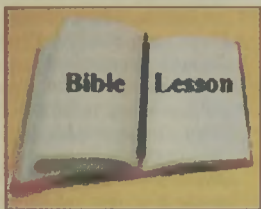


8B

RELIGION

Life 1B



Father's urgent request

Luke 8:40 - 42

**Jesus' Return (v. 40)**  
40. And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him: for they were all waiting for him.

Jesus has just returned from the region of the Gardarenes where He had cast out the legions of demons from the man who was living in the tombs. This region has more of a Gentile population than Galilee or Judea. Jesus' occasional trips to these largely Gentile areas demonstrate that His ministry is for all people, even as the gospel is the power of God to everyone who believes—both Jew and Greek. (Romans 1:16)

This is a time in Christ's ministry when the crowds make it difficult for Jesus to have any solitary moments or time He can spend solely with 12 preparing them for future ministry. Wherever Jesus goes, there seem to be a crowd pressing against Him for an opportunity to hear Him speak or to receive a miracle. Now that Jesus is back in Galilee, the crowds again swarm around Him. They are glad to have him back.

**Jairus's Request (v.41)**

41. And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue; and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house.

Not only is the average citizen excited to have Jesus back in Capernaum, Jesus' arrival also catches the notice of Jairus. As a ruler of the synagogue, he oversees the day-to-day operations of all that happens there. He is an important official. It is unusual for someone of prominence to come and fall at another's feet in Jesus' day. It is more typical for someone to come and bow.

Even the idea of bowing would itself suggest an attitude of humility in the presence of someone greater than you. This is the heart of submission. No one is immune from great personal needs. As important as Jairus may be in the eyes of the community—or even in his own eyes—he recognizes that he has a need that he is unable to meet on his own. So, he humbly comes before Jesus, pleading with Him to come into his house.

**Jairus's Dilemma (v.42)**

42. For he had one only daughter, about 12 years of age, and she lay a dying. But

Please see FATHER'S/7B

MegaFest music



University Park Baptist Church's Kingdom Voices Choir performed during the "Woman Thou art Loosed" service at MegaFest last week in Atlanta.

University Park participates in Atlanta conference

SPECIAL TO THE POST

Two University Park Baptist Church groups performed at MegaFest last week.

The Kingdom Voices Choir and the praise team ministered through music

at MegaFest, the largest Christian family conference presented by Bishop T.D. Jakes.

MegaFest was held in Atlanta last week and the University Park Choir performed during the

"Woman Thou Art Loosed" service where the guest speaker was Evangelist Jackie McCullough.

The choir is promoting its new CD "One Thing I Desire," which was released at MegaFest. The

CD is on sale at the University Park Baptist Church Bookstore, and online at

www.onethingidesire.com. The CD will be in other retail outlets in September.

Misspellings prove vandals not satanic

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPARTA, Tenn. —Teenagers who can't spell, not devil worshippers, shattered windows and spray-painted a church, weeks after fires at two other churches in this small town, an investigator said Monday.

Detective Chris Isom said some of the spray-painted messages "misspelled Satan ... as Santin, on one of the walls." He said an investigation was continuing.

"We actually think it is some teenagers, instead of Satan worshippers," Isom said.

Isom said there was no connection between the late July vandalism at the predominantly white First Aposto-

lic Church in Sparta and fires weeks earlier at the predominantly black Roberts Street Church of Christ and Kynette United Methodist Church.

Police charged James Henry Dibrell, 47, with arson and burglary in the earlier fires that damaged the two churches and five vacant houses in one neighborhood.

Investigators previously said race was not a factor in the fires. Dibrell's relatives said he was addicted to drugs and mentally ill. He remains in custody.

The Rev. Kip Simar, pastor of First Apostolic Church, said he agreed that teenagers probably were responsible

for the vandalism that included spray-painted messages that meant to say "Satan is my God" and "Kill Jesus" and included threats against him and his family.

"They have no respect for the Lord's stuff, the kingdom of God," Simar said.

Simar said the vandals must have been looking for money and when they didn't find any they spotted the church's spray paint. He said the damage totaled about \$6,000.

"I don't hold it against them," Simar said. "I know they are doing it not really knowing what they are doing."

Sparta is about 75 miles southeast of Nashville.

Ancient church remains found in Egypt

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAIRO, Egypt —The remains of an ancient church and monks' retreats that date back to the early years of monasticism have been discovered in a Coptic Christian monastery in the Red Sea area, officials said.

Workers from Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities found the ruins while restoring the foundations of the Apostles Church at St. Anthony's Monastery. The remains are about 2 or 2 1/2 yards underground, said the head of the council, Zahi

Hawass.

The monastery, which is in the desert west of the Red Sea, was founded by disciples of St. Anthony, a hermit who died in A.D. 356 and is regarded as the father of Christian monasticism. A colony of hermits settled around him and he led them in a community.

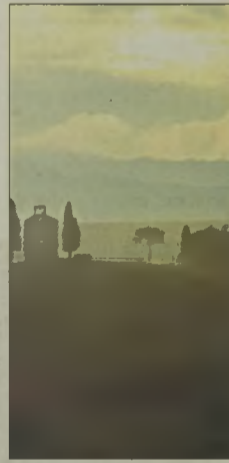
The remains include the column bases of a mud-brick church and two-room hermitages. The remains of a small oven and a stove for food were found in one hermitage room, Hawass said. Another room had Coptic writing on the walls

and a small mud-brick basin.

"These hermitages are the oldest in Egypt and they cast light on the history of monasticism in Egypt," Abdullah Kamel, the head of the council's Islamic and Coptic Antiquities department, told The Associated Press.

Kamel could not offer a precise date for the hermitages.

Christians account for an estimated 10 percent of Egypt's population and belong mainly to the Coptic Church, which traces its origins to St. Mark.



PHOTO/THE STOCK MARKET



Neville's hymns simply superb

Neville Peter  
Simply Hymn  
Volume One  
Neville Peter,  
producer  
Meridian Music Group



Once it seemed hymns were passé in gospel music. Now it seems everyone wants to record such.

Neville Peter, blind since age 12, is the latest to offer a CD of hymns. His differs greatly from Bishop James Dixon's "Hymns To Hold On To," which offers standard hymns with a bit of updating "without changing the original intent of the writer."

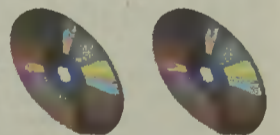
On "Simply Hymn," Peter sounds as if he sat at a piano, open the hymnal and started playing his favorites. There's very little interpretation - what's written on the page is what you get.

That's the problem with this CD. Peter's voice is melodic and sweet, but lack of interpretation renders this CD for play at funeral homes. These songs are perfect for visitation and quiet hours.

Ironically, those same shortcomings make this CD likable. Even with little interpretation, the beauty of Peter's voice shines through. It's not spectacular, but it's soothing. It's also refreshing to hear his songs done without ornamentation or bravado. Each song's meaning is uncompromised and unaltered.

"Near The Cross" and "Amazing Grace" are fairly tepid by any standards, but "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," "Holy, Holy, Holy" and "Nothing Between/ Surrender All" better represent this package. Peter's voice and piano make each song memorable.

If hymns are your forte, this CD could be exactly what your seeking.



Ratings

- Classic; ★★★★★
- Excellent ★★★★★
- Good ★★★
- Fair ★★
- Why? ★
- No stars - A mess

CHURCH NEWS

The deadline to have your church announcement added to the calendar is 5 p.m. on Fridays.

Ongoing

Chappell Memorial Baptist Church will open its Clothing Closet to families in need every first and third Saturday of the month. Families can come to the church, which is located at 110 Bradford Drive, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For more information, call (704) 394-5615. There is no charge for the clothes.

• Plaza Baptist Church, located at 3321 The Plaza, will host an eight-week study by Bruce Wilkinson designed to show how the Prayer of Jabez can release God's favor. The series begins nightly at 7 p.m. For more information, call (704) 334-3913.

First Presbyterian Church will host a summer lawn concert from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. David LaMotte will perform. The church is located at 200 West Trade St. For more information call (704) 332-5123.

August 13

The Central Carolina Collective Banking Group and First Charter will sponsor a Back To School Bash on Saturday, August 13, 2005 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at University City Church, 7829 Old Concord Road. This event will be the culmination of the Guaranteed 4.0 Boot Camp Seminar that will be offered at Nations Ford Community Church, Friendship Baptist Church, Gastonia, and University Park Baptist Church during the week of

August 14

Greater Mt. Sinai Baptist Church, 1243 West Blvd. hosts Missionary Day at the 11 a.m. service. Kim Morrison from University Park Baptist Church will deliver the message.

August 15

Friendship Baptist Church will host the 108th annual session of the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention. For more information, contact Doretha L. Leak at Dlleak33@aol.com.

August 21

Trinity Park Baptist Church will host its summer revival, with the theme of "Wisdom Makes a Difference..." There will be different speakers each night of the revival.

Sunday, Bishop George Brooks, Pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Greensboro, service will start at 5 p.m.

Services for August 23-25 start each night at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, August 23rd-Rev. George Cook, Pastor of Mt. Sinai Baptist Church, Wednesday, August 24th-Dr. Fred Gibson, Pastor of Greater Providence Baptist Church Thursday, August 25th-Dr. Paul Drummond, Pastor of First Mayfield Baptist Church,

August 26

Faith Bible Church presents Children Playing in the Overflow Prayer Conference for children ages 8-12. The Fort Mill based church will host the conference at its location at 3605 Centre Circle Drive. The conference lasts for two days. The registration deadline is August 1. To

Please see CHURCH/7B

