

Grace For Today

April, 2012
Volume 12, Issue 04

G.R.A.C.E. Website
www.gracemmaus.org

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**Women's Walk #61
Disciples Crossing
April 19-22, 2012
Robin Gillian**

**Upcoming Walks:
Camp Gilmont
Men # 62
September 20-23, 2012
David Barnes**

**Women # 63
October 11- 14, 2012
Kathy Kapka**

**Philip and Lynda McKanna
G.R.A.C.E. REGISTRAR
P.O. Box 56
Diana, TX 75640**

DEAR G.R.A.C.E.,

**Community Lay Director
April, 2012**

We all get emails from friends with devotions, prayers, and thoughts for the day. Some are accompanied with songs or beautiful pictures (and sometimes the request to send it ten friends or something bad will happen in the next 10 minutes!). You may even subscribe to daily email devotions. I do. For most of those devotions I read and then hit the delete button. Rarely do I save one or remember it for very long. The devotion below was one of the exceptions. It was sent to me by a friend from Church. Her son has been on a walk and she will be one of the pilgrims on Walk 61.

"My food" said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the reaper draws his wages; even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor." John 4:34-38

Think about everything that contributed to the story of how you came to know Christ as your Lord and Savior. It's probably not possible to fully count all those spiritual seeds that God used to draw you to Him. And not all the people who sowed good seed into your

life knew what the outcome would be.

We also have the opportunity and privilege--every single day--of sowing seeds into the lives of others, such as our friends, co-workers, children, grandchildren, or even strangers. God takes what you plant and adds to it. He leads others to sow further seed or "water" the ground. Little by little, truth gets cultivated in their lives. What greater thing could you do?

Conversely, you might focus on providing your kids with plenty of material security and send them to the best schools and colleges--and yet it would count nothing for eternity. But when you sow into their lives the things of God and the qualities of Jesus, you're feeding their spirits. The seeds that affect their hearts, view of God, and desire to make a difference for Him in the world are what will produce genuine, lasting fruit and a great harvest in their lives. Whether or not you ever see the results, the Lord is using you profoundly when you sow this kind of crop.

God sees all the little things you do; He's interested in more than just "big" things. The fruit of His Spirit--such as kindness, patience, and self-control--often manifests itself in quiet ways that others may never give you credit for. But such spiritual seeds

accomplish powerful work in His kingdom.

When I read this, I thought of Emmaus and my journey to where I am today. I thought of those who made a difference in my life. They may not have known that what they said or did would be so important to me on my journey with the Lord.

We never know what impact we have on others. We just plant the seeds and sometimes we see the results. Sometimes we don't.

This also made think of a song by Ray Boltz named "Thank You." The premise of the song is this - He is in heaven and these people are coming up to him and thanking him for things he did that changed their lives. Things he may not have been aware of at the time.

This is what we do thru Emmaus and why Emmaus is so important to me. We never know what talk or table discussion or song or prayer or moment during the weekend will remain with the pilgrims and someday make a difference. As Ray Boltz says in his song, "Thank you for giving to the Lord. I am a life that was changed. Thank you for giving to the Lord. I am so glad you gave."

DeColores Jo Anne Skeen



Walk # 61 Pilgrims

- Jolene Auderer
Martha Boyd
Carey Chamberlin
Elaine Conner
Amy Dickson
Melanie Dupont
Kim Foster
Charlene Fugler
Donna Harder
Carol Hart
Leslee Hart
Helen Heavey
Dawn Hennon
LaTrecia Jeffcott
Trisha Kelly
Jenny Matthews
Cheryle McCann
Amanda Moser
Nancy Mowery
Hollie Norman
Mary Peikert
Ashley Permenter
Evelyn Permenter
Kerri Rudd
Kim Snowden
Nancy Steed
Kathleen Tardie

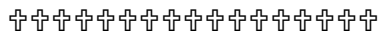
- Alexis Terry
Charlotte Thomas
Alice Tidwell
Lea Weatherley
Wanda Weaver



But they that wait upon the LORD...



...shall renew their strength



Walk # 61 Team

Table with 2 columns: Name and Abbreviation. Includes Robin Gillian (LD), Cynthia Bellar (ALD), Karol Johnston (ALD), Lynda McKanna (ALD), Babbie Carroll (TL), Sandy Collins (TL), Talia Groce (TL), Kayla Hamm (TL), Jeannie Hanssen (TL), Lanett Moser (TL), Betty Buchanan (ATL), Lisa Collins (ATL), Janis Johns (ATL), Kelly Moore (ATL), Betty Paschall (ATL), Renee Steele (ATL), Jim Pickens (SD), Mike Cline (ASD), Bill Hauck (ASD), Bill Holda (ASD), Susan Smith (ASD), Jerri Lykins (MT), Brenda Sharpe (MT), Cindy Hooser (BR), Diana Frachiseur (STL).

SPONSORSHIP GUIDELINES

Emmaus is for active Christians and members of churches whose own renewal will mean new energy, commitment, and vision in the church and everyday environments, for Christ's sake. That could include:

- Church leaders (pastors and laypersons) who will bring new vision, commitment and understanding back to their congregations; and who need the renewal and grace Emmaus channels;

- Dependable church members who are the quiet backbone of the church;
• Less active members who need their awareness of grace rekindled and their commitments renewed;
• Christians who are hungry for "something more" and who want to grow spiritually;
• Members and leaders who represent a cross section of the church and who will help Emmaus remain sound theologically, centered on the essentials of our common faith, and open to different perspectives.
• Respected laypersons and clergy persons whose participation, support, and leadership will encourage others to take the Walk and will build a sound, balanced leadership base for the movement in the community.

Emmaus is right for many people, but not for everyone! In some cases, Emmaus can be wrong for a person because of his or her religious background or emotional condition. In other cases, a person can be wrong for Emmaus because of the negative effect he or she will have on an Emmaus Weekend or because of the divisive influence they will bring to the church. Sponsors should be sensitive to these factors. Some examples of questionable sponsorship are:

- Non-Christians and persons with no relationship to the Church of Jesus Christ. Applications with no church affiliation will be returned to the sponsor. Remember Emmaus is for active Christians and members of churches
• Persons undergoing an emotional crisis (family break-up or severe grief) or who are psychologically unstable;
• Persons who decide not to make a Walk after being presented the opportunity. A potential sponsor should not feel like a failure if a prospect says no. Perhaps the timing is not right. Perhaps God will renew them in some other way. Remember, the Walk to Emmaus is not the way to renewal for every Christian;
• Christians whose theology and/or practice is notable different or incompatible with the traditional theology and practice represented by the Walk to Emmaus. For example, Adventists who will want to be faithful to Saturday Sabbath and strict dietary stipulations; members of independent groups who will feel a need to defend the uniqueness of their beliefs throughout the Walk; persons who do not accept other kinds of Christians; or persons who do not share belief in traditional doctrines of the faith basic to

the major Denominations of the Church and to Emmaus;

• "Church hoppers" - members who continually have an ax to grind against the church; persons who will use Emmaus as a tool to divide the Body, to further their own theological agendas, or who will create an "Emmaus church".

• Persons who are always looking for another spiritual high or another experience to help them "arrive."

The following are guidelines to help you in your sponsorship efforts and your responsibility in sharing God's grace as a sponsor.

1. A sponsor's first responsibility is to spend concentrated time in prayer in an effort to discern whom God wants you to sponsor.
2. After discerning the time is right, make an appointment to meet with your potential pilgrim or pilgrims in the case of a married couple. Both the husband and wife need to make the decision together. Their applications should be turned in together. Applications received without the spouse's corresponding application will be returned to the sponsor due to the requirements of the Equal Commitment rule. There are exceptions made however, exceptions to the Equal Commitment rule are granted after a review of circumstances by the Board of Directors.
3. Give your prospective pilgrim or pilgrims an application. Request the person or persons to prayerfully consider your offer of the opportunity to attend an Emmaus event. Pray while you await their response. God's timing and ways are perfect and he will direct the person's response to your offer.
4. **REMEMBER THE WALK TO EMMAUS IS NOT FOR EVERYONE. THIS IS NOT A BAGGAGE DUMPING GROUND.** These three days cannot rectify every problem marriage, enthuse every disenchanted church member, cure disturbed persons or make saints of sinners. The Walk to Emmaus is designed to change environments through Christian leaders. Pilgrims should at least know where the path is if they are not already walking on it. We do not need just any candidate. Applications that do not in

dictate a church affiliation will be returned to the sponsor.

5. Feel free to share with a potential applicant what Emmaus meant to you.
6. Once you have received the application, check and make sure the information on the application is correct and accurate.

Remember this information is used by the weekend Lay Director to place pilgrims at the individual tables and develop the final walk roster. Special diet information should be detailed and complete, as kitchen staff uses this information in order to plan for meals for your applicant.

7. Do not assume the person you are sponsoring will experience the same things you did. Each of us is at a different place on our spiritual journey. For some it will be a mountaintop experience, for others it will be a strengthening for the journey they are already on. We must not prejudge our candidates or set them up with unhelpful expectations.
8. Begin preparations to collect personal agape letters. This may take some detective effort on your part to obtain names and addresses of people to contact for letters. Remember, we are looking for 8 to 12 letters, the goal is quality not quantity. The goal is not to see how many letters can be dragged in off the street. Letters should be turned in early during the walk. Waiting until late at Candlelight is not appropriate since it places undue pressure upon the Agape workers to complete the Agape bags late Saturday night. Remember 4th day letters are a blessing also.
9. A few days before the Walk event contact your pilgrim as a reminder. Offer guidance as to what to pack for the weekend. It is often necessary to dress in layers during different portions of the Walk due to varying climate control in some of the churches. Provide positive encouragement and reassurance. It is never appropriate to tease the candidate concerning activities for their upcoming walk, such as "fasting" during the Walk. Teasing serves no purpose for the pilgrim's three-day

experience. Help your pilgrim prepare for a 72 -hour encounter with Jesus Christ.

10. Make plans to take them to the Emmaus Walk site, stay with them during Send-off, introduce them to others, attend Sponsor's Hour, make their bed, attend Candlelight and be there for closing to take them home.
11. You have responsibilities to the pilgrim. Prayer for him/her during the weekend. During the weekend, you and your family become a substitute for the pilgrim. Leave your phone number with their spouse. Do something special for the spouse during the weekend like sharing a meal or babysitting with the children. Let the pilgrim's spouse know that you love and care for them
12. After the Walk, your sponsorship activities continue. Stay in contact and support the pilgrim you sponsor during their Fourth Day. Be responsible for getting them to the Fourth Day meeting after their Walk. Take them to their first gatherings and candlelight. Help them become involved in a Reunion Group as soon as possible. Work with them behind the scenes during the next set of Walks.
13. Teach them how to be a good sponsor. Possibly help them co-sponsor the first time.
14. G.R.A.C.E. Walk to Emmaus strongly recommends that quality sponsorship would be for either one single candidate or one married couple per set of Walks. Sponsoring additional candidates dilutes the quality of sponsorship that your candidate and the Emmaus Community deserve.
15. **REMEMBER - SPONSORSHIP IS FOR A LIFETIME!**

G.R.A.C.E. Walk to Emmaus Sponsorship Model May 2004

Do you have any GRACE Community equipment stored at your house? If so, please contact Joanne Skeen.

He's august
He's unique
He's unparalleled
He's unprecedented
He's supreme
He's pre-eminent
He's the loftiest idea in literature
He's the highest personality in philosophy
He's the supreme problem in higher criticism
He's the fundamental doctrine in true theology
He's the cardinal necessity of spiritual religion
That's my King!

He's the miracle of the age
He's the superlative of everything good that
you choose to call Him
He's the only one able to supply all of our
needs simultaneously
He supplies strength for the weak
He's available for the tempted and the tried
He sympathizes and He saves
He guards and He guides
He heals the sick
He cleansed the lepers
He forgives sinners
He discharges debtors
He delivers the captives
He defends the feeble
He blesses the young
He serves the unfortunate
He regards the aged
He rewards the diligent
And He beautifies the meek
Do you know Him?

My King is the key of knowledge
He's the wellspring of wisdom
He's the doorway of deliverance
He's the pathway of peace
He's the roadway of righteousness
He's the highway of holiness
He's the gateway of glory
He's the master of the mighty
He's the captain of the conquerors
He's the head of the heroes
He's the leader of the legislators
He's the overseer of the overcomers
He's the governor of governors
He's the prince of princes
He's the King of Kings
And He's the Lord of Lords
That's my King
That's my King!

My King
His office is manifold
His promise is sure
His life is matchless
His goodness is limitless
His mercy is everlasting
His love never changes
His word is enough
His grace is sufficient
His reign is righteous
His yoke is easy
and His burden is light
I wish I could describe Him to you
He's indescribable
He's indescribable
He's incomprehensible
He's invincible
He's irresistible
I'm trying to tell you

The heaven of heavens cannot contain Him
Let alone a man explain Him
You can't get Him out of your mind
You can't get Him off of your hands
You can't outlive Him
And you can't live without Him
The Pharisees couldn't stand Him
but they found out they couldn't stop Him
Pilate couldn't find any fault in Him
The witnesses couldn't get their testimonies to
agree
And Herod couldn't kill Him
Death couldn't handle Him
And the grave couldn't hold Him
That's my King!

He always has been
And He always will be
I'm talking about
He had no predecessor
and He'll have no successor
There was nobody before Him
and there'll be nobody after Him
You can't impeach Him
and He's not going to resign
That's my King!

Praise the Lord
That's my King
Thine is the Kingdom
And the power
And the glory
The glory is all His
Thine is the Kingdom
And the power
And the glory
For ever
And ever
And ever
And when you get through with all of the
forevers
Then
Amen
(By S.M. Lockridge)



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GRACE EMMAUS

The G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community wishes to continue to spread the life changing experience that an Emmaus weekend can deliver. Won't you help us by donating funds for scholarships for both Pilgrims and team members, or the general fund of our community?

We are asking you to consider donating \$5, \$10, \$25 monthly or whatever amount you would like to set the donation to. This monthly donation will be debited automatically from your bank account on or about the 15th of the month.

Thank you for your continued support of our Emmaus community.
DeColores

PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Email Address: _____

BANK INFORMATION

I (We) hereby authorize GRACE Emmaus to initiate debit entries to my (our) checking account indicated below. The amount will be charged monthly. This authority is to remain in full force and effect until GRACE Emmaus receives written notification of its termination.

Monthly gift amount \$ _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Fill out information below or attach voided check

Depository Name _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Account # _____

Transit/ABA # _____

