

August 2008 West Wind

West Side Church of God

July 24, 2008



If you would like to donate School Supplies for local students, a collection box will be in the foyer. The Council has adopted Stanley Elementary this year; and a list of their school supplies is posted on the bulletin board by Bartlett Hall.



If you would like to help re-stock our Food Pantry, you may donate (any amount will help) to the fund which pays for non-perishable food at the Kansas Food Bank, or you may bring any of these items:

CANNED ITEMS: tuna, chicken, spam, spaghetti sauce, tomato soup, chicken noodle soup, vegetable soup, pork-n-beans, green beans, peas, corn, peaches, pears, applesauce

BOXED ITEMS: spaghetti/pasta, mac & cheese, tuna or chicken helper, instant mashed potatoes, minute rice, complete pancake mix, cereal, round crackers, saltine crackers

OTHER: pancake syrup, peanut butter, grape jelly

A FEW REQUESTS: Please, do not bring government commodities or home canned foods. Please do not bring food beyond the expiration date.

Thank you for helping us to be able to assist our neighbors and community.



are complaining and want something more to eat like meat and vegetables (11:4-35). What God had provided was not enough for the Israelites. They had just experienced God's hand of deliverance in such a mighty way that it would be remembered throughout all of history—this is something that would never be forgotten. Yet, God's hand of provision was just not enough for them.

How many of us are just like that? I know for myself that I want to experience God in a specific way. I want Him to do certain things for me; and when they do not happen, I get frustrated. Part of it comes from my own selfishness and the other part is my own misconceptions about God. It is as though I have switched places with God—the lower telling the higher what to do.

So, when it comes to experiencing God in our lives, do we really want to see Him work? Do we want God to do something big? Something memorable? Something outside of our means? Something so big that no one will deny that God moved? Deep down in my life I want that. Sometimes it is fear that keeps me from it. So what can we do to experience God in our lives?

What we have to do is find out what God is doing and join him. We have to get into the mindset that God wants to use us to accomplish his purposes. God is always at work around us. He is constantly pursuing people to have a life-changing relationship with them. He is calling people to do things that they have never done before. He is calling all of us to step out of our comfortable lives to bring Jesus to people who do not have Him. God is calling us to action.

It is easy to do passive ministry. Passive ministry is just doing things that never confront people with their sin and need for a Savior. It is doing the comfortable things. It is the idea that the church is here and people can come in if they want. The church must look outward and not always inward. If God is pursuing people, should the church not join Him in this adventure? The people of Israel wanted more to eat than manna. They even proposed going back to Egypt because there they had meat, even though it meant being mistreated. Why? Because they had become comfortable in Egypt. God was taking them to a new place in their history, and it was uncomfortable. Let us not get so comfortable that we miss out on what God is doing. Let's do something that will change the lives of people. Let's do what God is doing and join Him.

In Christ, Forest



Experiencing God in Our Lives

In the books of Exodus and Numbers, God gave the Israelite people manna to eat because they had no food and no way of getting any. God had just delivered them from the hand of their oppressors, the Egyptians. When we read the Numbers account about their encounter with manna, we find that they



God Hears and Answers Prayers

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Is God calling you to service at West Side?

Sound Tech Do you know that each Sunday morning worship service is recorded for our absent members? This team of volunteers is trained to run the controls/machines in the sound booth; and they are a vital part of the worship services. Please see Rick McDonald for more information.

Marquis Sign Coordinator Do you know that many people drive by our lighted outdoor sign each day? Do you want to change the messages on the sign once a month or so? Please see Keith Carr for more information.

Greeter Do you know that our Greeters are among the first West Siders who make impressions upon our visitors and members? Do you enjoy smiling and welcoming people with a warm handshake on Sunday mornings? Please see Pastor Forest for more information.

**Sunday
School
social**

Everyone is Invited!

September 7th

9:30-10:20 am

Family Life Center

Hosted by Koinonia