Russell Family

FEBRUARY 2008

AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD

ISSUE TWO



I Corinthians 13:1-13

Sarah and I memorized I Corinthians 13: 1-13 this month and we all learned a lot more in depth about it's true meaning. I remember memorizing it as a kid. I remember when my parents told us we were going to memorize it as a family, I thought there was no way I could memorize something so big. But I also remember going into my parents room to say the parts that I had memorized. So as a tribute to my parents, I want my kids to memorize it too. Jordan and Stephen learned the first verse. Hannah will repeat all of it and that is quiet a feat with all the big words. They



quiet funny out of her mouth with her little speech impediment.

come out sounding

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have

not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

For we know in part and we prophesy in

part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.

Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

> And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. **But the** greatest of these is love.

Pinewood Derby Races

Makes for a fun activity for the whole family.

Real Family Fellowship 3rd Annual PineWood Derby

Though the first pinewood derby kits came out two and a half weeks before the race, they sold out and we were not able to get our kits until the Saturday before they were due on Wednesday. But Joshua came through and got all the cars cut out, sanded and base coats painted. Then the kids got busy painting them.

Rainbow Racer #2 Last year, Jordan named her car the rainbow racer and painted it like a rainbow. It was a really fast car. This year she was set on having another victorious year and so she wanted the same design as last year.

Pirate Ship Surprisingly, after last months love of the Alamo, Stephen did not ask for an Alamo car. He went back to his obsession prior to the Alamo and asked for a pirate ship. Though it raced without the sails, it was not real fast with it's bulky size,but it was a winner in Stephen's eyes! He couldn't wait until the race was over so that he could sail his ship with all his friends. **'La la' car** Hannah calls Polly pockets, la las. And she was positive that she needed another la la car this year. She had a wonderful time paining it for her la las.

Year of Josiah We teamed up on Daniel's car. Joshua cut it out to look like a castle and we painted it as such. We incorporated much of what pastor has been teaching this year on it being the year of Josiah (Daniel Josiah). We listed the 7 high places that we need to take for victory. We put a scroll on it with the prophecy about Josiah in the books of Chronicles and Kings. Again it looked really good and Daniel liked it but it was bulky and thus not real fast.

Tuned into God - IPod Joshua designed his car to look like an ipod. Complete with ear phone plug in and charger plug in (actual size so he could plug them in and make it look real). He had to shorten the wheel base to make it proportionate and that slowed it down on the track, but.... it was a hit for it's original design.





Daddy made it in town just in time to go to the big race day!



Belated Birthday comes to Sarah

She got a puppet for her 13th birthday, but it did not come in until the end of January.

o we saved it until Daddy got home from Israel and gave it to her with him there. They feel in love at first sight and went off to get aquatinted. Within the first day, she changed her clothes multiple times, put ear rings on her ears, fixed her hair and named her, Sally. She is a real keeper.







Sarah and her first puppet: Sally



"Love is Patient, Love is Kind. It does not envy, ti does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not selfseeking, it is not easily angered......

AGAPE DINNER THEATER

Recipe for Fun

- 1 Peculiar Party Team Performance
- 1 Nice Catered Meal
- 1 Balloon-a-grams
- 1 Photos available

Friends and Family

Bring friends and family together, mix with food and fellowship and cover with an energetic entertaining evening with performances by the Peculiar Party Team and other local artists.



Pop in a few balloon-a-grams, some photos for keepsakes and a great silent auction and you have a recipe for fun!

I Corinthians 13:1-13

Update

Daniel Josiah

Daniel has 6 teeth. First he cut the bottom two then one on the top center, then the two eye teeth the the other one in the center. He bites a lot when he cuts teeth, so it is not a pleasant experience for mom. But his little teeth are cute. On February 5th we took him to the doctor and he weighed 18 pounds 8 ounces. Pretty much the same amount since before Christmas. His friend, Liam at church who is exactly 5 months younger than him weighed 18.9 over a month ago. Daniel is wearing mostly 6-9 months



unless it is footed and then he needs 12 months for the length. He is so very much like Joshua was when

he was a baby. He has had antibiotic twice and both times it gave him a horrible yeast infection (same as Joshua), I try to give him cough/cold medicine and he takes it then his stomach starts to gurgle and he throws it all up... just like Joshua did when he was a baby. His hair is identical to what Joshua's when he was a baby. He is basically the same size too. Daniel is not walking and Joshua was walking at 9 months. But Daniel has lots of arms wanting to hold him all of the time, so I am not surprised.

Stephen Andrew

All of the s u d d e n , S t e p h e n decided to start drawing. One



day he asked for some paper. He started drawing pictures of a volcano, it kept evolving and he needed more and more paper to hold the story. He drew at least 20 pages of detailed pictures that day. Next day the story continued. It was like the pictures were alive and active. Then he was introduced to a coloring book. He colored page after page. Then I went in and listened as he colored and his crayons were army men fighting for who got to color and thus concur more of the page.

Stephen loved baking cookies in his class.



Stephen baking cookies at church in his Voyager, Pioneer Club class. He said they were yummy!

Joshua's first vote

Darrel and I are always very active voters. We research who we should support with our vote. This year we are doing some volunteering also. Joshua is really enjoying the process. He has enjoyed it the past few years, but this year it is heightened even more as come November he will get to cast his first vote. Last night he and Darrel went to a candidate forum for our area. They went to hear and support Phil King for State Rep, but they got to hear many others running for the different offices. Joshua is really hoping he gets to vote for Mike Huckabee. He is not eligible to vote in the primary, as he will not be 18 until the 29th of March and the primary is the 4th. Joshua reads so very much more than I do. (He has a lot more time) And when he finds something he thinks I really need to read or watch he will send it to me. I love it. He is so much like his father.



Let's play chess...

The kids are playing chess with our homeschool group on Wednesday afternoons. Last month and December they played basketball and the months before that was soccer. Joshua really enjoys chess, most of the others think they could do without it, but I hope by the end of the 10 weeks they will be lovers of the game.

Darrel and I encourage our friends to vote their convictions.

Letter/e-mail sent to friends and family

I am taking a moment to encourage all of you to vote for Governor Mike Huckabee for President during early voting this week, or on Tuesday (3-4-2008). I know that the press and the GOP leadership has already written him off and are now engaged in pushing Texans to vote for Senator John McCain as a sign of GOP unity or for Senator Hillary Clinton as the more beatable candidate to prevent Senator Barak Obama from winning the Democratic Nomination. However, I have attached a brief overview of Governor Huckabee's positions on several key issues and I want to try to make the case for voting for him in the upcoming primaries instead of the alternatives.

First, I must say that I actually respect John McCain for what he has done in service to our country as a veteran. However, I am firmly convinced that he does not represent my values or those of most of my friends and family. In his heart. I believe that he represents the liberal / moderate wing of the GOP since he has voted against conservative values on numerous occasions during the past few years. I know that in recent months, he has endeavored to appear more conservative (similar to the **Governor Mitt Romney** approach), but I find it very difficult to believe that he can change his character and heart in a few months of trying to win our votes. Based on his positions and votes over the past few years, I see little difference between John McCain and the rest of the democratic party. In fact, he is more of what we call a Republican-In-Name-Only (RINO) candidate that claims the GOP when it suits his purposes.

If you look at the primaries in the other states up to this point, the only votes that Senator McCain brought to the table were the GOP Moderates, Independents, and some Democrats. Very few conservative Republicans were voting for Senator McCain prior to his recent inauguration as the Presumptive GOP Nominee by





On the way home from the rally in Plano Jordan drew this picture of 'Super Huck' holding a Bible and saying "I love Jesus!" the Press and the GOP Leadership. Also, the vast majority of the Governor Romney and Senator Fred Thompson delegates have already stated that they were strongly opposed to Senator McCain and would not vote for him if they had any alternative at the GOP convention. Due to the exit of these and other candidates, this means that there is a large pool of undecided delegates that are free to vote however they choose at the GOP Convention. If Huckabee can win Texas, it will make it virtually impossible for Senator McCain to win the nomination going into the GOP Convention. This will result in what is called a Brokered Convention, meaning that the delegates must actually go through a series of votes to determine who will actually win the GOP Nomination. This is not unprecedented in past GOP Conventions as detailed below:

Abraham Lincoln - 3rd Ballot - Won Presidency Rutherford Hayes - 7th Ballot - Won Presidency James Garfield - 36th Ballot - Won Presidency Warren Harding - 10th Ballot - Won Presidency Dwight D. Eisenhower - "2nd" Ballot - Won Presidency

It should also be noted that in several of these cases, including Lincoln, the final nominee was not the one leading in delegate prior to the GOP Convention. It should also be noted that a Brokered Convention also occurred in 1976 when President Gerald Ford was the presumptive nominee (similar to John McCain) selected by the GOP Leadership, and a Governor running for the nomination would not quit and ran





right up to the convention preventing President Ford from winning the nomination prior to the convention. In that case, the GOP Leadership initiated a back-room deal to 'arrange' the missing delegates, and then President Ford was declared the GOP Nominee. In that election, it was clear that the GOP membership did not support President Ford, but the GOP Leadership felt he had a better chance of winning and effectively forced his nomination on the GOP. As a result, the GOP membership did not fully support President Ford and he lost the election to President Jimmy Carter resulting in a disastrous 4 years for our country. It is worth noting that the Governor who refused to guit and fought the GOP Leadership was none other than Ronald Reagan who was elected president in 1980 in a landslide election. If only the people of this country had stood up to the GOP Leadership in 1976, the country could have been spared 4 tumultuous vears.

All this aside, none of this is why I am voting for Governor Huckabee. My primary reason for supporting Governor Huckabee is his incredibly Strong Pro- Life positions on every front, unlike any other candidate in the race now or at the beginning. I strongly believe that this single issue is the cornerstone for the decline of our country. Moral decline in a nation results from that nation turning it's back on God and refusing to honor Him or obey His laws. In the Old Testament, the Israelites repeatedly turned their backs on God and instead began to worship the false gods Baal, Molech, Chemosh, etc... I find it highly tragic that the worship of each of these false gods involved the sacrifice of children, usually by throwing the children alive into a burning fire to be consumed for the false gods. These false gods required these sacrifices for those adherents seeking a better harvest, prosperity, or just happiness. I have become convinced that these pagan practices are no different than modern day abortion where people are readily willing to murder their innocent un-born children that come at in-opportune times and threaten to wreck their happiness or ruin their plans for a more prosperous future. The similarity is too striking and I believe that this single issue has resulted in a curse on America. In addition. I also believe that the current situation with the pending insolvency of the Social Security and Medicare systems are also directly attributable to the murder of over 50 million future workers and





We held a voter's clinic at church with 13 of the people running for local offices for a 'debate'. Joshua was one of the young people who asked the questions. and contributors to the coffers of both systems over the last 40 years since the Roe-vs.-Wade decision. This tragedy must be reversed, or the minor issues that appear to consume the Media and the other candidates will pale in comparison.

I believe that Senator McCain lacks the strength of conviction and will to fight for the overturn of Roe-vs.-Wade and a Constitutional Amendment to protect the Right to Life. He has waffled in the past on these highly important issues and even aided in the blockade of conservative justices to the federal courts. However, Governor Huckabee has stood as a very strong, consistent beacon when it comes to all issues related to the Right-to-Life Issues. I firmly believe that he is the ONLY candidate that can change the course of this nation. I know that the course to his nomination and eventual election as outlined above would take a miracle, but MY GOD is in the miracle business, just as Governor proclaimed weeks ago to the Media.

Please consider these issues carefully and ignore what the Media and GOP Leadership are trying to cram down your throat. I strongly encourage each and every one of you to VOTE.

Lubbock Rally

Darrel had to go to Lubbock to interview Texas Tech engineering students for jobs at Lockheed and so we all packed up and went with him.

Huckabee Rally

While in Lubbock, Huckabee came for a rally. It was great though a bit on the cold side so early in the morning. First, the Josh Abbet Band came out and performed for about 30 minutes, then Huckabee



his wife, Janet and C h u c k N o r r i s with his wife came on stage. Huckabee

played a couple of songs with the band, one Jonny Cash song and one Buddy Holly song.

Signatures and Handshakes

After a wonderful inspiring speech by Huckabee, he and Chuck and wives went to the audience to shake hands and give signatures. Jonny got our yard sign signed by all of them and shook each of their hands,

Joshua shook Huckabee's hand. In the picture below you can see Chuck



shaking hands behind Jonny.

Prayer

I positioned myself at the very end of the line so that I could catch Huckabee's eyes. When he shook my hand, I said "We are praying for you" and I didn't let go of his hand, he looked me in the eyes and I said, seriously, we are praying for you. He said, 'Seriously keep it up." And I immediately prayed a brief prayer for him, he smiled and said 'Thank you and keep it up".

Huck and Chuck tour Texas before the Primary



Governer Huckabee playing bass with the band, Josh Abbet Band at a rally in Lubbock Texas.









Swimming in the winter!

The kids all enjoyed the nice warm water fun as did a few grown kids.

he bigger kids along with John Mark and Loy had a good fun game of keep away with a couple of beach balls. Most of the time our group had to pool to ourselves and they took advantage of the entire pool with lots of fun and goofing around. Great Memories!









Sarah holding Kenzie and Natalie on shoulders.



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Darrel enjoyed interviewing the engineering and math students from Texas Tech for jobs at Lockheed. Though he was more than ready to get out of the suit when he was finished.

TEXAS TECH INTERVIEWS

Recipe for Fun

- 1 Hotel with heated Pool
- 1 Hot tub
- Lots of Cousins, Aunts and Uncles
- 1 Photos available

John Mark and Nicole brought their girls: Taelor and Natalie. We also had Ryland and Hayden (Micheal's boys) and Nicole's nephew; Damen. Loy and daughter, Jennifer brought MacKenzie. They all had a wonderful time in the pool with Jonny, Sarah, Jordan, Stephen and Hannah. LeAnn stayed out with Daniel and Joshua



worked on his computer and helped with Daniel. They swam several times through out the 2 3 day ordeal.





Not sure who was having more fun with the scooter, the kids or Grand dad!

Time with Grandparents

Grandmother has a new dog: Sunny Sunny loved Daniel and wanted to give him lots and lots of kisses, Daniel on the other hand wasn't sure what he thought about this doggie kissing him. Then they shared toys but in the end, Sunny found Daniel's pacifier and carried it around the correct way in her mouth, looked like she was sucking on it. Daniel did not like that neither did mom or dad. hee hee

Bonding There was some much needed bonding time with Grandmother and Daniel and Grand dad and the bigger kids. Grand dad took the kids from Hannah up on rides on the electric scooter. They all had a blast. Grandmother had to be very careful as she is still recovering from rotator cuff surgery, but she enjoyed some time getting to know Daniel.