

“A Highway Journey”

I enjoy a long drive by myself out on a wide open highway. That setting provides me with some of the best time for reflection upon life. Last Thursday was the first time in a long while that I had such an opportunity as I was driving west on I-20 towards Abilene to take the oral examination for my Doctor of Ministry degree.

As I approached Abilene it dawned on me that 17 years earlier I had been driving that same stretch of highway in a U-haul truck as I moved from Dallas to California for my first preaching job. That earlier journey was a bittersweet time of heartbreak and joy as I left behind friends and set out all alone on a new adventure. If someone had told me back then that 17 years in the future I would be driving that same stretch of road, but this time I would be living back in the metroplex, happily married, with two boys and two dogs, working with a great church and on my way to complete the last big step of a D.Min. degree I would have found such a prediction too wonderful to believe.

I then began to wonder where I will be 17 years from now. Driving that same stretch of road taking my boys to college? Or something else so unexpected and unpredictable as the changes over these last 17 years? Whatever the future holds, I know I can face it with peace and hope because I see the hand of God over the last 17 years of my life.

What made that reflection so meaningful to me was remembering that those 17 years were not always filled with such joy. There were several periods in between when I wondered why God had led me down a dead-end road, then abandoned me at its apparent end. There were multiple times of crying out to God, wondering if I would ever experience joy again.

I share this with you because maybe some of you are feeling like God has led you down a dead-end road. Maybe some of you are feeling like God has abandoned you along the journey. If that is you, realize that God is not limited by what you understand the situation to be. God can change your life in one out-of-the-blue instant, or through a series of seemingly small twists and turns that point you in a new direction. God can turn your dead-end into the beginning of a wonderful future. He has done it in my life in ways I never could have fathomed at the time.

Curtis Williams

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

Date	New Testament	Old Testament
Monday, 3/17	Hebrews 10	Leviticus 19-20 Psalms 109-110
Tuesday, 3/18	Hebrews 11	Leviticus 21-22 Psalms 111-112
Wednesday, 3/19	Hebrews 12	Leviticus 23-24 Psalms 113-114
Thursday, 3/20	Hebrews 13	Leviticus 25-26 Psalms 115-116
Friday, 3/21	Galatians 1	Leviticus 27 Psalms 117-118
Saturday, 3/22	Reflection*	Reflection
Sunday, 3/23	Reflection	Reflection

*Saturdays and Sundays are reserved as days to re-read and reflect upon previous readings, or catch up on readings missed during the week.

Church Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt

Today!
5:30 p.m.

Breckinridge Park, Richardson

Bring your favorite picnic foods and drinks to share for our buffet style picnic including enough for extra guests. Paper goods and ice provided.

We have both pavilions reserved beginning at 5:30 p.m. so you can begin arriving then. We will eat after everything is set up and ready (probably around 5:50 or 6:00 p.m.).

Following our picnic, the kids will hunt Easter eggs. Bring a dozen Easter eggs per child (plastic filled). Extra eggs are always welcome.

Kids remember to bring your Easter baskets!

The Easter bunny will make an appearance, so don't forget your cameras.

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Church Office Information

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Sunday morning schedule

Bible classes.....9:30 am
Worship service.....10:30 am



March 16, 2008

Order of Worship

Song: *O Worship the King*

Song: *Restore My Soul*

Welcome & Call to Worship

Song: *Lord, Reign in Me*

Song: *Mighty Is Our God*

Song: *Light the Fire*

Song: *Here In This Place*

Song: *Hosanna, You're My King*

Offering

(Children's Offering* and kids dismissed to Children's Worship**)

Song: *Lord Most High*

Song: *Lord, Take Control*

“Face-to-Face”***

Message: “What Is the Gospel?” (Part Two)

Lord's Supper

Song: *And Can It Be*

Family News

Song: *Shout to the Lord*

New to North Pointe and have children?

Children are an important part of the North Pointe church. For this reason we offer the following opportunities for children during our worship service:

Nursery: A staffed nursery with pagers for parents, is provided during the worship service. The nursery for babies, toddlers and two year olds is located in E Hall past the restrooms. A separate, non-staffed nursery is also available for parents to use as needed.

***Children's Offering:** To teach our children the discipline of giving we provide them an opportunity to contribute in a visible way. This money is used for various ministries.

****Children's Worship:** Because children have their own unique level of learning and expression we offer a special worship period for children 3 years of age through 4th grade. Children are dismissed to Children's Worship following the Children's offering.

***What is “Face to Face with God”?

This time during our worship service allows three opportunities for personal prayer. Your may: 1) remain in your seat and spend time privately praying to God, 2) go to the back of the cafeterium where a member of our prayer team will pray for you or with you, privately and in confidentiality concerning your prayer request, or 3) come to the front row of seats with your public prayer request where the prayer leader will include your request in his prayer concluding this period.

North Pointe News

Today

North Pointe Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt

5:30 p.m.

Breckinridge Park, Richardson
(See back page for more information.)

This Week

Ladies Bible Class

Wednesday, March 19

10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Home of **Deanna Priebe**
316 Love Bird Land, Murphy
972-423-1470

Future Events

Men's Backpacking Trip

Thursday, April 3 – Sunday, April 6

Grandparent/Grandchildren Rocket Blast

Saturday, May 3

4:30 p.m.

Backyard of **Richard** and **Linda Knox**
235 Green Acres Drive, Murphy

The **Knox's** are having an additional Rocket Blast evening for North Pointe grandparents and their grandchildren. If you don't have any grandkids you can borrow some North Pointe kids. Wear shorts and shirts that are appropriate for getting wet (no swim suits please). Cost is \$3 per person to cover the cost of pizza, drinks and cookies. Bring an empty two-liter plastic pop bottle for the rocket blast.

"... so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation in which you shine like stars in the universe ..."
Philippians 2:15



This Week

LTC Bible Bowl Challenge Night and Pizza Party

Thursday, March 20

(See Youth Ministry column.)

Future Events

Mother/Daughter Spring Fling

Friday, April 11

Home of **Tammi, Tess** and **Grace Omer**

Daughters ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to enjoy this fun evening of fashion fun with their moms. More details coming soon.

God's Girls and God's Soldiers

Sunday, April 13

Mother/Son Night Out

Friday, April 25

Sons ages 4 through 5th grade will enjoy a night out with their moms at **Adventure Landing** (on Coit off of Hwy. 190) to play a game of miniature golf and arcade games. Cost is \$5.50 per person. Money is due on Sunday, April 20. (Cash only).

Family Rocket Blast

Friday, May 16

Backyard of **Richard** and **Linda Knox**
235 Green Acres Drive, Murphy
For kids ages 4 through 5th grade and their families

Kid's Kamp in God's Big Back Yard

June 9, 10, 11

Kids, get ready for an outdoor adventure involving fun-filled dramas, crafts, snacks, and games, while learning to serve Jesus.

Camp Impact

Sunday, June 22 – Thursday, June 26

For kids entering the 4th through 6th grades in the fall of 2008
\$80 deposits and camp applications are due by May 4.

North Pointe Youth Ministry

Today

Leadership Training for Christ (LTC)

No practice after worship today for Bible Bowl or drama.

This Week

Teen Pointe Group

There will be **no Pointe Group this week** due to spring break. We will resume next Wednesday,

LTC Bible Bowl Challenge Night and Pizza Party

Thursday, March 20

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Home of **Eddie** and **Jill Traugher**
1718 Vicksburg, Sachse

Future Events

Camp Zenith for High School

Sunday, June 15 – Friday, June 20

Camp Cornerstone for Middle School

Sunday, July 6 – Thursday, July 10

Summer Mission Trip

Wednesday, July 16 – Sunday, July 20

Foster's Home for Children in Stephenville, Texas
Sign up before April 1.

Cost is \$65.

Wilderness Trek

Friday, August 1 – Saturday, August 9

Record for Sunday, March 9, 2008

Worship Attendance: 161

General Offering: \$2,314.00

Children's Offering: \$19.58

Land and Building Fund: \$360.00

Beverly Ritz