

# April 2009



## Coming into **FOCUS**

*Empowering Singles to Focus  
on Christ*

*Focus is the ministry for Singles at the Worthington Christian Church Columbus, OH*

### Knowing vs. Being

In Dallas Willard's book, *The Divine Conspiracy*, he quotes a student saying, "I've been taking all these philosophy courses and we talk about what's true, what's important, what's good. Well, how do you teach people to *be* good?" And she added, "What's the point of *knowing* good if you don't keep trying to *become* a good person?" That got me to thinking about my life and what I know.

I had the privilege recently to teach in the Focal Point class as well as regularly teaching in the 2x'ers. Last Sunday's discussion brought about similar conclusions...if we would just focus on what we already know, we would probably have a lifetime of working those things out in our lives and faith. How many of us are totally content to just sit in class after class, learning great things of the Word of God, His attributes, His Holy Spirit, but not go any further? Not applying what His Word has to say in my circumstances. We become more interested in just learning to be good than just becoming good.

I think that often times we take learning for doing. Jesus' brother, James tells us in no uncertain terms that we need to be doers of the Word and not hearers only (James 1:22). May you this week spend the time necessary to become a doer...and the Nike commercials say, "Just Do It."

Hope your week is good. Let us hear from you on how you are moving from just learning to doing!  
Serving with you, *Don*

### Can You Keep a Secret?

If you can keep a secret, keep reading...if not...well, there is nothing to see here!

May's issue of the Christian Single magazine is out in the racks right now! Make sure you get yours before they are gone in a week. So this Sunday sneak out and pick up your copy.

As usual, the May edition is packed full of great tips and articles. The cover story is so encouraging as well as the FYI section. Camerin has a great piece too!



**thrive!**  
focsc 09

**Coming this  
October 16-17!  
Make plans**



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## Single Adult Ministries Usually a Bad Rap...Not So For Focus

So often single adult ministries have such a bad reputation for being the "meat market" that nobody wants to be a part of it. But yet we want to be around other singles with similar struggles and desires...to meet a solid Christian person.

However those are not the only struggles we face. Living the life as a single can be lonely and frustrating, not having anyone there to hold us accountable, bounce ideas off of, you know the story. Well, that is what *Focus* is all about. What we desire most is to bring singles together in a community of believers (and non-believers) that is more concerned with growing in Christ, lending a helping hand to those who just might be where you have been at one time or other. Every class, every small group, every activity is geared for just that! As a ministry, as a leadership team, as a body of believers, we are committed to being an arm of Christ to educate, nurture and equip single adults in order to make a difference in our community.

## Remembering In Prayer

We have several of our Focus members, as well as church members, who are currently looking for employment. Please pray for their quick and smooth transitions to new positions!



We want to continue to lift up Rick Taylor's family this month. The office received a very nice thank you note for the flowers, friendship and funeral service. All of Rick's family was touched by the friends who made it a point to attend either the calling hours and/or the funeral. They all took much encouragement from you!

Memorial Day Picnic is scheduled for Monday, May 25th! Mark it on your calendar and plan to attend! More details soon!



## Survival Guide by Campus Minister Tim Hudson

Building great relationships is the key to influencing others for God. Relationship building is difficult and won't happen unless you value two things:

### 1) Value other people.

Face it: the self-absorbed do not make building good relationships a priority. Relationships are only a priority if you place a high value on other people. We should place a high value on people - because God does! Valuing other people means expecting the best of them; assuming their motives are good unless they prove otherwise; judging them by their best moments, not their worst; giving them friendship with no strings attached, rather than only when they reciprocate.

### 2) Value understanding other people.

Many of us care about others, yet we still remain out of touch. Often that is because we do not value understanding them. Surveys consistently show that one of the biggest problems in churches that fail to grow, is leadership that is out of touch with people's needs.

To improve your understanding of people and build great relationships, keep in mind the following truths, and actions you can take to bridge the gap caused by them:

a) people are insecure, so give them confidence; b) people want to feel special, so sincerely compliment them; c) people desire a better tomorrow, so offer them hope; d) people need to be understood, so listen to them; e) people are basically self-centered, so speak to their needs first; f) people get emotionally low, so encourage them.

When you value others enough to try to understand them, you lay the groundwork for great relationships and you influence people for God!

## Are You In?

**A**dult Bible Fellowships (ABF) are a great way to be "in", encouraged, find hope and learn how the Word of God applies to your life (other than Sundays). If you are not currently involved with an ABF, then please give one of these "single-minded" classes a try! **Focus** wants to help you grow in Christ!

### 9.45 a.m. Focal Point Room 122

This class of 30's and up is currently diving into a new series this week. Challenging studies provide excitement and interest in learning to apply the Word of God to how that fits my single life! It is giving people a new perspective on their faith. Dave and Peggy Fenstermaker (dmfenstemaker@insight.rr.com) take this class deeper in the Word and life.

### 9.45 a.m. ReFocus Room 145

**ReFocus** is an ABF in the singles ministry. This group of 30+ folks all have the shared experience of surviving a divorce, helping each other see that there is life after divorce and how to refocus my life back on Christ. Lesa Hooper (lesahooper@hotmail) fearlessly leads this group deeper in the Word of God and helping to continue to heal hearts and minds beyond Divorce Care.

### 11 a.m. focus2x Room 145

**focus2x** is a community of 20 somethings, post college, who are currently in a series called *Blemished* and we are looking at how we as a church and individuals worship in today's church using the book of Malachi. Grab a cup of coffee and join in the discussion! Don Hooper (dhooper@worthingtoncc.org) leads this class.

Please do not feel that being single limits you to these classes. There are several other good classes that are single/married mixed. For a complete list of ABF's that WCC offers, check out [www.worthingtoncc.org](http://www.worthingtoncc.org), see ABF. There are a few classes that are "married" specific like the ones that are "single" specific. If you need some help choosing a group to go settle into, please contact Don at the church office.



## Next Series In Fundamentals of Faith

**O**ur Adult Education department is excited to announce the next series in the Fundamentals of Faith series, Knowing Christ. This new six week series will begin this Sunday, April 26th. This second part topics will be:

- \*The Nature of the Creator—God
- \*The Person of Christ
- \*The Work of Christ
- \*The Doctrine of Salvation
- \*The Holy Spirit
- \*The Church

It will be meeting during the 11 a.m. hour in the Family Life Center. Rob Denning, Mark Dempsey, Gary Martin and Terry Tabor will be leading this second of four different series. If you have questions or would like to sign up, please contact Lee Cox, Minister of Discipleship at [lcox@worthingtoncc.org](mailto:lcox@worthingtoncc.org) or contact the church office.

## Crocodile Dock Is Coming Soon!

**S**pringtime certainly has sprung! So you know there is no stopping the summer from arriving soon! And with summer coming that means Vacation Bible School! This is a great opportunity to put your faith in action as well as pass it on to the next generation!

VBS directors are looking for loads of different positions from crew leaders to helping out with snacks to the busy first few days of registration. No matter your time schedule there is something for you to do, either A.M or P.M.!

Contact Tom Sherrod

([tsherrod@worthingtoncc.org](mailto:tsherrod@worthingtoncc.org)) if you would like to sign up or need more information. He can get you connected to the right people!

The fun flat bottom boats set sail the third week of July this year! Float down the bayou encouraging kids and having the time of your life!

