

**Community Church of God  
535 South Bowman Avenue  
Danville, Illinois 61832  
(217) 446-7289**

**Senior Pastor: Joel Ferren  
Youth Pastor: Corey Stocksdale**

## **GROWING EDGE**



**Pastor Ferren**



**Pastor Stocksdale**

**LABOR DAY**

**September 2010**

**LABOR DAY**

### ***Minding The Boundaries Of Our Freedom***

Mark 12:30 (NIV)

<sup>30</sup> Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'

This past month I presented a message series on "Freedom". My goal was not to explore the freedoms that we enjoy as Americans but to explore the freedoms that we enjoy as children of the Kingdom of God

When we allow our lives to be lived by the principles and values of this world, we become entangled by the sin nature. As Christ Followers, we have accepted Christ's exchange on the cross for our sins. In doing so, He has freed us from the bondage and slavery that comes with the nature of sin.

With this freedom from sin Christ enables His family to live life to it's fullest. However, just like anything else that needs to be protected, our freedom in Christ has its boundaries. These boundaries enable us to express our freedom in Christ in our worship, our service, our relationships, our enjoyment and even in our distress. These boundaries guide us into a wonderful relationship with God our Father, our Lord Jesus Christ, and our family of faith. They keep us focused on what is important and necessary

Paul knew that we are capable of abusing the freedoms we have in Christ. In 1 Corinthians 10:23-24 Paul says, "*Everything is permissible--but not everything is beneficial. Everything is permissible--but not everything is constructive.*" He warns us that we should not use our freedom to the detriment of others or to the displeasure of our Father. His answer is that we must adopt the following attitude, "...*whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.*"

This brings in the importance of minding the boundaries of our Freedom in Christ. In our text above, we see four boundaries that God has set in place for the protection of our freedom. These are; Heart – our relational life, Soul – our spiritual life, Mind – our thought life, and strength – our body life.

Minding these four boundaries means that we intentionally consider how we are glorifying God in each of these areas daily. Does He have first place in our relationships, our spiritual growth, our thought life, or in how we treat our bodies. When we mind these four boundaries daily, we will be careful to use the freedom Christ has given us to live truly for Him.

***Blessings,  
Pastor Joel***

*"For God is not unjust so that He is unmindful of your labour and of the love which you have manifested towards Himself in having rendered services to His people and in still rendering them."*

*Hebrews 6:10 (WNT)*



*We, the Community Church of God of Danville, Illinois, are here to glorify God by being a loving fellowship of believers seeking to reconcile persons to Christ, to train them in obedience to His Word and to involve them in ministry to one another and to the world.*

**COMMUNITY AT A GLANCE**

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

For more information, call the church office at 446-7289.

**Sunday Worship**

Worship I	8:00 am
Sunday School	9:30 am
Worship II	10:30 am

**Wednesday Night Live**

Kingdom Outfitters Kids	6:30-7:45 pm
I 53 Youth Ministry	6:30-7:45 pm
Adult Bible Study	6:30-7:45 pm

**Prayer Gatherings**

Sundays	7:30 am
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**MONTHLY EVENTS**

- Communion Sunday - Sept. 05
- Food Pantry Sunday - Sept. 19
- Missions Ministry Meeting - Mon. - Sept 13 - 6:00 pm
- Prime Timers Luncheon - Sept. 16 - 11:30 am
- Church Council Meeting - Sept. 21 - 5:30 pm

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Aug. 19-25	Pastor Corey On Vacation
Aug. 25	Mid-Week Services - 6:30 pm
Aug. 28	Men's Ministry Breakfast - 8:00 am
Aug. 28	Women's Ministry Meeting - 9:00 am in Parlor
Aug. 28	Angel Food Distribution - 11:00 am
Aug. 29	Youth Multi-Mini Missions - 12:00 Noon
Aug. 31	Council Meeting - 5:30 pm
Sep. 01	Mid-Week Services - 6:30 pm
Sep. 05	Communion Sunday
Sep. 06	LABOR DAY - Office Closed
Sep. 08	Mid-Week Services - 6:30 pm
Sep. 09	Angel Food Orders Taken - 1:00-3:00 pm in Church Office
Sept. 11	Angel Food Orders Taken - 9:30-11:00 am in Church Office
Sep. 12	Annual Business Meeting - 6:00 pm
Sep. 13	Red Cross Blood Drive - 2:00 to 6:00 pm
Sep. 13	Missions Ministry Meeting - 6:00 pm
Sep. 15	Mid-Week Services - 6:30 pm
Sep. 16	Prime Timers Potluck Luncheon - 11:30 am
Sep. 17-18	State Church of God Christian Women's Connection Prayer Retreat at Camp Warren
Sep. 19	Food Pantry Sunday
Sep. 20	Love INC Grand Opening - 12:00 pm
Sep. 21	Growing Edge Articles Due - 4:00 pm
Sep. 21	Council Meeting - 5:30 pm
Sep. 22	Mid-Week Services - 6:30 pm
Sep. 23-25	Pastor/Spouse Retreat
Sep. 25	Women's Care Clinic Walk For Life
Sep. 25	Men's Ministry Breakfast - 8:00 am
Sep. 25	Angel Food Distribution - 11:00 am



**Community Church of God  
I-53  
Youth Ministry**

***"When Was The Last Time You..."***

When was the last time you took a swim?

When was the last time you went out on a boat?

When was the last time you took a long needed vacation?

When was the last time you ate at your favorite restaurant?

**When was the last time you assisted in someone coming to know Christ for the first time?**

The last question was a little harder than the others was it not? As I was sitting in a conference for pastors at the State Camp meeting this question was asked. The guy that asked it (Pastor Mark Smith) said he asks this question to anyone who interviews to be on staff at the church where he pastors. If that person cannot think of anyone, or has to sit and think about it forever, they will most likely not be hired.

Though I have seen and heard of people coming to Christ lately I had to sit and think when the last time I personally, in a one on one situation, was a part of someone's coming into the grace of Christ. That was a hard thought for me to take in.

**Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)** states the Great Commission which says: *<sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Pastor Mark gave a statistic that 75% of evangelical churches did not win anyone to Christ in the past year. I am not sure where he got this figure, but if it is correct, it is frightening.

This is one of the absolute main tasks we are to accomplish as Christians. Just as 'The Great Commission' says, we must go into this world making disciples. If we are not, as individual Christians, taking part in spreading God's word, we are not fully succeeding as Christ followers.

I do not write this article to depress you though, or make you feel guilty. I write this article to inspire

*"Please do not drink when you drive.  
You are not ready to see me yet."*

**God**

you to come back to the roots of your relationship with Christ. Often times when we first come to know Him, we are excited to spread His Word. Let us now be excited to spread His Word. Isn't it just as meaningful and just as important now as it ever was? The best part of this is no one is excluded. We all were given this purpose and this mission. Let us go hand in hand, completely willing to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, fully knowing every second spent will be worth it.

*Be Blessed,  
Pastor Corey Stocksdale*

### ***Upcoming Youth Events***

**Sat., Sept. 4, 2010** - Back to School Swim Party  
Meet at the church at 4:00 pm and we will return at 8:00 pm. The only cost is for guys to bring chips and girls to bring drinks. Also, don't forget to bring a friend.

**Sept. 17-18** - Youth Leadership Team Retreat. We will leave at 4:00 pm on Friday, September 17th and return on Saturday, September 18th by 6:00 pm. The cost is TBD.

**Sunday, Sept. 26** - We will meet after second service for our missions. Please bring money for lunch.

### ***DCCOG Financial Report***

07/01/2010 Through 07/31/2010

General Operating Fund  
Income \$14,967.00  
Expense \$14,356.76

### ***Our Faithful Volunteers Community Church of God***



## ***Welcome Center***

Jesus' servants at our Welcome Center will greet you with a "Son-like" welcome to Community Church of God. God's servants are here to assist you with questions, signing up for various activities, or just to say "good morning." The volunteers for the month of September are shown below.

Sep. 05 2010	Judy Farnsworth
Sep. 12, 2010	Rhonda Pabst
Sep. 19, 2010	Dottie White
Sep. 26, 2010	Judy Farnsworth

### ***Sunday Child Care Schedules***

Child Care Services are provided for both of our Sunday Services. Those scheduled to work with the various groups of children in September are shown below.

#### ***Nursery - 8:00 am Service***

Sep. 05, 2010	Nancy Boyd
Sep. 12, 2010	Judy Farnsworth
Sep. 19, 2010	Dennis Miller
Sep. 26, 2010	Paula Wolfe

### ***Preschool Praise & Community Kids***

#### ***10:30 am Service***

Sep. 05, 2010	Sandy Turner
Sep. 12, 2010	Pam Clingan/Morgan Link
Sep. 19, 2010	Sue Williams
Sep. 26, 2010	Shawna Allen/Tori Monson

### ***Community Church of God ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING***

#### ***Sunday, September 12th - 6:00 pm***

**Make plans now to attend and participate in the important decisions for the coming year**

**Ministry Team and Leaders reports for the Annual Meeting need to be in the office By Friday, September 3rd**

### ***Love INC Grand Opening***

#### ***On Monday, September 20th, - 12:00 PM***

Love INC will be having the grand opening of their offices at the Community House in the front of our Church property.

We are very excited to be a part of this very important networking ministry. We believe that through Love INC the believers in our community will truly make a difference in the lives of others. I invite you to come and join us on this very important occasion.

### ***"Knots"***



Dear God:

Please untie the knots that are in my mind, my heart, and my life.

Remove the *have nots*,  
the *can nots*, and the *do nots*  
that I have in my mind.

Erase all the *will nots*,  
and *might nots*

that may find a home in my heart.

Release me from the *could nots*  
and *would nots*  
that obstruct my life.

And most of all, Dear God,  
I ask that you remove from my mind,  
my heart, and my life  
all the *"am nots"*

that I have allowed to hold me back;  
especially the thought  
that I am not good enough.

~Author Known To God~

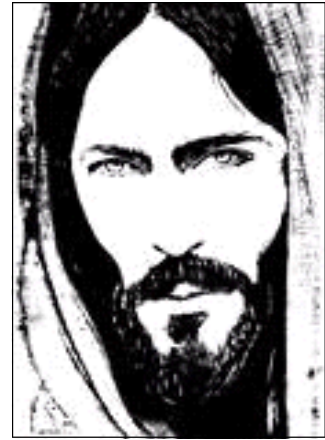
### ***"Laughter"***

After God created the world,  
He created man and woman.  
And then to keep the whole thing  
from collapsing, He created humor.  
~Ernie Hoberecht~

Love has a code name: Laughter  
~David Holmutstrom~

Humor takes your mind off the negative  
and turns it into laughter that's positive.  
~Buddy Hackett~

## Who Is He?



In Genesis, He is the Creator God.

In Exodus, He is the Redeemer.

In Leviticus, He is your Sanctifier.

In Numbers, He is your Guide.

In Deuteronomy, He is your Teacher.

In Joshua, He is the Mighty Conqueror.

In Judges, He gives victory over enemies.

In Ruth, He is your Kinsman, your Lover, and your Redeemer.

In I Samuel, He is the Root of Jesse;

In 2 Samuel, He is the Son of David.

In 1st and 2nd Kings, He is King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

In 1st and 2nd Chronicles, He is your Intercessor, and High Priest.

In Ezra, He is your temple, your house of worship.

In Nehemiah, He is your mighty wall, protecting you from your enemies.

In Esther, He stands in the gap to deliver you from your enemies.

In Job, He is the Arbitrator who not only understands your struggles, but has the power to do something about them.

In Psalms, He is your Song - and your reason to sing.

In Proverbs, He is your wisdom, helping you make sense of life and live it successfully.

In Ecclesiastes, He is your purpose, delivering you from vanity.

In the Song of Solomon, He is your Lover, your Rose of Sharon.

In Isaiah, He is the Mighty Counselor, the Prince of Peace, the Everlasting Father. In short, He's everything you need.

In Jeremiah, He is your Balm in Gilead, the soothing salve for your sin-sick soul.

In Lamentations, He is the ever-faithful One upon Whom you can depend.

In Ezekiel, He is your Wheel in the middle of a wheel -- the One who assures that dry, dead bones will come alive again.

In Daniel, He is the Ancient of Days, the everlasting God who never runs out of time.

In Hosea, He is your Faithful Lover, always beckoning you to come back - when you have abandoned Him.

In Joel, He is your Refuge, keeping you safe in times of trouble.

In Amos, He is the Husbandman, the One you can depend on to stay by your side.

In Obadiah, He is Lord of the Kingdom.

In Jonah, He is your Salvation, bringing you back within His will.

In Micah, He is Judge of the nation.

In Nahum, He is the jealous God.

In Habakkuk, He is the Holy One.

In Zephaniah, He is the Witness.

In Haggai, He overthrows the enemies.

In Zechariah, He is Lord of Hosts.

In Malachi, He is Merciful.

In Matthew, He is King of the Jews.

In Mark, He is the Servant.

In Luke, He is the Son of Man, feeling what you feel.

In John, He is the Son of God.

In Acts, He is the Savior of the world.

In Romans, He is the righteousness of God.

In I Corinthians, He is the Rock that followed Israel.

In II Corinthians, He is the Triumphant One, giving victory.

In Galatians, He is your liberty; He sets you free.

In Ephesians, He is Head of the Church.

In Philippians, He is your joy.

In Colossians, He is your completeness.

In 1st and 2nd Thessalonians, He is your hope.

In I Timothy, He is your faith.

In II Timothy, He is your stability.

In Philemon, He is your Benefactor.

In Titus, He is truth.

In Hebrews, He is your perfection.

In James, He is the Power behind your faith.

In I Peter, He is your example.

In II Peter, He is your purity.

In I John, He is your life.

In II John, He is your pattern.

In III John, He is your motivation.

In Jude, He is the foundation of your faith.

In Revelation, He is your coming King.

*From the beginning of the world to its  
end, there is no place you can look  
and not see Jesus.*

*He is everywhere.  
He is everything!*