



SEEDS NEWSLETTER

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MEET THE FAMILY

Scott and Caron McCracken



Scott was born in California before his parents moved to Wyoming where he was raised on a ranch as one of seven brothers and sisters. He was saved early, attended the Frontier School of the Bible for a year after high school and then in 1976 went on to Hyles Anderson College in Hammond, Indiana, where he met Caron Crawford. They were married 18 months later.

Caron was born in Dallas, Texas, and is one of seven brothers and sisters. She was saved at age 10 and after her family moved to Whitesburg, Kentucky she attended Maryville College in Tennessee. A year later she transferred to Hyles Anderson College where she met Scott, “a tall, lanky fellow wearing cowboy boots.”

Scott has worked in construction, as a heavy equipment operator, in coal face mining and on gas rigs. After the family moved to Eastern Kentucky, they met Woody and Jan Preston and became close friends, serving in church together. They later moved to Lexington and visited Bluegrass Baptist about six years ago, joining soon after deciding they had found the spiritual fellowship, nourishing preaching and commitment to personal evangelism they were looking for.

Scott and Caron have four children (all attended Pensacola Christian College, including Susannah, who is a member here), and 13 grandchildren.

Elijah Johnson

Born in Copperas Cove, Texas (about halfway between Dallas and Houston), Elijah is the youngest of six children, brother of Levi and Noelle and son of Todd and Danelle who recently moved to Versailles and joined our church last month.

He was raised in a godly home where he was taught about salvation. “We all went to church together whenever the doors opened!” When he was 14 years old, he woke at 4.30 one morning troubled by the thought that if he died then he would go to hell. After debating the issue in his mind for 20 minutes, he surrendered to Jesus Christ!

Now Elijah is happy to work two jobs to stay busy while going through the enlistment process to join the US Army, where he feels he can acquire skills that will serve him well later in life.



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

The Formation Of A Home

Last month, I wrote on the good thing that a wife is to a man who wants to serve God. I noted the role, responsibility, and reality of being a wife. This month highlights those same aspects with regard to a man's duty to form a home established upon God and His principles.

We live in an age where gender is believed to be fluid, because we have lost the moral foundation of God's Word that defines true roles and responsibilities for men and women. As a consequence, we experience reality far removed from God creating man first, not because man is more important, but because he is to be the head of the home, and the leader of our species. That may sound sexist, but not to God!

Let's examine why men are supposed to lead, and understand what has happened as men have not faithfully performed their designed function. God's role for Adam was for him to “dress and keep the garden” (Genesis 2:15), that is, to prepare it for presentation and to guard it from destruction.

But what could destroy the garden if there was no evil, or sin, in the world? The answer is that there was free will! Adam's role was to present and protect the blessing of freely choosing to obey God. He was the provider of direction and discretion, a basic role and responsibility that has never changed for a man.

Eve was alone when the serpent beguiled her. Adam's absence was not sinful, but it exposed a weakness in Eve that led to making a sinful choice to eat the forbidden fruit. When Adam followed Eve's direction instead of leading her to make the right choice, he was clearly out of God's order.

When men fail to provide spiritual, emotional, and physical leadership for their wives, God's order is disrupted and all manner of problems develop. Just as Adam was charged with dressing and keeping the Garden, so too men are ordered to provide for and protect wives and homes from the evil that is in the world. Yet men are often the ones who invite sin into their homes. God forbid that this be true of Christian homes.

Moving on from man's God-appointed role, we must consider the impact of man's responsibility. For a home to be established on the proper foundation, both husband and wife must fulfill God-designed duties.

A woman's responsibility is to surrender (from Ephesians 5:22), while a man's responsibility is to sacrifice himself for his wife, as Christ did for the church (Ephesians 5:25). The issue that invariably arises in a marriage relationship is that the wife struggles to surrender to the leadership role of her husband because he fails to meet his responsibility of sacrificing plans, ambitions, desires, or goals for his wife. Men may think that committing to "take a bullet for my wife" is all that is required, but this worst-case scenario avoids facing the need to sacrifice football time, or hunting, or golfing, or something else on a personal agenda, to meet a wife's needs.

God calls men to sacrifice as we set the direction for our homes. Husbands and fathers should be the first to get up in the morning and the last to go to bed at night if that's what is needed to build a strong home life. Husbands should especially be the ones who read, study, and know the Bible so that they are able to exhort their wives and explain difficult Scripture texts. The reality of a man properly fulfilling his role and responsibility is that his marriage will be secure and he will be blessed with a happy wife and obedient children. The Apostle Peter underlined this fact— see 1 Peter 3:7.

God is honored by following this prescribed order for the successful formation of a home. He is not asking for perfection, but rather an earnest pursuit of these principles by men committed to following God's design. May our homes always reflect such commitment.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

It Was a Busy Month of May!

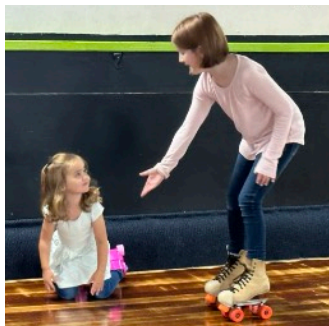
Neighborhood Evangelism

Good weather and more daylight makes our weekly outreach a priority in spring and summer. It's for all ages, as demonstrated by Heather Stewart and two of her children, Liam and Lydia, who are enthusiastic to share the Gospel with our Georgetown neighbors.



Skating

Wes Wade reports that the Bluegrass Kids had a fun day at Charlie's Roller Rink in Cynthiana. Over 50 children and adults attended with about 30 lacing up their roller skates. Many displayed their expert roller-skating skills while some displayed their graceful landings. No injuries were reported, but there were several tired and sore skaters by the end of the day. We plan to make this an annual event!



High School Graduation

Congratulations to our high school graduates this year: Kaylee Watson, Micah Shelton, Levi Johnson, Elijah Johnson, Sabina Dutille, and Dominic Slone. Two of the eight were homeschooled—McKenna Clemons (left) and Katherine Seaman — seen here at a graduation commemoration attended by family and friends.



Women for Christ



May 18 was a Saturday for 25 ladies to get together and serve our community with joy. They met at the church, using their time and talents to prepare many gifts for distribution to facilities in Georgetown, Lexington, and beyond. 80 meals were packed and four tie blankets were made for the Ronald McDonald House in Lexington, to help families with children in area hospitals. 45 “onesies” were made for the Not Alone Pregnancy Center in Georgetown. 10 pillowcases and 10 oversized receiving blankets were made for Norton Children’s Hospital in Louisville (some may be going to Cincinnati Children’s Hospital).

It was a wonderful time of fellowship in the Lord, repeated annually for ladies 12 and older (although some mothers bring smaller children with them). If you would like information about future activities, please talk to Teresa Mazzoni.

Bible Adventure Club Awards



Our Bible Adventure Club (BAC) meets every Wednesday night, for children aged four through eleven. 31 students received awards for the 2nd semester, completing specific tasks that included bringing their Bibles and workbooks to every class, reciting memory verses, class participation, and bringing visitors. High Achievement awards were earned by five students: Owen Vance, Josiah Marshall, Evelyn Au, Jeremiah Marshall, and Christian Au. Bible Adventure Club will resume in August.

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 us your story.

An Encounter on a Construction Site Led to Christ

By Scott McCracken

Knowing how to work a bulldozer means often answering a call for help from friends (and occasionally from our church). I enjoy lending a hand whenever I can—but there was one occasion that I will always cherish for its unexpected outcome.

A few years ago, I was helping to prepare a house construction site by moving a lot of soil, when a man arrived in a white diesel truck. He told me he owned the property and looked forward to moving his family into their new home to be built there. I replied, “Well then, I better keep at it!” and turned to walk away. But I felt urged to suddenly face him again and say, “I want to ask you something. Will you come to church with me?”

He did not seem surprised and asked where I attended church. I said we were located right beside the John Deere dealership and he replied: “That’s where I bought my tractor. I know exactly where it is!”

The next Sunday morning I happened to be standing near the front door when David Foster and his family walked in. I was shocked! The first thought in my mind was, “Why are they here? I’ve invited so many people that never come, but here they are, the very first Sunday after my invitation. And they kept coming, week after week.”

It was the busy end of year on the church calendar, so Pastor Kyle was not able to visit them in their new home until early February. David, Stephanie, and Corbin (then 16) all prayed for salvation that night and were baptized the next Sunday, witnessed by little Emerson, Avery and Brynnleigh.

The church quickly grew close to the whole family as they faced a series of trials: Stephanie’s car was totaled in a serious accident, Corbin landed in hospital after being diagnosed with diabetes, Avery broke her arm in a fall, and David, injured in an ATV accident, died within a few weeks.

I have felt so much a part of each step in the family’s trials, and marvel at their faith. Every time Stephanie and the children come to church it thrills my heart and builds my faith, and I praise God for that meeting with David while sitting on a bulldozer. It has changed all our lives!

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 question while also providing a resource for our church family.

This Month's Question is about meeting in church on Sundays and Wednesdays. Is it biblical, or merely historical tradition?

The Answer from Pastor Zach Kirchner indicates that there is both biblical and historical precedent for the family of God to meet regularly and often, but especially on one appointed day of each week.

The Sabbath Day finds its origin in Genesis 2:2–3, long before the Law is instituted. God himself established the Sabbath and modeled it by resting *on the seventh day from all the work which He had done*. In addition to the Sabbath Day being a rest that was free from all secular work, it also eventually became a celebration of Israel's deliverance from Egypt (Deuteronomy 5:15).

As New Testament believers, we don't celebrate deliverance from Egypt, but we do celebrate deliverance from sin and death that was accomplished when our Lord was risen *on Sunday!* Believers began meeting on the first day of the week in recognition of Christ's resurrection (1 Corinthians 16:2, Acts 20:7). They referred to Sunday as "The Lord's Day" (as we see from Revelation 1:10).

Another reason that God instructed Israel to keep the Sabbath was because the busyness and temporal successfulness of their lives would cause them to forget about God (Deuteronomy 8:11-18). Do we view the Sabbath this way? Do we take a complete rest from secular work? Do we eagerly anticipate our future, permanent Sabbath rest in the presence of the Lord, as indicated in Hebrews 4:9? May God give us the grace to grow in our respect for the one day that He has set apart.

Regarding Wednesdays, the New Testament church finds its precedent for that in Acts 2:46 where it is recorded that believers met *daily* in the temple. To make application, we can infer that meeting together with one another should be a regular thing!