



A "Go with God" moment

by: Dave Smith

... you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. - 1 Peter 2:5

"Lord, Is This You?" – part 2

As I wrote last week, distinguishing between God's voice/Spirit and my own intentions is not as clear as I wish it would be. Nevertheless, seeking His face and His heart is a foundation-stone to my Christian walk. Plus, I have often found that I need to move forward before I have absolute certainty of having His favor on my choice and life. May I simply say, "Welcome to a walk of faith."

Last week, we began by examining the introductory narratives to Paul's First and Second Missionary Journeys in Acts 13 and Acts 15. As we saw, Acts 13 is saturated with the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. As Luke depicts this, the Holy Spirit speaks in what seems to be an audible voice to all the participants. There is no missing the initiator; this is the consummate God-thing.

However, when we read about the launch of the Second Journey, rather than a clear revelation from heaven, Paul simply remarks to Barnabas, Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are. (Act 15:36)

There is no Spirit language, no prayer, and no fasting, just Paul's verbalized thought. Paul seems to know of the needs in the lives of his first gentile converts and he desires to return to meet that need. Now, here is my **first question**, "In a Christian's pursuit of the will of God, is the absence of confirmation of the Holy Spirit an indicator of anything wrong?" Should this give Paul (or us) a reason to pause? Keep in mind, our call to walk by faith!

Now, back to the story; Barnabas agrees with Paul *but* wants to take along John Mark. If you recall, John Mark was with Paul and Barnabas on their First Missionary Journey and had a spiritual-personal meltdown. Paul disagrees with Barnabas' assessment of John Mark. So much so that it creates a separation of the two.

Let's pause here and tack a **second question** to the first, "Is the presence of hardship or conflict in one's life a valid indicator (maybe some might use the word "sign") to cease pursuing your dream to serve?" Often, we read adversity like spiritual tea-leaves that God is saying "No." I might ask you to look to the Scriptures to see the absolute promise of hardship and persecution in the life of Christian service. We often buy into our culture's pain avoidance mantra. When offered the path of least resistance, we take it without considering the Biblical mandate to accept Jesus' call to self-denial, sacrifice, and personal cross-bearing. Moreover, there are a plethora of passages which demonstrate to us that suffering and hardship



Weekly Menu

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Ministry Opportunities

<http://cas.indwes.edu/Academic-Divisions/Religion-Philosophy/ministry/>



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<http://seminary.indwes.edu/>



Wesleyan Job Postings

<http://www.wesleyan.org/do/c/employment>

might not only become the means to shape our spiritual lives but suffering may be a surrogate means of hearing the voice and the discerning the will of God. C. S. Lewis affirms this when he writes, "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks to us in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: It is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world." Now, of course this takes discernment, but the presence of travail may be a keen indicator of the nearness of God.

****[Click here](#) to read the full article by Dave Smith.****

So, we still have a long way to go in answering, "Am I hearing God or is this just me talking to myself?" But we can see that that hearing the clear and powerful voice of God (Acts 13:1-3) is only *one way* for you to discern His will. We can also see that in His apparent absence (Acts 15:36ff), we can find guidance through the presence of pain.

Tune in next week as we continue, "Lord, Is this You? Part 3" Maybe you want to read ahead; Acts 16:6-10.

Lord,

May we seek You with our Whole heart.

May we search for Your Face.

May we hearken towards Your voice.

But in their absence,

May we employ the *means of grace* which You provide for us to walk by faith each day.

Amen.

Now, **Go with God**



GPA Calculator

http://www.image-ination.com/test_maker/gpa.html



Go with God Moment

<http://go-with-god.blogspot.com/>

**Last Week's Trivia Winner:
Joe Kuehner**

Trivia

When is the Spring 2010 Advisapalooza meeting session for YOUR MAJOR/MINOR(s) within the School of Theology & Ministry?

Be the first to email the correct answer to

melissa.fipps@indwes.edu

for a small treat or prize.

Previous Winners:

Chuck Zimmerman, Rachel Smith, Abby III, Vanessa Small

"Church Planting" Panel Discussion Luncheon Wednesday, Century Dining room 12:15-1:15 p.m.



Adam Lipscomb will be speaking on the subject of the life of a church planter during Wednesday's chapel services. Following the chapels at 10 & 11; we will have a lunch time "Church Planting" panel discussion in the. You may go thru the line in Baldwin and bring your tray to the Century dining room. Limited seating, first come first serve, no reservation required.

On the panel we will have Adam Lipscomb (Wesleyan Church planter from East Michigan, Grand Rapids); David Drury (Executive pastor at College Wesleyan and former church planter in Indiana Central); Thad Spring (Young Adult pastor at College Wesleyan, former church planter in East Michigan); Matthew Trexlor (current church planter in Marion; The River).

NITROGEN: A Church Planting Recruiting Experience

Friday, April 30, 2010 5:00 - 10:00 pm &

Saturday, May 1, 2010 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

(Optional Worship Service Experiences Saturday Night and Sunday Morning)

Come experience an introduction and orientation to the church planting movement as it is unfolding in West Michigan. **The Gathering** is for all potential planters, local churches and district/denomination teams that are feeling called or are ready to take their next steps in becoming a part of the mission field of church planting.



The Gathering will be a relational experience meeting with leaders and planners of various churches while visiting multiple church planting sites.

The Gathering will begin at IMPACT in Lowell, MI and will travel to various planting sites in the greater Grand Rapids area. IMPACT is a part of the West Michigan District which has networked to plant 18 churches since 2000 including three that IMPACT has parented.

A word from West Michigan District Superintendent Mark Gorveatte, "We'd be delighted to create 'scholarship' opportunities for as many as 10-12 students who, upon a faculty supervisor's recommendation, would be hosted at our expense. They would only be responsible for their travel/meals to and from the event. We would provide complimentary registration, and house and

feed while on-site." – If you are interested in this opportunity, contact melissa.fipps@indwes.edu with your advisor's name.



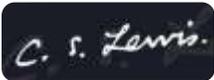
All majors/minors within our school (except: YTH/Adolescent/Sports)

- In various rooms throughout **Noggle**
- **Thursday, March 11** (first Thursday after Spring Break)
- **4:30-6:00 pm**

YTH/Adolescent meet in Youth Lab from **9 pm – midnight**

Sports special advising and registration signing TBA by advisor

PHL 430 Advanced Topics in Philosophy -- C.S. Lewis
Fall, M-W-F at 2:20



A study in the philosophy and theology of Christian writer C.S. Lewis. This course will examine Lewis's views on topics such as salvation, holiness, the nature of God, sovereignty and free will, revelation, miracles, afterlife, and reasons for belief.



Special attention will be given to the relationship between Lewis's theological beliefs and his articulation of the Christian faith. Lewis's on-going relevance in light of Postmodernity, the Emergent movement, and other contemporary cultural currents will be explored.

*This is a fun course. We read a blend of Lewis's fiction and non-fiction, including *The Great Divorce*, *The Abolition of Man*, *The Screwtape Letters*, *Miracles*, *The Chronicles of Narnia* (portions), *The Problem of Pain*, and *A Grief Observed*.*

This course covers a specialized and advanced topic in philosophy that is not covered in the normal curriculum. It is always offered with a subheading and is repeatable under a different subheading up to 12 hours. **Prerequisite: PHL-180 and junior or senior classification.**



Sticky Notes. None this week due to upcoming Spring Break!



Two students would like to visit Wesley Biblical Seminary in Jackson, MS, over Spring Break, but they need a ride. If you are heading that way and have room for these young ladies, please contact them: Leah Dykstal, 765-413-1435 or Andrea Rahman, 812-664-2581.



More than just a college visit...

...**FUSION** is a campus movement dedicated to moving students closer to Christ. When we encounter God, He consumes us and we become more and more like Him. Our vision for this high school (grades 9-12) youth conference at Indiana Wesleyan University is that students come and experience His power at work and leave ready to live the transformation...and you can be a part!

The conference this year is Friday and Saturday, March 26 -27. Below you will find different ways to get involved in this ministry. Thank you in advance for your help; we couldn't do it without you!

Area(s) of Interest:

- Housing*
- Activities
- Housing Security
- Concert Security
- Altar Counselor
- Seminar Host
- Registration
- Operations, Set-up/Tear-down
- Other (please specify below)

* University Court and Townhouses not eligible to house, sorry!

Click the link below to register to help:

<http://wildcat.indwes.edu/forms/Fusion-2010-Registration/>

Click this link for more information regarding the event:

<http://www.indwes.edu/studentministries/fusion/>

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

For more detailed information visit our site online (<http://cas.indwes.edu/Academic-Divisions/Religion-Philosophy/ministry/>) or stop by the School of Theology & Ministry office. *Indicates new entry this week.

Part Time Ministry & Practicum Opportunities

Children's Ministry

- Youth /Children's Director – Lafontaine UMC – Lafontaine, IN
- Youth Minister – Children's Director – Nursery Director – North Communities Church – Westfield, IN
- Paid Children's Directors—Marion First UMC—Marion, IN

Senior Pastor

- Pastor – Kempton Methodist Episcopal – Kempton, IN

Worship/Creative Arts

- Worship Leader – Grace Pointe Church of the Nazarene – Indianapolis, IN
- Minister of Music - First Christian Church – Marion, IN
- Paid Worship Leader – Schuyler Ave Wesleyan – Lafayette, IN
- Worship Practicum/Intern – Wabash Church of the Nazarene – Wabash, IN

Youth Ministry

- Youth /Children's Director – Lafontaine UMC – Lafontaine, IN
- Youth Coordinator – First Christian Church – Marion, IN
- Youth Leader/Practicum/Volunteer – Mount Etna Wesleyan – Mount Etna, IN
- Female Youth Practicum/Volunteers – Fairmount Wesleyan – Fairmount, IN
- Youth Director – Wesley UMC - Indianapolis, IN
- Jr High Ministry – Daybreak Community Church – Lapel, IN
- Youth Pastor – Central Wesleyan – Elwood, IN
- Youth Pastor – Trinity United Methodist Church – Hartford City, IN
- Paid Jr/Sr High Leader—Bethel Friends Church—Marion, IN

Full Time Ministry Opportunities

Pastoral

- Assistant Pastor – Ansonia Christian Church – Ansonia, OH

Worship Pastor

- Music Development Director – College Wesleyan – Marion, IN

Youth/Worship Ministry

- Student Ministry Director - Heartland Christian Fellowship – Overland Park, KS
- Middle School Ministry Leader – Eagle Church – Zionsville, IN

Children's Ministry

- Children's Pastor – Wabash Friends Church – Wabash, IN

Miscellaneous

- Year-round Male Camp Counselors – Heartlight Ministries – Longview, TX

Internships

- Any intern position – Anchorage Wesleyan – Anchorage, AK
- Youth Intern – Lisbon Wesleyan – Lisbon, NY
- Worship Practicum/Intern – Wabash Church of the Nazarene – Wabash, IN
- Youth Interns – Lakeview Wesleyan – Marion, IN
- Youth Pastor Intern - Family Life Center – Coldwater, MI

Missions

- Black Forest Academy – www.bfacademy.com – brochures available in the SOTM office

*Indicates new entry this week.

**Indicates PAID position

