

COVENANT CONNECTIONS

News of New Covenant Baptist Church

209 N. Prospect Street, Pottstown, PA 19464

Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.

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September & October 2011

Mary Koster, Editor

COVENANT CONNECTIONS

The September/October issue of *Covenant Connections* is sponsored by Edwardine Baker in memory of her son, Harry W.

Sermon Series for September and October

Sept 4	Pure Perseverance	Rom. 12:9-13
Sept 11	Mary Misner	
Sept 18	Pure Practice	Rom 12:14-21
Sept 25	Stan Murray	
Oct 2	Pure Honor	Rom 13:1-7
Oct 9	Pure Debt	Rom 13:8-14
Oct 16	Pure Commitment	Rom 14:1-13
Oct 23	Pure Harmony	Rom. 15:1-6
Oct 30	Sam Geiger	



September 5 - Labor Day
September 11th - Church Picnic
September 11 - Council Meeting
September 24 - Church Yard Sale & Blood Mobile
October 8 - Indoor Clean-Up Day (8-12)
October 9 - Invite A Friend Sunday and Luncheon
October 9 - Council Meeting

Sundays: Sunday School at 9:30am
Worship Service at 10:30am

Monday: Open Prayer Night at 5:00pm

Wednesday: Worship Team Practice at 7:30pm

INVITE A FRIEND SUNDAY

It's a chance to take!

You ask. They say yes. They say no. They say maybe. The important thing is that you ask. You hand out the mug. Maybe they won't show up on **Invite a Friend Sunday on October 9th**, but maybe they will. Maybe they'll surprise you and show up on another Sunday.

Or maybe they'll start asking you questions. You'll take a deep breath, send an arrow prayer to the Holy Spirit for guidance, and start answering their questions.

It all boils down to handing out that mug and asking someone to check us out at **Invite a Friend Sunday on October 9th**. There's no commitment expected. Maybe we won't suit them, but maybe we will. And if we don't fit what they are looking for, then maybe they'll try another church, somewhere where they can find God for themselves, for their children. Having them become members of New Covenant Baptist Church is NOT the goal. The goal is to help people find God. There is no worthier endeavor.

Take a chance. Ask.



MODERATOR

Dear New Covenant Family,

We have Increased in size once again. The Geiger Family has been re-united with us and has come back home! They are Sam, Sue, Josh, and Sara. I know we are truly blessed to have them in our family once again. They all have a Calling by GOD and their gifts will fit in nicely with our church family! If you haven't talked to them yet please do so.

We have a lot of real nice things coming up in the next couple of months. LORD willing we will have an outdoor worship and fellowship meal, Invite-A-Friend Sunday followed by a fellowship meal. Please plan to attend these special events! And, I know GOD has truly blessed this congregation with the great leadership of Pastor Jim. Till next time, may GOD continue to bless each and everyone of us!

IN CHRIST'S LOVE,
DAVE LEH

SERVICE MINISTRY AREA

Ho,Ho,Ho...to soon? OK Lets talk about something else. hummm, lets see. It will be September soon... I know! Fall Clean-up! That's right it's Fall Clean up time again Folks. Since everyone liked the last one so much, this year we are going to have two of them.

Actually, our Fall clean up is in November. Since we are having our **Invite a Friend Sunday** in October, we thought it might be nice to spruce up the place for our guests. Then, in November we will have our usual clean up day. I know It's hard to come out for one day let alone two but look at it this way; We have doughnuts! MMMM doughnuts. We can have them twice.

October 8th is the date we selected for the clean up and it is the day before the Invite a Friend Sunday. If you feel lead to help out please feel free to join us. I'm thinking 8'ish.

All work and no play makes Mark a dull boy. All work and no play makes Mark a dull boy. All work and no play makes Mark a dull boy. All work and no play makes Mark a dull boy. All work and no play makes Mark a dull boy.

Mark
Head of service

MISSIONS/EVANGELISM

In October we will be collecting the World Mission Offering (WMO). Many times we forget we are a part of a large community of faith. The Church of Jesus Christ goes around the world.

October 2nd is World Communion Sunday and on that day Christians worldwide will be celebrating the Lord's Supper, even as we do. That Sunday will also begin the collection of our World Mission Offering. This offering supports the global work of American Baptist International Ministries. (IM).

Our gifts make possible the ministries of nearly 100 long-term IM missionaries and more than 1,500 short-term missionaries and volunteers. They work in more than 70 countries along with 220 partner organizations that include evangelistic associations, hospitals, schools, publishing companies and others responding to Christ's call.

The WMO theme is based on Luke 10:1-9, 17a. That Scripture tells how Jesus sent 70 missionaries to "Live the Word" and "Proclaim the Word" so that others might "Be Transformed."

Please join me in embracing this challenge as together we *Live the Word* and *Proclaim the Word* so that others might *Be Transformed*.

On **September 25th** we will be having a mission speaker to get ready for this offering.

Luke 10:17a - "The seventy returned with joy. . ."

Mission and Evangelism Commission,
Naomi Geiger



Each man should give what he as decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

II Corinthians 9:7

*From the
Pastor's
Pen* 

The Fall is upon us. Amazing how the seasons change. The tilt and rotation of the earth, the particular position in it's orbit around the sun, and certain things just happen. A little less sun, a little more cool, and a smattering of colors appear. Fall brings with it memories - some great, some horrible, some amusing.

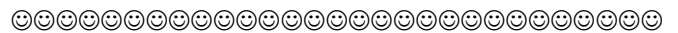
Having four daughters, and three who happened to have the same science teacher over the course of several years, Fall meant leaf projects. The teacher was always clear concerning expectations: a minimum number of leaves were required with a certain number being your basic looking leaf, then a number of conifers (trees that produce cones: pines and such--see, I learned a little), and a certain number of compound leaves (those from trees that had a bunch of little leaves on the same branch). Each leaf was to be dried and all of the fancy scientific information had to accompany it in a big scrapbook.

Each day Tracy and I would ask, "How's the collecting going?" And, every day we would hear, "Ok, I picked a few more. I just have to look up the information on them." And, being the trusting, loving parents we were, we would believe them. Then sometime, oh, usually the weekend before the project was due, we would be met with sad forlorn eyes of panic and terror: "I don't enough leaves." Certain years this would not be a problem. Other times, like when the leaves dropped early, it was a challenge scavenging among the wet, decaying piles of pre-compost searching for that elusive Aspen or Linden leaf, grateful that our street was home to three or four types of maples and several oaks. I would begin those Saturdays a little angry that they waited so long, but the time together was actually fun. And, other than finding creative ways to flash dry leaves in the course of a day without igniting them, we generally learned something about trees and forests and time.

Time is of the essence -so goes the quote. Or, time is fleeting goes another. The reality is we don't get to stop or even pause time and so what we do with each moment is important and may have eternal consequences. Right now is our time to seek God, to pray for the Spirit's leading and Christ's faithfulness as we go searching, not for leaves, but for a friend, a relative, an acquaintance who doesn't attend or has never attended church and who you have been thinking about inviting.

There is no pressure in this, but there is an urgency. As Jesus has shared salvation with us, He does want to share it with more. He relies on us to do the inviting, the sharing, and the bringing. Most of us don't see ourselves in anyway like the disciple Peter or Apostle Paul, with their abilities to preach and teach; but, we can be a disciple who doesn't get much press but whose impact was amazing like Peter's brother, Andrew. We have no great lessons or events that capture our attention. His ministry is low key but powerful. He introduced people to Jesus. He brought his brother Peter, he brought a group of foreign folks, and he brought a little boy with a few bread crusts and some sardines. As a result of those connections, Peter preached the Good News, an outside group became an inside group and 5,000 people got fed. Not bad returns for someone who just invited a friend to meet Jesus.

It is our turn.



A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."



The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Several hands went up.



The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."



TREASURER'S REPORT

Through August 15, 2011

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income	\$2,761.00	\$42,699.88
Expenses	\$3,210.95	\$48,946.55
Difference	--\$1,049.95	--\$6,246.67

The figures above in the Difference Line are **actual Deficit** numbers. This amount of money to pay staff salaries and ordinary operational bills has come from our limited reserves.

Received For:

One Great Hour of Sharing: \$491.96
VBS Offering for OGH: \$108.00

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY AREA

Adult Sunday School Our class meets weekly on Sunday morning at 9:30. Please come out and join our in-depth study of the book of Revelation with Pastor Jim. We would love to have you join us for an interactive discussion and Bible study.

Bible Champs Group will continue to meet during the Worship Service. There are several teachers that rotate through this role of teaching for the K through 6th grade. The children will be studying Tough Questions for Christian Kids at School in an interactive format. Please pray for the education and safety of our children throughout this year.

Toddlers and Pre-School Class This class combines the children's play activities with values and lessons that tell classic Bible stories. This group is always busy and filled with energy and excitement. It is great to see how the children look forward to their time at church as they rush to get to their class.

Parent/Child Worship room There is a room with a separate bathroom upstairs and available for parents to take children and still participate in the service without distracting from the worship of others. There is a playpen, changing table and rocking chair in addition to the books and toys. The speaker system is in place so that you can hear the service and participate, while still caring for your children.

A nursery childcare sign-up sheet is located in the back of the church for families to take turns in caring for little ones. Please see Molly Dixon if you have questions.

TEACHERS NEEDED:

Please consider if your talents and gifts fit any of these needs: we need nursery care, teachers for the worship hour for all classes and babysitters for the Sunday school hour for the toddler class. We are looking for substitute teachers, Bible Champs teachers and someone to work with the Youth in our church ages 7-12th grade. If you are blessed with patience and love for God and children, **consider being a teacher**. Our youngsters are always in need of role models to help them grow and develop into adult Christians and the future of our church. Please see Molly Dixon if you can serve in this area.

**The mediocre teacher tells.
The good teacher explains.
The superior teacher demonstrates.
The great teacher inspires.**

~William Arthur Ward ~

Home Touch Ministry - A weekly newsletter with a devotional page and an activity page with a mix of bible verses, puzzles and games is available at the back of the church each week. These are mailed to our shut-ins along with the weekly bulletin. Our hope is to remind them that they are constantly in our thoughts and prayers and we miss having them here each week. If you know anyone who might like to receive this, feel free to take a copy or contact the church office to be added to the mailing list.

Protect My Ministry - We are excited to be implementing a program that structures leadership, policies and training to ensure that our children are safe while entrusted to our care. The program coordinates background checks on all staff, leadership and teachers with the goal of protecting minors from abduction, violence and abuse while participating in NCBC functions. The policies lay out best practices for identifying abused children and qualifying all adults that work with our youth to reduce risk and liability to our church and our faith. This is an important step to protecting our kids.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Redner's Tapes: If you are submitting Redner's Tapes, please make sure that you hand in your actual Redner's cash register Save-a Tape receipts, and not the Summary for the Gas Perks. We've received \$290.92 in Gas Perks and Redner's won't accept them for credit. If you need to keep your cash register receipt for your records, ask the cashier for a duplicate. Thanks.



**Look Who's Having
a Birthday!**

<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>
2 Alyssa Greiss	2 Emily Sutton
2 Wanda Ruppert	2 Brandon Wieand
4 Helen Kurtz	8 Doris Weigner
5 Naomi Geiger	8 Barbara Furlong
17 Kelly Brodowski	10 Mark Maskulyak
23 Angel Kulikowski	13 Angela Leh
	16 Jason Leh
	19 Kathy Buckner
	30 Donna Fulmer



September

- 2 Richard & Bonita Black
- 2 Paul & Mary Koster
- 13 Bill & Kathy Buckner

October

- 6 Jim & Joyce Sherman
- 14 Jason & Angela Leh

✦ **The Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities** relies on the support of area churches. They provide food, clothing, emergency services and counseling for people in the community. They have a monthly Delegate Assembly meeting at 12:15 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of each month. They would like to have one or two delegates from each church attend this meeting.

✦ **Angel Food Ministries** provides families with approximately \$65 worth of quality, nutritious food purchased from the nation's top food suppliers for \$30. Each month Angel Ministries offers "specialty boxes" of steak, chicken, pork, etc. plus fresh, frozen and packaged food. There is no limit for the number of boxes of food you may purchase. There are no applications or qualifications necessary to purchase. There is a distribution site at Calvary Christian Center, 426 Laurelwood Road, Pottstown, PA 19465 (610 323-0480) and Wesleyan Christian Church, Hilltop & Buchert Roads, Pottstown, PA 19464 (610-327-8112). For more information, see their website: www.angelfoodministries.com.

✦ **Community Health and Dental Care** at 11 Robinson St, Suite 100, Pottstown 19464 provides primary medical and dental care, which includes pediatric and family medical services and preventive and restorative dental care for individuals and families. There is a private and public insurance fee scale and a sliding scale fee for the uninsured and underinsured receiving their services. To make an appointment for family medical, pediatric or case management services call 610-326-9460. For dental services call 610-326-7405

HELPING HAND

Collecting: Ink Cartridges, cell phones and digital cameras **Please RECYCLE!** We can earn money for every Cell Phone, Ink Jet Cartridge, Laptop, iPod & Digital Cameras that we collect and send in. Even if it is damaged or Non-Listed! The shipping is free and the money goes directly into the Fellowship fund. Note: they do NOT accept desktops, towers, monitors or accessories at this time. A box is provided at the back of church. Please see Molly Dixon with any questions.

FROM OVERSEAS MISSIONARIES, THE JOHNSONS

Dear New Covenant Baptist Church,

Sorry we weren't able to send a prayer letter out last month! We had a big thunderstorm the last week of June with lightning that struck on the mission station where we live and damaged some of the equipment we use for our satellite internet system. While it's been an inconvenience, it has given us the chance to re-evaluate the service we were using and research some other options. Unfortunately, that means it's taking us a little longer to get back "online" than we had hoped. In the meantime, we've been making do with a USB key that connects to the local 3G cell phone network. It works very slowly and very intermittently, so it won't be a good long-term solution, but it's better than nothing at all. Unfortunately, it does mean that we've been very limited in our ability to update our blog or post pictures. Sorry! Hopefully that won't be permanent.

While we were offline, we managed to stay busy enough. We are currently enjoying the company of our 4th team in two months! We have enjoyed having friends old and new come work and visit with us, though at times we joke that it's a bit like drinking from a fire hydrant – so much social interaction crammed into 2 months while the rest of the year we rarely see anyone from our home countries at all! In addition to the 2 teams, we've also had 5 different individuals spend some time with us. With all the "hellos" and arrivals, there are always also "goodbyes" and departures. It's interesting how a short, intense experience can often create a pretty strong, lasting bond. We really appreciate those who have taken the time to come and share in our daily experience here in Mahadaga. It sure encourages us to know that there are people back home who care and are praying for us!

At the risk of making this a "long" prayer letter, we wanted to also update you on our request for funds to send Ounteni, the CAH associate director, to France for a one-year master's level certification. Several of you responded to our original request in our June prayer letter, which was really encouraging. Unfortunately, because of the internet situation, we haven't been able to access our reports easily, so we're not 100%

sure exactly how much money has come in so far. However, we've had enough response to go ahead with the plan, and Ounteni is in the process of applying for a visa; he had an interview at the embassy on Monday, August 1st, but was told to come back in 3 weeks for the final response as there was some sort of paperwork that still needed to be sorted out. Keep that in your prayers! If all goes well, we expect him to leave for France around September 10th.

August Events:

- July 26 - August 13: Team from Grace Point Mennonite Church visits Mahadaga (helping to finish the interior wiring and plumbing at the medical dispensary), plus 2 Messiah students doing some physical therapy research at the CAH.
- August 12: Trip to Ouaga (take Messiah students and Grace Point team souvenir shopping and to airport at various times over the weekend).
- August 14: SIM Burkina Faso spiritual life conference planning committee meeting (of which Flo is a member).
- August 16-22: Family vacation (with the our colleagues, the Baeder family) in Bobo, a city west of Ouaga; hoping to see Messiah alum Ken Hoch and his wife Anita who are currently living there.
- August 23-26: In Ouaga to pick up supplies. Will also take Liz Barr and Nicolas Philit (French physical therapy student and short-term associate in Mahadaga for 5 weeks) to the airport, welcome a new short-term associate, Brendon Earl (also a Messiah engineering grad who plans to spend a year with us), and pick up Messiah grad and friend Lindsay Reilly who will be in Burkina on a work-trip (but has managed to squeeze some time in there to come visit us for a few days in Mahadaga!)
- August 27 - Return to Mahadaga
- August 29 -Start school?

August Prayer Points:

- Praise for the good health and safe travels so far of all of our visitors and teams; praise also for the good fellowship, for the blessing they've been to us and the community, and for the work they've been able to do here.
- Praise that the SIM medical clinics in Mahadaga and Piela were able to find 2

doctors to hire; the hope is to “upgrade” the clinics to medical centers (with surgical wards) in order to expand the ministry and better serve the local populations. Pray for the staff and administration of these two medical ministries as they transition into this new phase.

- Pray for all those who have visited us these last 2 months, that they would take what they experienced and learned here and allow it to change them and be a catalyst for spiritual growth.
- Pray for Liz Barr as she finishes up her one year-term in Burkina. She has already begun the journey home, leaving Mahadaga June 27th; she plans to spend a month in Ouaga helping with some ESL classes before returning to the US August 23rd.
- Pray for Brendon Earl who is preparing for a one-year term in Mahadaga starting the end of August; he will work closely with Matt Walsh on various development projects and will help “hold the fort down” while the Walsh family is on home assignment next year.
- Pray for Dale as he takes back many of the administrative responsibilities Liz was handling this past year. Liz managed to streamline a lot of things to make the processes more efficient, but her “behind the scenes” help and presence will be missed! Dale is also becoming keenly aware that in addition to losing his accountant/admin assistant, he will soon also be losing his associate director when Ounteni leaves for his one-year study program in France.
- Pray for a time of rest and renewal as we take a one-week family vacation in mid-August. We’ve enjoyed our summer, but are very aware that we need a break soon and are looking forward to some time away!
- Pray that as the month winds down and we return from vacation, we could re-establish a more normal routine and find a good balance of ministry activity and family time again, especially as school starts back up!
- Pray for rain! We had a really late start to the rainy season this year and people were getting worried about the harvest. When the rains did start, they started well, but after 2 weeks of steady rain, we haven’t seen more than a drizzle in almost 2 weeks. Once again, our farming neighbors and friends are extremely worried about this year’s harvest.

Thank you so much for your prayers! As always, don’t forget to check out our blog: www.burkinajohnson.blogspot.com <<http://www.burkinajohnson.blogspot.com>>. You can also follow the CAH blog at www.simbf.org <<http://www.simbf.org>>.

Love,

Dale, Florence, Caleb & Joel



A Baptist missionary was walking in Africa when he heard the ominous padding of a lion behind him.

"Oh Lord," prayed the missionary, "Grant in Thy goodness that the lion walking behind me is a good Christian lion."

And then, in the silence that followed, the missionary heard the lion praying, too.

"Oh Lord," he prayed, "I thank Thee for the food which I am about to receive."



What is Love?

(according to a group of 4-8 year olds)

"Love is that first feeling you feel before all the bad stuff gets in the way."

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love."

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs."

"Love is when someone hurts you. And you get so mad but you don't yell at them because you know it would hurt their feelings."

"Love makes you smile when you're tired."

"Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK."

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate."

"When you tell someone something bad about yourself and you're scared they won't love you anymore. But then you get surprised because not only do they still love you, they love you even more."

"There are two kinds of love -- Our love, and God's love. But God makes both kinds of them."

"Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday."

"Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well."

"During my piano recital, I was on a stage and scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore."

"My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night."

"Love is when mommy gives daddy the best piece of chicken."

"Love is when mommy sees daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford."

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day."

"I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones."

"When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you."

"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget."

[Contributed by: Jimmy & Jennifer -- via Jeff Nickerson]



NCBC'S FOOD PANTRY

**IF YOU HAVE A NEED
TAKE IT!**

**IF YOU HAVE EXTRA
STOCK IT!**

Why Invite People to Church?

It is a simple question, so simple that we assume that we have the right answer. Yet, one of the chief obstacles to real evangelism is the wrong motivation. Rarely do church leaders have an explicit and clarifying conversation about it.

Why do we want the church to grow with new people? You may be motivated by the wrong reasons, which include:

'We need to replace the old ones who are dying off'

This sounds crass but it comes from a genuine concern. It saddens you to realize that this place where you made friends and found faith years ago could come to an end. There are two variations on this motivation:

1. The first type is the 'old fart' attitude who wants everything to be done exactly the way it has always been done. *Do you want to make disciples or do you want to hire curators?*
2. The second type sounds like they have the right attitude because they are very willing for new members to make changes—as long as the church survives. However, the real motivation is for the perpetuation of the church, not the transformation of the individual. It does not matter whether a new member receives spiritual mentoring or biblical training; we don't want to know whether they are having marital problems or a personal crisis. All we want to know is whether they are willing to chair the committee! *Do you want to form Christians or do you want to hire managers?*

'We want cool people'

Pastors and young adults are often infected with this motivation. They look around on Sunday morning and realize that the congregation is made up of boring, old folks who do not understand or share their tastes and interests. They want new people to whom they can relate. They do not want a bunch of visitors who are needy and desperate. There are certain types of visitors who are a better catch than others. Young professionals are primo, but a recently widowed senior citizen is not a priority. *Will you welcome seekers or do you hope for celebrities?*

'We like the thrill of it'

It is always exciting when there is a big crowd on Sunday morning. Inevitably, someone after the service will say to the pastor, 'We really had church today!' as if on those Sundays when the attendance is low and the choir stinks that we are not the body of Christ. We Americans measure success in numbers and too often we want newcomers to boost our attendance because we like worship to be a spectacle. *Do you want believers or do you want fans?*

There is only one right motive for inviting people to church. We do it because Christ cares for them. He longs for each individual to receive His unconditional acceptance and transforming presence. The Church is where He wants people to experience His grace. If we are possessed by His Spirit then we too will have a passion for their well-being, not the preservation or renovation of our institutions.

The right motive is very basic but it takes honesty and guts to abandon the wrong motivations. If our sole concern is truly offering them life in Christ, then we will not be hung up on numbers. In fact, the process of discipleship is long and exhausting and may not end in any kind of tangible results that you can record on a form.

"Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."

Mark 16:15

(Courtesy of Rev. Darren Cushman Wood)



WORD SEARCH

BIBLE
CHRISTIAN
COMMUNION
FATHER
HONOR
LOVE
RELIGION
SALVATION

BLESSINGS
CHRISTIANITY
DELIVERANCE
GOD
JESUS
MERCY
RELIGIOUS
SPIRIT

CHRIST
CHURCH
FAITH
HOLY
LORD
PEACE
SACRIFICE
TRUTH

Courtesy of: www.Best-Free-Word-Search-Puzzles.com

R F S Y C S F H B S T D R M N
E A G C H T U A F I E E X O D
H I N R R L T O R L L L I R T
T T I E I C O I I I L N O R Y
A H S M S S P V G G U L U G S
F Y S B T S E I E M I T A O A
C H E X I R O A M U H L L D L
X R L U A N O O O H R W E T V
M W B N N H C R U H C K I R A
N T C T I N A I T S I R H C T
B E S T T S A C R I F I C E I
I I C I Y J E S U S H O L Y O
U S B A R O N O H C W J Q S N
F C H L E H H Y T S X P O S F

E R W M E P C N L P M G J Q B

The Bible, Through the Eyes of a Child

Creation In the beginning, which was close to the start, there wasn't anything except God, darkness and some gas. The Bible says, "The Lord, thy God, is one," but I think He has to be much older than that. Anyway, God made the world and then He said, "Give me some light," and somebody gave it to Him. He split an atom and made Eve. Adam and Eve didn't wear any clothes, but they weren't embarrassed because God hadn't invented mirrors, yet. Adam and Eve sinned by eating one bad apple and they were driven out of the Garden of Eden. I'm not sure what God drove them in because He hadn't invented cars, either. Adam and Eve's son, Cain, hated his brother as long as he was Abel. After a while, all of the first people died, except Methuselah, who lived to be, like, a million years old.

Noah The next important person was Noah. He was a really good guy, but one of his kids was a Ham. Noah built a big boat in his back yard and put his family and a lot of animals in it. He asked his neighbors to join them, but they said they would have to take a rain check. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. Next were Abraham, his son Isaac and his grandson Jacob. Esau was Jacob's brother, but Jacob

was more famous because Esau sold him his birthmark for some pot roast. Jacob had a son, Joseph. Joseph wore a really loud sports coat.

Moses Moses was the next important man. His real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel lights out of Egypt because of the bad Pharaoh. God sent ten plagues on the Egyptians. Some of the plagues were mice, frogs, bugs, lice and no cable. Every day in the desert, God fed the Israel lights some manicotti. He gave them His "Top Ten" commandments. They were things like: don't lie, don't cheat, don't dance, don't smoke, don't covet your neighbor's stuff (whatever that means). He also told them to humor their fathers and mothers.

Joshua Moses' best helper was Joshua. He was the first person to use spies. He fought the battle of Geritol. That's when the fence fell down on the town.

David David came after Joshua. They made him king after he killed a giant with a slingshot.

Solomon One of David's sons was called Solomon. He had, like, 300 wives and 500 porcupines. They told us in Sunday School that he was a really wise man, but that doesn't sound too wise to me.

Jonah and Other Prophets After Solomon came a whole lot of major league prophets. Jonah was one of them. He was swallowed by a whale, then barfed up on the beach. There were some other minor league prophets, but they weren't too important.

The New Testament When the Old Testament was done, they started the New Testament. Jesus was the Star. He was born in a barn in the town of Bethlehem. I wish I had been born in a barn, too, because then, when my mother says to me, "Close the door. Were you born in a barn?" I could say, "As a matter of fact, I was." Jesus argued a lot with the Chief Priests and Democrats. He had twelve opossums. Most of them were good, but Judas Asparagus was not. He was so bad, they named a really yucky vegetable after him. Jesus healed some people and leopards. Then He preached to the Germans on the Mount. But the Chief Priests and Democrats were mad at him and put Him on trial. Pilot was too chicken to stick up for Him, so he just washed his hands. Jesus died for our sins and came back to life again. He went to heaven, but will come back at the end of the aluminum. We can read about this in the Book of the Revolution