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The Lord
weighs the
heart.

**QUICK
MESSAGE**

**SEPTEMBER
MEN'S WALK
NEEDS
PILGRIMS**

**OCTOBER
WOMEN'S WALK
NEEDS
PILGRIMS**

**SHARE SPECIAL
MUSIC AT THE
DECEMBER
GATHERING**

SEE BACK PAGE!

Jazz from Jim

"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall". It's a truth we all need to be reminded of occasionally. If we're not cognizant of it, pride tends to slowly creep up on us. We win an argument, the boss gives us a promotion or maybe we're just tempted to see ourselves as *above* someone who may not be as pretty, athletic or intellectually stimulating. Little by little, pride attaches itself to us and begins to accumulate. In the same way Krispy Kreme donuts satisfy momentarily then inflate our waistline, so does self admiration cling to our spirit and inflate our ego. Eventually we become weighed down with pride and of little use to the Lord.

On more than one occasion I've been convicted of a prideful heart by the Holy Spirit. It happened once while serving on a Team. There's a point of self-examination where we are to ask the Lord if there be anything in our spirits we need to rid ourselves of, in order to more effectively serve Him. I was completely caught off-guard

when the Lord clearly revealed to me that my problem was pride. Like a person who sees himself in a mirror and suddenly realizes he has let weight-gain creep up on him, I remember weeping as I repented of the sin of pride I hadn't even realized had accumulated inside of me. No one knows our faults better than our Heavenly Father. Proverbs 21:2 tells us, *Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the heart.* It's healthy as Christians to ask the Lord to reveal to us anything that does not please Him.

When serving on a team, a portion of the Canon of The Emmaus Team is read aloud by each member. The following are excerpts from the Canon: "I will remember at all times that I am less

important than any other person on this weekend" and "In all things this weekend I shall pray, 'not I, but Christ!'" Whether we're serving on team or just living our lives before others as a witness, we must realize ... *it's not about us.* I heard a pastor on the radio mention that even the donkey knew the palm leaves and cloaks lying on the ground as they entered Jerusalem were for the one on his back and not him. If a donkey knows he doesn't deserve the credit, how much more should we? In any situation, humility is a welcomed relief in a self-centered world.

In 1 Peter 5:5, we're reminded, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." In all we do, as a Community, whether serving on Team, preparing meals in the kitchen or ministering through music, etc., we need to serve with a humble heart giving God the glory and in all things pray, "not I, but Christ!"

De Colores,
Jim



Joy from Joy

May we,
with God's
help,
develop
Job's solid
rock faith,
trusting
God in the
midst of all
of life's
storms.

Miss an issue of the
Wilmington Emmaus
Newsletter? Extra
copies can be found in
the entry hall of the
church with other
Emmaus materials and
applications.

Suffering, Pain, Disappointment, Discouragement, Broken Relationships.....

Have you noticed everywhere you go, everywhere you look, every conversation you have, every church service you attend we hear about all of the horrible, painful things that are happening in the lives of those around us, and often in our own lives.

My mind is constantly taken back to the book of Job. Over the years we have been so very critical, and talked so very harshly about his wife who in chapter 2 verse 9 said to Job, "Doest thou still retain thine integrity? Curse God and die." Now, obviously that is not a statement any of us approve of, think is okay, or believe it was a good thing to say, however, before we are too critical, maybe we should look in the mirror. Think about the distressed state this woman was in. She had lost her family, the family servants, the livestock, and a healthy husband in the process of this time of testing. Job wasn't the only one who had lost everything. None the less, the women of the day didn't have the same advantages to spiritual teaching that the men did, probably contributing to a more shallow depth of a relationship with God than Job possessed.

Notice in verse 10 that Job replied to her, "Thou speakest AS one of the foolish women speaketh". He didn't refer to her as a foolish woman, but that she was talking like one. There is no indication in the scriptures that she was not a good wife, good mother, honorable person, etc.

Seeing the lack of faith and hearing the words we don't like in Job's wife indicates that we need to take a good look at how we handle those times of suffering, pain, disappointment, discouragement, broken relationships, death, and loss in our own lives. Does our faith remain rock solid? Do we sometimes say things that make us sound like a "foolish woman"? Do we run from God, blame God? I fear that as harsh as we have been with Job's wife, we often mirror her.

Martyn Lloyd-Jones once gave this advice: "We must talk to ourselves instead of allowing "ourselves" to talk to us! Do you realize what that means? I suggest that the main trouble in this whole matter of spiritual depression in a sense is this, that we allow our self to talk to us instead of talking to our self....

Most of your unhappiness in life is due to the fact that you are listening to yourself instead of talking to yourself.....

The main art in the matter of spiritual living is to know how to handle yourself. You have to take yourself in hand, you have to address yourself, preach to yourself, question yourself. You must say to your soul: "Why art thou cast down" - what business have you to be disquieted? You must turn on yourself, upbraid yourself, condemn yourself, exhort yourself, and say to yourself: "Hope thou in God" -instead of muttering in this depressed unhappy way. And then you must go on to remind yourself of God...

Martyn Lloyd-Jones gave us some good advice. It is in those times of testing we must fill our minds and hearts with the word of God, reminding ourselves of the Biblical truths. It is when we give in to our self-pitying thoughts that we find ourselves in spiritual trouble. May we, with God's help, develop Job's solid rock faith, trusting God in the midst of all of life's storms.

De Colores!
Joy

Chances are quite good that if you're reading this, you have been through the Walk To Emmaus experience. The story in the gospel of Luke provides the image for Emmaus, an Upper Room program that calls forth and renews Christian discipleship. Like its predecessor, *Cursillo de Cristiandad* (Spanish for "short course in Christianity"), the Walk to Emmaus is a three day experience which takes a New Testament look at Christianity as a lifestyle. It is a highly structured weekend designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people, and through them their families, congregations and the world in which they live.

The purpose is to inspire, challenge and equip loyal church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others.

What happens after this three day "high" though? One of the primary strengths of Emmaus is the follow-up. Your weekend lasted only three days, but you are invited to build on it for the rest of your life. Those who attend the walk are encouraged to do two things following their weekend:

1. Expand your own spiritual lives through study and congregational participation.
2. Become more active disciples of Christ in the world through your church.

Put the things you learned to good use. Develop a regular study habit, look for ways to serve God and your fellow man. When your minister is looking for a teacher, step out on faith! Find your place to serve. Sometimes the least pleasant jobs are those that are the most rewarding. Remember the parable of the talents!

To nurture the process, the Emmaus movement offers specific opportunities. First, reunion groups of four to six people meet weekly to reflect on their quest for spiritual growth and encourage one another in their discipleship. Your sponsor should help you find a group just right for you. Also, the community has a "Good Shepherd" who will try to help. Some share groups started as a part of their assigned table-mates from their walk! Second, there will be monthly meetings called "GATHERINGS." You are invited for fellowship, worship and informal instruction (not to mention eats afterwards!) Third, through this newsletter (in the mail or on our web site) community members become aware of support needs for upcoming Walks to Emmaus and opportunities to work in a variety of ways during future weekends.

HISTORY OF EMMAUS

Originating in Spain in the late 1940s, *Cursillo* moved to America in the late 1950s. It was primarily a Roman Catholic movement until the 1970s. As Catholic centers started accepting applications from Protestants, efforts began among some groups to make the *Cursillo* experience available to all Protestants. In the late 1970s, The Upper Room formed The Upper Room *Cursillo* Community in Nashville, TN. In 1981, by mutual agreement between the National Secretariat of the Roman Catholic Church *Cursillo* movement and The Upper Room, the name of the Nashville Protestant community was changed to Emmaus.

SPONSORSHIP

When you think about friends you would like to sponsor, remember Emmaus is for development of Christian leaders who wish to strengthen their spiritual lives; who may have unanswered questions about prayer, study and sharing their faith; who understand that being a Christian involves responsibility and are willing to dedicate their everyday lives to God in an ongoing manner. Before you talk to your friend about Emmaus, it's a good idea to talk to God about your friend!

You received an application in your Sunday packet, but were encouraged NOT to pass copies out to everyone and anyone! Sponsorship is an important part of the Walk to Emmaus process and one which should not be taken lightly. You should have had a visit from our Sponsorship Chair at your first reunion at your first Gathering following your walk. The duties and responsibilities of a sponsor were laid out for you. There is a lot to being a sponsor, but the rewards are fabulous! To be able to share this experience with a brother or sister in Christ practically defies description. You have opportunities to sponsor this September and October with Men's and Women's Walks!

De Colores!



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM

Wilmington Area Walk to Emmaus
Wilmington United Methodist Church
PO Box 191
Wilmington, OH 45177

SEE YOU AT THE GATHERING!
August 10
Singing starts at 6:45pm
Bring a snack to share afterwards—
when Emmaus meets, EMMAUS EATS!
Don't forget to wear your NAME TAG!
This helps everyone to learn your
name much more quickly!

Do you help with Powerpoint or similar support roles in your church?
Men and Women needed for the “tech” position on Walks.
Talk to Jim Wingo or Randy Riley for details!

MUSIC FOR GATHERINGS

MUSIC FOR GATHERINGS

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>SPECIAL MUSIC</u>	<u>PIANO</u>	<u>SONG LEADER</u>
AUGUST	Peggy Larkin	John Glaze	Cliff Klutts
SEPTEMBER	Cliff Klutts	Carl Guenther	Ed Ramey
OCTOBER	Ed Ramey	Jennie Harner	Brenda Armstrong
NOVEMBER	Brenda Armstrong	John Glaze	Chuck Tabor
DECEMBER	*see below*	Lynn Lowell	Bronwyn Jones

Planning ahead! Do you have musical talent you would be willing to share with the Emmaus Community? As you can see, the months are filling up. We typically have two music specials at a Gathering and need a song leader and an accompanist. Although “piano” is listed, we can have guitar accompaniment...or any other instrument able to lead group singing.

The **December Gathering** is a musical celebration of the coming birth of Jesus. We sing several Christmas carols, share a short meditation and communion. However the rest is all music. With regard to specials, to avoid duplication, it's “first come, first served.” In other words, the first person who registers their song is the person who will present it.

To volunteer for a monthly Gathering or for the December Christmas Gathering, contact JENNIE HARNER at 937-987-2518 or harnersewing@yahoo.com.