



# The Mustard Seed



Rehoboth Baptist Church Newsletter ~ June 2017



## From the Desk of Pastor Steve:

### Keeping Our Hands & Feet Clean While Serving God

What matters most to you right now?

What ought to matter most to you?

The fact that the answers to these two questions is so often different illustrates the pervasive need we all have to clean our minds, thoughts and spirits with the cleansing power of the Word and Spirit. The OT priests illustrated this same need in their constant need to wash their hands and feet in the bronze basin as they went about their duties:

#### Exodus 30:17-20

<sup>17</sup> The LORD said to Moses, <sup>18</sup> "You shall also make a basin of bronze, with its stand of bronze, for washing. You shall put it between the tent of meeting and the altar, and you shall put water in it, <sup>19</sup> with which Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet. <sup>20</sup> When they go into the tent of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister, to burn a food offering to the Lord, they shall wash with water, so that they may not die.

Every priest gets washed head-to-toe when they are first ordained but this little regulation highlighted the need to stay clean. Two basic points are clear from the text: One, God is holy. Two, in our service we get dirty... all the time.

Moving from the picture to the reality, God is not so concerned with dusty hands and feet as he is with impure thoughts, mindsets and resulting actions. At its core, sin is a denial of God's central place in all of reality. He made all things, he sustains all things. In Jesus all things move and have their being. And as we move about this world as his appointed servants, the world, the flesh and the devil conspire to pollute and corrupt our right understanding about God. We are prone to wander and we have a constant need to be re-oriented.

How do we then, "wash our hands and our feet?" We do so with the Word of God and the Spirit of God. Or, we preach and we pray. We must do this ourselves and we must do this for one another. Consider the picture of cleansing we find in the new testament:

#### John 15:3

<sup>3</sup> Already you are *clean because of the word* that I have spoken to you.

#### Titus 3:5-7

<sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of works done by us in

righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the *washing of regeneration* and renewal *of the Holy Spirit*, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

#### Acts 15:7-9

<sup>7</sup> And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. <sup>8</sup> And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, <sup>9</sup> and he made no distinction between us and them, *having cleansed their hearts by faith*.

#### James 4:8

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. *Cleanse your hands*, you sinners, and *purify your hearts*, you double-minded.

#### John 13:10-15

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "*The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet*, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." <sup>11</sup> For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

<sup>12</sup> When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup> You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. <sup>14</sup> If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, *you also ought to wash one another's feet*. <sup>15</sup> For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.

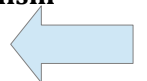
#### 1 Timothy 5:10

<sup>10</sup> and [a widow] having a reputation for good works: if she has brought up children, has shown hospitality, has *washed the feet of the saints*, has cared for the afflicted, and has devoted herself to every good work.

Again, the 'how' we are to cleanse ourselves and one another is to preach and pray (to and for ourselves and one another). For more specific discussion of how to gain skill in this most crucial area, I would recommend you attend the Sunday School class series that began today, "How to get the Gospel into Our Life." We all need help in this area. We need it urgently and we need it all the time. So, spend some deliberate time and effort to get equipped in this area. Talk to me for specific help and for good book recommendations on this topic.

### In preparation for this year's Family Fun Fair we have planned four Sunday nights for Evangelism Training:

- 6/25 "Know the Gospel"
- 7/9 "Types of People We Might Meet"
- 7/23 "How to Pursue Gospel Conversations"
- 8/6 "Being Ready to Offer Further Contact"



We hope these evenings will not only help us be ready for FFF but will also equip us for the outreach opportunities we encounter each day. Please join us for these studies and pray God would bless our mission work here in Rehoboth.



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## Family Fun Fair

### Short and Up a Tree!



### Jesus I Would See!

RBC 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Fun Fair  
August 12<sup>th</sup> 11:00 to 3:00

**WANTED:**

Snow Cone Operator,  
Sanitation Engineer,  
Water Watcher,  
Public Billboard Logistics,  
You,  
Your help,  
and **Your Prayers!**

Listen & Watch for more info!

See Cindy Williams to volunteer  
*before you are volunteered.*

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Visit us at: [www.RehobothBaptistChurch.org](http://www.RehobothBaptistChurch.org)  
Ideas & Comments: [dla85@dlittlehale.com](mailto:dla85@dlittlehale.com)

### MISSION NEWS

The World Venture website has this biography of Diana:

Diana Muenzenberger grew up going to church with her mom and accepted Jesus as her Savior at age 6. She was baptized at age 10, but it was not until her freshman year in high school that she really started to grow spiritually.

After graduating high school, Diana struggled to find a major of study. In 1991, she entered Philadelphia Biblical University. It was there that God increased her love for teaching and missions and she also sensed God moving her toward education. "Each year during my spring semester our school had a missions conference. And each year God molded and moved my heart closer to missions," says Diana.

Diana graduated in 1995 and that summer went on what was supposed to be a three-week missions trip to Faith Academy in the Philippines. She ended up being there for nine weeks, which God used to burden her heart for missionary kids.

Diana finds the most fulfilling part of being a missionary is the deep relationships she is able to develop with her students. "They call me Miss M," she laughs, "Once a student moves from Miss Muenzenberger to Miss M, then I know the relationship has become deep."

Seeing students grow academically and spiritually energizes her the most. "It is so exciting to be used by God to change students lives," she adds. Like every teacher, Diana wants her students to learn and grow academically; however, as a Christian teacher, it is far better to her to see spiritual growth happening in her students.

I can attest that she loves to teach, one year she came a day early to our missions weekend so that she could be an unpaid speaker at the Eagle's Wings Homeschool Coop in their geography class, then wrote about it in her newsletter as if we had done her a favor.

If you follow Diana on Facebook, she occasionally writes #Ilovemiddleschooler posts, here are some them:

I just love grading student's work. Sometimes you get the craziest answers.

Question: Who was the dictator in Italy during World War 2?

Student Answer: Dwight Eisenhower

Question: What did Russia become known as after their revolution?

Student Answer: Russia

Middle School Conversation

Teacher: What would you do to oppose martial law?

Student A: I would secretly send emails to other countries.

Student B: Hillary



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Middle School Conversation

Student A: I am so excited about the banquet.

Teacher: What are you wearing?

Student A: I don't know.

Teacher: So, when are you buying your dress, on Saturday?

Student A: Probably.

Middle School Conversation #2

Me: Which of the people from yesterday was a good leader?

Student A: Franz Ferdinand, because he was killed before he could make any bad war mistakes.

This totally made my day. I preassigned students to groups for a silent debate. And some students had one of the "harder" Philippine President to defend as being the most effective. One of the students came back to me and said after the debate, "Thank you for making me do him. It made me think through what he did during his presidency."

Middle School Conversation

Student A: (to a Chinese student) How do you laugh in Chinese?

Whole class laughs! 😊:D

Diana is constantly thinking how she can serve her students better. She traveled to Thailand to work on her masters degree in Third Culture Kids, children who grow up in a culture not their own, like MKs, diplomat's children, and military children. When she realized that the demographics of the Faith Academy students were switching from American to Philippine, she researched Philippine history so she could develop a Social Studies class for them. In her monthly prayer letters she has mentioned a financial shortfall, but when I wrote to her on facebook to ask what issues she'd like us to pray for specifically, this is what she wrote:

Faith Academy is need of about 30 teachers for next school year. We have 2 weeks left of school before we get out, so strength to finish strong.

I had sent out an update about 2 middle school boys that I had been praying Ephesians 3 over. And I have seen many changes in both boys. I have seen them both singing in chapel. They have been more responsive in class. They have been giving better effort on assignments. I have been really encouraged by what God is doing in them.

The missions committee did up our support for her, but if you are looking for anther missionary to support personally, I'd recommend Diana. You can send a donation to her at

[https://www.worldventure.com/explore/details-people.php?name=diana-](https://www.worldventure.com/explore/details-people.php?name=diana-muenzenberger&id=a50F00000004JE3MAM)

[muenzenberger&id=a50F00000004JE3MAM](https://www.worldventure.com/explore/details-people.php?name=diana-muenzenberger&id=a50F00000004JE3MAM)

-Christine Guest, Missions Committee

Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in the Lord. Philemon 20 (nkjv)

## Martha Gushee

**from the Indian Bible College,  
Flagstaff, AZ**

**will be speaking on  
Wed., June 21st, 7 PM**

**Come hear her report**



**and visit with her afterwards  
over an ice cream sundae.**

## RBC Church Picnic

**Colt State Park – Site #2  
June 24<sup>th</sup> 11:00 to 4:00**



...that I may come to you with joy by the will of God, and may be refreshed together with you. Romans 15:32(nkjv)



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## Praying the Month of Ramadan

- What is our greatest weapon against terrorism, political correctness, tolerance, and other ideologies of this world, for that matter? Now, you're reading the Mustard Seed, right? So the answer can't be a peace treaty, a political machine, an election of the right leader. No! 2 Corinthians 10:3, 4(ESV) says, For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

- What are our weapons? See Ephesians 6: 10- 20 where we are commanded to be strong in the Lord and put on the whole armor of God because we're facing rulers, authorities, cosmic powers, spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. We are to stand with our armor on. This includes: the belt of truth, the helmet of salvation, breastplate of righteousness, shoes for your feet, (readiness given by the gospel of peace), shield of faith, helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. With our armor in place we are to pray continually in the Spirit with all prayer and supplication.

Here is an opportunity for the Church, for me, to show that we/I believe what God says about His divine power destroying strongholds.

Ramadan, May 25<sup>th</sup> through June 24<sup>th</sup> this year, is the holiest of Islamic holidays, characterized by prayer, fasting (sunrise to sunset each day), and introspection. Here's one way we can tangibly make an impact: Join with others around the world praying for God to break down barriers for Muslims to come to Christ. World Venture has prepared a 30 day prayer calendar, summarized here, compiling the requests from international workers around the world.

- 1 - Ask God to continue to call His followers to engage Muslims with the Gospel, that fear would not prevent Christians from reaching out.
- 2 - Pray for workers in Indonesia using creative access platforms to reach the unreached despite government pressure.
- 3 - Pray for a Christian medical facility in Pakistan, the only one in the region to serve women. They need female medical professionals.
- 4 - Pray for a full-blown Gospel movement among five specific Muslim people groups in the Philippines.
- 5 - Pray that Chinese Christians will have a burden to reach the 21.5 million, and growing, Muslims in China.
- 6 - Pray for a weekly interaction with new seekers in Indonesia.
- 7 - Pray for new believers in a Central Asian country to mature in their walk.
- 8 - Pray for the outreach in a Central Asian country (75% Muslim) to university students and women trapped in sex trafficking.
- 9 - Thank God that He is calling thousands of Muslims to Himself through dreams and visions.

- 10 - Pray for a new missionary family in Panama to develop relationships with Muslims.
- 11 - Pray for a business-as-mission endeavor in Costa Rica, poised to make opportunities for Latinos to go to the Middle East with their own business to reach Muslims.
- 12 - Pray for the Brazilian church, a large missionary-sending church, and their workers going worldwide to reach Muslims.
- 13 - Pray for new Muslim-background believers as they face excommunication from relationships.
- 14 - Pray for a couple who hold kids' club in Mali for 50 Muslim children and that the parents will be drawn to Christ.
- 15 - Pray for church planting in Kenya, using a coffee house and printing business to begin relationships.
- 16 - Pray for the missionaries to Upper Guinea where there is a high burnout rate.
- 17 - Pray for the slow going work among the Wolof people of Senegal.
- 18 - Pray for missionaries who are discipling new Muslim-background believers.
- 19 - A new Muslim-background believer in Ivory Coast asks for prayer as he is being baptized, that he will remain faithful.
- 20 - Pray for Ali in Ivory Coast, a new believer, who wants to tell his father about Jesus and his decision.
- 21 - A worker in North Africa asks for prayer that God will continue revealing Himself to Muslim people and opening their eyes.
- 22 - Pray for Christians around the world to drop their strong prejudices and boldly confront religious and ethnic tensions in order to proclaim the Gospel.
- 23 - Thank God that He is causing many to come to Christ.
- 24 - Pray for a people group in N E Mozambique with a combined Islam and witchcraft belief system, that they will be drawn to Christ by seeing the lives of the workers.
- 25 - Pray for Muslim university students in France from other nations. Many are committed to Christ but would be killed if they return to their homelands.
- 26 - Pray for ISIS members returning to Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia after fighting in Syria, that God would work in their hearts.
- 27 - Pray for an outreach in Spain for immigrant families from N Africa. Pray the local church becomes involved.
- 28 - Pray for World Venture workers going to completely closed-access, dangerous areas, that God will open doors.
- 29 - Pray for Lilah in Turkey who has recently come to Christ, for protection as she comes out of the closet.
- 30 - Pray for the church in the USA to see the need to minister to the needs of refugees coming to our country.

Summarized from 30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World 2017, from WorldVenture, Inc.  
By Cindy Williams

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