

In Touch

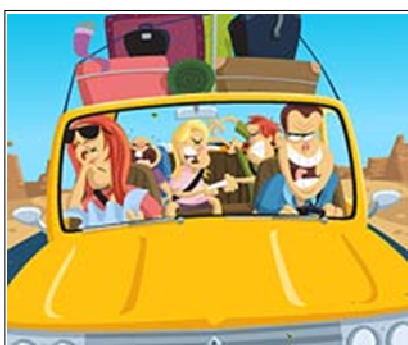
Karnataka Congregation, Kuwait

Monthly Newsletter

March 2009

Who's the Boss of You?

We went on a family outing with our adult children and grandson this past weekend. It was an enjoyable time to be away from the pressures of "real life" for a short while. We all piled into our old car, because it was the largest and took off on an 80 mile trip to a Renaissance Festival.



We laughed, joked, talked and in general had a good time with one another. With the especially difficult times we have been going through it was really good to have this special time together.

At one point from the back seat we heard the ominous words that so many other parents have heard through the years.

"Dad, He's touching me!"

Then, "Dad, he's looking at me!"

Then, "Stay on your own side!" and finally, "You're not the boss of me!"

Thankfully they were just kidding around (I think), reminiscing about when they were young children. But the last phrase has stuck with me for a few days, "you're not the boss of me".

Who is your boss? Who is the one who you ultimately give permission to instruct you, guide you, and perhaps discipline you in this life?

For those who are Christians that ultimate "giving up of our rights and our lives" is to God.

Who's the boss of you? The Apostle Paul wrote these great words:

I have been crucified with Christ. I myself no longer live, but Christ

lives in me. So I live my life in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20 NLT).

Could it be that it's time to give God permission to instruct you, guide you, and perhaps discipline you in this life?

May God Bless you on your journey and as you try to decide who is truly the "boss of you"!

• **By Russ Lawson**

Courtesy : www.heartlight.org

Now on the church website ...

Photographs of church events...

Announcements of weekly events...

Christian News & Articles ...

And lots more ...

www.hallofhope.com

Inside this issue:

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We have 3 worship Services Every Friday except the last Friday of the month.

10 AM - Fahaheel

English / Kannada Service

4 PM - Annex Hall, NECK

Kannada Service

6 PM - Hall of Hope, NECK

English Service

World's Worst Mother Award



Please forgive me! I should wait to write a story like this, but I cannot withhold the agony and the embarrassment another minute. So

many young people come to me whining about the way they are treated by their parents. "My mother doesn't understand me! My dad is always after me." I confess to quietly listen and offer condolences while knowing I have far bigger burdens to unload.

Your parents cannot possibly be the worst parents in the world. If an award were given for "World's Worst Mother," the winner would be ... (Can you keep a secret?) ... my MOM! (Now I'm in trouble!)

Please don't laugh! Every word of what I am about to say is true. I have evidence. As a struggling seven year old, I needed a certain toy car to add to my fleet. The collection would simply not be complete without this particular little car. I wanted it. I had to have it! When that very car appeared before my eyes in a department store, I took it. It was the natural thing to do, but not for my mother. My mother saw me holding the car and rather than congratulate me for being sneaky and thrifty, she opened her mouth in horror, immediately spanked me and then had the audacity to make me immediately return the car to the store, pay for it and then apologize to the owner. Can you believe that I had to endure such cruelty?

The damage to my emotional self-esteem was beyond measure. To this very day, when I

see something I want or need to have in a store, I feel compelled to pay for it. Oh, the shame of it all.

Wait there is more. Here are the top ten reasons why my Mom qualifies for World's Worst Mother.

1. For making me eat green vegetables with nearly every meal. I now enjoy good health.
2. For insisting on the use of a foreign language... "Yes, sir and Please." I practice good manners.
3. For spanking me when I was out of line. I learned respect for the law and officials who carry it out.
4. For requiring me to occasionally do chores. I developed good work habits and a drive to succeed.
5. For yelling, "Clean up your pig-pen for a room." (Oops! I still have that nasty habit.)
6. For forcing me to take typing in High School. I now have an enduring practical skill.
7. For nagging me to continue practicing the piano. I appreciate good music.
8. For encouraging me to read. She inspired a lifelong desire to learn and grow.
9. For dragging me to church each Sunday. My mother allowed God to literally change my life.
10. When I wanted to be left alone during a difficult divorce she persisted in helping to care for me and my children. Now, I more clearly understand the true meaning of love.

There you have it. The evidence is overwhelming. She consistently refused to allow me to do whatever I

wanted, and because of it ... well, I am eternally grateful. My mother deserves to be honored as the "Worlds Worst Mother" and I praise God for her influence on my life and the lives of my children.

Solomon wrote about women like my Mother in Proverbs:

"Her children arise and call her blessed: 'Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.' Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise ..." (Pro. 31:28-31)

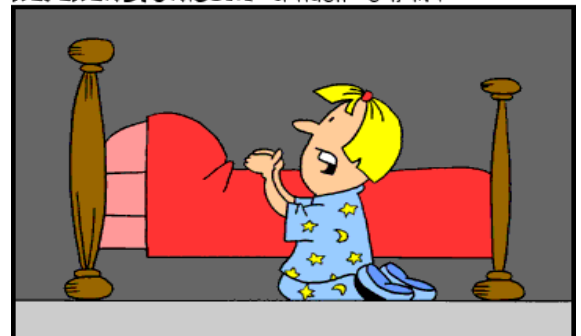
Pay tribute to the one who loved you through all your triumphs as well as your mistakes and helped to mold your attitude and philosophy of life. Forgive her mistakes, celebrate her triumphs, and honor her life and memory. Questions to Challenge:

- How does your Mom qualify for the World's Worst Award?
 - What influence has she had on you and your lifestyle?
 - Was your mom less than ideal? Maybe it's time to forgive her and even learn from her mistakes.
- How are you remembering your Mom? If she is alive...take her to lunch or send her a special card. If she has passed away...share her memory with a close friend.

- By Larry Davies

(courtesy : www.heartlight.org)

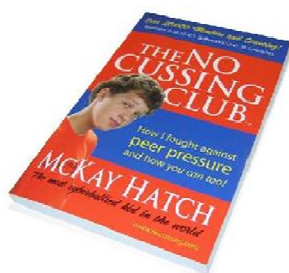
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02-13-1998

WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?

15-Year-Old's "No-Cussing" Club



McKay Hatch is a 15-year-old high schooler who has taken a courageous stand against cursing. When he started high school, Hatch took a bold step and began a no-cussing club at South Pasadena High School. He began a web site

(www.nocussing.com) and issues a "no-cussing" challenge to both students and adults. The network of participants now includes over 30,000 students worldwide.

Additionally, Hatch has an upcoming book and launched a rap video on YouTube with the catchy chorus: "If ya wanna hang with us, don't cuss!" Since assuming such a strong position against cursing, Hatch has received a number of hate messages, including death threats. But, the skinny teenager refuses to be bullied and persists in expanding his mission to clean up language around the world!



Slumdog Wins Oscars

The British movie made about a Mumbai slum-dweller who wins the gameshow 'Who wants to be a millionaire' has won 8 Oscars.

The lead actress in the movie,

Freida Pinto has Mangalorean origins. The movie also features kids who were selected from the slums of Mumbai.

Elections in India

The Election commission of India has announced that the national general elections will be held sometime between 8th April and 15th May 2009.

Any Suggestions?

Do you have any suggestions or feedback for 'In Touch' newsletter?

Email us at :

karnatakacongregation@gmail.com

Hindu groups continue Attacks in India

New radical Hindu attacks in India have both Christian and non-Christian leaders concerned. Ebenezer Samuel with 'Serve India Ministries' says 40 men attacked a pub in Mangalore, Karnataka because they didn't like the "pub" culture. Samuel says this is a huge concern. "While the average Indian is ready to accept the changes time brings about, these people have their own idea of what Hindu culture is. They impose this on the average Indian because they want Hindutwa to be the only philosophy that would influence the whole of India." Samuel says it's Taliban-like. He says one of his missionaries was recently kidnapped in Uttar Pradesh. "They kept him, threatened him, questioned him, and they were even starting to beat him. They said, 'If you continue to do this kind of work, what happened in Orissa will happen here.'"

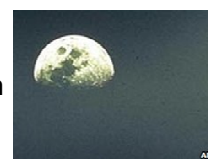
Pastor Jailed for 'Life'

A California pro-life pastor is currently serving a 30-day jail term and awaits further sentencing after being arrested for offering sidewalk counseling at an abortion clinic. Walter B. Hoye II, pastor of Progressive Missionary Baptist was convicted last month of "unlawful approach" under an Oakland city ordinance that bars picketers from coming within eight feet of women entering an abortion clinic.

Hoye is known for standing outside the Oakland abortion clinic offering leaflets and counseling to women. According to his legal firm, he held a sign on the day of his arrest last May that read: "Jesus loves you and your baby. Please let us help."

India to join Space Club

India has earmarked more than \$2.5bn to launch its own manned space flight and join the elite club of the US, China and Russia.



If, as widely expected, the cabinet approves the plan, India could operate its first two-man space mission within a few years.

Only the US, Russia and China can currently put their own astronauts into space using their own spacecraft.

Hostesses in Trains



The Indian Railways will soon have hostesses to welcome travelers with warm smiles, however, the facility will be available in select trains only.

The project run on a private -public sector partnership states that the basic idea is to offer all the comforts of an airplane and make the train journey a memorable experience. The project managers say that they will offer a homely comfort and will try to match the air travel experience with quality on-board services.

Dad-Dee

- Russ Lawson

I find children a wonderful source of inspiration. Children often demonstrate what we should be as adults or what we should think regarding having Christ in our lives.

My daughter-in-law, Mylinda, shared this little anecdote with me. A few weeks ago she was sitting with 9 month old Allison, playing and talking with her as we adults sometimes do. She looked at the baby and said, "How did you get to be so cute?" To her surprise, our smart and beautiful grand daughter looked at her and simply said, "Dad-dee," as if answering her question. When she shared the story with me I just smiled and told her that I hope she realized that her intelligent daughter inherited it through genetics passed from grandfather to father to daughter!

When you are done smiling at the foolishness of a doting grand father, stop and think about the spiritual application of this story. Who do you blame (or claim) is responsible for you being what you are? If you are a Christian it's wonderful to be able to be identified as a Child of the King. To say, "I am what I am because of the Father!" There is a spiritual song that talks about having "the Father's eyes." Eyes that will allow us to see what God sees of people and our world.

If we claim to be a Christian, all that we are and all that we will ever be is because of what we inherited from The Father! The apostle Paul wrote these wonderful words about our "spiritual blood relationship" to God:



I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints ([Ephesians 1:16-18](#) NIV).

The child of the King.

One translation puts verse 18 this way:

I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the wonderful future he has

"Never be afraid to try something new. Remember that amateurs built the Ark. Professionals built the Titanic."

Dave Barry

promised to those he called. I want you to realize what a rich and glorious inheritance he has given to his people (NLT).

Never forget that as a Christian, you are the adopted child of God and that God wants to flood "the eyes of your heart" with light helping you realize that you are truly the child of the King!

P.S. Yes, Allison has my blue eyes also!

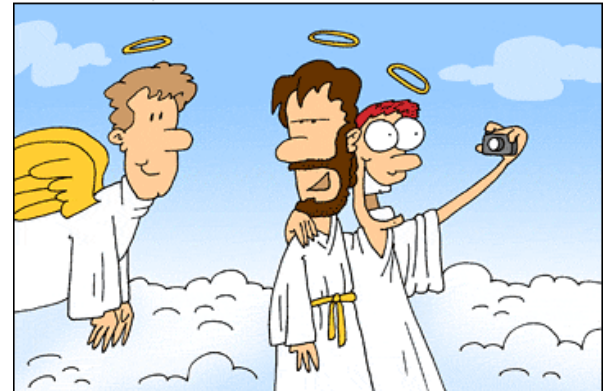
(Courtesy : www.heartlight.org)

Lot's Wife

A Sunday School teacher was telling the class about how Lot's wife looked back at the city while they were fleeing its destruction, even though God had forbidden her to. She then turned into a pillar of salt.

A little boy interrupted her and said, "My mommy looked back one time while she was driving the car and she turned into a street lamp."

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Thanks to Dad Hengeveld

02-16-2009

I'VE TRIED TO EXPLAIN THAT HE'S GOING TO BE WITH ME FOREVER, BUT HE JUST DOESN'T GET IT

They Really Said So! ... See What Happened!!

"Computers in the future may weigh no more than 1.5 tons." --
Popular Mechanics, 1949

"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers." --*Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943*

"There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home." --
Ken Olson, president, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977

"This 'telephone' has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us." -- *Western Union internal memo, 1876.*

"The concept is interesting and well-formed, but in order to earn better than a 'C,' the idea must be feasible." --*A Yale University management professor in response to a paper proposing a reliable overnight delivery service. (Smith went on to found Federal Express.)*

"Heavier-than-air flying machines are impossible." --*Lord Kelvin, president, Royal Society, 1895.*

"Drill for oil? You mean drill into the ground to try and find oil? You're crazy." --*Drillers who Edwin L. Drake tried to enlist to his project to drill for oil in 1859.*

"Airplanes are interesting toys but of no military value." --*Marechal Ferdinand Foch, Professor of Strategy, Ecole Superieure deGuerre.*

Remember these next time someone tries to steal your dream.

"I believe that the greatest trick of the devil is not to get us into some sort of evil but rather have us wasting time. This is why the devil tries so hard to get Christians to be religious. If he can sink a man's mind into a habit, he will prevent his heart from engaging God."

Donald Miller, [Blue Like Jazz](#)

- A baby is God's opinion that the world should go on.

[Carl Sandburg in Remembrance Rock.](#)

- Babies are always more trouble than you thought-- and more wonderful.

[Charles Osgood, CBS Morning News](#)

Which Way?

Man's way leads to a hopeless end -- God's way leads to an endless hope.

The Collection Plate

A little boy was in church for the first time. He watched as the ushers passed around the collection plate. When they got to his pew, he told his father, "Don't pay for me, Daddy. I'm under five."

Congratulations!

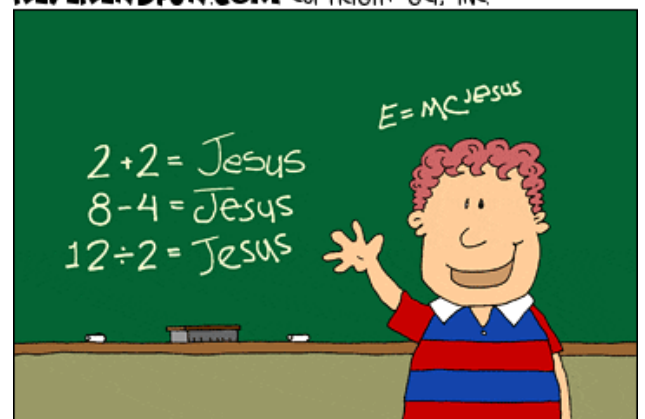
Congratulations to **Vilas** and **Leena**! They have been blessed with a baby boy on the 14th of February. The population of Salmiya has increased by 3, with Vilas and family shifting their residence from Abbasiya to Salmiya. We wish them God's favor and blessings!



*** *** ***

Congratulations also to **Patrick** and **Victoria**, who have been blessed with a baby boy on the 13th of February.

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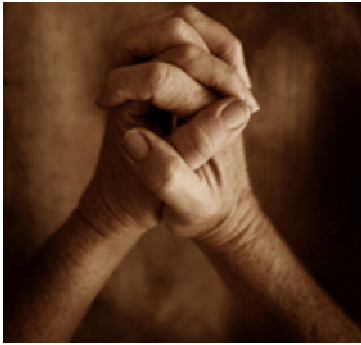


Thanks to Gert-Jan van Heugten

06-16-2008

IN BIBLE CLASS WE LEARNED THAT JESUS IS THE ANSWER

6 Desperate Prayer



- Rod Parsley

The Word does not say that God rewards casual acquaintances. God rewards those who diligently seek Him.

He that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. —HEBREWS 11:6

This verse does not say that God rewards casual acquaintances or with those who know something about Him. It says God rewards those who diligently seek Him. "Knowing God" means to have an intimate relationship with Him. Jesus rejects lukewarm relationships (Revelation 3:15–16). He desires all your love, all your passion, and all your commitment.

If you are in a trial where the devil has stopped you in your tracks, don't become bitter or talk about it. That will only compound the problem. Find yourself a closet. Climb up the mountain of God. Like Jacob, declare, "Lord, I will not let thee go unless thou bless me" (Genesis 32:26).

There is help to be found in the closet of prayer (Matthew 6:6). God said, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

The promises of God are "yea" and "amen" (2 Corinthians 1:20). God's promises will not fall to the ground powerless if you will fall to your knees in prayer, proclaiming God's Word with authority and speaking forth His promises.

(Courtesy : charismamag.com)

Being Accountable

John Wesley was so concerned with building a righteous fellowship that he devised a series of questions for his followers to ask each other every week. Some found this rigorous system of inquiry too demanding and left. Today, the very idea of such a procedure would horrify many churchgoers. Yet some wisely follow just such a practice. Chuck Swindoll for example, has seven questions that he and a group of fellow pastors challenge each other with periodically:

1. Have you been with a woman anywhere this past week that might be seen as compromising?
2. Have any of your financial dealings lacked integrity?
3. Have you exposed yourself to any sexually explicit material?
4. Have you spent adequate time in Bible study and prayer?
5. Have you given priority time to your family?
6. Have you fulfilled the mandates of your calling?
7. Have you just lied to me?

Attitude of Gratitude

John Wesley was about 21 years of age when he went to Oxford University. He came from a Christian home, and he was gifted with a keen mind and good looks. Yet in those days he was a bit snobbish and sarcastic.

One night, however, something happened that set in motion a change in Wesley's heart. While speaking with a porter, he discovered that the poor fellow had only one coat and lived in such impoverished conditions that he didn't even have a bed. Yet he was an unusually happy person, filled with gratitude to God.

Wesley, being immature, thoughtlessly joked about the man's misfortunes.

"And what else do you thank God for?" he said with a touch of sarcasm. The porter smiled, and in the spirit of meekness replied with joy, "I thank Him that He has given me my life and being, a heart to love Him, and above all a constant desire to serve Him!"

Deeply moved, Wesley recognized that this man knew the meaning of true thankfulness.

Many years later, in 1791, John Wesley lay on his deathbed at the age of 88. Those who gathered around him realized how well he had learned the lesson of praising God in every circumstance. Despite Wesley's extreme weakness, he began singing the hymn, "I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath."

Our Daily Bread.

Prayer

God answers
Knee-Mail.

Nutrition

The best vitamin
for a Christian is
B1.

What's Your Price?

When I was a boy, I grew tired of my bike. There wasn't anything wrong with it, I just wanted something better ... a 10-speed. So I took my fire-engine red, Huffy bicycle with a white banana seat and slick back tire to my friend's house and asked him if he wanted to buy it. He said, "Sure, I'll give you \$5.00 for it." The bike was worth 10 times that, but I took it. Needless to say, after my parents discovered what I had done, I realized the "error of my way" and regretted my decision, but it was too late. My bike was gone and all I had to show for it was a meager \$5.00. Long ago, Esau sold his birthright to his brother Jacob for a mere bowl of soup ([Genesis 25:29-34](#); [Hebrews 12:12-17](#)). After Esau's hunger subsided, he regretted his bargain, but it was too late to change what had been done. Esau's birthright was gone and all he had to show for it was an empty bowl of soup. Then possibly, there's your story. The God of heaven has called you his child because of

His grace and your obedience to the gospel of Christ. And yet, you failed to cherish such a standing and relationship and choose to sell it for what?



- A moment of illicit passion?
- The contents of a liquor bottle?
- A grade on a test?
- A grudge we won't give up?
- Hurtful gossip?
- _____ (put your "pet" sin here)?

And if we engage in this sort of bargain, what will we have to show for it? Such choices lead only to regret.

Jesus once asked, *"For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his*

soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" ([Matthew 16:26](#))

My bike was worth more than \$5.00, and your soul is worth more than anything this world might offer you. Give it some thought ... then go read about someone who threw it all away and then decided it would be better to get only what the slaves got in his father's house. ([Luke 15:11-24](#)) He changed his heart. He re-committed his life. He went home. He found his true treasure ... before it was too late!

- **by Steve Higginbotham**
(Courtesy : www.heartlight.org)

In November, 1975, 75 convicts started digging a secret tunnel designed to bring them up at the other side of the wall of Saltillo Prison in northern Mexico. On April 18, 1976, guided by pure genius, they tunneled up into the nearby courtroom in which many of them had been sentenced. The surprised judges returned all 75 to jail.

[Campus Life, September, 1980.](#)

Life

Life is 10% of what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it.—John Maxwell

Why He Missed Church

A pious man who had reached the age of 105 suddenly stopped going to church. Alarmed by the old fellow's absence after so many years of faithful attendance the Pastor went to see him.

He found him in excellent health, so the Pastor asked, "How come after all these years we don't see you at services anymore?"

The old man looked around and lowered his voice.

"I'll tell you, Pastor," he whispered. "When I got to be 90, I expected God to take me any day. But then I got to be 95, then 100, then 105.

So I figured that God is very busy and must've forgotten about me, and I don't want to remind Him!"

Which Sermon to Preach

One beautiful Sunday morning, Samuel, a priest, announced to his congregation: "My good people, I have here in my hands,

three sermons...a \$100 sermon that lasts five minutes, a \$50 sermon that lasts fifteen minutes, and a \$10 sermon that lasts a full hour.

"Now, we'll take the collection and see which one I'll deliver.








Popular Sayings

The more I get to know people, the more I love my dog.

Frederick the Great.

March 2009

Write to us at : karnatakacongregation@gmail.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2	3 	4	5	6 	7
8 	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 
22 	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 			Wedding Anniversary 19 - John Alwin & Nandini Babu	

"Not forgiving is like swallowing rat poison and waiting for the rat to die."

Anne Lamott in *Traveling Mercies*



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Anger

The person who angers you, controls you!

Refunds

Try Jesus. If you don't like Him, the devil will gladly take you back.

Come As You Are

You are not too bad to come in and you are not too good to stay out.