

HELP! I Got a C on my Testimony

CareNAction

By Ruth Ann Clark

“Preach the gospel always and if necessary, use words.” St Francis

The four of us boldly trail behind our Evangelism Explosion leader into the bus depot to find someone to talk to about the Lord. This is our first time out. We are prepared; we’ve memorized the questions, the answers and the verses. We’ve written our testimonies so that we will be able to deliver them well.

I am still a little uncertain about delivering mine since the grade I got when I wrote it was a C. I remember that now as I walk into the bus station. I see that glaring red C on my paper as though I have it in front of me at this moment, not a C+, not a B-, a CCCCCC! I never get a C on anything! How can someone get a C on their testimony anyway? The red writing at the bottom of my paper explained that I hadn’t included enough detail about my life before accepting Christ nor contrasted it adequately with my life after accepting Christ. Well, it was hard to expound on my sinful life before I was six and fairly difficult to describe the transformation from being a regular six year old missionary kid, to being a saved six year old missionary kid.

Perhaps my testimony is only worthy of a C, but here I am, prepared to share it and the Gospel with some unsuspecting soul in the Regina, Saskatchewan bus station. Looking around I spot several likely prospects, people standing alone, looking bored. Our leader walks purposefully forward, my heart is pounding. I am excited to see who God will lead us to and eager, although nervous also, to use the things we’ve learned. Our leader keeps walking, right past the people I’d noticed, past all the people, but never pauses. Without a break in our step we walk, single file, like a regiment on patrol, completely around the room and directly back outside. We never stop to talk to anyone.

St. Francis was right, we preach the gospel with our lives by how we live, but he was also right that sometimes, even often, it is necessary to use words. We walked into that bus depot, a nice group of clean cut Bible School students, obedient, respectful. There was no reason to find fault with our behavior. However, in this

situation it was necessary to use WORDS to evangelize. Evangelism is a lifestyle AND evangelism is done on purpose.

Actually, this idea did not originate with St. Francis, but with the One he followed, Jesus Christ.

Jesus said:

”In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”

and also,

“He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and PREACH the good news to all creation’.”

Some of us go out into all the world, but most of us are sharing the gospel with people around us, people who know us and our lives. Whether it’s overseas or here at home, or in the bus station, to share the good news of salvation with the people around us, we must both live it and speak it. One without the other is like a bottle with no message inside. Either you have an excellent life but with no words to explain it, the message is lost, or, you have wonderful words but without a life that demonstrates them, the message is lost.

Peter said it this way:

LIVE IT

”Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.”

SPEAK IT

”But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.”

Even someone who gets a C on her testimony can share the good news. We all can. We just have to remember that when we walk into the bus station looking the way we should, acting the way we should and knowing all the right words, we still have to stop and speak those words to someone before any evangelism can happen.

First Baptist Church March 9th, 2011

Lifegroup prayer and praise

Sandy Porter is in the hospital in Mt Vernon, with a bacterial infection. They have been running tests and will be transferring her to Everett in the next day or two where she will spend a few days.

We are saddened to hear of the unexpected death of **Doug Roullier's** brother, please keep the family in prayer during this difficult time.

Donna Teachworth has asked for prayer for her very dear friends **Buddy & Cheryl Midkiff**, **Buddy** has been diagnosed with Melanoma in his liver and lungs. They are strong Christians and are leaning on God.

Christen Weller's grandfather, **Leroy Peffer**, is in the hospital being treated for pneumonia as a result of a mild heart attack that he suffered on Sunday afternoon. Emails would be welcome, send them to waltergene@msn.com. **Leroy** is a Pearl Harbor survivor. Please continue to pray for **Jeanne Gilman** as she continues to heal from pneumonia.

Pray for **Bill Deller** that he has complete healing from his bladder cancer

Pray that **Cindy Falor** gets her wheelchair this week so she can return home

Janet Duvardo has asked that we pray for her friend **Joy Mundy** who is a former FBC member. The doctors have discovered lesions on her sternum and adjoining rib, she has an appointment with the surgeon on Tuesday the

8th. Please do not put anything on facebook about this, her daughter does not know yet. Thank you.

Doug Roullier needs continued prayer for shoulder healing (post-op) PT should start soon

Wendy Roullier's best friend, **Lori**, and her 4 kids have moved in with **Doug & Wendy** temporarily, they are still conducting daily living in Renton & Federal Way, pray for finances, housing and insight for **Lori**.

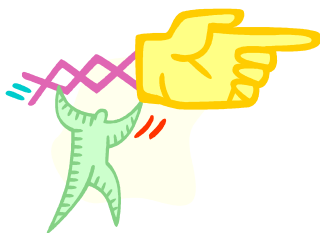
Our neighbor **Lisa Cobb** is in the next phase of recovery from breast cancer, prayers for finances while unable to work and quick healing. **Wendy Roullier**

Hans Wold is recovering from hip surgery due to a fall. Please keep him in prayer for a complete recovery.

Ruth LeMaster is asking for prayer for her friends daughter, **Michelle**, she has stage 4 cancer, recovering from surgery to remove a brain tumor. Pray for guidance in choosing treatment options and for God's healing touch.

Dave Foley had his first round of chemo on Feb. 22nd, He did ok with it, no nausea or vomiting, he is eating well. We would like prayer for his doctors that they give him the best advice. Pray that the tumors shrink and we all stay positive, that would be a huge help. Thanks again, we miss you guys. **Jennifer Foley** (one of our former Navy families)

Our church secretary **Sheri Wiederspohn** is recovering at home after surgery on her knee. Pray for a painless & speedy recovery.



Remember to Spring Ahead this weekend
March 13th

Do you have a wooden rocker that needs a good home?

Our Pre-school department is looking for a good wooden rocker. Contact Pastor Alex or Christen Weller

Pray for our Military

- **John Schwartz**—in Afghanistan—
- **Robin Schwartz** stateside in Everett.
- **Jason Peery**—Oregon National Guard—heading to Iraq for a year, brother of Jennifer.
- **Jonathan Michaels Estrella**—son of Sharon Boswell.
- **Jason Bjazevich**—Megan Owenby's husband—Army Special Forces— Stationed in N. Carolina.
- **Scott Harpell**—son of Brian & Lynne—Stationed at Fort Carson, CO.
- **Aaron Weston**—nephew of Ken and Kathy—Stationed in San Diego.
- **Eric Schmidt** — son of Gene and Pat Schmidt — Camp Fallujah, Iraq.
- **Benjamin Lagonia**—dear friend of the Naylor family—stationed in Manitoba.
- **Brett Love**—grandson of Wilma—Army National Guard—Serving at home.
- **Christian Chmielewski**—nephew of JoAnn Couturie' - in the Marines.
- **ENS Andrew E. Timpner** (fiancé to Christin Suthard) on deployment with USS Momsen.
- **Devin Abbitt**—nephew of Paul Abbitt - Marine, stateside.
- **Duane Neyens** brother to Kathy Chapman—Army National Guard —is back at his home base in So.CA.
- **Philip Ankney**-LCPL Afghanistan Cousin of MaryAnn Peterson.
- **Jeffrey Lillard** —son of Barbara Lillard — Srg. In Army, Stationed at Fort Lewis.
- **Aaron Chmielewski**—joined the Marines. Nephew of JoAnn Couturie
- **Shawn Berland**—deploying for 6 months
- **Andrew Sustaita**—serving on board the USS Abraham Lincoln



Lifegroup Happenings

all in the family

by *florence miller*

We received the following from our Executive Minister, **Charles Revis**: as you continue to pray for my recovery, this is specifically how I would ask you to pray: Pray for increased stamina. Pray for continuing healing of the spinal cord. Pray for further development of fine-motor control in my arms and legs. Pray for reduction of neuropathic pain that I feel primarily in my feet, but also other locations in my body. Pray that I can do the most essential work I need to do during this recovery time without overdoing it.

I want to thank all of you who have sent me cards and emails and Facebook messages. Your pledges to pray, your expressions of love and concern, have all been a great encouragement to Karen and me. As you pray please continue to pray for Rev. Patti Duckworth, Cherie' Vidovich in the office, the Mentor Pastors and all who are taking on extra duties in order to carry on our vital Region ministries. Also, be assured that I pray daily for the churches, pastors and leaders of the Region. May God strengthen and encourage you as you remain faithful in service of our Lord.

Sheri, our receptionist, is away from her desk this week after arthroscopic surgery on her knee. Each day she finds some improvement both with flexibility and pain. The pain she says is now "manageable" and she is able to put some weight on her leg although she still uses crutches at times. The cause of her pain and limp seemed to have been a loose, small fragment of bone, no larger than a baby molar which she had probably dislodged in her younger years. Our prayers are for complete healing and her smiling presence back at her desk soon. In the meantime we thank **Kathy Chapman** for her efficient service as our temporary receptionist.

Gene Dobson's surgery is slated for Thursday, March 10th, Thursday at Northwest Hospital. Please remember him in your prayers.

Jeanne Gillman is improving and on this Wednesday will be moved to a rehab hospital (**Kindred**) in Seattle in the Northgate area. She has a long way to go yet but our prayers and support are helping her along the way according to her daughters

Happy Birthday to . . .

Kathy Chapman & Renee Elder....March 9th

Carol McKissick....March 10th

Frank Dittoe, Debra Estepp, Chris Reilly &

Keith Wilson....March 11th

Dekker Lane & ZoAnn McBride....March 12th

David Miller & Mark Perry....March 14th

James Stucky....March 15th

***Adult attendance: 9:00am 96 & 10:30am 207 ***Children: 9am 22 + 7 — 10:30am 22 + 10

***Elementary: 9am 28 + 7 — 10:30 am 39 + 8

***Middle School: 16 + 5 — Youth Small Group: 20 + 4

S.A.M. Happenings

- ◆ SAM's March luncheon program featured the Kamiak High School Chorale who even exceeded the pleasure they have offered us the several times in the past when they have entertained, which means they were excellent, personable, and with music both lively and pleasing.
- ◆ A van full of SAM members were fortunate to travel to Benaroya Hall the next day to hear the Seattle Symphony conducted by Marvin Hamlisch in a tribute to Cole Porter. Music is one of God's expressions of His creativity and we were blessed.
- ◆ The lovely quilt which **Pam Denhoff** created and donated was raffled off with **Arlene Olson** the lucky recipient. The raffle brought in \$300. for SAM's Mission.
- ◆ March 4th was also the **Denhoff's 11th wedding anniversary**. Congratulations
- ◆ In the absence of our "snow-bird" humor lady, **Lois Tysseling**, **John Sinkevitch** was an admirable understudy and should be considered as a permanent substitute we think!

Lifegroup Contributing Opportunities



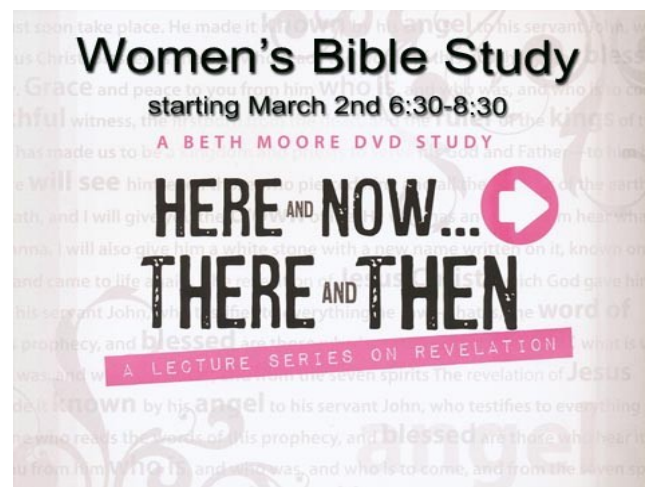
The Road to Recovery
 Eight Principles Based on the Beatitudes
 10:30 am - starts
 Wed., March 2nd
 Room B-106
 Women's Study



GET ON THE ROAD TO FINANCIAL PEACE
 Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace UNIVERSITY
 daveramsey.com
6:30 pm
 Cascade Room \$99.00
 Starts March 2nd, 2011
 FOR MORE INFO CALL 425-259-9166

USHER CAPTAIN 2011:

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|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| March | Marc Owenby Pete Sontra |
| COFFEE HOUR Schedule | |
| March 13th | Laura Oversvee Women of Purpose |
| March 20th | Ruelyn Nelson Women of Purpose |
| March 27th | Gene Dobson Klahaya Class |



Women's Bible Study
 starting March 2nd 6:30-8:30
 A BETH MOORE DVD STUDY
HERE AND NOW... THERE AND THEN
 A LECTURE SERIES ON REVELATION



Newcomers Dessert March 27th at 6pm

Are you new to FBC and would like to know what goes on here? Do you have questions? Staff and leaders would love the opportunity to get acquainted with you!!

- * Dessert will be offered in the Hospitality Room from 6-7pm
- * Get to know other new comers and ask your questions
- * RSVP by writing "DESSERT" on a yellow communication card and place it in the offering plate or email bharpell@fbc-everett.org

*Lela Meadows Scholarships available now!

*Greeter subs needed: call Carol Kelly.