

# Announcements

Jo Byrnes \* Betty Cannon \* Joyce Coones \* Sleatha Gore  
Evelyn Griffin \* Faye Kilpatrick \* Gary Ogden  
Randy McElroy \* Carl Rutter (*surgery tomorrow*)  
Jim Gill (*suffering from cancer; friend of the Ashli Barr family*)

## Teachers' Meeting This Afternoon

In the classroom building at 4:15 PM.

**W**e want to express to all of our mothers and grandmothers (and even great-grandmothers) a heartfelt *thank you* for everything you have done, do, and will continue to do. Life under the sun would be much harsher if it were not for godly women professing godliness (*1 Timothy 2:10*).

## How to Raise a Wayward Child

1. Never listen to your children. Talk *at* them, not *to* them.
2. Warn your children of the dangers or illegal drugs while you drink beer and smoke cigarettes.
3. Never give your children any meaningful spiritual training. Instead, emphasize religious ritual, outward appearances, and the letter of the law.
4. Disobey the law in front of your children and tell them by your attitude that the laws were passed for everyone but you.

Chiefland Church of Christ

Meeting at 211 NE 2nd Street in *beautiful* Chiefland, Florida  
PO Box 2539 \* Chiefland, FL 32644 \* (352) 493-1242

# THINGS ABOVE

"Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth"

—[ Colossians 3:1-2 ]—

May 10, 2009  Vol. 5, No. 8

[www.ChieflandChurchofChrist.com](http://www.ChieflandChurchofChrist.com)

## Memories of a Mother

**S**he carried me under her heart, loved me before I was born, took God's hand and walked through the "valley of shadows" that I might live.

She bathed me when I was helpless, clothed me when I was naked, fed me when I was hungry, rocked me to sleep when I was weary, and sang with the voice of an angel.

She held my hand when I learned to walk, suffered with my sorrow, laughed with my joy, glowed with my triumph, and while I knelt at her side, she taught me to pray.

She was a loyal friend when others failed. Through all the days of my youth she gave me strength for my weakness, courage for my despair, and hope for my hopeless heart.

She prayed for me whether the day was flooded with sunshine or saddened by shadows. I can never repay the debt I owe to my mother.



# Prayer & Meditation

By Steve Dewhirst

We live in a noisy world. We're surrounded by televisions, radios, iPods, computers, traffic, telephones, and people. Without realizing it, the art of thinking, meditating, and praying leisurely has been lost to a great extent. Everything is instant. We rattle off mindless blurbs on-line via Instant Messenger and e-mails. We no longer think or write in complete sentences. And texting on cell phones may prove the undoing of the English language. Technology is fine, but not at the expense of the human mind. True, we think we are smarter because we have more technologically advanced toys, but even trained animals can learn simple tricks.



Genuine intellect manifests itself in the ability to think and reason. Reacting to life only in terms of how one “feels” is indicative of stifled, immature mental development. As we grow in our ability to handle complex and abstract concepts, we grow in basic understanding. The same is true for our personal faith. The more we learn to think and reason on the word of God, the stronger and deeper our faith will become. Spiritual maturity is dependent upon our effort to meditate and reason our way through scripture. It requires both time and effort. A “faith” that is only skin deep, that expresses itself only in terms

of “feelings” or blind devotion to tradition and ritual, is no faith at all.

Christians are in *need* of prayer and meditation. Admittedly it can be tough to find time, especially if we have small children underfoot or heavy job schedules. But it only means we must try that much harder to find time for God. Instead of staying up so late with the TV, we could get up an hour earlier in order to have private time for Bible study and prayer. Or once the kids are in bed, we could find our quiet time then. But whatever we need to adjust to make time for our spiritual health is worth the investment in eternity. It's the most important thing.



## Quotable Quotes

The sweetest sounds to mortals given  
Are heard in Mother, Home, and Heaven.

—William Goldsmith Brown

When you are a mother, you are never really alone in your thoughts. A mother always has to think twice, once for herself and once for her child. —Sophia Loren

Mother - that was the bank where we deposited all our hurts and worries. —T. DeWitt Talmage