

The DESERT Disciple



Desert Son Community Church • August 2008

Don't Worry, Be Happy!



by Pastor Tim Laycock

Do you ever worry? We all have our pet worries: Finances, job security, relationships, marriage, kids, health, choices, threats, etc. We all worry at times! Is worrying really all that bad? Well, first, worry never accomplishes anything! Worry is stewing without doing. It never solves anything! To worry is useless. It does not solve the problem and it cannot control the future. Worry only makes us miserable today and frightful about tomorrow. Second, worry is completely unreasonable. It makes mountains out of molehills. It deals with the "What If's" of life. In fact, the more you review something when you're worried, the bigger it becomes. Worry is similar to driving in a dense fog. When the fog arrives you can't see clearly and it creates an illusion. That is exactly what worry does. Worry creates a fog or illusion. Here is an interesting fact, the National Bureau of Standards states that a dense fog that would cover seven square city blocks, one-hundred feet deep would only equal enough moisture to fill less than a one eighth ounce glass of water. You see, just like fog worry exaggerates and expands the problem beyond what it truly is. Third, worry is unhealthy. The body was not made to worry. Worry produces ulcers, backaches, headaches, insomnia and neck pains. The basic problem is that we worry, but we were not made by God to worry. In a sense we have learned how to worry. And worry makes us both unhappy and unhealthy. The old English word for worry means to strangle or choke. Do you ever feel like worry is cutting off your ability to live as you would like?

If worry is not from God, and it is detrimental to our living a life of joy, does God have a remedy for worry? Of course He does, but we have to first turn our attention to God. Psalm 23:1 says quite clearly that the Lord is OUR Shepherd. Thus, In God we have everything that we need. Now first and foremost, if you want to stop worrying you must believe that God will take care of you! As you understand and capture the fact that God is your

Shepherd you will begin to realize His care for you. Think about it, what does a shepherd do? A shepherd provides food, shelter and the basic necessities for His sheep. A shepherd protects His sheep from enemies and harm. A shepherd guides His sheep and leads them when they are confused and don't know which way to go. A shepherd corrects His sheep. Isaiah 40:11 "He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young." God says I am your shepherd and I will provide for you, protect you, guide you and correct you! God gets even more specific in Philippians 4:19, "And my God will meet all your

needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." God doesn't say that He will meet all your greed or wants, but He does say that He will meet all your needs. Notice that God says He will meet all your needs and not that He might meet all of your needs. That means that God's character is on

"Does God have a remedy for worry? Of course He does, but we have to first turn our attention to God."

the line, He either meets all your needs or He is a liar. And guess what, God never breaks a promise! Notice, God also says that He will meet all of your needs. What does all include? Does all include doctor visits – Yes! Does all include financial needs – Yes! Does all include spiritual needs – Yes! All includes EVERYTHING that is a need! God is your Shepherd! And anytime you worry you are acting like an atheist. Worry is unbelief in disguise. Worry says that you don't believe God will do what He promised.

God's second remedy for worry is that you must submerge everything your lives in prayer! You need to pray about all the stuff that you worry about. Do you have time to worry? Then guess what, you have time to pray! Use worry as a sign to pray. Philippians 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." What are you to pray about, EVERYTHING! "If it is big enough to worry about, it is big enough to pray about!" Worry doesn't change anything but prayer does! Understand that God's ability is far greater than your anxiety. 1 Peter 5:7 "Cast all your anxiety on

Financial Freedom Savings & Investments

Savings and investments are a vital part of any personal finance plan. (Note: Savings may be defined as deposits committed for less than five years with the primary goal of ensuring safety/return of the principal- amount deposited; investments are deposits committed for five or more years with the primary goal of growth/increase of the principal). As a good steward, Christians should be planning and building for the future. Some might suggest that such action shows a lack of faith and trust that the Lord will provide and care for you. However, the Bible is very clear on the responsibility of Christians to not only work diligently, but to also plan and save for the future.

Genesis tells the story of Joseph who was raised up by the Lord to become ruler over all of Egypt subject only to the Pharaoh. The Lord revealed in a dream to Joseph that severe famine would come in a few years. In-the-meantime, Joseph was instructed to store (save) a portion of each year's harvest. David's obedience and wisdom to store up provisions from the annual harvest saved Egypt from widespread starvation when seven years of great plenty were followed by seven years of extreme drought and crop failures.

Proverbs 6:6-8 says: "go to the ant, O' slug-gard, observe her ways and be wise, which...prepares her food in the summer and gathers her provision in the harvest." (NAS) Yes, even the smallest creatures in nature understand the need to save for the time of need. Proverbs 21:20 advises: "the wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets." (LB)

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August at a Glance

- 9 — Men's Breakfast
- 10 — 3rd-5th Grade Camp Reunion
- 31 — CLASS 101 & 201

■ Check out the full calendar on page 4 for other events.

Continued on page 2

Small Groups

Get Plugged in!



Northwest Tucson

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Bruce & Tawnya Groen..... | 4437 W. Hiddenwood Pl. | 743-7457 Tue. 7:30pm | <i>College</i> |
| Linda Vargo..... | 6621 N. Broomtail Dr. | 744-7599 | <i>Women of Influence</i> |
| Ryan & Melissa Thiessen..... | 4433 W. Desert Zinnia Pl. | 903-9165 Tuesday | 6:30pm |

Picture Rocks, Marana, Northern Pima/Southern Pinal Counties

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------|-----------|
| Carlos & Alice Alianza | 6580 N. Van Ark Rd. | 616-8188 | Wednesday |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------|-----------|

Continental Ranch/Reserve

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------------|
| Kathy Fry..... | 8153 Circulo de los Morteros | 579-9265 | Thursday | <i>Singles</i> |
| Nan Kotke | TBA | 572-0568 | TBA | <i>Women</i> |
| John & Lisa Patterson | 8296 N. Rocky Brook Dr. | 293-7485 | Wednesday | 6:00pm |
| Hank & Rebecca LaVoo..... | 7774 W. Torngat Ct. | 744-3833 | Wednesday | 6:30pm |
| Cory & Marie Fuca..... | 6965 W. Amarante Dr. | 579-8098 | Tuesday | 7:00pm |
| Chris & Debbie Ward..... | 8825 N. Acacia Grove Pl. | 730-9402 | Tuesday | |
| Scott Doty..... | 8993 N. Willeta Dr. | 744-6371 | | <i>Joshua's Men</i> |
| Mike & Vicky Aldrich..... | 7411 W. Tyler Pl. | 744-8599 | Thursday | 7:00pm |
| James & Debbie Pattengale | 7642 N. Hemmingway Pl. | 744-4977 | Wednesday | |

Central Tucson

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|--------------|--------|
| Cliff & Dolores Laycock | 2305 W. Ruthrauff Rd. Sp. J5 | 407-8349 | Alt. Mondays | 9:00am |
| Tim & Ruth Hodges..... | 4143 E. Stone River Dr. | 207-0515 | Wednesday | 6:30pm |

North Central Tucson, Oro Valley

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------|--------------|---------------|
| Jean Boyko..... | 8023 Cottonwood Wash Way | 572-2349 | Thu. 11:00am | <i>Prayer</i> |
| Rich & Tina Solomon..... | 1110 W. Antelope Creek Way | 888-5051 | Sunday | 6:00pm |

Young Married Couples

Contact Josh Penrod at 248-3278 for information about Small Groups for Youth

Note: Call for small group times if not listed.

him because he cares for you." The word cast in this passage literally means to unload, to let go! So, whatever you are worried and stressed about - unload it on God!

Some of you are asking, "How do you do that? How do you dump everything on God's shoulders?" First you must accept the fact that you are limited. You can't handle life's situations alone. Once you realize your limitations, you will be more eager to share the load. Now when you finally do cast your worries on God, whatever you do, don't reel them back in. Leave your worries with God!

God's third remedy in dealing with worry is that you must learn to live life one day at a time. Worriers live in the future. Many of us tend to spend a disproportionate amount of time speculating on what might occur and fearing the worse. Don't do this! Matthew 6:34 "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Jesus is saying, "Don't open your umbrella until it is raining". The future can seem overwhelming to any of us, which is why God put it into bite size pieces called minutes, hours, and days. Live one day at a time! Matthew 6:11 "Give us today our daily bread." What does this passage say? It says daily bread! Overcoming worry is a day to day choice! There is no book, no seminar, no CD or DVD that will make you stop worrying! There is no one spiritual experience you can have that will help you stop worrying. The bottom line is this: Do you believe the LORD is your shepherd? Are you willing to submerge everything in prayer? Are you willing to live second by second, moment by moment, one day at a time? Are you willing to trust God for your daily bread? Living on a day to day basis is continually reminding yourself that you are not God! If you are in control of your life, than you have plenty to worry about. However, if God is in charge of your life there is no need to worry! He can handle it!

This month when you find yourself worrying about something why not say over and over again with incredible certainty and conviction, "The Lord is MY Shepherd, and He cares for ME!" When you can say this and mean it, you will begin to see worry quickly slip away.

Financial Freedom continued from page 1

At the same time scriptures warn us to be wise and cautious in our saving and investing. "Steady plodding brings prosperity" and "he who gathers money little by little makes it grow" according to Proverbs 21:5 and 13:11 respectively. (NAS) The desire for quick gain is foolish and contrary to God's Word. Speculation and "risky" investments are to be avoided. "There is another serious problem I (King Solomon) have seen everywhere; savings are put into risky investments that turn sour and soon there is nothing left to pass on to one's son. The man who speculates is soon back to where he began; with nothing. This, as I said, is a very serious problem, for all his hard work has been for

nothing...It is all swept away," Eccl. 5:13-16. (LB)

Financial advisors recommend annual savings of 10%-15% of your income for retirement. This amount may seem impossible for you to attain given your current financial situation. However, elimination of debt and even slow increases in the amount saved and/or invested can allow you to reach this goal. Dealing with debt may be more complicated and require its own plan of attack. However, saving & investing can start with as little as one or two percent the first year and adding another one or two percent in each of the following years. The amount required each year with this "gradual/minimal" approach is typically not even

felt when set up as an automatic savings. (Automatic saving/investment has the money transferred directly to your savings or investment account(s) such that this money never "touches" your hands to be spent for other things). Another sound approach is to allocate 50% of any raise in salary/income to savings & investments. This has the benefit of allowing you to save for the future while still enjoying an increase in lifestyle with the additional income.

As a good steward of God's provisions, commit yourself to regular savings and investing according to God's principles. You will be rewarded for your faithfulness and wisdom.

Volunteer of the Month

Denice Johnson

Desert Son Community Church wishes to honor **Denice Johnson** as our August volunteer of the month. You probably don't know or realize just how much love, care, dedication, time, help and prayers Denice generously gives. She prefers staying out of the limelight and being anonymous when she can get away with it. For the past 10 years she has been a tremendous help for VBS. She worked in the classrooms and recently has been helping in the kitchen. Her organizational skills have helped with the Women of Faith Conferences for the past 4 years or so. Denice has also been a blessing to everyone for her help with Foster Care. Denice always wants to show her love by jumping in and fixing a hurt or a need no matter how much time or resources she may have. Denice is also a fantastic caterer. She has helped with the food for Rodeo Days and for the past 7-8 years is the source for the delicious food prepared and served at the Staff Christmas parties. She had catered for the visitor's luncheons and helped with organizing food for many other different occasions over the years. If someone needed a meal or help, Denice made sure it was provided. Denice, you are indeed a blessing to all of us and we love your caring ways. We extend our heartfelt thanks for all you do!

To learn how you can volunteer at Desert Son, visit www.desertson.org

Daesha Center Update

We are moving closer to our goal of having a youth center and we are really close to being able to occupy the building. In our estimation that is realistically within a couple of months!

This last month we had a lot of duct work installed. Coupled with the new beams it looks absolutely astounding! God knows what He is up to. We have poured the concrete pads on the west side of the building to prepare for the shipment of two AC units. One is a 12.5 ton Cobra and the other is a 10 ton Cobra unit from Carrier.

In our meetings with Marana Water we have discovered some obstacles that we are currently working through. It seems they have never dealt with just a fireline without any additional water needs required. They have indicated that in order to make a decision on future water needs and whether or not we will be required to pay for additional improvements to meet those needs that we would need to re-submit the development plan.

Needless to say we began working towards the resubmitted development plan and current meetings indicate that we may be able to resubmit as early as next week given things stay the same.

One additional requirement will be a screen wall around the AC units that was not foreseen. However, it will also work to keep vandalism from happening to those very expensive units.

Lots of cabling has been done. Bob Meredith has cabled us up for voice and data. Jay Strickling has been working on planning for the future, running conduit and cable to ensure we get the best audio, video, and lighting use of the building as possible.

The shutters have been installed on the building and they look great! The alarm system and fire monitoring system is already wired. Currently Bob Meredith is working on installing a monitoring system for the parking lot and entry way for the security of our volunteers and workers when they are on campus.

The inside north has been reframed to provide better structure for drywall and also the east wall has been flushed out to ensure a good finished surface. Some roof repairs have been done by Hodges Construction as well as Jeff Caldie... thank you!

When you read this we will have already had inspections on the intermediates (HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical) and the next step will be to prepare to sheetrock all the walls.

Some of the major things to look forward to this next month are:

- Installation of AC units on current pads
- Drywall
- Raising the Transformer
- Flooring
- Interior Painting

God has been extremely good to us this far and I look forward to writing this article next month when I know that we will be on the cusp of occupying the building and celebrating the victory that God has led us to.

Please continue to pray for the safety of our volunteers and speedy progress of the Daesha Youth Center. If you would like to help, call Cindy Brooks at 309-1259 or e-mail her at cindy.brooks@desertson.org.

Sharing Life in the Children's Ministry at Desert Son

What a great Vacation Bible School we had at Desert Son this past month! We had an average of 172 children attend SonWorld Adventure Park each day. They had such a wonderful time participating in songs, crafts, games, delicious snacks and Bible lessons where they learned that choosing Jesus is the best decision of all! We heard more than once that they wanted VBS to go on for much longer than one week! The very best part of VBS this year was that we got to see 37 children

make a decision to accept Jesus Christ into their hearts as their personal Savior. What a joy to be able to share in that part of their lives!

Another great part of VBS was working with a wonderful team of volunteers. We had over 100 people commit their time to be a part of this week. We have people on the team who take vacation from their jobs, or come to VBS in the morning and then go into work in the afternoons! (Check out the bulletin board in the foyer for a list of

names of those who helped – it's over whelming!) Thank you to each person who helped to make this week such a huge success. One of our goals is to make this the best week of a child's summer – thank you for doing just that and helping to make wonderful memories that will last a lifetime! You are all a Blessing!

As our DSCC kids head back to a new school year, please keep them in your daily prayers – that they will be a shining light for Jesus!

Lost and Found

Youth Update

As we get ready to begin the new school year, let's take a minute to reflect on our summer and look ahead to the upcoming year. This summer the Lost and Found Youth went on two missions trips to run Vacation Bible School programs for churches that were unable to do them on their own. During these trips to Gardena Ca. and Mammoth Az. approximately 40 youth devoted 2 weeks of their summer and countless hours of preparation, for the opportunity to lead 25 kids to Christ. Meanwhile back at the ranch, we had an average attendance of 60 students at our Hot Summer Night gatherings here at DSCC.

We are currently forming our small groups for

the upcoming school year. Similar to the adult small groups, the youth small groups meet weekly to fellowship and build relationships as well as study God's word. Whether you are an incoming 7th grader or a 12th grader looking to get more out of your final year in the youth group, becoming a member of a small group is the way to start. We will continue the tradition of having monthly events as a way to fellowship with each other and reach out to our friends. I am looking forward to the amazing things God has in store for us this school year. If you or your children are looking for more information or to sign up for a small group please contact Josh Penrod at josh.penrod@desertson.org or (520)248-3278.

What's Happening at DSCC?

AUGUST 2008

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|--|---|-----------|---|
| Women's Ministry events - Don't miss out! <i>R</i> estore, Renew & Rejoice Fall Retreat in Prescott, AZ • October 3-5 Women's Council will meet on August 10 at 11:00 am COMING SOON: Meet & Greet Coffee (once a month) | | | | | 1 | 2 8:30am CR Women's ED Step Study 6:00pm Church Service |
| 3 9:00am & 10:45am Church Service 10:45am Adult Sunday School class | 4 7:00pm Celebrate Recovery | 5 9:00am Stay Fit 11:00am New Life Counseling | 6 6:30pm CR Men's Step Study | 7 9:00am Stay Fit 7:00pm Choir Practice | 8 | 9 8:00am Men's Breakfast 8:00am Quilt Mtg. 8:30am CR Women's ED Step Study 6:00pm Church Service |
| 10 9:00am & 10:45am Church Service 10:45am Adult Sunday School class 3rd-5th Grade Camp Reunion | 11 7:00pm Celebrate Recovery | 12 9:00am Stay Fit 11:00am New Life Counseling | 13 6:30pm CR Men's Step Study | 14 9:00am Stay Fit 7:00pm Choir Practice | 15 | 16 8:30am CR Women's ED Step Study 6:00pm Church Service |
| 17 9:00am & 10:45am Church Service 10:45am Adult Sunday School class | 18 7:00pm Celebrate Recovery | 19 9:00am Stay Fit 11:00am New Life Counseling | 20 6:30pm CR Men's Step Study | 21 9:00am Stay Fit 7:00pm Choir Practice | 22 | 23 8:30am CR Women's ED Step Study 11am Angel Tree Meeting (off campus) 6:00pm Church Service |
| 24/31 9:00am & 10:45am Church Service 10:45am Adult Sunday School class (31st) 12:30pm CLASS 101 & 201 | 25 7:00pm Celebrate Recovery | 26 9:00am Stay Fit 11:00am New Life Counseling | 27 6:30pm CR Men's Step Study | 28 9:00am Stay Fit 7:00pm Choir Practice | 29 | 30 8:30am CR Women's ED Step Study 6:00pm Church Service |

The Desert Disciple is a publication of

Desert Son Community Church

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Service Times: Sat. 6:00pm • Sun. 9:00am & 10:45am