

# WESTSIDE

## story

### Church Events

- **October 6** Unity 66 Youth Fish & Tenderloin Fry Fundraiser
- **October 7** Communion Sunday
- **October 10** Missions Conference PM
- **October 11** JOY Fellowship
- **October 14** Pastor Appreciation Sunday AM
- **October 14** Missions Conference AM | PM
- **November 4** Daylight Savings Time Ends; Acorn Bank Breaking Program PM
- **November 11** Randy Fudge Sunday School Hour; Veteran's Day
- **November 16** Unity 66: Larger than Life Game Night
- **November 18** Community Thanksgiving Service PM
- **November 22** Thanksgiving
- **November 25** Church Elections

## Do You Believe in these Christian "Superstitions"?

Excerpt take from Jim Daly, "Focus on the Family" blog

Superstitions brings to mind (imagined) connections with misfortune, like black cats, broken mirrors and an open umbrella indoors.

While as Christians we should steer clear of these "silly myths," (1 Tim 4:7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly.) The reality is, we have a few "superstitions" we might believe, too. Ours might not be rooted in magic or chance, but in a misunderstanding of what Scripture truly teaches.

Here are a few common Christian misperceptions – and what the truth really is:

### **1. God wants you to be happy.**

If God loves us, wouldn't He want us to be happy and have everything we could ever want?

Not necessarily.

The reason is God's more concerned with your character than your comfort. That's why we're not entitled to health, wealth, and ... stuff. Because of original sin, Christians get cancer, have marital issues or lose their homes in tornadoes and wildfires.

In fact, sometimes being a Christian is what brings the tough times. Right now, around the world, Christians are being persecuted and even martyred. Here in the U.S., some are losing their careers and businesses because of their faith.

But like it happened with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, often God is more glorified when He walks us through the fiery furnace than when He keeps us from it. That's why "we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." (Romans 5:3-5)

### **2. We're all God's children.**

While we're all God's creation, we're not all God's children. The honor of being His

continued on page 2



# Do You Believe in these Christian “Superstitions”?

Excerpt take from Jim Daly, “Focus on the Family” blog

continued

child belongs to those who confess Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

As it says in John 1:12-13, “But to all who did receive him [Jesus], who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.”

### **3. God helps those who help themselves.**

It’s an oft-cited verse that’s not in the Bible. And while it’s true there are plenty of verses that extol the benefits need of hard work and shun laziness, the bottom line is Christians aren’t like the Lone Ranger.

Practically speaking, that means we’re ultimately not responsible for our own success. We are dependent on, and obedient to, God. We trust Him to guide our steps and open up a way for us. As Pastor Rick Warren once said, “God doesn’t help those who help themselves. He helps those who turn to Him.”

### **4. Science and Christianity are incompatible.**

The culture has set up a false “war” between the Bible and academia, perhaps because some scientists talk about evolution and other theories as if they’re proven fact.

However, the reality is science continues and regularly confirms Christian doctrine. As my friend, Dr. Al Mohler, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary once wrote, “Are science and Christianity friends? The answer to that is an emphatic yes, for any true science will be perfectly compatible with the truths we know by God’s revelation.”

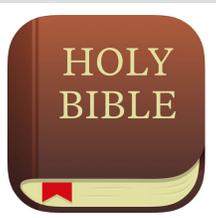
### **6. Children raised in Christian homes will keep the faith, guaranteed.**

I wish this were true. I wish there were a God-approved “10-step program” that would make it so no son or daughter would stray from his or her childhood faith. However, even very good, very godly parents sometimes see their children wander off. Perhaps the most perfect example are Adam and Eve – despite being “parented” by God, they sinned.

So when we read Proverbs 22:6 (“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”), know that verse is meant as a general truth, but not an absolute guarantee. In parenting, we’re dealing with people who have free will and can ultimately make their own choices.

I do believe that ultimately many prodigals raised in church and disciplined according to Scripture will find their way back. Some of our sons and daughters take a winding road to owning their faith. But for those of us who know parents suffering because of a wayward child, please – don’t pile on the shame. Rather, come alongside them in prayer, and ask that God’s grace will lead their children back home.

## Tech Time: Apps that can Support Your Spiritual Growth by Kristi Cressman



**Bible App - FREE**

Digitally read the Bible in any translation, highlight, and make notes. Receive daily verses, explore and read a multitude of devotion plans, create artwork for favorite verses, and watch videos for adults and kids.



**Bible App for Kids - FREE**

This colorful and engaging app allows children to choose which bible story they wish to explore. Each story can either be read aloud by the narrator or muted, has colorful pictures, and goes at the pace the child wishes to move along. After the story is complete, there is an activity to do. One example is to rearrange the pictures in the correct order of the story.



**Read Scripture - FREE**

Are you a visual learner? If so, this app is brilliantly designed for you. Artists have drawn up pictures, placing their “real time” art in a video along with a narrative which lays out a timeline of the bible. I highly recommend you to try it out!



**Echo Prayer - FREE**

This app is only available for IOS devices. It is a prayer app that allows you to keep track of prayer requests, set reminders for you to pray for these requests, and to set up a prayer group to privately share with others.



get to know

# The Wolfs



Jeremy and Michelle's story began as high school sweethearts. They married on December 19, 1997 and are blessed with two daughters, Carissa (15) and Carley (10).

Jeremy has been a Supervisor for 18 years at Peyton's Northern and serves on the Bluffton Fire Department. When he isn't spending time with his favorite ladies, you may find him on the golf course or basketball court. Michelle has been serving as the Children's Director and custodian at West Missionary for the past four years. She loves landscaping and caring for animals. She also enjoys upcycling furniture and metal detecting. Carissa, a spirited teenager, loves doing hair, makeup, and nails, but isn't afraid to get dirty when driving the four-wheeler. Carley, who has a helpful heart, loves to swim, collect stuffed animals, build with legos, and play games.

The Wolf family loves being outdoors, especially having campfires! They also venture out for a good game of Putt Putt or snuggle in for a good family movie.

The Wolf's recognize the importance of putting on the armor of God, therefore they keep Ephesians 6:10-18 close to their hearts. Michelle shared another family favorite while reflecting on the prominence of it in today's world, Hebrews 13:5, "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.'"

## Family Matters: How to Immerse Jesus into The Lives of Your Kids Daily

Excerpt taken from [www.desiringgod.org/](http://www.desiringgod.org/)

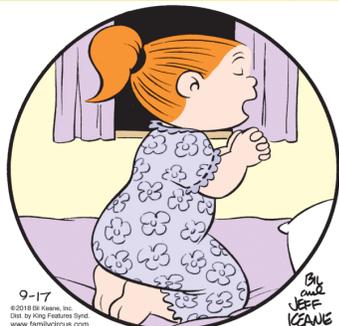
**Present the gospel every day and in different ways.**

In her talk at this year's Gospel Coalition women's conference, Kristie Anyabwile spoke of her grandmother, who faithfully took every opportunity to teach her about God — not through formal devotion times, or a curriculum or formula, but by simply and unwaveringly living out her convictions before her granddaughter and speaking the truth to her.

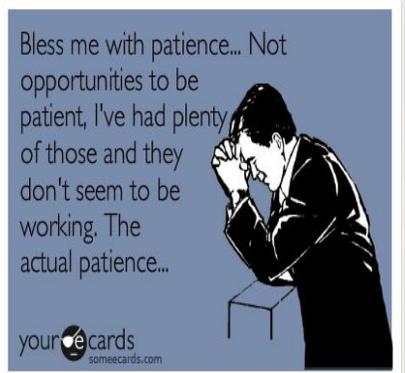
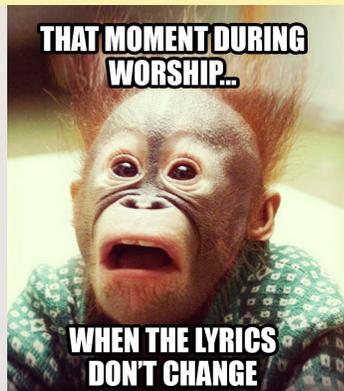
Children will not learn the gospel without hearing it. Not just on Sundays, but every day. Paul asks, in Romans 10:14, "How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?"

Don't become complacent or succumb to the lie that your schedule is too tight to regularly share the gospel with your kids. When you're driving them to soccer, tucking them into bed, walking through the mall, waiting in line at Chick-fil-A, be intentional in taking every opportunity to teach your children sound doctrine through the regular hearing of Scripture, catechisms, creeds, and doctrinally sound music. Take every moment with them captive to the teaching of Christ.

### Belly Laughs



"And please keep it hot for Grandma. It really helps her arthritis."



# Sundays

Sunday School: 9:00am

Morning Service: 10:00 am

Nursery and Children's Services Available (am)

Unity 66 Youth Group: 6:30pm

Evening Service: 7:00 pm

# Wednesdays

AWANA: 6:30pm

Unity 66 Fellowship: 6:30pm

Bible Study: 7:00pm

Nursery Available

# FLASHBACK



**West Missionary Church**  
**4295 W. St. Rd 218**  
**Berne, IN 46711**