

the Oakwood ACORN

A Chronicle Of our News

Oakwood Serves The World

September 25 was WIN (World Impact Now) Sunday, where we heard from several from our church family who have experienced missions ministry first-hand recently. If you missed these reports, here is a brief recap.



Maria Cariaga reported on the ministry she is involved with in the mountains in the Philippines, Medical Ambassadors. The main goal of this ministry is to share the Gospel, but also includes youth Bible studies, medical clinics, health education classes, schooling for children, and literacy classes.



Rick & Brenda Smith served with Rafiki Foundation, Inc., whose primary mission is to help Africans grow by caring for and educating orphans and giving economic opportunities to widows. They volunteered at an orphanage in Liberia, helping in whatever capacity they were needed while there, helping give the full-time workers a needed break. They will make their third visit to this orphanage in November.



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The mission of Oakwood is to...

Transform ordinary people into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Oakwood is a member of the Evangelical Free Church of America.



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Oakwood Serves The World—continued



Trisha Emerson took us to Peru—a long-time desire of hers. Trish traveled with a group to the Andes Mountains and ministered in several locations, some of which have very few Christians and are only accessible by foot or burrow. Some of their ministry included participating in Worship Services, teaching children Bible stories and doing crafts in the schools, encouraging believers, including at a women's Bible study, and sharing Christ with some who have never heard the Gospel.



Arnie Mejias and Luke Piazza told of their trip to Louisiana State Penitentiary, Angola, along with Dave Dorsey, Ed Jurewicz and Ray Ross. They participated in the *Returning Hearts Celebration*, a day when the inmates earn the privilege to spend the day with their children.

In addition to taking part in this special day for the inmates and their children, our group had the opportunity to tour the prison facilities, worship with the inmates and see a graduation of men from the Malachi Dad's program, which earns them the right to this day with their children.

They plan to participate again next year in the *Returning Hearts Celebration*. Will you join them?



Sofy Noguera served for two months this summer with Campus Crusade in inner city Miami. She was part of a group of 58 students whose goal was to share Christ with those in the condominium complex where they lived, at their place of employment, and to college students in Miami.

They worked each Sunday with a ministry to the homeless by leading Worship and providing meals.



As with the Czech Team report several weeks ago, we are grateful so many from Oakwood have chosen to *Serve The World*. May we all take to heart Sofy's challenge in her closing remarks—"When God tells you go do something—just do it!"

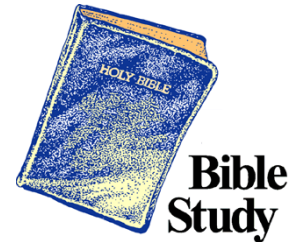
PowerHouse Parents Meeting

Parents of PowerHouse students are invited to meet with Pastor Paul this Sunday, October 2, at 6:00 PM in the Office Lobby. There will be a ministry update related to PowerHouse as well as an opportunity for encouragement and suggestions from parents regarding ministry to teens for both Sunday morning and evening.

Women's Bible studies resume

Women of the Word (WOW) resumed their weekly study on Tuesday, September 27. They meet at 6:30 PM in the Church Library. It isn't too late to join this study. For more information contact Sharon Pruden at 813-960-2522.

Just For Joy will resume their study on Wednesday, October 5, at 4:45 PM in the Church Library. They will be studying *Discerning The Voice of God*. Visit the table in the lobby for more details.



Pregnancy Care Center—Walk For Life

The Pregnancy Care Center's 18th Annual *Walk for Life* will be held on Saturday, October 22, at Idlewild Baptist Church. This year's theme is *He Knows Our Name*. - Registration begins at 8:30 AM with the walk at 9:00 AM. You can help by volunteering the day of the walk and by getting sponsors and participating in the walk. Call (813) 978-9737 for additional information.

The Pregnancy Care Center is an outreach ministry dedicated to presenting the Gospel both in word and in action to women in unplanned pregnancy situations. We emphasize the need to minister to both the mother toward eternal life and the baby toward a healthy live birth. We are committed to integrity in serving our clients and earning their trust. The Pregnancy Care Center is a non-profit, interdenominational Christian organization and is supported through the Missions giving at Oakwood.

Oakwood Website

Oakwood's website has a wealth of information. Check us out at www.oakwoodfl.org. What can you find on our site?

- Service times & directions, Listen to past messages, Meet the Staff, What we believe, Online Giving, Oakwood Directory (we must have your email address in our system to access this info)*, Your personal Giving Statement (we must have your email address in our system to access this info)*



***Oakwood directory - online.** You can access the Oakwood Directory from our website by clicking "Member Login" under the "Directory and Your Giving History" heading on the Home Page. You will have access to your personal records, including your Giving Statement, and you can search the Oakwood directory for addresses and phone numbers. If you can't log in, please contact the church office (office@oakwoodfl.org) with your current email address and we will update your records so you can log in.

Need to contact the staff via email? You can do so at the following addresses:

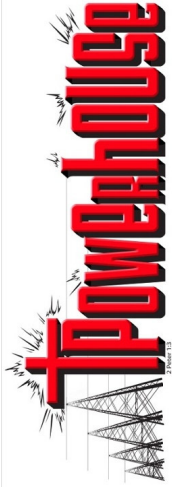
Paul Phair – Paul@OakwoodFL.org

Dave Dorsey – Dave@OakwoodFL.org

Martha Dorsey – Martha@OakwoodFL.org

Mary-Lynn Reilly – Marylynn@OakwoodFL.org

or general information should be sent to Office@OakwoodFL.org



PowerHouse News

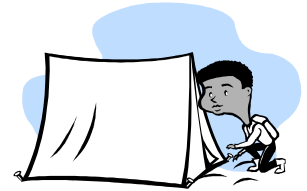
Schedule

Sunday, Oct 2—Regular Evening Meeting—Adam & Eve's Deadly Decision

Sunday, Oct 9—Regular Meeting—Unacceptable Sacrifice

Youth Retreat and Family Campout – Oct 28-30.

Save the dates for a fun-filled weekend of camping at Lakewood Retreat in Brooksville. All Oakwood families are invited to come and everyone is encouraged to bring friends. Watch for more details.



Student and Parents

Mark your Calendar

Challenge 2012, New Orleans, July 1-6, 2012

<http://www.efca.org/reachnational/reachstudents-/challenge-2012-conference>

Oakwood Work Day



The deacons will be hosting a work day at Oakwood on Saturday, October 15, starting at 8:00AM. The main focus of this work day will be improving our grounds. A few of the various jobs will include trimming, weed pulling, mulching, and pressure washing. There will also be various small jobs to help improve the interior of our buildings.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please feel free to come and go as your schedule dictates. For a list of tools needed and to register your interest in helping, please contact Ben Smith at bendsmith83@gmail.com or 813-968-4422.

Prayer 2011



Oakwood is focusing on prayer in 2011. Did you know that you can **BLESS** others with your prayers? Pick up a copy of our October Prayer Guide from the Information Center or check it out on our website and find out how.



New Message Series

This Sunday, October 2, I will begin a new five-part message series entitled: *The Art of Effective Parenting*. My first message is: *What Your Family Can Be*. Many families merely function as a Bed & Breakfast. But as parents you can create a family dynamic with your children that is so much more; more than the family you grew up in, and more than your family presently is. Invite a friend and come learn from the Family Owner's Manual (the Bible) three positive qualities you can create for the ones you care about most. ~ Pastor Paul

Kids Corner

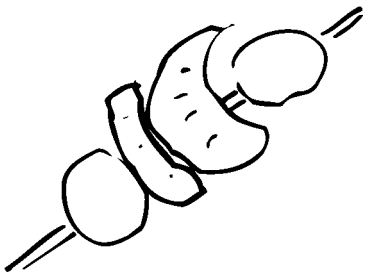
Make a Fruits of the Spirit Snack


You will need:

- fresh or canned fruit
- apples
- oranges
- bananas
- cherries
- grapes
- pineapple
- melon
- toothpicks

How to make it:

1. Open cans and drain juice.
2. Cut fresh fruit in chunks or slices.
(Tip: To keep fresh fruit from turning brown, soak it in lemon-lime soda pop!)
3. Arrange pieces of fruit on toothpicks. Share with family or friends!






Just for KIDS

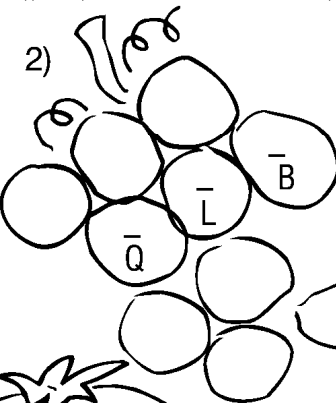
Fruits of the Spirit

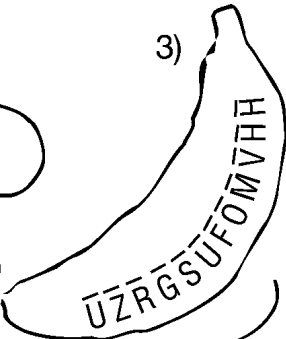
In the book of Galatians, Paul told the people to "live by the spirit" – to live God's way. He told them what they would need to do this. These characteristics are called the "fruits of the Spirit."


Find the "Fruits of the Spirit" using the code below.

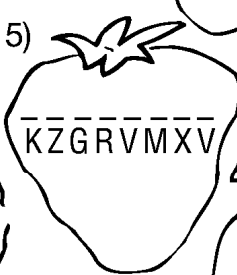
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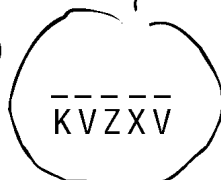
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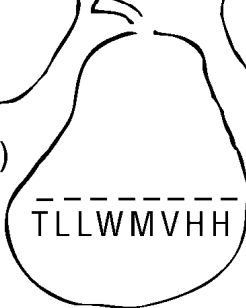
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Gentleness, Joy, Faithfulness, Self-Control, Patience, Peace, Kindness, Goodness, Love

Boundaries For In-Laws—Part 2

Establishing rules to protect your marriage

Part 1 of this article appeared in the last issue of *The ACORN*. You can find it on our website.

Choose Change

Perhaps you've attempted to "love them through it," or you've chosen to ignore them totally.

Either way, you may have noticed that these types of in-law problems may not diminish with time. Many of the issues are generated from longstanding patterns that are rooted in character issues. This means that if you want to see improvement, you have to take some initiative.

Reality-check.

First, find out if there really is a problem, or if it's merely your perception. Sometimes we react to others based on our experiences, which can cloud judgment. A reserved husband may see his in-laws as intrusive, when in fact, they are merely outgoing. To help gain a proper perspective, ask a trusted friend to observe and verify your perception of the situation.

Do a self-inventory.

After you've identified the problem, ask yourself how you might be contributing to it. Jesus reminds us that we must first deal with our own actions before we help others correct theirs (Matthew 7:1-5). Deal with any unloving attitude you might have. Beware of promoting a problem by being silent, compliant, or rationalizing. By speaking the truth in love ([Ephesians 4:13](#)), we can foster growth and healing.

Be direct.

Linda and Roy were passive in dealing with their in-law problems. As a result, they began to withdraw emotionally from her folks. In choosing to find a solution to their problems, they promised to be gently honest with her parents. In addition, Linda made a commitment to put her marriage first, and her parents second. Approaching the situation as a united front provided new courage.

Confront your in-laws gently, but directly.

Though you may need to involve your spouse, don't avoid dealing with the problem person-

ally. Let them know how you feel and that it gets in the way of being close to them. They may react with hurt, withdrawal, or anger. Or they may be surprised at what they learn, and thank you for letting them know.

Choose your battles.

Choose to end an issue by setting new limits or by simply adapting to it. If the conflict creates havoc in your marriage, such as being publicly humiliated by a parent, you and your spouse may want to negotiate how and when you spend time with in-laws. If the issue is simply annoying, such as making a big deal over one person's birthday and not the other's, then you may want to let it go and enjoy the healthier aspects of your relationship.

Strengthen your role as spouse.

An in-law problem can sometimes be a marriage problem. Favoritism, intrusiveness, and other conflicts can be perpetuated by a spouse who is unaware or unwilling to deal with the issues.

Though you and your spouse love your parents, you should be more aligned with each other than with them. When a spouse isn't loyal to their mate, there may be a "leaving and cleaving" problem ([Genesis 2:24](#)). This problem is exhibited in behaviors such as needing parental approval or respect, being afraid to confront parents, going to parents for self-image support, being emotionally or financially dependent on parents, or feeling responsible for parents' emotions.

If your spouse struggles with these issues, let him know how you feel and how his actions affect your sense of safety as a couple. Encourage him to work through these issues, perhaps by getting involved in a healthy church group. Becoming responsible in your union often goes a long way toward solving in-law problems.

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John Townsend, Ph.D., is the coauthor, with Henry Cloud, of Boundaries and Boundaries for Marriage (Zondervan).



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Our Staff

Lead Pastor - Dr. Paul B. Phair
 Director of Ministries - Dave Dorsey
 Coordinator of Youth Ministry - Dr. Paul B. Phair
 Coordinator of Children’s Ministry - Dave Dorsey
 Office Manager - Martha Dorsey
 Secretary - Mary-Lynn Reilly

Office hours:

Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Worship:

Sundays - 10:30 AM

Calendar at a Glance



Oct 2—Child Dedication in Worship Service
 PowerHouse Parents Meeting
 Oct—Just For Joy Women’s study begins
 Oct 9—Board Meeting
 Blood Pressure checks following Worship
 Oct 11—MISCOM Meeting

Oct 15—Work Day
 Oct 22—Pregnancy Care Center’s *Walk For Life*
 Oct 28—30—Youth Family Campout @ Lakewood
 Retreat

The Oakwood *ACORN* is a bi-weekly E-newsletter from Oakwood Community Church, published to keep our church family and friends informed about events and people at Oakwood. Articles may be submitted via e-mail to Office@oakwoodfl.org. Article deadlines and publication schedule is:

Deadline	Publication date	News for dates including...
Oct 7	Oct 12	Oct 15—Oct 28
Oct 21	Oct 26	Oct 29—Nov 11

Do you know someone at Oakwood with a noteworthy achievement? Send the information to Office@OakwoodFL.org and we’ll include it in a future article.

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