

Hilltop Community Church of Christ

Small Groups News Letter

August 2009

CHARACTER

Deepening Your Heart

As we walk together in small groups, let's consider how God blesses our leadership and participation through an open and willing heart.

If we are honest with ourselves, it wouldn't take long to identify areas of our heart



and life that are divided, self centered, and generally not honoring to God.

If we leave our hearts unmanaged, they will eventually be our downfall. We want to look at the life of Moses from Hebrews 11 and the words of Jesus in John 15 as the way to become the leaders and followers God desires us to be. Before you can be an effective spiritual leader you must be surrendered as a follower of Christ. The life of surrendering to Christ is a life long process as His Spirit grows you toward maturity. Let's continue to answer THREE basic questions along the way.

- 1) **Who am I?** (The identity question)
- 2) **What will I do with my life?**
(The responsibility question.)
- 3) **How far am I willing to go?**
(The perseverance question.)

1. THE IDENTITY QUESTION

Who am I?

Moses

"By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter."

Hebrews 11:24

- Moses knew and embraced who he was and who he was not.
- Identify the truth of who God created you to be from the lies of what Satan and the world are selling.

Jesus

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

John 15:5



- The branch exists for the sake of the vine; it has no other purpose.
- Everyday, you will choose whether or not to live out your identity (branch) and your priority (remain) for the sake of the Vine (Christ). What identity do you choose?

Who is responsible?

2. The Responsibility Question: What will I do with my life?

Moses

*"He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time."
Hebrews 11:25*

- The choices you make will determine your character and the state of your heart, and that will determine how much God is able to use you.
- You are as close to God as you choose to be.



Jesus

"Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."

John 15:4

- Jesus clarifies that your first responsibility is to remain in Him.
- Understanding who you are will shape your inner thoughts, intentions, values, desires, affections, and motives (all issues typically associated with character).
- Are you spending time staying connected with your vine? How?

Small Group

Leader's Appreciation Banquet

Date: Saturday, Oct. 17

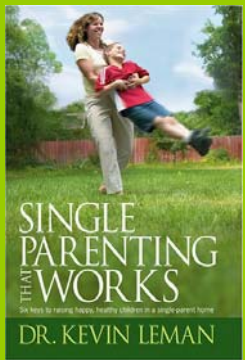
Place: On the Hilltop
717 E. Grand Ave
El Segundo

Time: 6:00pm

SAVE THE DATE!

Persevering in life together!

Single Parenting That Works Class



In the fall of '09 Hilltop is offering a wonderful Sunday morning class for Single Parents. We will meet at 10:00am for class, between 1st and 2nd Service.

Single parenting can be an overwhelming task, but marriage and family expert, Dr. Kevin Lehman offers encouragement for moms or dads carrying the load alone. Discover the six keys that will transform your perspective and help you create a plan for your time and finances tailored to you and your family.

There are workbooks for everyone. We are in this together and let's see how we can sojourn together and help each other out. Let's partner together as parents in God's Kingdom.

For more information contact Charla Griffy-Brown at (310) 420-2524 or Charla.Brown@pepperdine.edu

3. The Perseverance Question How far am I willing to go?

Moses

"By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible."
Hebrews 11:27

- Perseverance is a function of perspective; you will persevere to the end if you keep in mind Christ for who He is (the Vine), and keep perspective of who you are (a branch).

Jesus



You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name." John 15:16

- What will you do to not get sidetracked from your primary responsibility—to stay connected to Christ (and bear fruit through the Holy Spirit)?

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.
Hebrews 12:1

August Calendar

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2 Evening Worship 5pm	3 Small Group Wyant & Riley 7pm	4 Small Group Women 1:30pm	5 AMPED 1pm	6 Ladies Study 10am Prayer Group 12pm EDGE 6pm	7	8
9 Evening Worship 5pm	10 Small Group Wyant & Riley 7pm	11 Small Group Women 1:30pm	12	13 Ladies Study 10am Prayer Group 12pm EDGE 6pm	14	15
16 Evening Worship 5pm	17 Small Group Wyant & Riley 7pm	18 Small Group Women 1:30pm	19	20 Ladies Study 10am Prayer Group 12pm EDGE 6pm	21	22
23 Evening Worship 5pm	24 Small Group Wyant & Riley 7pm	25 Small Group Women 1:30pm	26 AMPED 1pm	27 Ladies Study 10am Prayer Group 12pm EDGE 6pm	28	29
30 Evening Worship 5pm	31 Small Group Wyant & Riley 7pm					

Fall Small Groups

Day & Time	Name	Telephone & Address
Sun - 5:00pm	Hilltop , Hudsons & Edwards	310.322.4898 (Hudsons) 717 E Grand Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Sun - 5:00pm	Smith, Fred & Linda	310.641.8495 8312 Creighton Ave., Los Angeles, 90045
Sun - 5:00pm	Dimick, Jeff	310.227.3822 8300 Gonzaga, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Sun - 5:30pm	Burke, Allyn & Kathleen	310.216.9187 7803 Naylor, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Sun - 5:30pm	Collins & Peterson	310.809.6174 5021 Atlantic Ave #24, Long Beach 90805
Mon - 7:00pm	Hilltop , Riley & Wyant	310.640.9575 (Mike Wyant) 717 East Grand Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Tues – 9:00am	Albright Women's	(310) 546-5479 at Various Homes
Tue- 1:30pm Every Other Week	Hilltop , Ladies - Calhoun & Moreland	310.322.5757 717 E Grand Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Tue - 6:30pm	Geber, Jason & Aybar, Cindy	310.291.8659 (Jason) On the Beach, Hermosa Beach
Tue – 6:30pm	Devlin & Moreland	310.322.5757 (Monica) 730 West Sycamore Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Tue - 8:30pm	Men - Dimick, Jeff	310.227.3822 8300 Gonzaga, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Wed - 6:30pm	Reed, Jon & Burke, Allyn & Kathleen	310.216.9187 7803 Naylor, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Wed - 7:00pm	Young Adults Grinley, Bob & Diane	310.837.9472 10812 Wagner St., Culver City, CA 90230
Wed - 7:00pm	Albrights & Holenstein	310.546.5479 (Albright) 922 10th St, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
Wed. - 7:00pm	Buttles, Steve & Linda	310.306.5282 12620 Rosy Circle, Los Angeles, CA 90066
Thu - 10:00am	Hilltop , Ladies - Marriott & Moreland	310.322.5757 717 E Grand Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Thu - 11:00am	Shields, Millie (Women)	310.643.5775 5360 W. 124th Place, Hawthorne, CA 90250
Thu - 12:00pm	Hilltop , Lunch Time Prayer Group	310.322.5757 717 E Grand Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Thu -7:00pm	Clark, David & Kerrie	571.236.6704 646 Bungalow Drive El Segundo, CA 90245
Thu - 7:00pm	Ng, John & Vivian	310.541.6717 28524 Cedarbluff Dr Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275