



4050 80th Avenue North, Pinellas Park, Fl

SKYVIEW BULLETIN

Volume 11 Number 33

August 1, 2010

PUTTING THE WORLD BACK TOGETHER



A very interesting story is told about a little boy who figured out a puzzle.

“Some years ago a little boy slipped up beside his father as he was reading the daily newspaper. The little boy had something he wanted to talk about. His daddy wanted to get rid of him, so he dug up an old map of the world, cut it up into little pieces like a puzzle and said, ‘Here son, put this map together and then come back and talk to me.’ He thought he’d have the paper read by then, but in just a few minutes the little boy came back. He had the map all together perfectly. The father said, ‘Son, how

did a little fellow like you know how to put the world together like that?’ The reply was, ‘well, Daddy, there was a picture of a man on the back and when I put the man together properly I found the whole world came out right.’”

It is evident that our world is fragmented by many problems. We have been in a long raging war for several years. Our economy is in a great mess. People are homeless, jobless and many are hopeless. Crime is increasing. There seems to be the absence of any kind of moral code by which people live. Governments are corrupt. Politicians cannot be trusted. On and on the list goes as we think about our world today.

But the answer to the world’s problems can be found in this little story about the boy and the puzzle picture of the world. When he put the picture of the man on the back of the map together, the world came out correctly put together.

There is a “man” that when put back in our lives will result in the world being put back together. Many of the problems we face on a national level would be eliminated if we put Jesus back into the hearts of men and women. On a personal level, as individuals, many of our problems would disappear if Christ was put back together in our lives. Life would be much easier for us, if we like the little boy, would flip the puzzle over and put Jesus back together. When we do this we might find that our own personal world will come back together again.

The things we worry about the most, physical things, would be taken care of if Jesus is first in our lives. This was the focus of the message Jesus taught to His disciples. “*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well*” (Matthew 6:33). “These things,” are the physical necessities of life that we are so concerned about. Food and clothing are necessary to life. But Jesus taught that when we have the right focus we will not have to worry about these things.

We all need to focus on Jesus. He is the “man” on the back of the puzzle. He is the “One” who can put the world back together. He is the “One” who can put our lives back on the right track. The world needs Jesus. You and I need Jesus. CEM

***We all
need to
focus on
Jesus***

ELDERS

**Ron Bastien
Don Greenlee
Charles Murray
David Roberts**

DEACONS

**Ron Bentz
Frank Edwards
Jim Ingram
George Loyd
Andy Murray
Dennis Trask**

PREACHER

Charles Murray

MEN WE SUPPORT

**William Stewart--Kingston, Canada
Bob Owen — Trip to Europe
Mike Mendez —trip to Cuba**

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY

**Worship.....9:30 A.M.
Classes.....10:50 A.M.
Worship.....6:00 P.M.**

WORSHIP PLACE

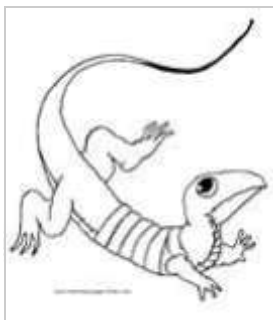
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There we were sitting on the front row—our guest preacher, myself, and one of the deacons. The Scripture reading had been read and we were about two songs into our service when from under the door came a lizard. He darted toward the platform and then turned right toward me. As he made his way closer, I lost my train of thought. The hymn of praise we were singing became nothing but background noise. What was I to do with this lizard? The only weapons available were a songbook and a Bible. It seemed sacrilegious to scoop him up in either book. I really did not want to step on him—and such an attempt would probably fail. Fortunately he detoured away from me toward the middle aisle. Yet I was still distracted, wondering if anyone would scream or jump up and down. After a few moments, I regained my thoughts and joined in the next song. Later someone informed me that a swift-footed elder put a quick end to the distracting lizard.

Yet, she had respect for being God's presence.

We should
not be
lizards in
the worship
service

Sometimes we can become like this lizard in the assembly of God's people. We can do things that distract others from concentrating on the songs, the prayers, the communion, and the message. Focus is taken away from God and placed on an individual. A crying baby often receives much attention. Certainly there is a training time for our infants and toddlers who are learning to sit quietly, and we should be patient with parents who are teaching them. However, young children must mature and learn not to distract others. We can train them not to crawl under the pews or meander down the aisle. We can teach our children to get a drink or use the restroom before services. If they can sit in school all day long, it is not too much to ask them to sit through a worship assembly. Teens need to remember that the assembly is not the time to pass notes, flirt with boyfriends or girlfriends, or talk about the latest sporting event. Adults should be reminded that we do not assemble together to trim our nails or catch up on lost sleep. When I preached in Lake Wales, Florida, one of the members would trim

not only her fingernails, but her toe nails during the assembly. This lady was a high school teacher and certainly would not have tolerated this conduct from her students.

We often sing a song which expresses the respectful attitude we should have when we assemble for worship. "The Lord is in His holy temple; Let all the earth keep silence before Him; Keep silence, keep silence, keep silence before Him." These words certainly express the solemn attitude we should express as we assemble for worship.

We should not be "lizards" in the worship service. We should not be distracters but rather participants in the worship of the Holy One.

The Psalmist wrote:

"Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations: (Psalm 100:1-5).

May we all examine how we conduct ourselves in the worship assembly. God is worthy of our worship. He is worthy of our devotion. He is worthy of our respect when we assemble to praise Him. The Psalmist again wrote; *"I will call upon the Lord, Who is worthy to be praised; so shall I be saved from mine enemies....for who is God save the Lord? Or who is a rock save our God?...the Lord liveth; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted"* (Psalm 18:3,31,46)

Let's not be a distracting "lizard," let's be examples of reverence and respect for our God.



Adult

Auditorium

**New class
beginning in**

January:

The Life Of Christ

GOD'S

PLAN OF SALVATION

Believe—Heb. 11:6

Repent—Luke 13:3

Confess—Rom. 10:9

Be Baptized—

Mk.16:16, Acts 2:38,

1 Pet. 3:21