

In God's Will

By M.A. Brown

"Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.' "

Isaiah 30:21 NIV

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The start of a new school year can be full of joy and frustration. Not only do we have to juggle our families, jobs, and ministries; but now, we also have to juggle school and homework. Some days it may seem like it's just too much. Other days you might begin to wonder if you are really meant to be in Bible College, or working at your job, or be involved in ministry. You might even begin to wonder, "Can I really do it all?"

Many students, myself included, can relate. We understand because we have all been in that place at one time or another. I know the God we serve does not change His mind or lead you the wrong way. He wants only the best for you and will lead you along the right path.

How do we know if we are doing what He wants us to? The only way to know

for sure is to read His Word and step out in faith in the direction he is leading.

I did that very thing this summer. I went to Fiji on a missions' trip with an organization called Global Passion. This trip was unlike any I had ever taken for three reasons, 1) I had never been to Fiji before, 2) I didn't know any of the other people who were going, and 3) It was primarily a medical trip. Honestly I can't tell you a reason why I wanted to go beyond that I felt that I needed to. I had some doubts the first couple of days. However, after an awesome church service we had on our third day there, my doubts were gone.

I wish I could tell you that I did some great things while I was there: like healing someone or leading people in the...

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Pampered Chef Fundraiser

To raise money for TLBC students traveling on a Christian art history trip.

Friday September 12th, 7:00 p.m.

at Trinity Life Bible College,
5225 Hillsdale Blvd, at the corner of Madison Ave.

There will be light refreshments.

RSVP to Kelli Souza @ 530.305.8710

You may also order on-line at www.pamperedchef.bz/kellisouza and enter "Europe Fundraiser" for the Host Name. (If you are ordering in support of a specific participant, please send an email to tk Souza062405@yahoo.com and include the name the order was placed under and the participant you are supporting.)

Invite your family and friends to participate.

Pampered Chef items make great Christmas gifts—so make your list!

Professor Colburn is thankful for those around campus who use the bottle and can recycle bins, as it is our job as God's stewards to care for the planet!

Getting to Know Our Staff: Prof. Colburn 2008 Teacher of the Year

By Priscilla Marshall



Prof. Colburn pictured with her daughter Taryn.

Tana Aivaz Colburn was in elementary school when she first gave her heart to Christ, and later, in high school, determined to follow Him in all things. She began her college education at American River and during that time spent a summer internship at Music Circus. She gained a B.A. degree in Communication at Vanguard University, while studying theater and music. After a year off, she continued her education in Virginia Beach at Regent University, earning a M.A. She finished her degree program with an internship in New York City at Lamb's Manhattan Church of the Nazarene: helping with their food program for the homeless and low income, working in the children's theater, ushering an off-Broadway production and learning other behind-the-scene theater skills.

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Blessed be God!

Ephesians 1:3-14 Part 2 | Eph. 1:3

By Andrew Johnson

Paul sets the tone for his letter, particularly the next eleven verses, with the opening words of verse three. Although word order is not as important in Greek as it is in English, the "position" of the adjective *blessed* (Gk. *eulogētos*) in the Greek indicates that Paul is being emphatic. Paul is not simply stating "God is blessed," but more like "Blessed be God!" Paul uses the exact same expression in 2 Corinthians 1:3. Paul's letters typically begin with an expression of thanksgiving to God; usually for the people he is addressing, giving thanks to God whenever he remembered them in prayer (this he does in Eph. 1:16). Here and

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,"

Ephesians 1:3 NASB

in 2 Corinthians Paul is focused fully on God. He is praising God for what God has done; in this case, blessing His people "with every spiritual blessing."

That these blessings are described as *spiritual* is considered to mean one of two things. Either that these are blessings that come by the Holy Spirit or that these blessings are spiritual as opposed to *material*. Since these blessings are further described as being "in the heavenly places" the second meaning is most likely.

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God's Will

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...sinner's prayer. I didn't, but I know that it's okay. I was there to do whatever task was needed. As a result, when I was coming home, I was filled with this sense of peace. I just knew that I was right in the center of God's will in every area of my life. I was where I needed to be at work, at home, at church, and at school.

I am sharing all this with you to encourage you. If you are doing what God has called you to do He will bless you. He won't leave you wondering if you are doing His will. But you don't have to take my word for it, just trust in Him.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you," says the Lord."

Psalms 32:8 NIV

Prof. Colburn *Continued from page 2*

While working for a Christian television station, Tana met the man God had for her future. He had been a pastoral studies major at Bethany University where he began his career as an audio tech and, just one year after marrying, he was on his way to a career in television! Tom now works for Univision TV19 and helps Tana teach her Media class. They just celebrated their 18-year anniversary and have two beautiful children that attend Freedom Christian School in Fair Oaks. Nathan is 16 and Taryn is 12.

It is sometimes a struggle and we praise God for giving Professor Colburn the strength to get the kids off to school, stop by Starbucks for our wonderfully donated pastries in the office, rush to school to help us learn, go to meetings, put her “mom hat” back on, get the kids, go to sports practice, do bed time rituals, get on-line at midnight to see if any students need anything, and catch a few hours of sleep before the next day starts! Whew!

We can thank Pastor Ron for getting this professor here. A few years back he visited her church and I guess planted that “calling” in her ear, because not much time passed before we had her in our service. Professor Colburn is thankful for the

little things as well as the big, as she has seen God work in unusual ways throughout her life and in the lives of others. One of the things she is most thankful for is being able to help prepare others to go into ministry. I asked Professor Colburn to share the scripture passage she meditates on during time of trial:

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.”

Philippians 4:4-9

Ephesians 1:3 *Continued from page 2*

The spiritual nature of these blessings speaks to the immutability (unchangeable), the eternity, and the certainty of these blessings.

Where Paul uses the adjective *spiritual* (Gk. *pneumatikos*) elsewhere in his writings sheds some light on what blessings Paul is referring to in this passage. In Romans 15:27 Paul speaks of the *spiritual things* (the ESV actually uses “spiritual blessings” to translate *pneumatikos*) of the Jews that the Gentiles have come to share in through the gospel. In Galatians 3:13-14 Paul wrote that “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law...in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit.” (NASB) Later in Ephesians Paul will remind his Gentile readers that they were once “strangers to the covenants of promise” but have been “brought near by the blood of Christ.” (Eph. 2:12, 13 ESV)

The “every spiritual blessing” refers to the “blessing of Abraham” and “the promise” which were promised also to Abraham’s seed, which Paul himself identifies singularly as Christ (Gal. 3:16). So it is that God’s people have been blessed *in Christ*. The Father

blesses us with every spiritual blessing, but only *in Christ*. Apart from Christ there is no blessing and no one could ever hope to obtain the blessings Paul goes on to describe in the next eleven verses. “In Christ” also speaks of the union of Christ and those “chosen in Him” (Eph. 1:4). Space precludes an in-depth look at this union, but for reference read Romans 6:1-14 (see also Gal. 2:17-21; Phil. 3:8-11). We will be looking at this union again when we look at “election” in Ephesians 1:4.

In the next article we will begin looking at Ephesians 1:4.



Photo by Andrew Johnson

On the Web:
www.tlbc.edu

Calendar

9.11.08

40 Days of Prayer
For Our Nation Begins!

Box Lunches: \$6.00
Add name to flyer
and submit with cash
to Prof. Colburn's box
in the office.

Orders must be in by:
Tue, 9.9.08
@ 7:30 PM

9.12.08 | 7:00 PM
Pampered Chef
Fundraiser

10.6-10.08
Homecoming!
Great Alumni Chapel
Speakers!

more information
coming soon

10.10.08
TLBC Homecoming
Banquet!

6:30 PM
In the Cornerstone

The Music of Andrew Peterson

Editorial by Tim Souza

Combining skill and worthwhile inspiration is a difficult task. It's a cliché in sports films to show the least skilled player having the most heart and gumption. When discovering this mixture though, it is a treat for those who get caught up in the wake of the brilliance that ensues. Andrew Peterson would probably shy away from any association with this type of praise, but if the shoe fits then...well you get the point. When I was first introduced to the music of Andrew Peterson, I could not help but hear, in his music and lyrics, respect for those who had gone before him.

The mention of Rich Mullins, Marc Cohn, and James Taylor offer only a limited insight into what sources work themselves into the rhymes and rhythms of Peterson's product. The undeniable and uncontainable imaginings of Andrew Peterson's mind and spirit meander their way into the verses and choruses of his songs, considering and conceptualizing the largeness of God and his kingdom.

"I believe in the holy shores
of uncreated light.
I believe there is
power in the blood
And all of the death that ever was,
If you set it next to life
I believe it would barely
fill a cup."

This is a lyric unearthed from the song "Lay Me Down" from Peterson's 2005 release "The Far Country". The album was built around a quote

Volunteer and Support TLBC! Man the phones at The KLOVE/AIR 1 Telethon

10.3.08 | 2:30 - 5:30 PM
10.18.08 | 8:00 - 11:30 AM
10.18.08 | 11:30 - 2:30 PM

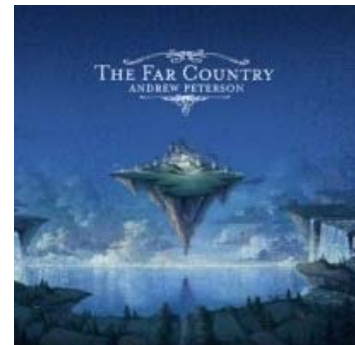
There will be a mandatory 90 min. training the day before volunteer date.

Contact: Rosemary Howell at rhowell@tlbc.edu, in the office, or at 916.348.4689 EXT. 406

from Meister Eckhart that he read in a book by Annie Dillard: "God is at home. We are in the far country." This reality is seen throughout the songs and stories offered us in this collection of songs. Recently this idea of concept albums has been put into practice by Peterson. Released in 2004, "Behold The Lamb Of God" is the unfolding of the Christmas story in its entirety through the art of music and poetry. The story of this album reflects another side of Peterson's work that is just as important as the albums he creates, if not more so.

"Behold The Lamb Of God" was birthed out of a Christmas show that Peterson and his friends put on throughout the Christmas season, this was a gathering of some of today's most prominent and promising songwriters and musicians for years and was finally made into a recorded form. This idea of gathering together fellow musicians has played out in a much steadier affiliation. The creation of the Square Peg Alliance, a group of independent musicians working together to promote each other's work, has brought a sense of community and artistry to the Christian music realm that has been lacking for years.

Through these ventures of art and organization, Andrew Peterson has shown a sense of personal responsibility concerning the quality and the effectiveness of his labor. He shows, on a consistent basis, that he possesses both the heart and the skills to create amazing work.



The Far Country, Andrew Peterson (2005)
Album graphic from www.andrew-peterson.com

**Peggy Mathews, music instructor
@ TLBC is available for private
piano and voice instruction.**

**If interested, please contact her at:
peggyathews1@hotmail.com**