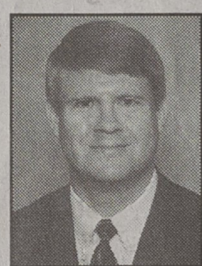


**MEDITATION**

## Love, faithfulness, grace concepts we should live by

At my house we enjoy movies, and one movie we like is an animated feature called Shrek. Shrek is the story of how a big green ogre, who happens to live in a swamp, goes on a journey to rescue a princess from a castle and then brings her back to marry a selfish, power-thirsty king, and he does all of this so that he can save his home. But as many fairy tale stories go, the ogre ended up falling in love with the beautiful princess, and though it came as a surprise, the two of them married, moved into the swamp, and there were able to live happily ever after.



**Jeff Hensley**  
Meditation

An important part of what makes this movie fun is the fact that it includes a reversal of fortunes that cuts against the grain of what is typically expected. This reversal of fortunes is evident in a number of different ways. For example, the green ogre wins the princess. The beautiful princess then ends up taking love's true form - that of another green ogre. And in addition, a lowly donkey becomes a hero, a fiery dragon turns out to be a compassionate lady, and a fairy tale wedding, which is attended by a group of outcast fairy tale characters, is held in a muddy swamp.

Most good stories share the sort of role reversal that is depicted in the movie Shrek, but popular fiction and films are not the only places where you can find this kind of thing. In fact, the same sort of reversal of fortunes is evident in the Bible, especially in the life and teachings of Jesus. Of course, most of us have certain expectations for life, and people in first century Palestine shared many of our expectations, which is why Jesus' teaching often cuts across the grain. Saying things like, "The first shall be last and the last shall be first," just didn't seem to make Jesus many friends. Indeed, Jesus' expectation that our lives should be transformed by Kingdom values often led to the formation of enemies and mobs. I suspect that the reason for this was because

Jesus' teachings, when taken seriously, seem to turn our expectations on their head.

Take, for example, how we typically understand success. Though some folks clearly suggest that success means putting yourself first, placing your goals above the goals of others, and being self-sufficient, the teachings and example of Jesus suggest a very different picture. From the gospels we see that Jesus defines success as giving God first place, giving ourselves away to others, and depending on God's strength rather than our own.

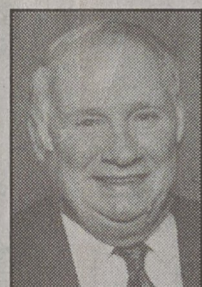
Though it's interesting and fun to watch movies like Shrek because they entertain us while also giving us the opportunity to examine the concepts of love, faithfulness, and grace, the teachings of Jesus remind us that these concepts are not fictional notions that are limited to films and books, but are actually some of the most important concepts by which we should live.

Dr. Jeff Hensley is pastor of Kings Mountain Baptist Church. His column appears weekly in The Herald.

**GUEST COLUMN**

## Come on Al, Sean, Jesse, et al; no more causes to champion?

Notes: It has dawned on me that celebrities are running out of causes to champion.



**Jim Heffner**  
Guest Column

Let's see, several of them have the war in Iraq. There's Sean Penn, George Clooney and Susan Sarandon. Clooney also pushes help for Darfur. Jane Fonda is in charge of war in general, but remember, any troop movements must still be approved by Penn.

Al Gore, and a host of show business types who cannot spell environment, have latched onto global warming. Gore is absolutely certain there's a hole in the ozone over Cherryville.

Gore must be careful not to infringe on Jeanine Garofalo, who is the ozone's largest booster.

The rapper, Jay Z, is spokesman for the worldwide clean water crisis. He actually couldn't find a cause which interested him, so Jay Z made up the clean water gig. It's ambition such as that which makes you proud.

Mike Farrell has been involved in lots of causes, but he is presently interested in making sure the U.S. doesn't attack any Central American

country. He works in concert with Martin Sheen on that front. Sheen is currently busy getting his Hollywood Friends to donate blood in Nicaragua.

There are still a few causes open, but they're not very glamorous. Protection of rain forests is available since Sheen gave it up.

Then there's removal of dead animal carcasses from the Interstate Highway System. Nobody seems to want to take that one on.

The preservation of spotted owls, red-cockaded woodpeckers, garter snakes, snail darters and other endangered species are all important, but have lost their shine for some celebrities. All of these would be excellent causes for young Hollywood actors just starting out.

Oh well, so much to do and so few to do it.

Musings: Does anybody else believe that some who claim they fight for an end to racism sometimes perpetuate it?

Jesse Jackson has said his Rainbow Coalition would pay the accuser's tuition in the Duke lacrosse rape case regardless of the truth of her claims. So much for being judged by content of character rather than the color of skin.

After the O.J. Simpson trial, former NBA basketball players John Salley and Magic Johnson were talking about Simpson on Salley's TV talk show. They agreed that Simpson may have

been guilty, but he is "still one of us."

Remember to celebrate before the month is out. It is Black's history month. Jim Black that is.

Isn't it possible that the real father of Anna Nicole's child is none other than O.J. Simpson?

Note: Britney Spears has again entered rehab. Nobody knows what kind of rehab. We just know it's rehab.

Note: Spears disappeared from rehab in less than 24 hours. Be on the lookout, she'll be the young bald headed woman without underwear.

Musing: I do wish these big city reporters would start to identify rehab. After all, as things stand today, every time somebody says something construed as politically incorrect, the person who says it runs for rehab. Usually it's alcohol rehab or drugs, but there are other addictions. The most glamorous, of course, is sexual addiction. That one was invented by Michael Douglas. Then we have gambling, eating and cruelty to grandparents.

There are plenty of addictions to go around, and some of them don't have a celebrity spokesman.

Jim Heffner is a writer for the Belmont Banner/Mount Holly News and a regular columnist for The Herald. Contact him at Jim@thebannernews.com.

**LOOKING BACK**



This picture submitted by Margaret Dover of Kings Mountain shows the West Mountain Service Station at the corner of West Mountain Street and City Street in 1939 or 1940. Standing in front of the station is proprietor Fulton Everhart. The building in the background is the rear of the old Chevrolet dealership that faced Railroad Avenue.

## WKMT Radio went on the air on Tuesday, March 10, 1953

From the March 5, 1953 edition of The Herald: Radio Station WKMT, King Mountain, goes on the air early Tuesday morning with regular programming continuing throughout the day. During the past week WKMT has been on the air after midnight for equipment testing.



**Gary Stewart**  
Editor

City Florist Shop will open for business at 202 Cherokee Street on Saturday morning. Richard Price is owner and operator of the new firm.

J. Clyde Randall, Guernsey dairyman of the Bethlehem Community, was awarded the Charlie Rackley Guernsey Cup at the meeting of the North Carolina Guernsey Association in Winston-Salem Friday.

Ollie Harris and Rev. P.D. Patrick represented the Cleveland County Citizens Committee for Good Government at the hearing in Raleigh Tuesday on the proposed bill to call for a liquor referendum in the state.

The city board of commissioners and the city planning board met jointly Tuesday night and agreed to the calling of a city manager system election.

Kelly E. Weaver, Kings Mountain high school senior and winner of the Cleveland County oratorical contest sponsored annually by the American Legion, has been declared 28th

District winner. Laura Morris with 434 points and Dan Huskey with 203 paced the scoring for Bethware High School's basketball teams this season.

Baseball drills will begin Monday at Kings Mountain High and the first Western AA game is March 31 in Hickory, Coach Everette Carlton announced.

Mafor Lawrence of Bessemer City has moved to Kings Mountain to assume management of Sisk Funeral Home here.

Mrs. John Henry Caldwell was hostess Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock honoring her sister, Joyce Ann Childers, in celebration of her 11th birthday anniversary.

Mrs. Grady Yelton and Miss Diana Gamble will represent the Junior Woman's Club of Kings Mountain Friday, March 13 in the Fashion show of the leading spring fashions, sponsored by the Junior Woman's Club of Shelby.

Kings Mountain's girls basketball team defeated Shelby 36-34 at the Shelby Community Center last Friday in the season's finale. Shirley Falls led the scoring with 20 points and Gertie Jenkins scored 12. The boys lost 60-40. Ollie Harris Jr. scored 15 points for KM. Andy Cockrell of Grover led Shelby with 30 points. Grover's girls won their 25th

and 26th straight games over the past week, defeating Waco 76-15 and Polkville 61-38. Peggy Keeter scored 53 points against Waco and 37 against Polkville.

Four new members were welcomed into the Junior Chamber of Commerce Tuesday night at the Masonic dining hall. W.S. Fulton Jr., membership chairman, welcomed Neil Hullender, Arnold Falls, Robert Whitesides and Ed Smith.

Mrs. Aubrey Mauney has been named the winner of the North Carolina Federation of Woman's Clubs musical composition contest.

"No town in the state has the sewage disposal capacity, per capita, that you have," Russell McKee of Morristown, Tenn, told the city board of commissioners Monday afternoon as he collected a \$1,850 check for repairing the city's several sewage disposal tanks.

John C. Greene, general manager of Radio Station WKMT, will address members of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club at the regular meeting Thursday at the Masonic dining hall.

Mrs. Earl Ledford, Mrs. Arnold Kincaid, Miss Melba Tindall and Miss Betty Lou Melton will leave Tuesday morning to attend the W.M.U. State Convention at the First Baptist Church in Wilmington, March 10 and 11.

## The Herald

Published every Thursday  
Periodicals postage at Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
USPS 118-880 by Republic Newspapers, Inc.  
Postmaster, send address changes to:  
P. O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
Phone (704) 739-7496 • Fax (704) 739-0611  
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**HERALD DEADLINES**

Deadline for lifestyles news is 12 noon Monday. That includes weddings, engagements, anniversaries, birthdays, club news, church news, school news and community news.

Deadline for all other news is 5 p.m. Tuesday. That includes city and county government news and sports. In cases of Tuesday night meetings and activities, items will be accepted until 8 a.m. Wednesday.

Items received after deadline will run if time and space permit. Otherwise, they will be withheld until the next week.