

The human body is comprised of 206 bones, over 600 different muscles, an estimated 100 billion neurons, over 70 organs, an average of 5.6 liters of blood, an average of 20 square feet of skin, and numerous other parts. Even a quick glance at the human body we can see how intricately it has been created.

Not only is the body itself an incredible piece of machinery, it allows humans to do some amazing things that no other living creature on earth can do. Humans can talk, laugh, cry, think, build cities, and on and on. The list of things available to us as humans because of the bodies we have can be almost endless.

Yet, at the same time humanity can choose to neglect or harm their bodies, not just use them for profitable means. We can harm our bodies with drugs, food, weapons, etc. Humans can also use their bodies to harm others through abuse, fighting, and even death.

The big question for us as Christians to think about is how can we use our bodies to glorify God and be His ambassadors here on Earth? I believe that God created our bodies very carefully, wanting to give us the best possible vessel for our time here on earth. Because of that I believe there is a right way to live "in the body". Theologian Dallas Willard says, "For good or for evil, the body lies right at the center of the spiritual life – a strange combination of words to most people. One can immediately see all around us that the human body is a (perhaps in some cases even the) primary barrier to conformity to Christ. But this certainly was not God's intent for the body."

1st Corinthians 6:19-20 says, "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies." Our physical bodies house the Holy Spirit of God. They are sacred in the fact that they are not the center of our lives as Christians, they are sacred because they house the center of our lives as Christians; the indwelling Christ. The body is created for spiritual life in the kingdom of God and to be honored – indeed, glorified – in that context.

We are not our own. This statement completely contradicts what the "world" would want us to believe. Our bodies are not ours, they belong to Jesus Christ. Not only did he forgive our sins on Calvary, cleansing our souls so that we can be in relationship with God the Father, he purchased our physical bodies through his death. We do not have the right to do with our bodies what we wish. If we borrow our neighbor's car, we take care not to abuse it. We do not take a chance with someone else's property. Jesus paid for us as the highest bidder. Our body is now His, so He says, "Hand it over; it's mine now." If we purchase something from the store and wait for the delivery to come but it never arrives, we get agitated. We paid for it so we deserve it. "Jesus paid it all, all to Him we owe." Some Christians have never handed over their bodies to the Lord although they have been following him for years. God reserves the right to your body.

Christ left the throne to come to earth and inhabit a physical body. He came in the flesh in order that he might bring redemption and deliverance to our bodies. We are given an example by Christ. And not only did he come and die for us incarnationally, we now house his presence. Our body is not just a physical system, but it is inhabited by the real presence of Christ.

Having our physical bodies prepared in such a way so that anything Jesus asks us to do we are ready for is an important thing in my mind. I don't want my physical body to limit me in what I am able to accomplish for the Kingdom. Now, I understand that there are things and circumstances that are out of my control. Such as sickness, illness, or if I suffer an injury. But, I don't want anything that I am capable of doing to interfere with what Christ might call me to do.

This means that I take care of my physical body with exercise, healthy eating, and rest so that I am not hindered. Christ died for me, his Spirit is living inside me, and it is the least that I can do to take care of the one physical body that he has given me to accomplish his work here on earth. We are Christ's ambassadors. We are his hands, his feet, his body is our body. I want to make this known through my actions, through the way that I take care of myself. That when I am caring for myself, I am really caring for Christ.

~Pastor Jadon

## **Ramblings of Minister of Children's Programming**



All of us are theologians. The question is, are we good ones or bad ones? When most of us think of theologians, we perhaps think of professors wearing suede sport coats with elbow patches debating obscure intricacies of the faith. Such as, did Jesus ever get a cold, did Adam have a belly button, or did Adam and Eve eat an apricot or was it an

apple?

Theology is simply a person's understanding of God. Again, the question is whether or not we have a proper understanding of God. This is what makes us good theologians or

bad ones.

It is critical we have a correct understanding of God; because our kids are developing their own understanding of God based on (at least in part) what they hear from us. This is why James warned us not to desire to become teachers.

We are careful to select sound curriculum and competent teachers because we play such an important role in establishing theological foundation in our kids. Each of us needs to embrace our role as theologians. Sure we need to know the basics and be able to teach them to our kids but we need to deepen our understanding of the gospel so we can teach with clarity the deeper issues we all face.

We can learn a lot not settling and growing as theologians from the story of Apollos in the book of Acts.

## Acts 18:24-28

Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.

When Apollos wanted to go to Achaia, the brothers and sisters encouraged him and wrote to the disciples there to welcome him. When he arrived, he was a great help to those who by grace had believed. He vigorously refuted his Jewish opponents in public debate, proving from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Messiah.

Apollos had a lot going for him he was a knowledgeable and great speaker and passionate, but had a hole in his theology. Priscilla and Aquila took him aside and weren't satisfied that he was mostly right they helped him by refining his theology and Apollos became a better teacher, by God's grace, he listened.

What are we doing to refine our understanding of God? May we, too, listen by God's grace and become powerful teachers of the Gospel of Christ.

Dayton Durley







**Friday, August 4** Volunteers come at 3:00pm. Registration at 4:00pm. Food Delivery at 4:30pm.





Culver Schools Begin September 5th

Madras Schools Begin September 6th



**Friends In Training (FIT)** is a free women's group fitness class taught by Certified Personal Trainer, Audrey Ross, and it started on August 29 at 6:00 pm. This weekly class, will be held in the Fellowship Hall every Tuesday evening. It is a class for all age levels and abilities. If you have a yoga mat or hand weights you can bring them. Contact Audrey with any questions at <u>audrey4ross@hotmail.com</u>, or search "Friends In Training" on Facebook.



## 'Standing On the Word Of God'

Beginning Wednesday, September 27 and going through November 15th. Morning Study will begin at 9:30am Evening Study will begin at 6:30pm All ladies are invited to come and bring a friend.

## MISSIONARY MOMENTS



Samson, Priscilla, and Prateek Retnaraj: Caring for the sick and educating the Church members in Nepal is at the center of Dr. Samson and Priscilla's medical ministry. The overall aim of this ministry is to transform individuals and communities through a seamless combination of the Community Based Health and Development Program, emotional and spiritual healing, and curative medicine provided by trained healthcare workers.

Dr. Samson and Priscilla are a medical team with Priscilla complementing her

doctor husband as a psychiatric nurse. This brings an added dimension to their ministry and to their team of competent healthcare workers.

**Prayers:** That the Lord would continue raising up CHE teams and leaders, and showing them where to extend CHE's outreach. For peace and stability in Nepal. For safety as they travel to churches to train their leaders.



John & Sangi Vanlal: We both were born and brought up in Christian families. In 1978 God called us to be missionaries; we answered the call and went to our adjacent state of Assam. We moved to Nepal in 1983 and worked with United Mission to Nepal. In 1991, we took over the leadership of a Friends school in Chhatarpur, India. In May 1994, under Evangelical Friends Mission we began a church planting ministry in Nepal. By God's grace, under our leadership there are now 36 Churches besides more than 30 outreach villages.

Evangelism and church planting are our

primary focuses and we are experiencing a movement of people coming to Christ. We lead training sessions, seminars and small

workshops and speak at evangelistic meetings as well as church services every week. We visit homes of our people as often as we can to pray with them and encourage them. **Prayers:** For the Lord to continue to raise mature, spiritual, selfless, servant leaders from among the locals. For every church to become a self-supporting and "sending" church. For wisdom and insight in leadership roles and spirit-filled, fruitful ministry. For good physical health.

Summer is over. Time to officially remember what day of the week it is!



"Labor Day is a glorious holiday because your child will be going back to school the next day. It would have been called Independence Day, but that name was already taken." (Bill Dodds)

Parent: "What did you learn today?" Kindergartner: "Not enough. I have to go back tomorrow."

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 4:30 pm Brown Bag Delivery 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	2
3 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship No Youth Group	4 THE OFFICE IS CLOSED TODAY	5 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:00 pm FIT Class 6:30 pm Bible Study @ Drahn's Back to Sc	6	7 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	8 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	9
10 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group	11	12 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:00 pm FIT Class 6:30 pm Bible Study @ Drahn's	13 5:00 pm Elder Ministry Team Meeting	14 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	15 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	16
17 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship No Youth Group	18	19 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:00 pm FIT Class 6:30 pm Bible Study @ Drahn's	20 7:00 pm Steward Ministry Team Meeting	21 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen 7:00 pm Christian Ed Ministry Team Meeting	22 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	23
24 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group	25	26 9:00 am Mom's Group @ the Church 6:00 pm FIT Class 6:30 pm Bible Study @ Drahn's	27 5:00 pm Elder Ministry Team Meeting	28 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship @ the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	29 5:00 pm AA Meeting @ the Church	30