



# SEEDS NEWSLETTER

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## MEET THE FAMILY

### Keith and Erin Seaman



This year, Erin and Keith celebrate 26 years of marriage with their four children: Abigail (22), Evan (20), Katherine (18), and Gabriel (13). They have been a homeschooling family from the beginning—Gabriel will be the last homeschooler after Katherine graduates high school in May. Meanwhile, Abigail will graduate from Pensacola Christian College this spring with a nursing degree and Evan will continue his accounting degree as a senior this Fall at Bob Jones University. In June, Abigail marries her college sweet-heart, Chase Swanson.

Keith and Erin grew up near Atlanta, Georgia where they went to high school together. In 1992, they enrolled at Auburn University (Erin on a swim team scholarship and Keith in Mechanical Engineering). They married in 1998 and moved to Lexington, Kentucky where Keith has worked for Lexmark International ever since.

Keith was saved at 14. Erin met her Savior in her freshman year at Auburn. Together they have been ministering to college-age singles for over two decades. They love to sing in the BBC choir, participate in evangelistic activities, and encourage other homeschooling families. Their life verse: Song of Solomon 5:16, "This is my beloved, and this is my friend."

## Dan and Tami Jett



Born in Chicago, Dan Jett met Tami in the spring of 1991 while working at Bob Jones University. Tami, from Detroit, met Dan in the school's dining kitchen when he ran into her with a hot pizza pan and left a searing impression on her! They were married in 1996, then lived 19 years in South Carolina before moving to Kentucky through a job transfer. Tami's parents have lived here since 2006. Dan came to salvation when he was 19 years old. He served in the Army Reserves from 1989 to 1996 while also serving on ancillary staff at BJU from

1991-1996, then part-time from 1997 until 2002. He is now an industrial maintenance technician at Toyota after (finishing his degree at the age of 51). Tami was led to the Lord by her pastor's wife at the age of 5. At 21, during a time of spiritual growth, she rededicated her life to Christ. Now retired, she was blessed to serve the Lord in the role of a public-school educator, serving as both a teacher and administrator for over 20 years. They have two adult children.

## Cassie Haldeman

Cassie, from Greenville, MO, is a nursing student at Kentucky Christian University in Grayson, KY. Both her parents live in Greenville, where her father is a nurse, and her mother is an x-ray technician. Three more children complete the family—two older sisters and a younger brother.

In March 2012, at the age of seven, Cassie received Christ as her Savior while attending a revival meeting in New Hope General Baptist Church in Silva, MO. She began attending our church last year with her friend, Hunter Huling, the son of Jami Huling.



## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

### Finding A Good Thing

“Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing”, writes Solomon, the wisest man to ever live. God had Solomon record those words in the Book of Wisdom, Proverbs.

Though Solomon had countless wives and arranged marriages, his words about finding *the one* are very true. He would later write in his Song of Songs about his one true love: “My beloved is mine, and I am my beloved’s.”

I can testify that marriage is the best thing that happened to me after my salvation. I was raised in a good home, I received a great education, I have held many wonderful jobs, but finding my wife has been a gift without parallel in this world. However, Jessica gives me strict orders never to write or preach about her, and here I will honor her request. She is very happy to quietly serve Jesus as she fulfills her role and responsibility as a woman and a wife.

My observations in this perspective of the godly wife is taken from Scripture (but you may rightly assume that my views are shaped by practical and personal reflection upon the one whom my soul loves).

When I engage in marriage counseling (either before or after the wedding day), I always bring the attention of the individuals involved to the roles, the responsibilities, and the reality of being married. In every marriage, the husband has his role, responsibility, and reality, as does the wife. The role is defined in Genesis chapter 2. The responsibility is explained in Ephesians chapter 5. The reality is laid out in 1 Peter chapter 3. For this month we will focus on the wife, since Mother’s Day is just on the horizon.

The role of a woman/wife is defined in Genesis 2 as being a “helpmeet”. We might more broadly express the meaning of the word as a helper, an encourager, and a nurturer of her husband and her home. Everything created in Genesis 1 was declared very good, including the male and female. Genesis chapter 2 is the specific account of how God made humanity, and we are told on the 6th day that God found something not good! Adam being alone was not good. He needed a helpmeet.

God sedated Adam and created Eve. He could have made Eve of her own substance, but instead chose to purposefully create her from the side of Adam. Genesis 2:22b says that God then brought Eve to Adam. This is the heart of what Solomon says in Proverbs: Adam found a good thing when he first saw Eve. It wasn’t a sexual attraction, but rather a sense of completion after a state of longing for something absent. Adam had perceived in the naming of the animals



that there was a Mrs. to every Mr. that walked by him, and no doubt wondered why he was alone.

Eve as the first woman, in the first mention of God about her, is described as one who would complete, not compete with, her husband. Thus, the responsibility of a woman is to surrender through submission to her husband. I understand that many ladies reading this might feel their fleshly blood boil at such a thought. God, however, explains the meaning of a wife's responsibility in Ephesians 5:22 which states: "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord."

What this means in practical terms is that a woman may have equal or superior opinions or abilities, but God's design and order is for her to surrender to the leadership of her husband. The reason this may be so hard to accept is because men and husbands do not live up to their responsibility of totally sacrificing themselves for their wives (more on that in next month's newsletter). The point is, when a woman exerts her independence and dominance within a marriage the union begins to break down, but that may partly be the fault of the husband. The order of God for their respective responsibilities will avoid such a catastrophe—the man must sacrifice himself, while the wife wholly surrenders herself to her husband.

The Apostle Peter wrote (1 Peter 3) that wives are to live daily with "chaste conversation" which means "with pure and respectful conduct", while their husbands treat them with consideration ("dwell with them according to knowledge"). For the wife this means that she is to control her actions, reactions, and emotions. That is hard to do, especially if a husband is a neanderthal who is not honoring his role and responsibility. Yet, this is the admonition from God through Peter.

What makes this passage especially noteworthy is that it is directed to believing wives who have unbelieving husbands! If wives who have faith in Christ are exhorted to exercise emotional and mental control in the most frustrating of circumstances, then wives who have believing husbands should certainly be expected to conduct themselves appropriately.

The Bible never sugarcoats what God's expectations are for His Creation, but feminism, progressive ideology, and a hatred for God's designed order have encouraged some Christian homes to get off kilter in the way they operate.

Having said that, I am glad for the many homes within our church where both wives and husbands not only understand their roles and responsibilities, but seek within the day to day reality of life challenges to meet their responsibilities. On a personal level, I am eternally grateful for a gracious and good wife whom I took to be mine nearly 19 years ago. Loving her is my delight.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING!

### Hiking

Sixteen happy hikers from our Youth Group (including Pastor Zach Kirchner and baby Madelyn), enjoyed a day out at Red River Gorge. At the end a couple they met on the trail treated them all to ice cream!



### Kiting

The Navigators Lifestage met up at the annual Kite Festival in Lexington while some of their teens joined the hike at the Red River Gorge. It was a beautiful spring day for both hiking and flying a kite!





## Horse Festival

While the young'uns were hiking and kiting the Primetimers were enjoying a more sedate time at the annual Festival of the Horse. First came the food, then came the horses, and a splendid time was had by our senior citizens.



## And Playing!

The Navigators Lifestage got serious about their fun time together as they teamed up in solving puzzles at the Countdown Games. Some won and some failed when their mission left them lost in space, but they all managed to make it to church by Sunday!





## ENCOUNTERS: LIVING AS A CHRISTIAN IN A POST-CHRISTIAN WORLD

**In this section we share anecdotes from church members about their experiences (inspirational, amusing, or sad) as Christians living in a world that is increasingly hostile to Jesus Christ. Written submissions should be 200 to 300 words in length, or you could simply tell your story to us, and we will produce a suitable report. The anecdote below is an example of the stories we tell.**

### Witnessing While Working

*By Shane Colvin*

Matthew 7:13-14 epitomizes what it is like to work as a Christian at Toyota: *Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*

For the first eight years of my Toyota career I found myself, like many others there, walking the broad way leading to destruction. Then 10 years ago I began a new journey through the strait gate, walking a narrow way, when I received Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. I wasn't perfect (still not!), but I began sharing Christ with others by letting Him shine through my actions, my language, and the conversations I chose to join, or avoid. It quickly established my character as a Bible-believing Christian, leading a co-worker to pay me the greatest compliment as he remarked to others: "Something has changed about him. He's different." Amen!

Our Church website recently posted a quote by E.M.Bounds that perfectly characterizes this experience: "Men preach by their lives, not by their words."

Sadly, there are many people I work with each day who may never receive Christ as their Savior. On the other hand, I look forward to seeing the seeds I have planted become fruit when I reach my eternal home.

The Toyota Production System has a phrase, "Genchi Genbutsu", that means "Go and See" (that is, recognize a problem). Reaching the lost in the working world requires Genchi Genbutsu! We must go and see those who need Christ in their lives and show them the joy of the Gospel message.



## **BIBLE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

**Life comes at us in a hurry, sometimes making it difficult to get timely answers to questions that confront us while reading the Bible or wondering how to apply Bible truth to real-world problems. Here we aim to answer your particular question while also providing a resource for our church family.**

**This Month's Question** is about God choosing Israel, and how to explain that to skeptics who accuse God of being unfair by playing favorites.

**The Answer** from Edward Thal borrows partly from last month's answer to the problem of evil by Pastor Zach Kirchner, who addressed the primary truth we must affirm when thinking about God, that everything happening in the world will eventually bring glory to God, whether we perceive it that way or not.

When we apply this principle to the choices God makes, whether to create the universe or to administer and direct what occurs within the universe, we must affirm that God has the absolute, unquestioned right to do anything He pleases. Think of an artist molding a statue from a lump of clay—the end product is wholly the artist's. We may like it, or dislike it, but we cannot deny the artist's right to express his art as he likes. Moreover, the way in which he expresses himself may tell us a lot about the artist, while our reaction may also reveal a lot about us!

With this thought in mind we affirm that the God who spoke the universe into existence is enormously powerful, wonderfully creative, aesthetically pleasing in His creativity, deeply loving and altogether good. We may at the same time deduce that some catastrophic event has marred the perfection and purpose of God's creation. (Readers of the Bible know the catastrophe to be Adam's free-will rejection of God's authority).

It was against this background that God chose Israel, not to play favorites by isolating and elevating an object of His blessings from the rest of His creation, but to employ Israel as an instrument through which He might fully restore creation and justifiably share His unrestrained blessings with all of it.

(By the way, the fact that we question God's motives is evidence of the corruption within us that God seeks to heal!)