

THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Published weekly by the Forest Hill church of Christ

Visit our Website at www.foresthillchurch.org

Forest Hill Church of Christ

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VISIT US SOON!

Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship... 10:30 A.M.
Evening Worship..... 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday:

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

HOME OF MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF PREACHING

Missions Supported:

Iglesia de Cristo Memphis
Kakinada, India
Manila, Philippines
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Far East/World Evangelism
In Search of the Lord's Way

Volume 32

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Number 24

RONALD WILSON REAGAN

1911-2004

A TRIBUTE TO THE 40TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

by

Barry M. Grider

What a week? In life and in death, Ronald Reagan made us proud to be Americans. As a 16 year old boy I watched with great intensity and interest his campaign for the presidency, which culminated with his January 20, 1981 inaugural. With the same passion, as a 40 year old man, I watched last week the processions, the ceremonies, the services, as his flag draped coffin was borne from place to place, from sea to shining sea, by members of the armed forces, to the strains of "Hail to the Chief."

Ronald Reagan was a unique leader who was sorely needed for our times. He rose to the occasion, met the challenges, and did his best to make our nation better and the world safer. His optimism and belief in the American dream was infectious. Concerning this dream, he stated, "Why can't we believe ... after all, we are Americans." This optimism and sense of purpose was fueled by his belief in a higher being – God. During the National Day of Prayer, May 6, 1982, he said, "Together, let us take up the challenge to reawaken America's religious and moral heart, recognizing that a deep and abiding faith in God is the rock upon which this great nation was founded."

I really do believe that God blesses those leaders of nations and those who dwell therein who recognize his divine principles (Prov. 14:34). Under President Reagan it was again proven that free markets, deregulation, limited government, and tax cuts work. America has now sustained the longest peacetime economic expansion in history. What a difference from the "malaise" of the 1960's and 1970's.

But perhaps President Reagan's lasting legacy will be orchestrating the collapse of Soviet communism, which he correctly deemed the "evil empire." According to some of his aides, one reason he opposed this system so much was because it was a godless system. Unlike others, he believed communism, which enslaved so many, was destined to fail. He was right and the wall came down. Today gospel preachers can enter those lands which one time were sealed off by what Churchill called a great "iron curtain." The Lord's church has now been firmly established in many places in the former Soviet Union. How thankful we should be for the providence of God and for President Ronald Reagan.

As Christians, we should ever seek to promote and preserve the moral and spiritual values that have made America great. For sure, we had no greater friend in the White House than Ronald Reagan. Speaking before the Alabama State Legislature in 1982, he said,

To those who cite the First Amendment as reason for excluding God from more and more of our institutions and every day life, may I just say: The First Amendment of the Constitution was not written to protect the people of this country from religious values; it was written to protect religious values from government tyranny.

Like Lincoln, he often stated, "instead of asking if God is on our side, should we not ask are we on his side?"

President Reagan was a staunch defender of the sacredness of human life. He once quipped, "I have noticed that all who support abortion have already been born." To those who say we do not know when life begins [which we do-BG], he said, "should we not come down on the side that says life begins with conception."

Though I heard President Reagan speak in person on three different occasions, I wished I could have known him personally. As a leader, he positively affected my viewpoint and helped establish firmly my ideals. As a person, he earned my respect and lasting admiration. It is not for me to speak concerning his eternal welfare nor is that the purpose of this article. However, contemplating his service to our country and the world, I am reminded of the words of his friend and staunch ally, Margaret Thatcher, who said at the close of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in 1988:

Thank you, Mr. President, for the summit,
Thank you for your presidency,
Thank you for your testament of belief,
And God bless America.

It should be our prayer that God will bless the memory of President Ronald Reagan and in so doing bless the nation he loved so much.

French writer Alexis de Tocqueville, after visiting America in 1831, said, "I sought for the greatness of the United States in her commodious harbors, her ample rivers, her fertile fields, and boundless forests—and it was not there. I sought for it in her rich mines, her vast world commerce, her public school system, and in her institutions of higher learning—and it was not there. I looked for it in her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution—and it was not there. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great!"

How Does a Father Do It?

Finding the right balance between the work place and home front can be a guilt trip, but it doesn't have to be that way. Look over the list of possible improvements you can make in the way you balance career and family. But instead of viewing this as one more long list of things to do, imagine yourself already doing something on the list. The mind doesn't distinguish between imagined and real success when it draws upon positive experiences, even imaginary ones, to reinforce good habits-in-the-making. Try imagining yourself combining work and family life in the ways listed below.

- Keep it simple. If it doesn't add to the happiness of your family, then change it.
 - Set aside time after dinner to help your kids with their homework.
 - Remember what you were like as a kid, and cut some slack for your kids. Keep important things in focus: family unity, values, fun and education.
 - Listen at all times: to mealtime stories, to the chatter over dishwashing, to bedtime prayers.
 - Create family rituals: Saturday morning pancakes, Sunday night pizza, Monday night health club, Thursday night piano recital.
 - Include children in your planning and decision-making regarding things like weekly chore assignments, summer vacation plans and special monthly events.
 - Hold family councils once a month to discuss pet peeves, rules, rewards and punishments.
 - Be both loving and firm in setting, negotiating and enforcing rules.
 - Let the answering machine take calls during the dinner hour and at bedtime. Or, take the phone off the hook.
 - Love isn't something you buy. Your kids spell it T-I-M-E and it costs more than M-O-N-E-Y.
 - It's better to play 15 or 20 minutes spontaneously and have fun, then go do chores, work or other priorities, than to spend all day at the zoo (or ballgame or the mall) feeling angry, guilty, or worried.
 - Find one common mission or cause that your family loves to do together, instead of splintering your volunteer activities in several different directions.
- This partial list was gleaned from "How Does a Mother Do It?" That's the title of a brochure published by Mars Candy that compiles tips for Working Mother of the Year. We've adapted it. More importantly, what do you believe--and do--about this delicate balancing act?

Dobson

Continued from page 3:

**CONGRATULATIONS
3 AND 4 YEAR OLD CLASS**

Caitlyn Barker	Winna Chambers
Shelby Cooper	Caroline Dawson
Bayley Dees	Joshua Kennedy
Sam Rickles	

All of these students learned their cards for the Spring Quarter. This included learning the days of creation. Caitlyn, Caroline, and Bayley also memorized Acts 2:22.

HANDICAP PARKING

We have added additional handicap parking spaces at the front of the building. These spaces will be of benefit to our members who are confined to wheelchairs. Please be aware of this change and courteous of those who need these parking spaces.

ICE CREAM SUPPER

Sunday, June 27 after the evening service, we will have an ice cream supper and finger food fellowship.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Myrtle Sayers on the birth of a great granddaughter, Meg Elizabeth Gooch. She weighed 7.8 pounds and is 20 inches long. Brent and Christie Gooch are the parents and Tommy and Patsy Sayers are the grandparents.

Gene and Bonnie Gordon who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary June 25th. Be sure to send them a card.

**MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF PREACHING
GRADUATION
SUNDAY, JUNE 20
6:00 P.M.
(Forest Hill Auditorium)
RECEPTION: 2:00 - 3:00
(Fellowship Hall)**

IN THE AREA

Vacation Bible School, Cordova church of Christ, June 21-24, 9:30—11:30 a.m. Theme: Discovering Bible Treasures

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