

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

JOYCE HOPE REVELS born August 3, 1922 died August 23, 2009

I preached the funeral of this very dear lady. Joyce was born in 1922 and was re-born in 1930, which, she said, "began almost 50 years of religious activity." Her prayer became that "one day God will hem me up and my relationship with Him will get straightened out and be real." That day came on April 16, 1979, a day she said was filled with joyful tears and a prayer "thank you, Lord, for not giving up on me."

Joyce founded *Christ Life Ministries (CLM)* in Hendersonville, NC at age of 58. 1000s have come to know freedom in Christ through *CLM*. I am so grateful for *CLM* entrusting and nurturing me as a discipleship counselor for 7 years. Joyce called discipleship ministry the highest privilege of her life...as do I. She said discipleship is "God allowing me to get close enough to someone to watch Him work." And Joyce shared this intimate view of God with many people. *A true woman of grace.*

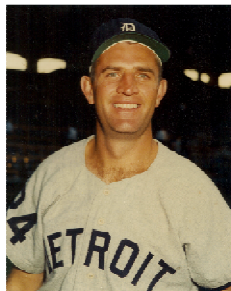
NEIL CHRISLEY FIELD JULY 25, 2009 CALHOUN FALLS, SC

I had one of the most enjoyable times of my life being part of a ceremony naming the former textile mill baseball field in Calhoun Falls, SC after my mother's cousin Neil Chrisley. It was a combination family and town reunion!

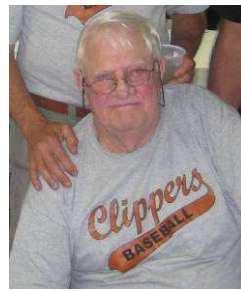
I came to know people in Calhoun Falls as a little boy while visiting my grandparents and cousins. Helping with this ceremony allowed me to get to know these people as an adult. They are so genuine and endearing, and are so proud of their heritage. I will always treasure them and my heritage through my mother...and the thought of a poor mill hill lad making it to the major leagues! *A true heritage of grace.*



Neil in 1950
Calhoun Falls Clippers



Neil in 1960
Detroit Tigers



Neil on July 25, 2009
Ceremony

Grace Journal

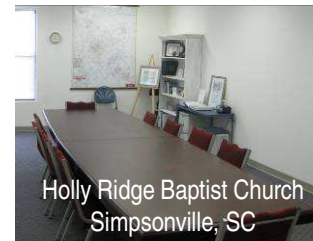
A pilgrim's testimony of the way of the cross.
July/August/September 2009

*My God shall supply all your need
according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
(Philippians 4:19)*

God promises to provide all (not some) of our need according to His riches (not according to our wants) and by His Son Jesus (not by our efforts). This is a call to trust God, including our need for Him to reveal what our needs really are. Each of us might think we know what we need in a practical sense, but God knows perfectly and most profoundly what and when we need anything.

And God never supplies our needs so we can live happily ever after. He supplies our needs for one reason: to reveal His beloved Son in our lives. This doesn't mean we won't be happy. It does mean we will have a joy deeper than happiness because it will be a supernatural joy received and not a natural happiness achieved.

I have recently joyfully witnessed God supply these needs: discipleship counseling settings for *Journey in Christ* (photos below)...to know my heritage...hope to boys in a boys' home...grace for a woman to bless this world while going to heaven...creative ways to share good news. May God use this newsletter to supply a need in your life.



Holly Ridge Baptist Church
Simpsonville, SC



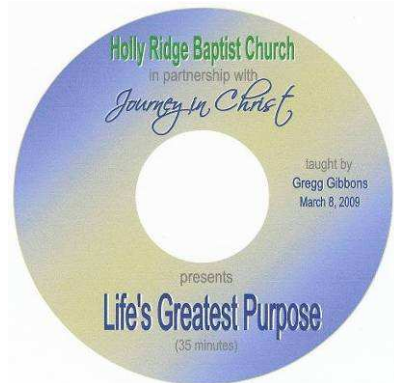
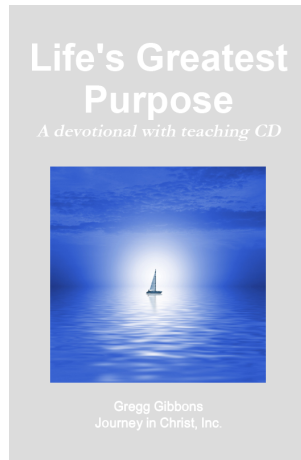
Mauldin, SC

Journey in Christ

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COMMUNICATING THE GOOD NEWS

I am excited about growing in grace as God uses my personality to share the good news of the gospel. Below is a devotional booklet with accompanying CD recording of me teaching "Life's Greatest Purpose." I am learning how to share this resource, and others I am preparing, with people around the world. This most foundational resource can be purchased through a link on www.JourneyinChrist.org.



What is the good news of the gospel? I used to think the gospel was about forgiveness of sins and going to heaven. And indeed, these are part of the gospel. However, the gospel is so much more (see Romans 5:10).

The Greek word for "gospel" is *euaggelion* which means "good news." In biblical times, when a battle was won, a messenger from the army was sent back to town to run and shout "Euaggelion! Euaggelion! Euaggelion!!!"

We, too, have been given a passion to proclaim to others, "Good news! We have been given the victory of all victories! Something has happened that is so wonderful and so final, that we will never ever be the same! We are now truly free! We now have a hope that nothing on earth can shake! It's the greatest news of all!"

The good news is that the cross and resurrection are the "full fillment" of the purpose of all of history...the revelation of Jesus Christ! Jesus has defeated sin, Satan, and death! And in our identification with Christ in His cross and resurrection, we have been re-born new creations united with His life and His victory!

The good news is not that you have to try harder to succeed. The good news is that you can rest in what Christ has already done! Live and preach what has already happened to you in Christ and you will witness revival around you and you will be part of God's subduing of the earth in real and relevant ways!

Christ has given you and me His authority to proclaim and to promise this. ☺

20 CANNOTS TRANSFORMED INTO 20 CANS

Boys at the *Boys Home of the South* chapel shared 20 of their CANNOTS of life. 20 truths on slips on paper inside CANS were given to the boys. Each boy stood in God's grace to claim these truths. Below are 5 of these truths.

I can
do all
things
through
Christ's
strength!



CANNOTS

CANS

I can't believe.

God has given me faith (Romans 12:3).

I can't be strong.

The Lord IS the strength of my life (Psalm 27:1).

I can't be very smart.

Christ became to me wisdom from God. (1 Corinthians 1:30).

I can't get over anxiety.

I can cast all my cares on Christ who cares for me (1 Peter 5:7).

I can't be close to others.

I (Jesus) will never leave you nor forsake you (Hebrews 13:5).