

AUGUST 2011

## One God for All Nations

**“Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also: seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith” (Romans 3:29-30).**

*By David K. Bernard*

The worship of the one true God unites us in fellowship.

We are saved as we believe on Him and obey His plan of salvation in Jesus Christ.

In ancient Palestine there was a strong distinction between Jew and Gentile, circumcised and uncircumcised. In the Gentile world there was likewise a strong distinction between those who followed Greek culture and everyone else, who were called barbarians. In every society there are distinctions between insiders and outsiders. All too often the result in human history has sadly been prejudice, discrimination, and segregation.

Racial or social prejudice was never God's plan. In fact, it is sinful (James 2:9). While the Israelites were God's chosen people, He planned to use them to bless all nations (Genesis 12:3). Through them He gave the Scriptures and the Messiah to the whole world (Romans 9:4-5).

Thus the apostle Paul asked, Is God merely the God of the Jews? Of course not. Isn't He also the God of everyone else too? Yes, He is! From this truth, Paul drew an important conclusion: If there is only one God for all nations, then there is only one plan of salvation, namely, through faith in Jesus Christ.

We are not saved by having the “right” background, citizenship, race, culture, language, or family. No matter our ancestral

home, country of origin, skin color, native language, social standing, economic condition, education, or legal status, we are all created in God's image and He cares equally for each of us. Jesus Christ died for all humanity, and all of us can be saved through His gospel. Each of us can be justified, or counted as righteous, through faith in Him.

When preaching to the Athenians, Paul made note of their altar to an “unknown god” (Acts 17:23). He could have condemned them for polytheism and idolatry, but instead he started with common ground. He explained that the God whom they worshiped as unknown was actually the one true God who made everything and everyone. All nations are actually of one blood, and everyone should seek after Him, for He is not far from any one. Paul then quoted from pagan poets: “For we are all his offspring” (Acts 17:28). Moreover, since God created us we should not think He is like an idol that we make with our hands. Instead of worshiping idols, we must repent and believe on Jesus, whom God raised from the dead.

In short, Paul appealed to all nations, and he employed whatever truth he found in their culture to lead them to the true God. How could he say to the worshipers of Zeus, Athena, and other pagan deities that God was not far from them? Because God is not looking for ways to send people to Hell; He is reaching out to everyone, no matter how far away they may seem to be.

Several years ago, a man from a predominantly Muslim country attended our church in Austin, Texas. He was impressed by our teachings about the oneness of God, submission to the will of God, and modesty of dress, which were similar to his own beliefs. In addition, he felt the presence of the Holy Spirit in our services and knew we had something real.

*(continued on page 2)*



### PENTECOSTALS OF BILLINGS

#### SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAY  
10 AM  
6 PM

WEDNESDAY - 7 PM

SATURDAY PRAYER  
7 PM

ALL NATIONS DAY  
JULY 30TH  
2 PM

2335 Lewis Ave  
406-652-2443  
[www.pobmt.org](http://www.pobmt.org)



*(continued One God For All Nations)*

I explained that he should start with the most important teaching of his tradition, namely, the truth of one God. Second, he needed to realize that since we humans could not save ourselves, the true God came in flesh as the Lord Jesus Christ to redeem us from sin. We could not reach up to Heaven, so God reached down to us. Third, because Jesus died for us and rose again, we can now be born again and receive God's Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us power to submit to God and live a holy life.

In a few weeks, the man repented, was baptized in Jesus' name, and received the Holy Spirit!

Whether our ancestors came to the New World on the Mayflower or whether we immigrated to North America last week, we have the same God. He loves us, and He has a plan for our lives. People of every nation and ethnicity need to understand three simple yet beautiful truths. First, there is only one God, and He created all of us. Second, our Creator became our Savior, as the Lord Jesus Christ. Third, if we will believe on Jesus and obey His gospel, He will forgive our sins and come to dwell in us as the Holy Spirit.

## PENTECOSTAL OF BILLINGS AUDIO BIBLE



For those who have decided they would like to be a part of the POB audio Bible, I have established an email exclusively for this project. You can email me to let me know you are interested at the following email address: [pobaudiobible@gmail.com](mailto:pobaudiobible@gmail.com) All correspondence will be handled through this email address. Depending on the interest, we should be able to start within a month. I will forward instructions via this email as soon as I have a list of interested people.  
Thank you- Mike Hanson



**VBS  
2011 GOLD RUSH  
EVERY WEDNESDAY IN JULY AND  
AUGUST 10TH  
6:30 PM-8:30 PM @ CHURCH**

**\*Helpers and donations are needed.  
See Sis Joann Walsh or the donation and  
sign up lists are in the foyer.**

## UpComing Events:

July 3- Church Picnic  
July 7th-9th- VARIETY- Rawlins, WY  
July 21-23- Wyola Camp Meeting  
July 31st - All Nations Day  
August 1st-4th- Family Camp- Hungry Horse  
October 21-22 - Youth Convention



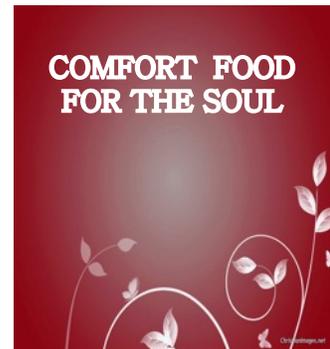
### SOLD OUT -YOUTH GROUP

We are the young army of God and we are **sold out** to Christ!  
Come join the fellowship and fun nights on Friday nights at 7 pm and  
our Youth Service every Sunday morning at 10 am  
Ages 12 + is welcome to come.

If you have questions please contact Alan or April Coonfare @ 855-6256

### RECIPE BOOKS FOR SALE:

Support our youth and buy a copy of our very own  
United Pentecostals of Billings Cook book.  
Thank you to all that submitted your recipe to help  
make this happen.  
\$12



### CHURCH PRAYER REQUESTS

Dayn Leonardson  
Tyler Sapp  
John Bailey  
Louie Dauenhauer  
Michael Kruger  
Medicine Crow Family  
Marty McFate  
Carol Penrod





# July 2011

S M T W T F S

1

2

Youth  
Car Wash  
10 am -2 pm

3

One Service  
10 AM  
Picnic at  
Pioneer Park  
12:30

4

4th Of July

5

Men's  
Softball  
6:30

6

VBS  
6:30 PM

7

VARIETY - Youth  
Rawlins, WY

8

9

10

11

12

13

VBS  
6:30 PM

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

VBS  
6:30 PM

21

WYOLA CAMP MEETING

22

23

24

25

Leadership  
Training  
7 pm

26

27

VBS  
6:30 PM

28

29

30

Music  
Practice  
Choir 5:45

31

All  
Nations  
Day  
2 pm

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH



### Chocolate Toffee Squares

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup light brown sugar
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups unsifted flour
- 1 package semi-sweet chocolate chips (6 ounces)
- 3/4 cup walnuts, coarsely chopped

Pre-heat the oven to 350°F.

Grease a 13-inch x 9-inch inch pan. Beat the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add the egg yolk, vanilla and salt and mix until thoroughly combined. Beat in the flour and mix until just combined.

Turn the batter into the pan, evening it out by pressing it with a sheet of wax paper to help your hands from sticking.

Bake for 22-25 minutes, or until golden brown. Remove from the oven and immediately sprinkle with chocolate chips. Let the chocolate chips sit for a few minutes to soften, then spread with a rubber spatula until they form a smooth, even chocolate layer. Sprinkle nuts evenly on top.

## SPIRITUAL WARFARE PRAYER

**In the next couple of months I am going to be adding a prayer tool for those expanded prayer times in your life that can change your life, the church and all you do.**

**These tools will help you to push back darkness and go push forward in your walk with God.**

**Mark 1:35**

*“And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.”*

### WORDS OF INSIGHT

Psalms 19:13

*“Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me; Then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.”*



Psalms 19:14

*“Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight.”*

### Claim the Blood

(As it has been applied in your life)

**“I continue to trust in Your mercy. Hide me in your blood and keep me from unrighteousness. Forgive my presumptuous sins; my wickedness (my desires to sometimes step outside the laws of God); my iniquities; search me and cleanse me.”**

# Why?

By Fran Lane



There are so many questions I have asked myself over the years and most of them I will never have answered in this life. Why did I have the childhood that I had? Why did my first husband stop loving me? Why did I go through such a terrible divorce? Why did I have two beloved husbands taken from me in death? Why? Why? Why? But, the greatest why is: Why am I here? What is my purpose in life? That question I have at least in part found an answer to, and through it I have at least found that there is a plus side to all of the other whys.

First and foremost I am here because God chose me to be. I am here because I am to fulfill God's purpose in my life. One of the first and foremost reasons I am here is the reason that every human being that ever lived from Adam and Eve on down is and has been here. To worship our Creator! Adam and Eve passed up something that I and every good Christian longs for—a personal, intimate, fellowship with God.

The first commandment that God gave when He issued the Ten Commandments was: “Do not worship any other gods besides me.” He went on to say that He is a jealous God and we are to worship only Him. This means that worship from us is an expected thing. Then, Jesus reinforced this by saying in Matthew 22: 37-38: “Jesus replied, *'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.'* *This is the first and greatest commandment.*” Loving someone that greatly can only be called worship!

So, to worship, and to fellowship with God are the two basic reasons why we were placed on this earth. Of course the acts of praising and thanking Him are a part of the act of worship. As for the fellowship, because of sin we can no longer walk and talk with Him as Adam and Eve did in the Garden, but through prayer we CAN have an intimate and personal relationship with Him.

I think there is another very important reason why I am here. And, it explains a lot of the whys I asked in the first paragraph. We are allowed to experience bad along with good because as Pastor Sermon has said, it helps us to grow, yes, but if a person grows and does nothing then their growth is stunted—of course, I am not speaking here on physical growth, but of mental, emotional and spiritual growth. What can I do with the growth that these experiences brought about? I can share them with others, who are going through some of the same things and by doing so it will make them realize that they are not alone in enduring these experiences. They are not being separated out and picked on, but it is a part of life's many ups and downs. And, as I grow and mature I can add to the experiences and be of even more help.

Why am I a widow? Why do I have to live my life out alone? I believe it is so that I can use that life to instruct others. The Scripture says: *“Similarly, teach the older women to live in a way that is appropriate for someone serving the Lord. They must not go around speaking evil of others and must not be heavy drinkers. Instead, they should teach others what is good. These older women must train the younger women to love their husbands and their children, to live wisely and be pure, to take care of their homes, to do good, and to be submissive to their husbands. Then they will not bring shame on the word of God.”* (Titus 2:3-4)

This is my opinion of why I am here. Think on your life, meditate on the Word of God, spend time in prayer and I believe you will find the reason you are here. I believe you will find the reasons behind your WHYs.



## WHO ME?

**Yes...** For ALL have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God..- Romans 3:23

*“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”*  
Ephesians 1:7

# SOLD OUT



## HAVE A GREAT SUMMER A 3 month plan to live out your faith

### August

Commit to reading the Gospel of Mark this month. When you complete a chapter, ask yourself: What does this chapter show me about Jesus? What can I learn from this chapter? What have I read that I can apply?

Spend time thinking about last school year. Who is one person you need to forgive? Who is one person you need to pray for? Who is one person you could share Christ with this year?

Over a period of 10 days, pray daily for two or three non-Christian friends, asking God to show you how you can reach out to them in the coming school year.

Read these passages (one passage a day), looking for character qualities you'd like to develop in your own life: Proverbs 24, Psalm 1, Matthew 25:31-36 and Ephesians 5:1-7.

Write down two or three practical steps you can take to work on a quality found in the passage you read. Go outside with a candle, matches and your Bible. Read Matthew 5:14-16 three times. Light the candle. Watch as the flame bounces in the breeze. If there isn't a breeze, blow gently on the candle. Ask yourself: What should I be doing to let my light shine? How can I keep my flame from blowing out or wavering this coming school year?



### Why Would God Forgive Me

Sometimes we believe we've finally done it—we've failed God so badly that he'll never forgive us. But God tells us over and over that his mercy is much bigger than our worst mistakes. And that's just what Tyler discovered when he turned to God's Word for comfort and reassurance.

Sometimes I'm afraid to tell God about my sins and ask for forgiveness because I'm afraid of his punishment. But I don't have to be afraid. No matter what I do, God's ready to forgive me. He wants me to come to him with all my problems and sins because he loves me so much. I can tell him everything, and he'll forgive and comfort me.

God's love is so much greater than we can even understand. His love is deep and pure. It's the best love we will ever experience. And he doesn't just love us, he rejoices over us. He's excited about having a relationship with us. And he wants us to love him too.

—Tyler

What about You?

Have you ever wanted to hide from God? What happened when you finally confessed to God? Make a list of the ways God shows his love to you. Confess your sins to God. Be honest and open with him as you ask for forgiveness.

## Ponder This...

“I was not born to be free: I was born to adore and to obey.”

—C.S. Lewis

“If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under.”

—Ronald Reagan

“Sometimes the most important thing in a whole day is the rest we take between two deep breaths.”

—Etty Hillesum



## JULY

- 1-Vikki Hoerner/Nathan Timme
- 4-Brady Trevino
- 6-Dusty Ruff
- 7-Gerard Laverdure
- 8-Dorothy Dauenhauer
- 9-Linda Ziegler
- 12-Melanie Kramer
- 15-Lois Parker
- 16-Florence Woepfel
- 18-Abraham Laverdure
- 20-Chris Trevino
- 25-Aaliyah Big Lake
- 26-James Gopher
- 30-Adree Shield
- 31-Chrislyn Nomee

**If you would like a private Bible study simply give us a call. In your bible we will show you where the Lord commands us, that we are to be born again.**



## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3-Alan & April Coonfare
- 8-Bud & Tonya Allen
- 9- Lawrence & Becky Wittman
- 10-Palmer & Gretta Henrickson
- 27-Leonard & OkHui Woepfel

