



# The Cross & Steeple

[www.collinsvillebaptistchurch.com](http://www.collinsvillebaptistchurch.com)

June 2015

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**From John**

## **How to Have A Better Christian Marriage By Never Compromising**

For Gloria and me it was the porch light.

It is said that all marriages go through a little “period of adjustment”. That is understandable. Of course there will be differences when two people from different backgrounds come together. And there is usually a place where those differences grate against each other.

And for us it was the porch light. I was raised in a home where we always turned lights off. Every single time you left a room you turned the lights off. My Daddy carried me outside and showed me the electric meter – “see the little wheel turning? Every time it turns we have to pay money. Turning off the lights slows that wheel down.” Logic. Then correction. “Go back over there and turn the light on and off ten times. Don’t forget it next time.” Then more severe correction. Yes, corporal punishment – a whipping for not turning the lights off. And it worked. To this day I cannot leave lights on if nobody is using them.

Gloria was not raised that way. She was raised to believe the only switch on a light is on. If you ever went into her house, you would find lights on in several (if not all) rooms. Radio going. Two TVs on. And nobody home. Gloria tells me that lights make her feel warm and homey. And she was raised in a wonderful, loving home. With every light turned on.

So the porch light became the spark point. I was doing shift work. I would come home at midnight or seven in the morning and the porch light was turned on. I did not need or want that light turned on. I conveyed that to Gloria. She would still turn it on. She was sure I really wanted it on. And I would come in the house angry.

Gloria would go to choir practice. She wanted the porch light on when she came into the house. I was uncomfortable with the light running for a couple of hours because she was not sure when she would be coming home. And I would wait too late to turn it on. And she would come in angry (or at least as angry as she gets). I was sure she would figure out about saving electricity eventually. She didn’t.

Every marriage is this way. Sometimes it’s the toothpaste. Or hanging up clothes. Or something else. A small thing showing that two people who love each other are figuring out how to live together.

So how do you do that? The world says to protect your turf. Never give in or you will always give in. Couples who do this will go through long lives of recurring misery. The Bible is pretty clear about the importance of denying self.

Which brings us to the second solution. Compromise. And that’s what Gloria and I did. She quit leaving the light on for me, and I started leaving it on for her. Compromise works really well. We were really happy with that. And highly recommend it. By both compromising, you both are becoming more of the new couple that God put together on your wedding day. The two become one.

But a secular world would have advised compromise, too. I think that we Christians can go a step further. Compromise is good. Sacrifice is better (my instruction as a Christian husband -- From Ephesians 5 - 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; ... 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. ... 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.)

Did you get that last part? The two become one by acting like Jesus. By sacrificing themselves for each other. That’s what a Christian marriage is about – not selfishness or compromise. Sacrifice. In a compromise, each person is giving up something. Not in a sacrifice. In a sacrifice each person has already given away everything. There is nothing left to make you resentful because you gave it up in a compromise. Your goal is

to sacrifice like Jesus. Who gave up everything on the cross. Because he loves us. Can you love your mate more than yourself? If so, you will want to give up all for them.

How does that work in a practical way? Gloria turns lights off all the time when she would really like them on. She turns them off because she loves me. She sacrifices what makes her feel warm and happy in order to make me happy. And, yes, sometimes I leave lights on when they are unneeded. When she has lights on in a room but is not using them. Especially when she is tired and needs to light the house up like a Christmas tree. It gives me joy to see her content and happy. Even though that wheel is turning on the electric meter.

Does this end all arguments? Of course not. We still live in a fallen world. All Christians need to inspect themselves to see if worldly selfishness is slipping back into their lives. It requires constant vigilance.

I do have one confession here. I did put a motion sensor on the porch light. Only five minutes of light. Guaranteed. Is that cheating?

~ June 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1 Birthdays</b> Lanie Smith Cheryl Stitch	<b>2 Birthdays</b> Susan Morgan <b>Anniversary</b> Jack & Mary Blanton	<b>3 Birthdays</b> Terri Bobo Naomi Jones <b>Anniversary</b> Mike & Charlene Arthur		<b>5 Birthdays</b> Lydia Crane Bob Gese Will Winkler	
<b>7 Flowers</b> Sheila Smith	<b>8 Birthdays</b> Anna Henderson	<b>9 Anniversary</b> Patricia & Tony Bartley				<b>13 Birthdays</b> J.R. Bobo Eli Griggs Elijah Morgan
<b>14 Lord's Supper</b> Mark & Glenda Morgan <b>Birthdays</b> Donny Jones Bo Newsome	<b>15 Birthdays</b> Tim Blanton Dee Fortner Byron Gregg	<b>16 Birthdays</b> Mason McKinney	<b>17 Birthdays</b> Marty Borntrager Monica Dennis	<b>18 Anniversary</b> Jeff & Michelle White	<b>19 Birthdays</b> Anna Carter	<b>20 Birthdays</b> Kristy Strange <b>Anniversary</b> Belle & Johnny Hamiter
<b>21 FATHER'S DAY</b> <b>Flowers</b> Frank & Annette Wardrup <b>Birthdays</b> Richard Delk Kristina Mathis	<b>22 Birthdays</b> Asa Wheeler		<b>24 Birthdays</b> Stan Zulker		<b>26 Birthdays</b> Brenda Gembe Marie Wilson	<b>27 Anniversary</b> Dot & Gary Burke Margaret & Donnie Myers
	<b>29 Birthdays</b> Fabian Guzman Gail McReynolds Michelle White					

**Shocco Springs Choir Week**  
July 13-17

**Vacation Bible School**  
Sunday, June 21 – Thursday,  
June 25

**Father's Day**  
June 21

**Southern Baptist Convention**  
Columbus, Ohio  
June 13-17

**Quarterly Ministry Meeting  
and Covered Dish Dinner**  
Sunday, July 12

**Youth Fund Raisers for  
Shocco**

120 Boston Butts and  
200 dozen Krispy Kreme  
Donuts were sold!

This will enable several more  
of our young people to go  
to Shocco.

Thank you all so much!

*Congratulations*

To Jackie and Jo Ann Myers on the  
birth of their first great grandson!  
James Rueben Siniard, 7lb 7oz, was born May 6, 2015 to Kevin and  
Paige Siniard

To Rick(y) Carter, Our Newest Deacon.  
Ordination Service Is Being Planned

To Margaret and Donnie Myers on their  
Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary



Thanks for all your thoughts and prayers and for all  
the food and support for me and for my family.  
Love and God Bless You All  
Lue Deen Perkins – “Big Mama”



To Nicole Buchanan Estrada and family in  
the loss of her son, Eli Estrada.

To Carol Zulker and family in the loss of her sister, Violet.

To Symphony Graves in the loss of her uncle.

**Please Continue  
40 Days of Prayer for  
Moral and Spiritual Awakening  
Focusing on Biblical Marriage  
Join Other Alabama Baptist in This Prayer Effort**



Operation Christmas Child  
June – Boys' Clothing Items

**Needed:** Van Driver on Wednesday Nights. Can you help?



# Graduates 2015

## College

## High School

				
James "Wil" Minor	Will Hunt	Jordan Leath	Sydney Jones	Sarah Perkins

*James Wilson (Wil) Minor*  
 BS in Electrical Engineer, Auburn  
 Grandson of Marie Wilson, Son of Susan Wilson Minor

*Will Hunt*, Snead State Community College  
 Grandson of JoAnn and Jackie Myers, Son of Suzanne and Harold Hunt

*Sydney Jones*,  
 Collinsville High School  
 Granddaughter of Judy and Donny Jones, Daughter of Donny (Bear) Jones

*Jordan Leath*,  
 Collinsville High School  
 Grandson of Rex and Cindy Leath and Helen Jones, Son of April Leath

*Sarah Perkins*,  
 Homeschooled in Hampton, VA  
 Granddaughter of Lue Deen Perkins

### Not Pictured:

*Jared Delk*, Ben Lippen School, Columbia, South Carolina; Grandson of Bill and Jerry Delk; Son of Richard and Tammy Delk  
*Spencer Fann*, Sprayberry High School; Son of Amie & Patrick Fann; Grandson of Deborah Redditt  
*Dallas Godshall*, Prattville High School; Son of William & Teresa Godshall; Grandson of Deborah Redditt

<p><b>Sixth Grade Graduates, Collinsville School, CBC Attenders</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>Cadence Amison</td> <td>Dalton Hughes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carmen Barkley</td> <td>Jacob Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Autumn "Sis" Barkley</td> <td>Zebedee Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Braden Barksdale</td> <td>Sydney Maddox</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jade Burke</td> <td>JT Mann</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chad Cates</td> <td>Esperanza Mateo</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ian Gregg</td> <td>Katelyn Rogers</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Malachi Orr</td> </tr> </table>	Cadence Amison	Dalton Hughes	Carmen Barkley	Jacob Jones	Autumn "Sis" Barkley	Zebedee Jones	Braden Barksdale	Sydney Maddox	Jade Burke	JT Mann	Chad Cates	Esperanza Mateo	Ian Gregg	Katelyn Rogers		Malachi Orr	<p><b><u>Kindergarten</u></b></p> <p><i>Bonner Jones</i>, Collinsville  <i>Daniel Bryce Borntreger</i>, Glencoe Elementary  <i>Jeremiah "Woo" Edward Killian</i>; son of Brett &amp; Stasha Killian; grandson of Clyde E. &amp; Sandra Killian</p> <p><b><u>Pre-Kindergarten</u></b></p> <p><i>Nathan Lee Borntreger</i>, Glencoe First Baptist Church  <i>William Marshal Borntreger</i>, Henegar School</p> <p><i>Daniel and Nathan are the sons of Daniel Borntreger, William is the son of David Borntreger, All three are the Grandsons of Marty and Marilyn Borntreger</i></p>
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# Happy Father's Day, Dads! A Child of God

By Ann Shorb

## Colossians 1:12

*(We are) giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.*

As I was thinking about Father's Day, this story kept coming to mind, so I'm sending it your way. We just returned from Tennessee a few days ago, and I can easily picture it taking place among the warm friendly people of the south. May it warm your heart and stir your gratitude toward your Heavenly Father.

A Seminary professor was vacationing with his wife in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. One morning, they went for breakfast at a little restaurant, hoping to enjoy a quiet, family meal. While they were waiting for their food, they noticed a distinguished looking, white haired man moving from table to table, visiting with the guests. The professor leaned over and whispered to his wife, "I hope he doesn't come over here." But sure enough, the man did come over to their table.

"Where are you folks from?" he asked in a friendly voice.

"Oklahoma," they answered.

"Great to have you here in Tennessee," the stranger said.

"What do you do for a living?"

"I teach at a seminary," the professor replied.

"Oh, so you teach preachers how to preach, do you? Well, I've got a really good story for you." And with that, the gentleman pulled up a chair and sat down at the table with the couple.

The professor groaned and thought to himself, "Great, just what I need--another preacher story!"

The man started, "See that mountain over there?" (He pointed out a restaurant window). "Not far from the base of that mountain, there was a boy born to an unwed mother. He had a hard time growing up, because every place he went, he was always asked, "Hey boy, who's your daddy?" Whether he was at school, in the grocery store or drug store, people would ask the same question, "Who's your daddy?" He would hide at recess and lunchtime from other students. He would avoid going into stores because that question hurt him so much.

When he was about 12 years old, a new preacher came to his church. He would always go in late and slip out early to avoid hearing the question, "Who's your daddy?" But one day, the new preacher said the benediction so fast, the boy got caught and had to walk out with the crowd. Just about the time he got to the back door, the new preacher, not knowing anything about the young man, put his hand on his shoulder and asked him, "Son, who's your daddy?"

The whole church got deathly quiet. He could feel every eye in the church looking at him. Now everyone would finally know the answer to the, question, "Who's your daddy?"

The new preacher, though, sensed the situation around him and using discernment that only the Holy Spirit could give, said the following to the scared little boy. "Wait a minute! I know who you are. I see the family resemblance now. *You are a child of God.*" With that he patted the boy on his shoulder and said, "Boy, you've got a great inheritance. Go and claim it."

The boy smiled for the first time in a long time and walked out the door a changed person. He was never the same again. Whenever anybody asked him, "Who's your Daddy?" he'd just tell them, "I'm a child of God."

The distinguished gentleman got up from the table and said, "Isn't that a great story?"

The professor responded that it really was.

As the man turned to leave, he said, "You know, if that new preacher hadn't told me that I was one of God's children, I probably would never have amounted to anything!" And he walked away.

The seminary professor and his wife were stunned. He called the waitress over and asked, "Do you know that man who just left that was sitting at our table?"

The waitress grinned and said, "Of course. Everybody here knows him. That's Ben Hooper. He's the former governor of Tennessee!"

*Father God, knowing that I belong to You gives me great comfort, joy and assurance.  
Help me to live each day in the fullness of the inheritance You supply for me as Your child.*

**VBS Fun Run**  
**Come Run the Happiest and Most Exciting Race Ever**

Vacation Bible School  
Sunday, June 21 – Thursday, June 25

Theme Verse for the week: 2 Timothy 4:7-8 – I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

**Theme Song for the week: “KEEP THE FAITH”**

***Daily Theme***

***Day 1 - Jesus is the Light***

***Day 2 - Jesus is the Good Shepherd***

***Day 3 - Jesus is the Bread of Life***

***Day 4 - Jesus Gives Loving Water***

***Day 5 - Jesus is the Vine, We are the Branches***