



# TEEN BEAT

My wedding ring is an important part of my identity. It identifies a lot about me, who I am, what I believe in, and how much God has blessed me. 20 years ago, when I was a newlywed, I bought a cheap stainless steel model to wear while working running jack hammers and I have only taken it off for cleaning, repair, etc during that time. That is, until about a month ago.

About then is when all the cold and wet weather arrived. Add to that the knowledge that I have lost nearly 20 pounds in the last couple of months and you will understand that out on a football field one night, my ring was so loose that, when I reached for my flag, it nearly slipped off of my finger, going to the last joint before catching. After I got home, I related this story to Tina and, after a brief discussion, we mutually agreed that I would take it off until after football season so that it is not lost permanently.

The funny thing is, though, that you can look at my finger even after a month and clearly see the outline of my ring right down to the detail that it normally sat sideways on my finger. And when I run my finger across that area, there is a physical difference in the texture of the muscle and skin in that area. I am marked. And I love it! Being married and wearing my ring for all to see has changed me in a way that is apparent to any who would like to notice. I could not hide it if I tried.

Now, we as Christians are supposed to be very much like that, aren't we? If you read the book of Revelation, for example, where the Church is called "the Bride" in numerous places, you begin to develop the idea of the covenant relationship we have with Christ. And when you read in Romans 8 about being sealed with the Spirit of Christ, when you learn in Ephesians 1 that we have been "marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit," you must acknowledge that we are to be permanently changed in a way that allows the world to know who we are and whose we are. We are to be transformed (II Cor 3).

I know that there are people who try to hide that they are married for whatever reason. They do not wear their ring, they do not tell anyone, they don't display any photos, and...in my opinion (you can disagree)...this makes it much easier to be unfaithful...not just physically, but unloyal in words and thoughts and actions of the heart as well.

# PRAYER LIST

Sympathy is extended to the family of **George Akin**. He was the son of Lurline Akin who was a past member.

Those in the nursing home: **H J Matthews, Linda Sims, Alene Wood & Grace Estridge**

Continue to Remember: **James Sanders (Ray & Dorothy Sanders' son), Doug Gray, Vinnie Sheppard, Janice Beeler, Ilene Beyer (Gerald Holland's aunt), Brett Tompkins, Drew Arndt, Tyler Tate, and Johnny Castro (U.S. Soldiers), Amanda Maxwell (the Webbs' niece), Lori McGrew, Lori Cotton & Linda Ferrie**

## Teen Beat continued:

In my Christian walk, I have observed this same thing many times. Some act as if they are embarrassed to be Christians. They don't tell anyone. They don't live according to the word. They don't study the Bible. They don't meet with their brothers and sisters in fellowship and worship. And, almost always, they become unfaithful, unloyal, or disenchanted. The excuses abound...the kids don't behave; the preaching is lousy; the singing is terrible; the people are hypocrites...but the result is the same...they forsake their first love (Christ) and put their eyes on other things.

How about you? Have you been forever changed by the relationship you have with Christ? Or is it simply a matter of what you like for now until you find someone or some thing better? Sometimes marriage is a lot more work than fun but it is always a commitment. How much more our relationship with the one who can save our souls. Keep your walk with him pure.

In Him, Todd

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HENRIETTA BLACK GOLD BRIGADE! THEY PLACED 12TH OUT OF 22 BANDS AT THE AREA MARCHING CONTEST ON OCTOBER 24TH.**



*The annual Thanksgiving Area-Wide assembly is in Bowie this year. If you would like to lead a song, prayer, or read scripture, please let Katie know by Monday.*

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

2	Ryan Greene	14	Randel Barnard Jr
2	Denver Hood	15	Melissa Poling
5	LeAnn Skinner	16	Clay & Michelle Cotton
8	Caleb Holman	16	Brittany Poling
10	Kelley Barnard	19	Cathy Talley
10	Anthony Pope	20	Kirby Whitley
12	Dale Massie	21	Aeriel Sheppard
11	Dustin Lowery	22	Andrea Spikes
11	Freddie Barnhill	28	Justin & Katie Barnes
14	Elizabeth Hickenbottom	29	Tina Davis
		30	Stephanie Skinner



Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 1st. Set your clocks back one hour Saturday night.

*Sympathy is extended to Tera Holland in the passing of her uncle, Virgil Geist. His funeral was in Plevna, Kansas.*

## Wednesday Night Menu 6pm

Nov. 4 - Nachos  
Nov. 11 - Taco Soup  
Nov. 18 - Spaghetti

## CALENDAR

11/1  
Playground Committee Meeting at 5pm

11/8  
Small Groups

11/15  
Fellowship Meal

11/22  
Area-Wide Thanksgiving Service at Bowie

## Service Group Assignments November

FELLOWSHIP MEAL  
#3 - Wan, Britt, Randal

VISITATION  
#4 - David W., Paul, Craig

COMMUNION FOR SHUT-INS

#5 - Hollis, Tommy

DOOR GREETERS  
Group #6 - Brad, Scott, & Chris