



Forest Home Church

Forest Home Church
1751 Old Natchez Trace
Franklin, TN 37069

www.ForestHomeChurch.org

January 30th, 2010

"Sharing, Loving & Exploring Life in Christ"

Send announcements, praises, and prayer requests to: newsletter@foresthomchurch.org

PRAYERS & PRAISES

- Our brothers/sisters in Africa: Jac Agak, Charles Ngoje, Jacob Randiek, and your orphan(s)
- Pregnancy of Lisa Grimenstein
- Lord's heavenly wisdom for our shepherds
- Thanks for travel mercies for many who have been on the road
- Grace to grow for students, teachers, & school administrators
- Lord may your name be hallowed and honored among us
- Lord's Extending the influence of Tommy's "Next Right Step" Ministry
- May Larry's brother continue to recover well from surgery
- Thanks for this days bread
- Lord's grace on Kathleen's mother Doris in hospital with intense pain
- Godly wisdom for Jim McAlister's writing project
- Lord we pray for the good of our city
- Lord may our wandering loved ones drink your living water
- Health for Dawn Costello's uncle who has cancer
- Lord's blessing on Azad in preaching to many Kurdish on TV
- Lord's Word be released in Frank's prison & neighborhood work
- We ask that all our young ones may grow to love You
- Thanks for all who minister thru teaching and singing at FH
- Health for Doug's grandmother & Sam's mother
- Lord help those with chronic pain in our number
- Lord bless Colby for local Christian fellowship
- May we humble ourselves in Your sight
- Lord you are the Lifter of our heads

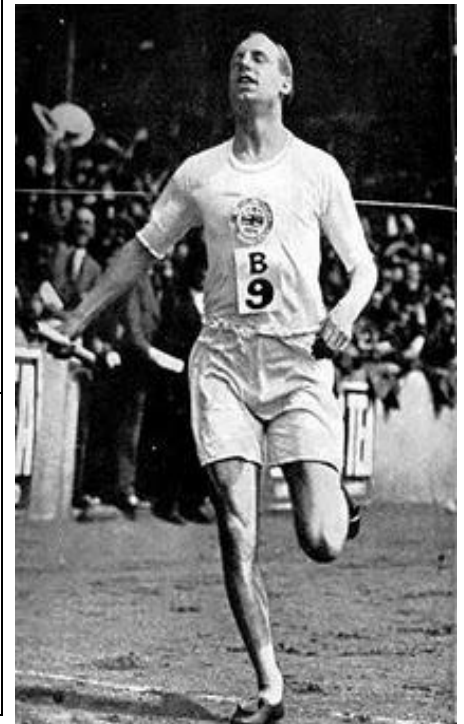
"Adjustments"

*The rain it raineth all around
Upon the just and unjust fella
But chiefly on the just*

because

*The unjust stole the just's
umbrella*
(unknown author and title added
by myself)

Occasionally, Professor Lewis would get into the car and on the way ... say, "Morris, I'm sorry I can't talk for a quarter of an hour. I need to do my prayers." Clifford Morris, C.S. Lewis' frequent taxi driver.



Eric Liddell after "Chariots of Fire"

Known as the "Flying Scotsman" due to being one of the fastest runners in the world (9.7 seconds in 100 meters), Eric Liddell touched many people and nations during his 43 years. He and his Olympic teammate, Harold Abrahams, were the subjects of the oscar-winning movie, "Chariots of Fire." At the very least, the inspiring movie portrays two very different ways of seeking glory. On the one hand, with Abrahams, there is a man driven by an incessant need for personal glory in winning, fed in part by his being Jewish with something to prove for his people. On the other hand, there is Eric, a minister and son of missionaries, who openly delights in the glory of God. In the movie, as in real life, these two "calls to glory" both involve winning the gold medal, but by radically different paths. And though both men shared the glory atop the podium at the Paris Olympics of 1924, their glories took different trajectories thereafter.

Although Eric's Olympic glory followed him the rest of his life, it is good to remember that Eric's focus was in seeking God's glory at all times throughout his life. He reflected the Reformation's spiritual goal of Soli Deo Gloria (abbreviated by J.S. Bach on his music as SDG and meaning "To God Alone the Glory"). During what came to be the last days of his life as a missionary in a Japanese Internment camp in China, Eric was remembered by a close survivor as saying, "When you speak of me, give the glory to my master, Jesus Christ". What did it mean for Eric to seek the glory of God amidst good but lesser glories? There are certainly many answers to this question, but please permit me to offer a few for consideration.

First, SDG meant that God is first no matter what. This is easy to say, but in full stride, Eric's conviction meant offending many friends and countrymen when he decided against running his best event in the Olympics because the trials were on Sunday, which he understood as the Christian day of rest. Though many criticized him as being extreme, he spent the Sunday morning preaching in Paris while teammate Abrahams was on the way to winning the medal which Eric was supposed to take.

Second, SDG meant a realistic perspective (humility) such that Eric could make time and place for those around him, including those who would be his rivals. He was known to shake hands with competitors prior to races as well as to come alongside competitors who were being shunned because they were different. Though not brought out in the movie, the very person who introduced his chief competitor Abrahams to the coach that made Abrahams a great runner was Eric himself. ...CONTINUED ON BACK...

...CONTINUED FROM FRONT...

Third, SDG meant that fame never went to Eric's head. He did not operate out of a sense of superiority over folks but rather saw himself alongside others under the Lord who is above all.

Fourth, SDG meant not only saying NO, as in the case of not running on Sunday, but it also meant saying YES to the things the Lord puts in our hands. Eric could not run his best event, but he was given a chance to run a different race (400 meters), and through several months preparation, and as he openly said, "God's help," he was able to not only win the gold but to set a new world record time. If one is to be known for big "NOs" in the kingdom, the Lord usually provides opportunities for one to be known by even bigger "YESes," (that is, positive accomplishments).

Fifth, living SDG means being able to take comfort in the Lord's promise from 1 Samuel 2:30, "Those who honor me I will honor." Just before his 400 meter Olympic final race, an unknown person handed Eric a piece of paper with this verse inscribed upon it. That day, Eric won and honored the Lord even more, continuing the spiral of honor for the rest of his life.

Six, SDG meant for Eric the opportunity to use personal honors to honor others. After working as a missionary in China for eighteen years, Eric was put in a Japanese POW camp of 1200 men, women, and children. where he helped bring a more humane order. It was during this time that Eric sold his gold medal on the black market to help relieve the suffering in the camp. He also passed on his sentimental, patched up running shoes to a fellow inmate who would eventually become a missionary himself.

Seven, in 2008 the Chinese government released news that came as a surprise even to Eric's family members. The Chinese authorities disclosed that Liddell had refused an opportunity to leave the camp (through a prisoner exchange deal) and instead gave his place to a pregnant woman. He died in the camp several weeks later and was mourned by many who were touched daily by his willingness to live Soli Deo Gloria.

Though we don't know if Eric ever said the famous line below, the movie writer was accurate in expressing the tenor of Eric Liddell's life: "I believe that God made me for a purpose, but He also made me fast, and when I run, I feel His pleasure." May we likewise run the race set before us. LH

<p>We are under Grace—Not Cheap Grace!</p> <p>Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, (it is) baptism without church discipline, Communion without confession, absolution without personal confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate."</p> <p>Grace—Costly Grace!</p> <p>Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son: "ye were bought at a price," and what has cost God much cannot be cheap for us. Above all, it is <i>grace</i> because God did not reckon his Son too dear a price to pay for our life, but delivered him up for us. . . . Grace is costly because it compels a man to submit to the yoke of Christ and follow him; it is grace because Jesus says: "my yoke is easy and my burden light."-----Dietrich Bonhoeffer</p>	<p>Following is a note on Prayer from C.S. Lewis' <i>The Screwtape Letters</i> where a devil named Wormwood is being advised on how to keep a new Christian from growing in the Lord. <i>The best thing, where it is possible, is to keep the patient from the serious intention of praying altogether. When the patient is an adult recently re-converted to the Enemy's party, like your man, this is best done by encouraging him to remember, or to think he remembers, the parrot-like nature of his prayers in childhood. In reaction against that, he may be persuaded to aim at something entirely spontaneous, inward, informal, and unregularised; and what this will actually mean to a beginner will be an effort to produce in himself a vaguely devotional mood in which real concentration of will and intelligence have no part. One of their poets, Coleridge, has recorded that he did not pray "with moving lips and bended knees" but merely "composed his spirit to love" and indulged "a sense of supplication". That is exactly the sort of prayer we want; and since it bears a superficial resemblance to the prayer of silence as practised by those who are very far advanced in the Enemy's service, clever and lazy patients can be taken in by it for quite a long time. At the very least, they can be persuaded that the bodily position makes no difference to their prayers; for they constantly forget, what you must always remember, that they are animals and that whatever their bodies do affects their souls. It is funny how mortals always picture us as putting things into their minds: in reality our best work is done by keeping things out.</i></p>
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR THE FH ANNUAL FAMILY RETREAT ON FEBRUARY 4TH AND 5TH!
 Make sure you plan on being there--no matter what it takes! A time of renewing and creating friendships, a time to play and laugh, a time to grow and fellowship!

CLASSES AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE @ FOREST HOME:
Classes begin at 9 am. Worship begins at 10 am.

Grades and ages break down as follow:
 Pre-K – Kindergarten
 1st grade – 4th grade
 5th grade and up

2010-2011 Calendar		NURSERY (Infants to 2 yrs old) During sermon only		LORD'S SUPPER PREPARATION		WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER PREP	
EACH TUESDAY	6:30 am @ the church, Men's Ministry	Jan 23	Barbara Jenkins	Jan	Christys	Jan 26	Ocie/Shannon
EACH WED.	5:00 pm @ the church, Women's Bible Study	Jan 30	Lynne Daniel	Feb/Mar	Allens	Feb 2	Pat/Karen
February 4-5	Annual FH Family Retreat	Feb 6	Mandy Austin	Apr/May	Grimensteins	Feb 9	Sarah/Kathleen
		Feb 13	Karen Costello			Feb 16	Lisa/Liz
		Feb 20	D'Ann McAlister			Feb 23	Linda/Lois
		Feb 27	Ronna King		(Sub-Grimensteins) See Jim G. with questions.	Mar 2	Ocie/Shannon