformation of your life as you become like Him through your obedience and His Spirit's empowerment that makes all of this possible.
- **To know Jesus** is to follow Him in absolute trust and unconditional surrender.
- **To know Jesus** is to experience suffering for His sake - to daily take up your cross and know the cost.
- **To know Jesus** is NOT just to believe He is the Son of God, the Judge, the Savior - even demons believe that much (Matt. 8:29). It is the deep and full relationship of "knowing Him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead" (Phil 3:10-11).

Do you really want to know Jesus - to honestly want the power of Jesus to live in you?

Be careful: His life was ultimately joyful, but also deeply painful. Yet we must choose it. You and I will never know why we exist - what we were made for, our very purpose in life - unless we do.

So make this prayer yours this year, beginning today, then tomorrow, and the next day . . . until it becomes as natural as breathing:

"My Lord, You have mercifully exchanged Jesus for me. I now walk in His identity, His power, His will, His resurrection and life. May I live worthy of that calling, praying His prayers, seeking His possessions, desiring His desires, dreaming His dreams, doing His work. I'm a fellow heir of Your kingdom, and I don't want to waste the privilege. Please give me Your wisdom. Please plant Your desires deep within me. Let me see Jesus' miracles, His power, His compassion. Yes, I know I will also feel His cross. But I gladly will, if I can only experience His life. Please let me live as Jesus in this world. Please. Amen."

[Taken from *indeed* magazine, Nov/Dec 2013. Used by permission from Walk Thru the Bible, www.walkthru.org].

~ Phil Powers, Senior Pastor

Soul Winning at Forcey

“He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap” (Eccl 11:4). In sowing the seed of the gospel, soul winners must persevere despite many obstacles. These roadblocks may be the hindrances of Satan to prevent those with open hearts from hearing the message of salvation. A recent experience by Forcey’s Evangelism Explosion (EE) team illustrates this point.

When the EE team set out to visit a young woman, they encountered numerous problems. First, they had difficulty finding her apartment. Next, no one answered the door despite repeated knocking. Upon returning to the parking lot, they then left a message on her cell phone. After waiting for several minutes with no response, the EE team decided to call it a night. However, while enroute to the church, they received a call from their prospect, explaining that she had been doing laundry and heard neither the knock

at the door nor her cell phone ring. She invited the Forcey team back; therefore they returned to her home.

When the EE team arrived back at her apartment, the young mother and her daughter greeted them warmly. Both were religious, but neither understood the way of salvation. They listened intently to the gospel message and with open hearts called upon the Lord Jesus to save them. Over the ensuing weeks both successfully completed follow-up Bible studies that helped to ground them in their new life in Christ. The eternal results flowing from this visit came about in part because the EE team persevered despite these many challenges.

~ *Ralph Zimmerman, Evangelism Team*

BEING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES

FROM OUR TWO COUPLES IN INDONESIA:

Greetings
from our
missionaries

“My main ministry right now is focused on preaching in a local church in Jakarta and writing Bible lessons to be distributed to God’s servants who are ministering in remote parts of the islands of Indonesia. At this time I am writing lessons that aim at providing a panoramic picture of the whole Bible in its unity. We want to help our church workers to be able to put all of their Bible teachings into the scriptural framework.”

“Thank You for your gift to us in being part of our lives and partners in serving Him whose Birthday we celebrate!

As we give our neighbors and friends here in Central Java our Christmas greetings, we also give them our “Goodbyes.”

We will be moving to our final destination to work with an unreached people group next week. Please keep us and the move in your prayers.

God Bless and Love.”

WORSHIP WORKSHOP AND CONCERT



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.

Welcome Vikki Myers for TWO wonderful events this month! Many of you got a glimpse of Vikki last summer and 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!

More greetings
from our
missionaries

FROM INDIA:

"Rachel and I wish you all BLESSED CHRISTMAS and CHRIST CENTERED NEW YEAR. Rachel and I thank you for your prayers and for all your support.

Please greet the church family for us as we send our thanks to all of them for their faithful ministry. Here is a picture of Hindu and Muslim children worshipping in our school ministry. Thank you for your prayerful standing with us.

We thank the Lord for the leadership of Forcey Bible Church. May the Lord bless you all. Blessings."



BODY AND SOUL



"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship." ~ Romans 12:1

How many times have you missed out on making your life count because of inhibition, uncertainty or lack of self confidence? All of us can probably remember times when things have held us back from taking action.

This session we invite you to **Live with Abandon**—meaning to live with more freedom, more spontaneity and more joy. Don't hold back. Get beyond your fears. Step out in faith!

Living with Abandon is the opposite of living with worries and stress. It is the opposite of living with hesitation and tentativeness. Living with Abandon is living as an **overcomer**. We can all use some encouragement in that direction, amen?

Living with Abandon does not mean abandoning our responsibilities. It does not mean living for our own selfish desires. The "abandoned life" is a life of selfless service and love. As we overcome the things that hold us back, we can truly make our lives count in both big and small ways.

Ladies are invited to join us for the winter session of Body & Soul Fitness, **Live with Abandon**. Body & Soul offers energizing and fun workouts that will leave you with the physical strength and spiritual energy you need to face the everyday challenges of life. Our classes are a place where ladies can find energizing and fun workouts, personal connection, and spiritual encouragement. The 75-minute workout includes conditioning, strength training, flexibility, and Pilates which is choreographed to Christian contemporary music that motivates us to move and encourages us spiritually.

Classes meet in the gym Saturday mornings at 8:30 beginning January 11. Bring your mat, water bottle, weights and elastic resistance.

For more information call Jennifer White 301-483-4986 or email rjslwhite@msn.com.

We've Moved!

Dear Forcey Family and Greetings from Pete & Maria Goodlatte,

We've moved to 3324 E. Locanda Cir., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168. Please keep in touch. We live just south of Daytona, not far from Orlando. Wishing you a blessed Christmas Season & New Year!

With our love in Christ,
Pete & Maria Goodlatte

Pete (301) 503-8762 Maria (301) 385-4387

Forcey Christian School Update



On November 15, our students packed nearly 10,000 meals for the Capital Area Food Bank during our service project day as part of our Dream Big Campaign. Additionally, we are pleased to report that we raised almost \$2,500 from the Craft Show and Bake Sale on November 23 to add to the \$36,000 we raised through our Campaign. We are grateful for Metta Wagner's leadership of the craft show, along with help from some wonderful volunteers. We also want to thank Kelly Marroquin for her help with the meal packing project, along with our team of helpers. Meanwhile, Julie Harman helped coordinate our Operation Christmas Child shoebox project in which our students helped spread the love of Christ to 239 needy children around the world.



If you or families you know are interested in learning about how children age 3-8th grade can get a top-notch Christian education, then please consider inviting them to our open house on Tuesday, January 21 at 7:30 p.m.. Mingle with teachers, listen to the jazz band, enjoy some refreshments, and come find out what the FCS advantage can mean to your family.

You may call the office at 301-622-2281 for more information. You may also email me at zeke-wharton@forceychristianschool.org. Contact us right away to get placed on our waiting lists for the 2014-2015 school year. Priority registration for Forcey Bible Church members starts February 5 and ends February 10, and church members receive one free registration (a \$300 value). Applications and other information will be available in the hallway outside the school office beginning January 26. Once again this year families may qualify for financial aid of up to 25% of their tuition, through a program administered by our tuition management company. Spread the word about FCS!

~ Ezekiel Wharton, Forcey Christian School Administrator