

Wilmington Emmaus

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GOD IS THE BEST COACH AND OUR BIGGEST CHEERLEADER

from Robyn's Roost

How do you see God and who is He to you? God wants us to know Him as He really is.

Do you see Him as a loving Father and your greatest cheerleader or as a stern disciplinarian watching, waiting and keeping track of your every short coming and sin? If we truly understood what it means that His love is so high, wide, deep and long for us, we would never doubt again about His love.

God is for us, not against us. When he disciplines, he does not

punish. He simply steers our heart to a better way. He wants us to enter into His peace and joy. Regardless of our circumstances they can bring us closer to Him. If we come to truly know God then we can trust Him.

We do not have to earn that spot to make His team or to receive His love. Simply just ask Him to come into your life. There is nothing we can do to make God love us more and there is nothing we can do to make God love us less. Jesus loves us uncondi-

tionally, all the time, now and forever.

The Apostle Paul puts it this way: "But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved" (Ephesians 2:4-5).

You see, God is the best Coach and our greatest Cheerleader!

And just a side note: WE WIN!

DeColores,

Robyn Hinman

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MEN'S WALK #61

John Glaze

Men's Walk #61 is now ready for the record books. Perhaps a record for last-minute attainment of minimum number of participants? Early or late, the men who God knew were to be on Walk 61, were there. Our faith served us well,

by believing that the walk would take place, stepping out on faith and starting the team meetings with barely a handful of pilgrims, all the time asking God for his will to be done and his help if it was for this walk to operate.

Of course, this does not denigrate the good work which was accomplished by these pilgrims. They came hungry and searching for answers, looking for strength to deal with life's bumps and attacks. *(continued on page 3)*

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take,



but by the moments that take our breath away.

-Anonymous

DEVOTION

MUSINGS FROM MAURICE

According to lepidopterists, the butterflies of the Kallima family are able to pull off a neat disappearing act. That's because these butterflies have brilliant colors on the upper sides of their wings, but underneath they have the lines and markings of a dead leaf.

When they fly, these butterflies produce a bright flash of color easily detected by friend and hungry foe alike. But when they land, the colors disappear and they are instantly transformed into a "dead leaf". They become almost invisible because of the vein like appearance of their wings and markings that mimic holes and leaf fungus. They even sway in the breeze like a leaf.

Some Christians go into a similar disappearing act to avoid detection when they're out in the secular world. That's what many people did in Jesus' day. (Read John 12:35-43, especially the last two verses.) They believed in Jesus, but they didn't make it known. They pulled a disappearing act, because they were afraid of losing their status and privileges.

Have you done the same when put in a

position where you might be ridiculed? Or even because we might not be given the same respect as others since we are known as "religious".

Disciples of Christ must be consistent. We must show our colors on all occasions, not just when we are gathered safely with fellow believers. We must resist temptation to blend into the surroundings when we feel threatened, because that shows we really love the praise of others more than the praise of God.

In all times and circumstances, let's maintain our testimony for the Lord. No disappearing acts, or our witness will be about as effective as a dead leaf.

DE COLORES!

Maurice Mitchell

Want to know who is on the October Women's Walk? Check out our website: www.wilmingtonemmaus.org

"Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me."

Psalm 40:14

O Lord, make haste to help me.

I know miracles happen. Sometimes God intervenes dramatically to save us from illness, injury, malice, or folly. I also know that we don't often experience dramatic miracles. Most often, we must trust in the unseen miracle through which God will ultimately work all our human brokenness together for good.

As a teenager, I witnessed a miraculous healing. An ankle, swollen to the size of a grapefruit, returned to normal as the members of my youth group prayerfully laid our hands upon it. Yet, most of us who witnessed this healing had also lost a faithful friend to a brain tumor despite our fervent prayers, and other witnesses were in the midst of mourning the loss of their son in Vietnam.

Why would God heal a swollen ankle and let others die as the result of disease and war? None of us knows the answers to such questions. We can only rest in the assurance that we will someday be healed in the unseen miracle of God's saving grace. In the meantime, I know that I have been molded by both healing and loss, so I will continue to believe in miracles even when they remain unseen.

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MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE?

We often have trouble filling our walks! Here is a challenge which is sure to fill our walks. If each person who goes on a Walk to Emmaus will sponsor AT LEAST one person, our walks will have enough to operate. Now, if each sponsored just two.....

PRAYER LIST

The Editor could not be at our September Gathering. If you were there, you know the names that were lifted up and for whom prayer was requested. God knows these names also, so we only ask that His will be done in the lives of those who need healing.

Welcome The New Community Members from Men's Walk #61

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP	PHONE	EMAIL
Jim Aldridge		Washington CH	OH	43160		
Brandon Bentley		Hillsboro	OH	45133		
J C Bihl		Hillsboro	OH	45133		
Kelly Bowens		Wilmington	OH	45177		
Tre Bradley		Huber Heights	OH	45424		
Nolan Cook		Blanchester	OH	45107		
Shaun Ertel		Greenfield	OH	45123		
Jeff Harper		Washington CH	OH	43160		
Joshua Harris		Wilmington	OH	45177		
Brent Kiphart		Wilmington	OH	45177		
Jacob Landy-Gaiton		New Vienna	OH	45159		
David Lieurance		Leesburg	OH	45135		
Don McCoy		Washington CH	OH	43160		
Ryan Poole		Wilmington	OH	45177		
Phil Pruzzo		Dayton	OH	45459		
Scotty Raddabaugh		Wilmington	OH	45177		
Peter Sams		Maineville	OH	45039		
Tim Scott		Burlington	KY	41005		
Tex Shadley		Washington CH	OH	43160		
Skippy Shields		Wilmington	OH	45177		
Scotty Turner		Wilmington	OH	45177		
David Waddle		New Vienna	OH	45159		

Men's Walk #61 (continued)

Each man touched the hearts of the team in some way and the team responded by being open to listening and praying, by presenting talks that honored God and by praying, by laughing and crying with the pilgrims.

Each walk is special to those involved with it. Having been on many walks and usually in a capacity where contact with individual pilgrims is somewhat limited, there are still sometimes

pilgrims who touch your heart in some special way and you find a new friend.

In some pilgrims, you sense a person who will come back and be active and will give a powerful talk because of the journey of their lives.

Yes, each walk is special in its own way. Some funny thing happens which is funny or touching to those involved, but seldom translates when you try to tell the story

to someone who wasn't there!

So, men of Walk 61, you will always be remembered whether you choose to come back and serve (which we sincerely hope and pray you will do) or we only see you occasionally. If you haven't already signed up to work on the October Women's Walk, do so at the October Gathering!

In the meantime, always remember God loves you, and so do we!

Wilmington Area Walk to Emmaus

Wilmington United Methodist Church
PO Box 191
Wilmington, OH 45177

We're on the web:
www.wilmingtonemmaus.org

See you at the GATHERING:
October 13 - 7:00pm
Singing starts at 6:45pm
MEN'S WALK #61
Mini Reunion
6:00pm
October Women's Walk
22—25 October
Sign up to work at the
Gathering

4th DAY SPEAKERS

October: Nick Blaser
November: Ed Wells
December Gathering is ALL MUSIC!

EMMAUS EXCITEMENT

You've heard the story of a coal that is red hot whilst in the fire when separated from the fire, turns dark and cold and goes out. This is very much like Emmaus. While on your THREE DAYS, you are with men or women who are excited and on fire for God! Then you get home to the same tired faces at work or just in your life and they are anything but excited. You'll feel yourself falling back to old and comfortable ways. You can combat all of this, however.

Get our your EMMAUS TOOLKIT. Read over those Agape notes....read over your notes from the talks. Contact one of your table mates and talk about what's going on. Find a share group and be faithful in attendance. Share groups are odd things....the first one or two you try may not be a "fit" for you. This doesn't mean they are doing things wrong, or you aren't on the same spiritual level. It all comes down to a comfort level you will find when that fit is right!

Get involved!!! Come to the October Women's Candlelight! Come on Thursday to help carry in the ladies' luggage. Sign up to work in the kitchen or clean bathrooms. You'll find your circle of Emmaus friends will grow and you'll continue learning and growing as long as you put forth a little effort. GET EXCITED!

Lesson in Perseverance

*"So I do not run aimlessly."
1 Corinthians 9:26a*

Have you heard the phrase "in it to win it"? These words are tossed around as a way to express a person's deep commitment to a certain outcome, a relationship, or goal. The phrase is used so much that it is almost meaningless.

Those five little words may be just a catch phrase, but the question arises: what are you "in it" for? How deeply committed are you to following through on your commitments? Will you persevere and continue working toward your goals, even if there are obstacles? Do you even have a goal in mind? How "in it" are you?

Being "in it" means that you are passionate about something or someone or some idea. No matter what, you move toward your goal. You are not aimless because you have a destination, a purpose, and a passion.

So, are you in it to win it?

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