

# THE CORNERSTONE

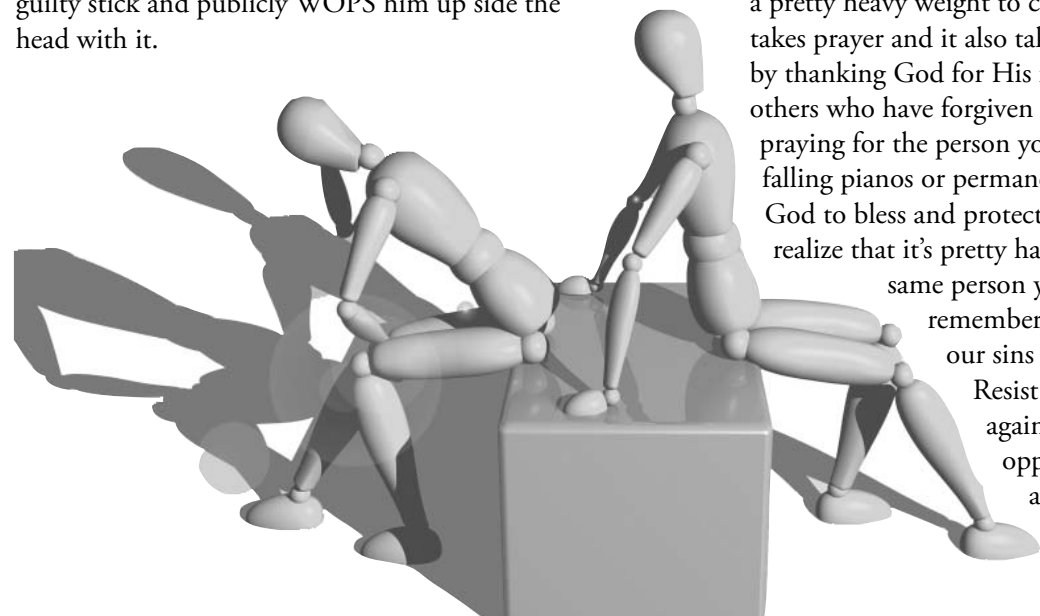
a ministry on the move

WJLU 89.7 FM • WJLH 90.3 FM • DeLand/Daytona 97.3 FM • Deltona 102.7 • WMFJ 1450 AM AUGUST 2008

## Back to School - Drive Safely

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Betsy and Earl (not their real names) were married at a very young age and while still possessing all the insensitivities and selfishness common to children, they became parents. On the night of their son's birth, immature Earl was extremely insensitive to Betsy. I won't share the details with you but I know them well. In fact, probably everyone who knows Betsy and Earl could also tell you the details. That's because Betsy has repeated Earl's offense over and over and over for nearly fifty years. With each recitation, Earl looks sheepishly at the floor and shakes his head a little, kind of like a guy who knows how to take a hit. Every time I hear the story again, I can't help but think how nice it would have been if she could have just forgiven him. Instead she has carried this grudge for nearly five decades. Every now and then she takes out this guilty stick and publicly WOPS him up side the head with it.



Unfortunately, I think many people go through this life armed with a weapon of guilt that they regularly use to beat up on someone, usually someone they claim to have forgiven, frequently someone they claim to love. Furthermore, the recipient of the guilty stick is almost always someone who loves and is devoted to their abuser, otherwise they would not stick around and keep taking the hits. What if God treated us like this? What if He extended the same amount of grace to us that we extend to others? Colossians 3:13 (ESV) says *"bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."* I want to challenge you today to examine your heart. Is it void of unforgiveness or do you also carry a guilty stick that you are using to control someone? That's a pretty heavy weight to carry through life. True forgiveness takes prayer and it also takes work. A good way to begin is by thanking God for His forgiveness in your life. Think about others who have forgiven you of your trespasses. Next, begin praying for the person you want to forgive. No, prayer for falling pianos or permanent baldness does not count. Ask God to bless and protect that person. Right away you will realize that it's pretty hard to harbor bad feelings for the same person you are asking Jesus to bless. Finally, remember when God forgives us He casts our sins as far as the east from the west. Resist the urge to bring up the matter again, even to others. Unforgiveness is oppressive bondage to the unforgiving and the unforgiven. A good hearty measure of grace will restore freedom to both.

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### Play Scripture Sleuth

Listen to The Cornerstone for your chance to win The MacArthur Study Bible – New American Standard Updated edition and a Grace to You travel mug. All you have to do is locate the hidden mystery verse within the newsletter that is surrounded by the magnifying glasses. Be the **first** person to call on Wednesday, August 20th between the hours of 8am and 5pm. That's it!



### Where Jesus Loves

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## True Confession

by Bill Powell

Did you ever think you knew someone only to discover things about that person that left your head spinning? Now this kind of discovery can be bad but can also be surprisingly positive. I knew a guy one time who was a funeral director named Marty. I knew Marty for a few years only to find out he had previously been an African safari guide. This was back in the day when people paid guides to go hunt wild beasts in Africa or bear and moose in Alaska. I also found out a few years later that Marty was part of the expedition searching to find Amelia Earhart. You had to know Marty like I did to experience the full impact of how shocking this information was to me and others.

I would like to use this short article to let you in on something about me that you may find interesting and when fully revealed it will shock you like Marty did me, yet in a more meaningful way. Now I was never a Safari guide in Africa but I have been on a quest far more significant since 1999. This started out as a casual interest that has turned into a passion for me. To be honest, I can't think of any single thing other than the study of the Bible on which I have spent more time. The truth in the matter is that I

have been on a quest to capture Bigfoot. "Bigfoot! Are you nuts?" you may be saying. No, I am not nuts. Actually, I can't think of a nobler cause. This is a giant that for many is only a legend but for me and a few others has been a real passion. A lot of time and money has been spent to capture this Bigfoot. Bigfoot is in our sights! The mystery and drama is soon to be exposed. You will soon find out that this has not been a myth and when you experience Bigfoot, you will be amazed.

Did you see the movie *King Kong*? Most of the movie was the drama of capturing *King Kong* and then they had this big production to display him. Finally, we are at the part where we have captured Bigfoot like in the movie *King Kong* and are just about ready to show him to the world. You have heard the expression,

"confession is good for the soul." Well, the Bible says we should confess our sins one to another. James 5:16 *Confess [your] faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (KJV)* Now I have to confess a little stretching of the truth but Bigfoot is soon to be revealed and I think you will be amazed when you see. The scriptures tell us we shall all confess before God and our goal here at The Cornerstone is to see more souls confess the Lord Jesus in this life. This is another passion of mine. Together we can make a difference. Bigfoot is coming. Stay tuned for the-rest-of-the-story.

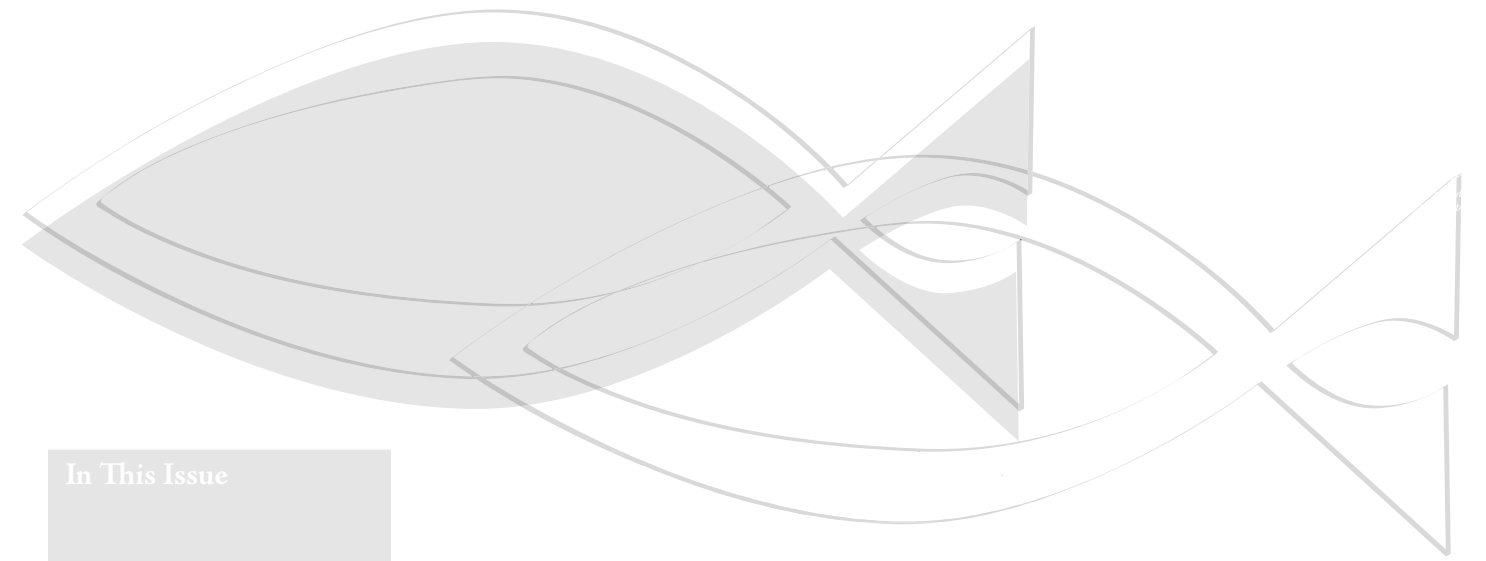
In Christ's Service,  
Bill





*We thank God for:*

**Armed and Dangerous with the Guilty Stick** by Edie Jones



In This Issue

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**Where Jesus Loves You**  
www.wjlu.org

## Register to Vote



To vote you must be registered 29 days prior to the election.

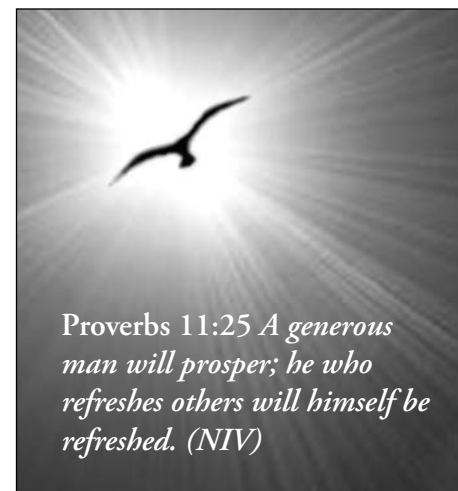
**Primary Election**  
– August 26, 2008

**Early Voting**  
– August 11-23, 2008

**General Election**  
– November 4, 2008

**Early Voting**  
-October 20 thru  
November 1, 2008

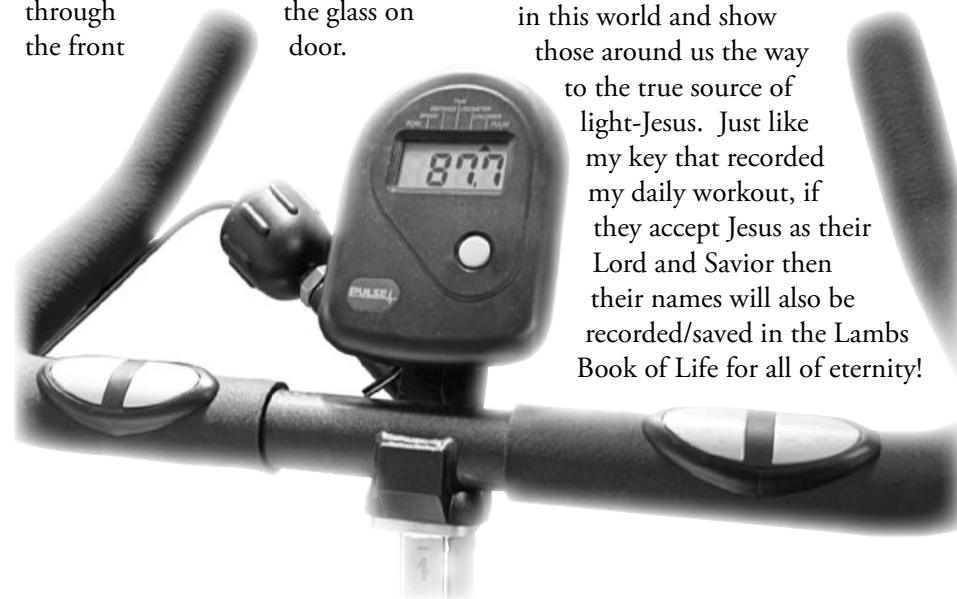
*During the General Election we will be voting on the Marriage Amendment*



Proverbs 11:25 *A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed. (NIV)*

About a month ago, I joined a gym. At this gym, they gave me a key that can be inserted into the machines I use so they can record my workout information. At the end of my workout, I can see how I did on each machine. It gives me the total number of calories burned and tells me what machines I did not do so well on, etc...

Well, I was working out a few days ago when a big storm came. I could hear the lightning popping all around and the rain was coming down in sheets! I finished my workout on the machines and was in the very back room doing my stretching exercises. All of a sudden, the lights went completely out. Remind you, I have only been going a few weeks so I wasn't real familiar with the place. The only light I could see came from the front of the building through the glass on the door.



Therefore, I just walked toward the light. Unbelievably, I didn't hit any walls on my way!

Since I was still exercising, I hadn't plugged my key into the main system to download my last workout. However, since I had finished on the machines, my last workout was saved on my key. All I had to do was download it once the electricity came back on.

On my way home that evening, I thought about what had happened and how it related to my walk as a Christian. All I had to do was follow the light to find my way out of the darkness. It is amazing what a little light can do in a very dark place. John 8:12... "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (NKJV)

We can all be a "little light" in this world and show those around us the way to the true source of light-Jesus. Just like my key that recorded my daily workout, if they accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior then their names will also be recorded/saved in the Lambs Book of Life for all of eternity!

**Time to Go Back to School Please Drive Safely**



I love being a youth pastor! I never thought I'd ever say that because youth ministry was not something I had considered or desired. However, God works in mysterious ways and when He placed His call upon me I was compelled to respond.

In July, I took the youth on our fourth summer trip. We took off for a four-day excursion to the Florida Keys. As I prayed and prepared for the trip I sought the Lord for direction and prayed that He would allow the trip to be one where each person grew closer to Jesus Christ and bonded in a deeper way with one another. God was faithful and answered my prayers in greater ways that I could have expected. The conversations I was able to be a part of and listen in on were staggering. There is something so precious about watching young people seek out the deep things of God. Their hunger for truth was met over and over as the Lord moved through our times of singing and opening the Bible. It was such a privilege to fellowship with Jesus around the campfire. As I look in hindsight at the change that was wrought in each of our lives, I am overwhelmed with thanksgiving at the grace of our God. Jesus loves us so much, not because we do something to merit His favor but because He has called us to be His children. He is always faithful and His love is unchanging and everlasting.

Most of the students in our youth ministry are early to middle-aged teenagers and it is my hope and prayer that as we continue to spend time together and grow closer to Jesus that He would raise up missionaries to all parts of

the world with these precious souls. There is nothing I desire more than to see God's mighty hand shape their lives into the vessels of honor He has in mind.

Jesus said that unless we come to Him with the heart of a child we couldn't enter the Kingdom of Heaven. It is my prayer that you and I come boldly to the throne of grace, each and every day seeking to sit at the feet of

our Master, Savior and Lord- desiring the pure milk and priceless meat that can only be fed to us by Him and Him alone.

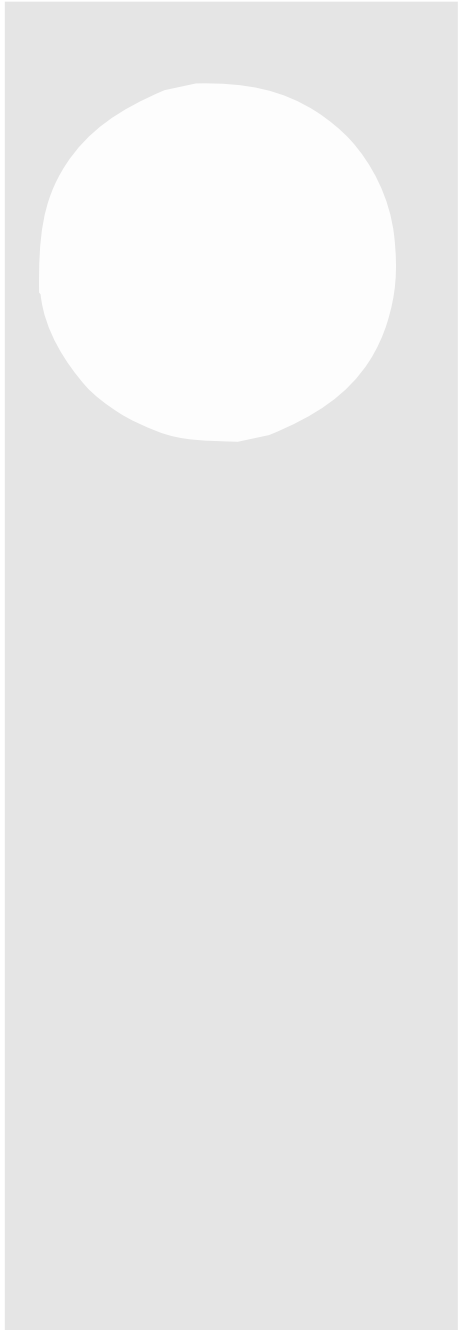
Maybe you won't spend four hot summer nights sleeping in tents in the Florida Keys but will you join with us today in singing a song that brought great joy to each of our lives while we listened to the fire crackle and sizzle?

**Jesus loves me, this I know  
For the Bible tells me so  
Little ones, to Him belong  
They are weak, but He is strong  
Yes Jesus Loves Me!**



There has never been a better time to be on our knees in prayer. A few things we want to pray for are the economy, and the upcoming elections. School is starting again. Pray for the safety of our students and teachers. August and September are usually the active months for hurricanes and severe weather. Pray for continued protection. *1 Thessalonians 5: 16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing.*





**In the Dark** by Carla Intriago

**Music With a Message** by Chris Johnson

**Prayer Corner** by Sandy Leisner