

May 17, 2015

# *Insight...*

***“As you do not know the way the spirit comes to the bones in the womb of a woman with child, so you do not know the work of God who makes everything.”***

*Ecclesiastes 11:5*

- **It's wedding season.** Pray for marriages. Recently, a woman wearing an enormous flowery hat was stopped at the door of the church by one of the ushers. "Are you a friend of the groom?" he asked, "Of course not!" snapped the woman, "I'm the bride's mother."
- **Nepal Earthquake Relief** - Other than pray (because that is a given) who can I trust to use relief money responsibly? Pastor suggests "Samaritan's Purse," a group with which we've worked that deeply cares about people and submits to the heart of Jesus. For relief in Nepal reference Nepal Earthquake Relief (013910). Send to Samaritan's Purse International Relief, PO Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607-3000...or give on-line at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org).
- **Speaking of Natural Disasters** - What's the difference between a trauma and a crisis? According to psychologist Scott Floyd, "*a crisis is a state of distress that challenges a person's normal coping mechanisms. Crisis is not necessarily a bad thing; rather, a crisis is a turning point – financial, directional, or relational – where things can go in either a positive or negative direction.*" A trauma, on the other hand, is an unexpected event that goes beyond normal coping capabilities. Crisis may challenge coping mechanisms, but trauma tends to overwhelm them. Trauma can leave a person with ongoing symptoms that are not easily healed.
- **Information about trauma for those in ministry** – take note if you minister to those in trauma, "trauma can be contagious. It's effects can mark those trying to help the traumatized." Marshall Shelley, editor of Leadership Journal, offers Psalm 69:1-4 as a biblical description of trauma, "***Save me, O God, for the floodwaters are up to my neck. Deeper and deeper I sink into the mire; I can't find a foothold. I am in deep water, and the floods overwhelm me. I am exhausted from crying for help; my throat is parched. My eyes are swollen with weeping, waiting for my God to help me.***" Those who minister must stand firm in the "Rock" in order to hold on to the traumatized without getting pulled in.
- **Tension in the Culture for churches** - When cultural priorities trump God: A third of the American workforce works on the weekend. At least 60% of families with children between the ages of 6-17 participate in organized sports, with many of those having weekend events. Now throw in both working parents, chores, and families simply wanting to spend more time together – when does church get bumped in your home?

➤ **“Hi, we’re first time visitors...**

- ...pastor, do you misinterpret Scripture every Sunday, or is this a special sermon series?”
- ...does your pastor take time during the service to say a special blessing for pets?”
- ...do you use the 1511 version of the King James Bible and excoriate all others?”
- ...are you giving out any free stuff in church this morning?”
- ...do you sing old songs from a hymnal, new songs projected on a screen or old songs sung like new songs th at everyone already knows, or new songs that only your church knows?

➤ **Trivia Question:** What country, other than Nepal, recently suffered the eruption of a volcano in April causing 6,000 people to flee, destroying homes, crops and lives stock?

- A. Chile      B. Indonesia      C. China      B. USA

**For Prayer...**

- ...Norm (Peg) Miller has been hospitalized in Madison with severe pain. Tests are being run.
- ...Women’s Campout this weekend – praying for the Lord’s work in the lives of our ladies of all ages and for good weather in spite of the forecast.
- ...Tom (Barb) Lehman also was hospitalized and sent to Madison. He has lost the use of his legs. Drs. are running tests.
- ...Debbie Penzkover’s sister Tracy’s cancer has spread to her major organs in her abdomen. They will begin treatment. Deb asks for prayer for her comfort and her ability to trust the Lord through this very hard and challenging time.
- ...Jeff Crooks, (Jean Muehlfelt’s brother) died this past week. The family morns and rejoices in his salvation and ultimate healing.
- ...Chuck (Esther) Ruby – recovering from a heart attack, hopefully home from Lacrosse this week.
- ...Ken Boll – stroke rehabilitation is going well. Still longing to come home and disappointments weigh heavily on his heart. Ken may come home towards the end of next week.
- ...Mark Rubata’s dad, Bernard. Fighting cancer. Rallied a bit last week. Pray for wisdom for the family.
- ...Business Meeting this evening – Unity in Christ, grateful hearts and a quorum.
- ...The work of the Nominating Committee.
- ...Space Planning & Church growth.
- ...VBS Committee – workers, preparation and kids to bring kids.
- ...Sale of Homes: Reidle, G--dall, Greenwoods, Brandells, Dunbars, Normans, Stocks...
- ...Couples who are fighting serious physical illness together.

Jeff & Laurie	Christy (Mike)	Sue (John)
Norm & Peg	Cheryl (Deane)	Renee (Dick)
Ken & Judy		
- ...Rejoicing at the birth of Robert Wirth Higgins to Christy and Ben and also with Daisy and Aaron Weiland also had a son, Aaden
- ...Our Expectant Mothers

Sarah (Kelly)	Sarah (Beaner)	Brittany (Andy)
Terra (Ronnie)	Chante (Brent)	Kristin (Shawn)
Diana (Steven)	Britta (Jonah)	Jen (Cody)

**Trivia Answer:** A. Chile

*“When you argue against Him you are arguing against the very power that makes you able to argue at all: it is like cutting off the branch you are sitting on.”*

*C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity*