

# Chapel touchpoints

body life newsletter

*“For the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.”*

*Ephesians 4:12*

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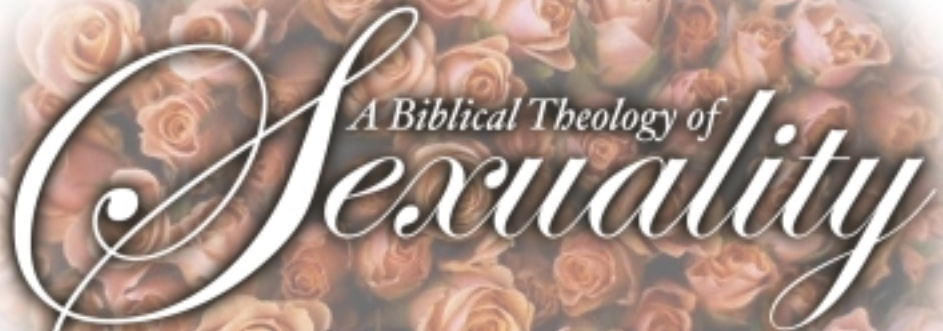
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## A Biblical Theology of Sexuality

“What kind of a theme is that and what is Biblical theology anyway?”

That is probably what some were thinking when we announced the theme for the Chapel’s 2004 Family Enrichment Conference. Biblical theology is nothing more than tracing the historic development of one of the themes of Scripture through the entire Bible. We chose the theme of sexuality because the culture in which we live is saturated with it, and so many Christians misunderstand and sinfully misuse it. We need to know the design that our Creator had and obey His decrees, not go along with the flow of culture.

We began by examining God’s purpose in creating marriage. God designed marriage intentionally from the very beginning. He deliberately created a male and a female to picture and foreshadow Christ and His church. He designed marriage as a continual testimony to each generation of the ultimate glory of our eternal marriage to our eternal Husband. Our earthly marriages are to reflect what our ultimate marriage to Christ is like.

This understanding of marriage is the reason that we are to keep ourselves sexually pure. We are in the waiting period before our marriage union to Christ. The purity that believers keep pictures the fidelity between Christ and His waiting bride. God purposefully designed marriage as a one flesh relationship to foreshadow the one flesh relationship that believers have in Christ. That is why sexual

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# A Biblical Theology of Sexuality

by Elder Greg Cook

Sexuality... continued from page 1

purity is commanded and demanded by God.

Many believe that our sexual relationship is separate from and not related to our marital relationship. But nothing could be further from the truth. Our physical relationship happens in the context of our marital relationship. It is impossible to have a God-honoring sexual relationship when one or both spouses drag their sacks full of hurts and unforgiven sins into the bedroom. With hearts that believe lies and are full of selfish desires, they dump these sacks containing all that garbage all over the bed. Is it any wonder that physical intimacy, as God designed it, is impossible with all that stinky yuck piled everywhere?

Within the purity of marriage we are free to experience the joy of God's gift of sexuality. Contrary to the beliefs that physical intimacy is dirty or a duty, we learned that intimacy is another expression of our worship to God and of joyfully serving our spouse. We saw the importance of words and wants as they give direction to our affections and our

actions. We observed how the husband courts his wife and how the wife charms her husband. 1 Corinthians 7 and Proverbs 5 taught us that God gave us our sexuality for the exclusive purpose of bringing pleasure to our spouse. Our bodies are not our own. They belong only to the one with whom we have entered into the covenant relationship of marriage. God has designed our physical intimacy to be mutually satisfying, mutually initiated, and actively and



frequently pursued. God's design of joy and delight in our earthly physical intimacy is a small foretaste of the joy and delight that we, His bride, will experience when we are eternally united to our Husband, the One Who gave Himself for us.

We capped off our Conference with the Retreat. Dr. Bill Smith helped us to understand what transparency in marriage looks like. One of the vital parts to

transparency is speaking the truth in love (Ephesians 4). When God speaks the truth, He never tears down nor does He keep us weak. He speaks the truth in order to reconcile us to Him and bring us close, not keep us separated from Him. Our dealing with problems involves the

*“God has designed our physical intimacy to be mutually satisfying, mutually initiated, and actively and frequently pursued.”*

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## Devon and Beth Berry

by Joy Bennett

They're back! After spending two and a half years in Seattle, Devon and Beth Berry returned to Dayton and to Clearcreek only a few short months ago.

While in Seattle, Devon pursued a PhD in nursing. He now teaches nursing at Cedarville University part-time while he finishes his dissertation (which he will defend at the end of this year).

On February 2, the Chapel installed Devon into the ministry of elder at the Chapel. He will serve in the Central flock and will take over leadership of the youth ministry from Michael McDonald.

We're delighted to have the Berrys back and serving among us!



## Chapel Directory Updates

Berry, Devon & Beth  
3081 Mirimar Street  
Kettering, OH 45409  
(937) 643-1055

Berger, Linus & Barbara  
1131 Camp Creek Rd.  
Waynesville, Ohio 45068  
(513) 897-2200

Cooper, Jonathan & Michelle  
3219 Mirimar  
Kettering, OH 45409  
(937) 643-1354

Kennedy, Cheri  
2800 Harvey Ave.  
Kettering, OH 45440  
(937) 672-4812

Vaughan, Steve & Heidi  
6174 N. St. Rt. 48  
Lebanon, OH 45036  
(513) 932-5245

Anthony Durso  
930 Snider Rd. Apt. 102  
Mason, OH 45040  
(513) 720-1979

Elizabeth Ebert  
930 Snider Rd. Apt. 201  
Mason, OH 45040  
(513) 398-2505



## Zemmer Ministry Update

January 2004

Praise the Lord for the many things that have transpired since our last update:

- In November we held our first married couple's retreat. We had 11 couples participating for a time of encouragement in our marriages as well as for some fun and fellowship.
- On November 30 our church body voted to call Pastor Jonathas and Eliane as pastor. They had been on pastoral intern status. They will bring back their decision after returning from vacation the first week in February.
- In December we held our annual Leader's Retreat with the goal of planning the 2004 church calendar, prayer, planning for current ministries, and being challenged for future vision of the ministry.

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*“On December 14  
we baptized 9 new  
believers. Thank  
you, Lord.”*

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- The constitution and by-laws were completed but after consultation with our lawyer, there needs to be some simplification of language to satisfy Brazilian civil law. Because of this we did not vote as a church nor did we officially organize. With the end of the year – summer vacation time and Christmas activities we felt it wise to review it in January and February anticipating official organization at our annual church Bible conference and anniversary the end of March.
- December 6<sup>th</sup> closed the year for soccer ministries with an excellent program that included awards for many of the young players. Pastor Jonathas and the youth planned the special program that several of the unsaved parents attended.
- On December 14 we baptized 9 new believers. Thank you, Lord.
- Our church Christmas program was held on

December 21<sup>st</sup> after which most of our congregation left for the holidays. Ben and Becky had arrived the previous week and we had a special two weeks with them. Becky had an interesting travel experience – so we were very glad to see her arrival safely in Brasília and even more glad that she won't have to travel by air alone for a while!

Prayer needs:

- Our primary request is for the decision that Pastor Jonathas and Eliane are making – in response to our church's call to stay on as pastor after completing this year. Staying in Barreiras will mean burning some bridges for them. Also, there are the financial needs that they will be evaluating carefully. Please pray that they will have clear direction and trust in the Lord. We see over and over God's hand in bringing them here and God's blessing on their ministry this past year. It is our strong desire to continue working alongside them in the development of future ministries if God would be so pleased.
- For plans and preparations for Carnival Retreat 2004 that will be held February 20-25 on the church camp property. This year our believers are taking an active role in each aspect of the planning, preparation and carrying out of the retreat. We trust for God's rich blessing.
- For finalizing of the constitution and by-laws.
- For the turning over of responsibilities as we prepare to leave for furlough. Patty is working with Iris and Elisiana who will be team teaching the ladies Bible study. She is also turning over the church finances to Manoel. Each of the leaders and especially Pastor Jonathas will share in the preaching teaching load.
- For our children – each in their own responsibilities: Jonathan and Mandy – as Jonathan continues to look for a permanent job in his area, Ben for his studies, work and discipleship ministry at Cedarville, and Becky as she completes her senior year of high school and decides where to go to college in the fall.

Counting on your continued prayers!  
Dave and Patty Zemmer

*Sexuality...* continued from page 2

ministry of encouragement, speaking honestly for the good of others, developing an atmosphere of being approachable, and hearing confrontation in a God-honoring way. All of this should occur within the context of seeking and extending forgiveness, just as God has forgiven us.

The 2004 Family Enrichment Conference and Retreat has now taken its place in the rich heritage of past Conferences at the

Chapel. It has been the prayer and desire of the Elders that this Conference would inform us with the truth of God's Word, inspire us to change for the glory of God, and give us a renewed appreciation and love for our great God. He, in His wisdom and mercy, designed and gave us our sexuality and our spouses to help us experience a small foretaste of our ultimate marriage to Christ, our glorious and eternal Husband.

## Family Enrichment Retreat

### Quotes from Dr. Smith

*"When you're speaking the truth without love, you're not really speaking the truth at all...truth without love tears people down, and love without truth keeps people weak."*



*"The wisdom of calmness allows people to feel free to approach you."*



*"Our speech should have an accent of heaven."*

*"Confrontation does not separate those who are close. Rather, confrontation brings together those who are already separated."*

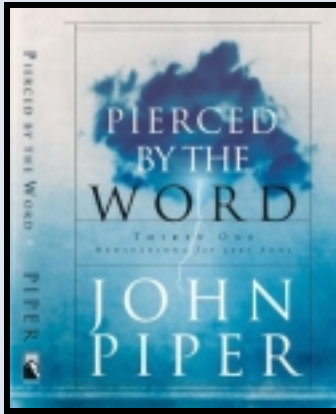


*"It's easy to go around catching people in wrongdoing. Practice catching people doing things right."*



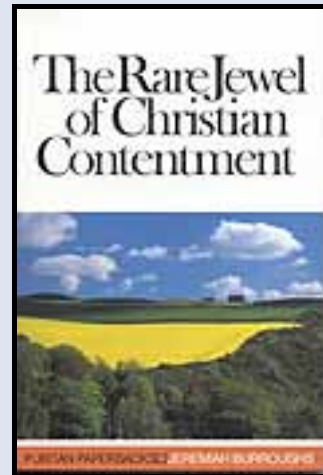
*"When you see that you've done something wrong, own it. Make no excuses."*

## Bookstore Spotlight



*Pierced by the Word*, by John Piper, takes up thirty-one subjects as unique as “How to Be a Refuge for Your Children,” “How to Drink Orange Juice to the Glory of God” and “Embracing the Pain of Shame.” Some are longer, some shorter, like the real-world conversations they so closely resemble, and each comes from the fertile mind of John Piper and is written in his own inimitable style. Together, the readings will lead to a deeper understanding of God and a cleaner, clear relationship with Him. Most of all, Piper’s approach shows how meditating on God’s powerful Word can affect every aspect of our lives.

We live our lives in a discontented world and it is all too easy for the Christian to share its spirit. This book by Jeremiah Burroughs remedies this spiritual disease in practical biblical ways.



## Family Enrichment Retreat

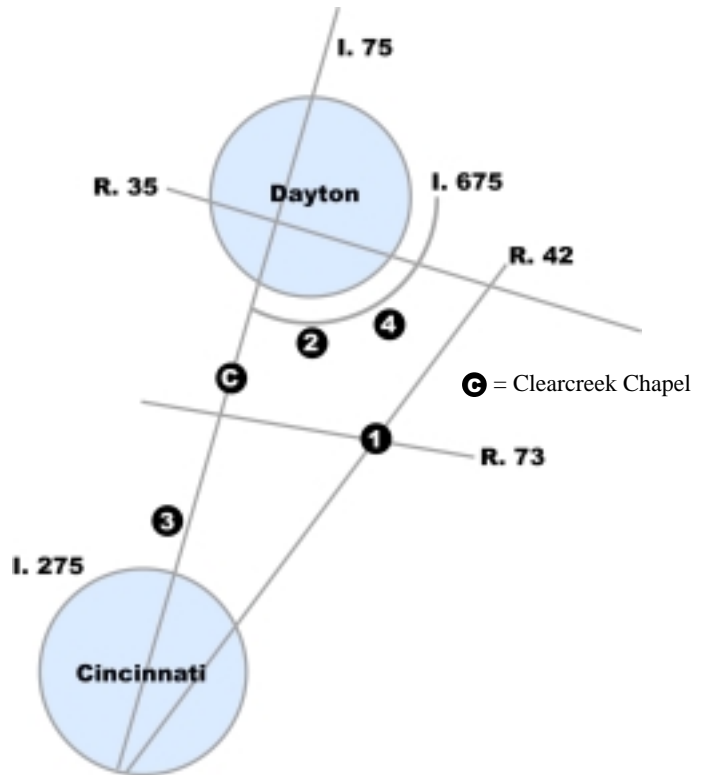
by Scott Bennett

Cincinnati hadn’t seen a colder January 31 since 1965. But the piercing temperatures that plummeted to a staggering minus 12 degrees didn’t stop Clearcreekers and Grace Partners friends from venturing out to the beautiful Embassy Suites Hotel in Blue Ash for the 2004 Grace Partners weekend Retreat.

Over the course of Friday night and Saturday, Dr. Bill Smith — counselor and faculty member of the School of Biblical Counseling at CCEF and lecturer in Practical Theology at Westminster Theological Seminary — warmed our hearts with a 5-part series entitled *Transparency in Marriage*. With clarity and humor, Dr. Smith got to the heart of communication struggles and pointed us to the biblical model for Godly communication in the home. See highlights from Dr. Smith’s series on page 5!



Dr. Bill Smith



	Name	Neighborhood	Shepherds	Host Location	Contact
<b>1</b>	Central	Springboro Franklin Waynesville Germantown	Dan Turner Devon Berry	Barb Berger 1131 Camp Creek Rd Waynesville 513.897.2200	Terry Engle 937.748.9295
<b>2</b>	Mid and West	Centerville Kettering Miamisburg West Carrolton	Russ Kennedy Ed McNeese	Russ Kennedy 211 Marsha Jeanne Way Centerville 937.886.9126	Sheelah Beaver 937.885.3112
<b>3</b>	South	Middletown Monroe Mason West Chester South of Rt. 123	Michael McDonald Ken Ebert	Becky Thompson 755 Davis Dr 513.539.  Linda Frye 665 Linn Ct Monroe 513.539.4436	Amy Ebert Church Assistant 937.885.2143
<b>4</b>	North and East	Dayton Oakwood Bellbrook Brookville Fairfield Xenia North of Dorothy Lane	Dale Evans Greg Cook	Roger Gelvin 115 S Main Street Bellbrook  Tom Watkins 1515 Hearthstone Dr. Dayton	Mitch Mascotti 937.848.9116



February 2004						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Ladies Bible Study 9:30-11:00 a.m. Chapel Kitchen	4 Flock groups 7:00-9:00 p.m.	5	6	7
8 Outreach Luncheon 12:30-1:30 p.m. Chapel Auditorium	9 Counseling Class 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Chapel Auditorium	10	11 Flock groups 7:00-9:00 p.m.	12	13	14 Women's Workshop 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Chapel
15	16 Counseling Class 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Chapel Auditorium	17 Ladies Bible Study 9:30-11:00 AM Chapel Kitchen	18 Flock groups 7:00-9:00 p.m.	19	20 Youth Overnighter 8:00 p.m.-8:00a.m.	21
22	23 Counseling Class 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Chapel Auditorium	24 Shower for Susan Lubbert 6:30-8:00 p.m.	25 Flock groups 7:00-9:00 p.m.	26	27	28
29 The Lord's Table 6:00-7:30 p.m. Chapel Auditorium						

March 2004						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Counseling Class 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Chapel Auditorium	2 Ladies Bible Study 9:30-11:00 a.m. Chapel Kitchen	3 Flock groups 7:00-9:00 p.m.	4	5	6
7	8 Counseling Class 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Chapel Auditorium	9	10 Flock groups 7:00-9:00 p.m.	11 Women's Various Workshops 7:00-9:00 p.m.	12	13 Women's Workshop 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Chapel
14	15 Counseling Class 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Chapel Auditorium	16 Ladies Bible Study 9:30-11:00 AM Chapel Kitchen	17 Flock groups 7:00-9:00 p.m.	18	19	20
21	22 Counseling Class 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Chapel Auditorium	23	24 Flock groups 7:00-9:00 p.m.	25 Shower for Beth Ebert 7:00-9:00 p.m.	26	27 Youth Paintball 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
28	29 Counseling Class 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Chapel Auditorium	30	31 Flock groups 7:00-9:00 p.m.			