

### Upcoming Youth Events

- **Youth Group**  
Sundays 6:30—7:30  
Middle & High School
- **Mission Minded Kids**  
Sundays 6:30—7:30pm  
Ages 3-5
- **Mission Trip** ★  
New York City  
July 22-29, 2006
- **Carowinds**  
August 23, 2006

For info, contact Pastor Scott  
at 704.263.4275



### *Scott's Thoughts* by Scott Deneen, Pastor to Youth and Families

Love is an amazing power. Love motivates people to travel long distances, spend lots of money, overcome tremendous obstacles, and battle overwhelming odds... just for a chance to express itself. Love isn't worried about cost or effort because its joy is found in blessing others. Therefore, cost is not the issue because whatever is spent is of less value than love's object.

The Bible describes love this way: "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud." In other words, love is focused on blessing, exalting, and caring for another person whatever the cost involved. Do I have to wait on my wife? So be it if she needs it. Does my friend get a promotion at work instead of me? Terrific, I'm so happy for them! Does my performance go unnoticed by superiors? That's alright, because I'm laboring out of love for God rather than accolades.

Love is contrary to our natural way of doing things. Normally we want attention, accolades, compensation, glory, and first place. Love says it's O.K. for another to get glory, accolades, honor, and compensation. Love *desires* honor, glory, and blessing for others.

The Bible goes on to say that love "is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not easily angered, and keeps no record of wrongs." Because love seeks the blessing of others, it absorbs all wrongs done against it. Love looks for ways to commend, praise, forgive, and show kindness even to those who do not deserve praise or kindness.

Does all this sound difficult? Does helping someone who's been tormenting you at work seem fair? Does forgiving someone who keeps doing the same thing over and over again seem right? Only if love is operating will you say "yes" to any of these questions. And, if you're like me, you need God working in your heart to say "yes."

Sacrificial love - the kind that gives so much it hurts - is not natural to our worldly minds & hearts. We normally dispense justice; i.e., you love me, I'll love you. But God's kinda love says, "I'll love you no matter what." Here's an example from God's Word in 2 Samuel 9...

Mephibosheth (yes, that's his name! poor guy!!) was the only remaining son of King Saul. He was lame in both feet and pretty much worthless according to ancient society. Plus, by birth, he was a threat to King David's claim to Kingship. King David called Mephibosheth into his office one day, and Mephibosheth knew what was coming... execution. However, David had other plans.

God had shown King David what true love was like by giving him an everlasting kingdom through which Jesus would rule. David, armed with God-love, wants to show his enemies how awesome God's love is, so he calls Mephibosheth in and gives him honor, land, and a place at the King's table - nobility! Wow! I'll bet Mephibosheth pinched himself for a week.

God does the same for us through Jesus. He calls us in - rebellious though we be - and loves us. Not because we're great, but because God's love for us in Christ is **GREAT**.

Enjoying the Love God has in Christ,  
Scott

*"Don't be afraid," David said to him, "for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table." 2 Sam 9:7*

## Center of Sports Parenting Top 10 Sports Parenting Myths

- 1) The younger you can get your child on a travel team, the better.
- 2) All travel team coaches are certified instructors, have degrees in physical education or psychology, and have a solid background in coaching kids.
- 3) The sooner your child specializes in just one sport, the better chance they have of advancing to a higher level (e.g. college, professional ranks).
- 4) The very best time to teach your youngster how to improve their play is immediately after the game; ideally, in the car ride on the way home while their game actions are still fresh in their mind.
- 5) A youngster who is a top athlete among his or her peers at age 8 is clearly destined to be a star when they're 18.
- 6) Creatine, as well as other nutritional supplements such as Andro and ephedra, that are sold in health stores have been proven to be safe for kids; otherwise, it would be illegal for the stores to sell these products.
- 7) Sportsmanship is something that can only be taught by your child's coach.
- 9) Kids will be happy as long as they are part of a winning team.
- 10) The vast majority of Moms and Dads tend to be honest and fairly objective about their child's ability in sports.

Excerpted from Rick Wolff's book, *THE SPORTS PARENTING EDGE: The Winning Game Plan for Every Athlete - From T-Ball to College Recruiting*.

Check out the website for more details about each of these myths: [www.sportsparenting.org/csp/](http://www.sportsparenting.org/csp/)



Photos by James Guffey

More photos at [www.fpcstanley.org](http://www.fpcstanley.org)

## Asking the Right Questions

How can you help your child get rid of emotional burdens? It doesn't take a degree in psychology. You can start by learning to ask three key questions:

1. **What's wrong?** This is the intellectual question. After asking it, simply sit back and listen.
2. **How do you feel?** This is the emotional question. If your child says, "I feel sad," follow up by asking what the sadness is like. Resist the urge to jump in with a solution.
3. **What are you doing?** This is the behavioral question. If your child doesn't know how to answer it, say

something like, "You told me X is wrong; what are you doing about that?"

If your child isn't ready to talk, trying to force a discussion will be futile. Postpone the discussion, perhaps asking, "When would be a better time during the next couple of days to talk about this?"

When the hour comes, you may need to go through the three questions several times. Chances are that the layers of sadness and despair around the core problem will slowly be removed as you *listen* patiently.

## A Word from... Joe White

Whether during rich times or poor, my dad has always loved my mom and treated her like the fantastic lady she really is.

Almost every day, he writes her a love letter and leaves it by the sink for her to enjoy with her first cup of coffee in the morning. My mom meets my dad at the door each evening as he comes home from work, to help him unlace his shoes before they share an evening meal.

Their 58 years of marriage have taught me some precious lessons about being a dad. The most irreplaceable gift I can give my kids is to love my wife, serve her, and meet her needs for security and affection.

The best way to secure my kids' own relationship with Christ is to give His love, mercy, and grace to the one who walked down the aisle toward me 25 years ago.

Luke 1:37

For nothing  
is impossible  
with God.

LEAGUE DAY

August 13th

Mark your calendar!

Generation to Generation, A Focus on the Family Publication, June 2006  
Joe White runs Kanakuk Kamps, Christian youth camps in Branson, Missouri



Focus on Your Child ministry helps parents raise healthy, confident, and well-adjusted children. You can find out about topics such as parenting teenagers, being a single parent, and helping your child develop a relationship with God.

For more information, log on to [www.focusonyourchild.com](http://www.focusonyourchild.com)



First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
Stanley, North Carolina

Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

Morning Service

8:30 Worship Service

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship Service

Evening Service

6:30 Worship Service

Call us at 704.263.4275

Visit us online at

[www.fpcstanley.org](http://www.fpcstanley.org)

Team Rosters  
Game Schedules  
Parent's Corner