

TEEN BEAT

Ok. I had the absolute worst game imaginable this past week. Officiating I mean. I was embarrassed by the job we did and have been feeling badly about it ever since. Not in an attempt to excuse our performance, but rather to try to explain it, let me describe a couple of factors involved.

For starters, this was a game that our chapter originally was not going to work because we didn't have enough officials available. But, as you may have heard, Forestburg (versus Byers) had a student killed in a car wreck and her funeral was Friday. In the chaos, the Dallas chapter was never contracted. As a result, we got a call on Friday asking to please help. We agreed and a crew that was short by 25% was put together consisting of myself and two rookies. In fact, for one of the rookies, it was his first varsity game ever so, as you can imagine, with playoffs on the line, emotions running high, and the normal factors, he was anxious. So was my other wing man who was not in his normal position.

And so you can see the train wreck coming from a mile away. The wet-behind-the-ears guy didn't throw a flag all night and the other tried to make up for it. And me? I was so busy trying to get them together, I didn't do my job as well as I should have either. Individually we were bad. Collectively, we were horrible.

When I look at our lives in the body of Christ, I see that this same situation occurs all too often. We bring a guest to church and to class. We study with them. We train them. We show them the light. And then, we baptize them and God adds them to the church. Somewhere in that process, we forget that they have no experience. We forget they have no background. We forget what it was like to struggle with the basic, fundamental mechanics.

As a consequence, we put our weakest, most helpless members in places where they can be hurt and then we are frustrated that they don't act and react as we would. We expect them to just know how to "be Christian"; to work together; to forgive; and what is expected. We neglect to coach them up.

The Bible says, in Heb 3:12-14 "See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first."

My thought for the week is this...find someone who is struggling and encourage them. Find a younger or weaker brother or sister and love on them and let them know they are not alone. Build them up and help them grow in their proficiency. And above all, don't get discouraged, distracted, frustrated, or upset. Show them the true love of Christ.

In Him, Todd

PRAYER LIST

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, 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**

Youth Activities:

Nov. 8 - Small Groups JH & HS at 2pm at the building

Sunday Night Live at Bowie

Nov. 14 - Rake and Run

Nov. 28 - Rent-A-Teen



You are invited to a baby shower for Karlotta Prescott

on Saturday, November 14th at 2pm.

It will be at the Midtown Manor Activity Room, 400 Burnett St, Wichita Falls. She is registered at Wal-Mart.

We are working on a new Church Directory. We need:

1. Candid pictures will be taken during the month of November. We will need pictures of each household as well as pictures of classes, worship service, elders, deacons, committees, activities, and EACH SMALL GROUP.
2. Updated family information, including emails! Please complete the directory information sheets and return before Thanksgiving if possible.
3. Shutterbugs for the VOLUNTEER PAPARAZZI needed to take pictures. Please contact LeAnn Skinner at dleann@wf.net or 781.5165 if you can help!

I want to thank everyone for all the prayers and words of encouragement. My tests came back good and I am still in complete remission. God is good!

Love you all, Lori Cotton

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 Aerial Sheppard
11 Dustin Lowery	22 Andrea Spikes
11 Freddie Barnhill	28 Justin & Katie Barnes
14 Elizabeth Hickenbottom	29 Tina Davis
	30 Stephanie Skinner

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, wrote letters for our "Memory Book", and came to our 50th Wedding Anniversary party. Your participation helped make this a wonderful day. Thank you, Jerry and Darlene Gee

Wednesday Night Menu

6pm

Nov. 11 - Taco Soup
Nov. 18 - Spaghetti
Nov. 25 - None

CALENDAR

11/8
Small Groups

11/11
Elders' & Deacons' Meeting

11/15
Gerald Paden preaching 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