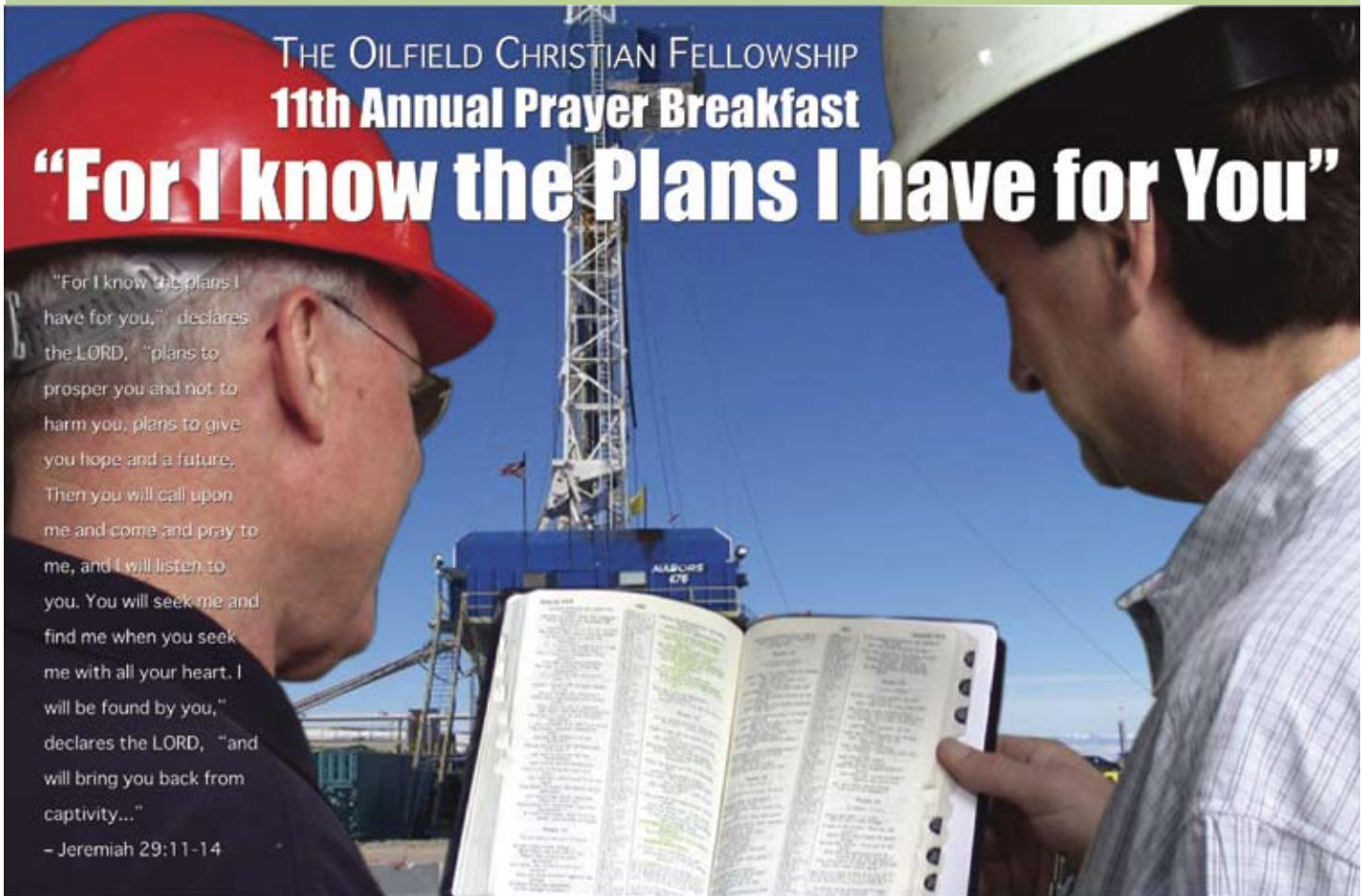


Oilfield Christian Fellowship

established May 1991

APRIL 2009

1 John 1:3 " . . . Our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ."



THE OILFIELD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
11th Annual Prayer Breakfast

"For I know the Plans I have for You"

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back from captivity..."

- Jeremiah 29:11-14

Tuesday, May 5, 2009 • Breakfast 7:30 AM • Doors open at 6:30 AM • The Houston Grand Plaza

- Individual Tickets \$40
- Table Sponsor \$400 (8 seats)
- Underwriter Table \$1,000 (8 seats)
- Platinum Underwriter \$3,000 (16 seats)
- Title Underwriter \$10,000 (16 seats)

Special Guest Speaker
Special Guest Entertainment

Pay by check: Mr. Gayle Stimson
 20714 Auburn Pine Court
 Kingwood, Texas 77346

— All proceeds from this event benefit the OCF Bible Ministry. Non-profit 501(c)(3) Pay online: www.OilfieldChristianFellowship.com

The Smile Corner

"The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly is to fill the world with fools." – Hebert Spencer, English Philosopher (1820-1903)

"Talk is cheap... except when Congress does it. "
— Anonymous

"No man's life, liberty, or prosperity is safe while the legislature is in session."
— Mark Twain (1866)

"If you think health care is expensive now, wait until you see what it costs when it is free!"
— P.J. O'Rourke

On Easter

On Easter Sunday, worshippers entering the sanctuary at McMasters United Methodist Church, Turtle Creek, PA, were greeted by two giant, red capital letters. – M-T – flanking the decorations behind the altar. M-T stands, of course for "empty", and the good news of the vacant tomb.

Rev. Jeffrey Sterling planned to quiz the children about the M-T during the children's message early in the service. With 28 brightly dressed little ones gathered around him on the chancel steps, the pastor asked: "What's different about the church today, kids?"

After a pregnant pause, Sterling's own daughter, throwing her hands into the air, replied: "It's full, dad!"

End of sermon.

Paint My Heart

by Randy Gates

When I look into the midnight heavens; I see the bright twinkling stars that permeate that crystal clear Wyoming sky. An awesome sight indeed.

As the eastern sunrise starts to illuminate; a



beautiful tapestry begins to appear. It's an exquisite panoramic portrait of God's love for me and it becomes a wonderful reminder of the majesty of my Lord Jesus.

The darkened silhouetted Wind River Mountains

rise up in front of me: there is a touch of white misty fog at the base. A gleam of light reflects the abundance of the sage in every direction and



God's creatures start to stir. The Deer, Elk and Prong Horne are plentiful here; free to roam in the hills and mesas of this western territory.

I have become a sojourner on the

... continued on p. 4



Bird's Eye View

by John Bird

Who Needs God

— When you can just ask the Universe?

Recently upon leaving the health club where Judy and I 'work' out, and I use this term loosely, I picked up one of those free 'pulp' newspapers and brought it home.

What caused me to pick up the booklet were several odd articles listed on the front including **Manifest your Soulmate** and a drawing of a woman's head with psychedelic colored hair; art akin to old 70's hippies and Haight-Ashbury days. These along with other signs indicated to me that I wouldn't find anything about the God that I know within its content and I was right. There were such words as *natural awakenings, healthy planet, creative expression, positive change, green living* and so on. I'm sure you get the picture.

I first read the article '**Manifest your Soulmate**'. The first rhetorical question by the writer was how do you describe your soulmate? She writes, "...someone whom you feel a deep and profound connection... a person whom you feel completely comfortable with being yourself... whom you love unconditionally and they you...someone who 'completes' you, etc." Well so far, so good I thought and then the writer added some lines spoken by the movie character in *Shall we Dance*, that ultra conservative actress Susan Sarandon. (The writer describes it as a '**grand**' scene in the movie.) You decide.

She explains why we all want a soulmate relationship: "*We need a witness to our lives*, she says. *There*



are billions of people on the planet... I mean, what does any one life really mean? Your life will not go unnoticed, because I will notice it. Your life will not go unwitnessed, because I will be your witness." She goes on to describe soulmates as exemplified by Oprah Winfrey and Gayle King. (Can you hand me another Kleenex please.)

Lack, Lack, Paddy Whack

The author goes on to say that when you focus on what you don't have you send out a message of 'lack'. In return, you attract more 'lack'. Then she quotes lines from another movie **Conversations with God** where the character says to God, "*I just want my life back*". And supposedly God replies, "*You can't have anything that you want*." And further He explains, "*Wanting something, (or someone), one only gets the experience and the feeling of 'wanting,' and nothing else.*" (Deep, huh?)

Then she calls upon a story about a famous actress who supposedly set a place at her table each day for a, '**soulmate**' and finally one day he showed up. "*Eventually, he arrived in her life. The actress sent a clear message to the Universe*, (Note she capitalized this word.), *and the Universe delivered.*" (Yes, and 'may the force be with you'.)

Finally she concludes that manifesting a soulmate is like ordering the perfect cup of coffee from a barista. You order, pay your

money and "*within minutes you are walking out the door with the exact, delicious brew that you ordered.*"

"Ordering up a soulmate from the Universe works in a similar way. Although it's not always as instantaneous, (You think?), it can be just as precise....*place your order, make a detailed list of your soulmate's desirable qualities,*" (Set your oven at 350, bake for 45 minutes or until golden brown.) And the last psychobabble suggestion from this movie star-crazed sage: "*I recommend that you create a ritual for releasing your list to the Universe and then let go, trusting that the person you are looking for is looking for you.*" [I guess I'm just a hopeless romantic, but I would write everything down, put the note in a bottle, cork it, drive to Presidio, drop it in the Rio Grande and then wait to see what happens.) You'll probably get the same results and you'll probably be the only person on your block that has ever been to Presidio, let alone knows where it is!

Or.....! I've got a better solution. How about this simple but profound answer instead of all the other mumbo-jumbo, just do- this-and- that cockamamie suggestions that the world, (**Pardon me, Universe**) has to offer.

You can still offer up your petitions each day but not just to the universe but to the infinite Maker of the universe, God Almighty Himself! Trust me, no trust his Word, He is the only one who can bring about true 'change' in this world and in your life. He is the only one who can answer your prayers.

Tried meditating in the lotus position for enlightenment? How about meditating on God's Word in the **kneeling position**.



Paint My Heart

. . .continued from p. 2

highway of life, eastbound on Wyoming 351. Like an artist God paints His image of life on my heart. With a stroke... the Master Painters elegant brush gives light to a darkened world. It is breath taking...The splash of light in a brilliant orange and yellows sunrise give me a look at light and hope to the breath of Heaven. The glorious beaming colors of an arctic blue behind the sunrise smoothes my soul to know that God is in control of this canvas.

God's majesty in this painting of the purple and pink dancing fluffy clouds gives a complete and epic picture of the Master's work at hand.

It as if God were saying to me, "here it is my son; this is exactly what you needed." God blessed me with a deep appreciation of an enchanting portrait of a new day.

Even from the cab of my truck I can enjoy the beauty and splendor of God's love and delight in my life with extraordinary pictures that God alone...paints on my heart.

In Christ, Randy Gates

Editors note: Randy is a oilfield worker in Wyoming and he shared this with me a couple of months ago. I to have experienced some of the things that he writes about and chose four photos that I took when traveling in the same vicinity last year.

The Roman Road to Salvation

The ROMANS ROAD....is a pathway you can walk.

It is a group of Bible verses from the book of Romans in the New Testament. If you walk down this road you will end up understanding how to be saved.

Romans 3:23 *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*

We all have sin in our hearts. We all were born with sin.

We were born under the power of sin's control.

- Admit that you are a sinner.

Romans 6:23a *"...The wages of sin is death..."*

Sin has an ending. It results in death. We all face physical death, which is a result of sin. But a worse death is spiritual death that alienates us from God, and will last for all eternity. The Bible teaches that there is a place called the Lake of Fire where lost people will be in torment forever. It is the place where people who are spiritually dead will remain.

- Understand that you deserve death for your sin.

Romans 6:23b *"...But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

Salvation is a free gift from God to you! You can't earn this gift, but you must reach out and receive it.

- Ask God to forgive you and save you.

Romans 5:8, *"God demonstrates His own love for us, in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us!"*

When Jesus died on the cross He paid sin's penalty. He paid the price for all sin, and when He took all the sins of the world on Himself on the cross, He bought us out of slavery to sin and death! The only condition is that we believe in Him and what He has done for us, understanding that we are now joined with Him, and that He is our life. He did all this because He loved us and gave Himself for us!

- Give your life to God... His love poured out in Jesus on the cross is your only hope to have forgiveness and change. His love bought you out of being a slave to sin. His love is what saves you -- not religion, or church membership. God loves you!

Romans 10:13 *"Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved!"*

- Call out to God in the name of Jesus!

Romans 10:9,10 *"...If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you shall be saved; for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."*

- If you know that God is knocking on your heart's door, ask Him to come into your heart.

Jesus said,

Revelation 3:20a *"Behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him..."*

- Is Jesus knocking on your heart's door?

. . . continued on p. 6



Once in a Blue Moon

by Mike Chaffin

The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. Psalms 34:10 ESV

Do you sometimes feel something good only happens once every blue moon? For those unfamiliar with this archaic saying the term originally was used to mean a very rare occurrence. Scientifically, the term applies to the second full moon in a month. This happens once every two and one half years. Rest assured, God is better to His children than this.

Jesus tells us the rain falls on the just and the unjust. Good times and bad times are part of life. In the good times we praise God for His goodness to us. We thank Him for the manifold blessings. We dance. We sing. We pray. Then slowly, we get fat and happy and forget from whom all blessings flow and slip away into a gray murky fog of self-reliance and comfort. God's Word is a light unto our path, but if we have let our path get foggy does the light reveal the potholes of life? It is in this fog that we sometimes start to feel that nothing good ever happens to us. Sometimes God has to allow the bad times so we cry out for him to help clear the fog and get us back on the right track.

It is in this vein I want to remind you what Jesus said in Matthew 7:11, "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!" And in John 16:24, "Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full."

The good news is that goodness and joy are just a prayer away. Once again I am drawn to my favorite verse in the Bible, Romans 12:12, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. It has all the bases covered. Selah.

Letting Jesus Out

Mary Rose Betten, Catholic lay leader/playwright, was directing a children's Easter performance and overseeing the casting so that each child felt comfortable with his or her role. One boy insisted he wanted to be the rock in front of the garden tomb.

"Wouldn't you like have a speaking role?" she asked him. But he would have no other.

The presentation went smoothly. Once again, she asked the boy why he wanted to play the rock.

His smiled beamed at her: "Oh, it felt so good to let Jesus out the tomb."



... AND ON THE THIRD DAY HE WILL RISE AGAIN

Blessings from a Friend

This week I attended the Oilfield Christian Fellowship with my daughter, Julia and both of us were truly blessed.

We both enjoyed the speaker but it wasn't until afterword's when we were leaving that we got our blessing. We were saying our goodbye's to the people we knew in the crowd and one of my old friends Phil greeted us. I have known Phil for several years and he has always been kind and very positive and someone you just enjoy being around. I introduced him to Julia and he said "it's so nice to meet you Julia; you have a "yes" face just like your Dad". We both were stumped and I asked what he meant by a "Yes" face. Phil told us a parable about a man that needed some help carrying a load (I am paraphrasing) and he went through the crowd looking for help, everyone was very cold and gave him very unapproachable glances and finally he walked up to a man and his face seemed to say "yes". He asked the man to help him and he gladly did.

This doesn't seem too profound, normally, but Julia attends a prep school in San Marcos which is a very good opportunity for her. She doesn't particularly agree and consequently we have had a conflicted relationship this year. What was once a very close father/daughter bond has been wedged to a distant and sometimes troubled one.

Phil's simple comment struck us both and we commented at how good we felt when he said we both had "yes" faces. Believe me, I do not tell this story for self aggrandizement or for my own ego, but I want to share the story to tell you that little comments and pats on the back from a friend can sometimes make a HUGE difference.

When Julia had to return to school on Sunday, it was a very joyous yet tearful goodbye. I don't know why I felt compelled to share this other than that incident help both of us immensely. It was a reminder to me that sometimes a timely simple word spoken can mean volumes to others.

— Brian Amburn



The Roman Road

...continued from p. 4

Believe in Him.

*Ask Him to come in to your heart by faith,
and ask Him to reveal Himself to you.
Open the Bible to the Gospel of John and read
what God says about Jesus,
about you, and about being born again.*

God will help you. He loves you.

*You need to look for a local church where
God's word is preached. The Bible says that
we are to desire*

*God's word like a newborn baby desires
mother's milk.*

Aren't you hungry to know the truth?

*And when you come up out of the water you
show that*

*you have been raised to walk with Him in
newness of life.*

(See Romans chapter 6)

**You have been born again.
(See John chapter 3)**

*Your body has become God's temple.
Your heart is where He lives.*

*Forgiveness is yours in Jesus.
And you belong to Him.*

*You were sin's slave.
But now...*

You are a child of GOD!

John 1:12

**"As many as received Him, to them He
gave the right to become children of
God, even to those who believe in His
name!"**

The Oilfield Christian Fellowship of Houston

Wednesday April 1, 2009

When: 11:45 am until 12:45 pm

Guest Speaker: Dale Wong, PhD, Petroleum Engineering
'God really did change the time and the seasons'
Houston First Baptist Church, SW corner of I-10 and 610
Web Site: www.OilfieldChristianFellowship.com
E-Mail: jbirdocf@cebridge.net
Phone: 281 359 1258

Oilfield Christian Fellowship of Dallas

April 21, 2009

11:45 am to 12:45 pm

Where: Brookhaven Country Club
Cost: Lunch \$25 (no credit cards please)

Speaker: TBA

For Reservations call Hoss Smith at 972.239.3666
or hsmith@knightoiltools.com

NOTE: reservations must be made by Friday prior to the
Tuesday Meeting

Always the third Tuesday of the Month

Oilfield Christian Fellowship of Lafayette

Thursday, April 9, 2009

When: 11:45 am to 1:00 pm

Where: First Baptist Church Lafayette

Speaker: Dale Wong, PhD, Petroleum Engineering
'God really did change the time and the seasons'

Cost: \$15 per person

Always the second Thursday of the month

For reservations call Greg Bruton @ 337-593-8700 on
Prior Monday

Oilfield Christian Fellowship of Oklahoma City

Thursday, April 2, 2009

11:30 AM - 12:50 PM

(Always the first Thursday of each month)

Where: Twin Hills Country Club

Speaker: TBA

Cost: \$20

Please RSVP to Rick Johnson

For information, please contact Rick Johnson (Office:
405-426-4310, Cell: 405-313-9417 or 405-550-3036; rick.johnson@chaparralenergy.com) or Jim Schmidt (Cell:
918-810-7114; jim.schmidt@exprogroup.com)
Visit www.Turkeystotherescue.org

Oilfield Christian Fellowship of Tulsa

April 29, 2009

When: 11:30 AM until 12:45 PM

Special Guest: TBA

Where: BOK/WILLIAMS CENTER CAFÉ.

Information: Jim Schmidt at 918 810 7114

Always held the Last Wednesday of the month



Oilfield Christian Fellowship of Denver
April 22, 2009

Speaker: Liz Neafus-Stenzel- Director of Public Relations
for Cerebral Palsy of Colorado.
Where: 1401 17th St., 11th,
Floor, Ste. 1200 (Alamo Plaza Building – 17th & Market)
Lunch: \$15.00 at 11:30
RSVP: To OCF-DenverChapter@pxd.com or 303-675-
2602
Please call or e-mail by 3 days before so that we can get
an accurate head count for the food order.

**Oilfield Christian Fellowship
of Midland-Odesa**
Wednesday April 15, 2009

Where: Midland Center -105 North Main
Lunch: \$20: Catering by Prescott's Café (CASH OR
CHECK ONLY)
RSVP by emailing webmaster@ocfmo.com or call Don
Rose 432-556-3545
When: 11:30 a.m. to 12:45p.m.
Speaker: TBA
Contacts: Scott Willingham -Cell- (432) 238-0458
www.ocfmo.com Always the third Wednesday in every
month.

**The Oilfield Christian Fellowship
of Corpus Christi**
Wed., March 11th, 2009

When: 11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Where: First United Methodist Church
Shoreline Drive - Fellowship Hall
Guest Speaker: Peter Bommer
Special Projects Manager
Abraxas Petroleum Corporation
Cost: \$15.00
Information: Contact Greg Garbe or Bo Waters
Website: www.oilfieldchristianfellowship-cc.com
<<http://www.oilfieldchristianfellowship-cc.com/>>
Email: ocfcc@lighthouseexploration.com
Phone: 361-693-4001

**The Oilfield Christian Fellowship
of Fort Worth**
Monday, April 6, 2009

11:30 AM to 12:45 PM
Special Guest Speaker: Ron Stegall –testimony
Where: The Petroleum Club of Fort Worth
Lunch: \$20.00
Contact Scott Royal for details
817-339-0831 - sroyal@encoreacq.com
Always the first Monday of each month

The Oilfield Christian Fellowship of Tyler
April 8th, 2009

Always the second Wednesday of the month
Holly Tree CC
Speaker: Phil Buckmaster, Petroleum Engineer, Central
Basin Oil Co.
Time: 11:30 to 1 PM
Contact Caroline Powers at Caroline@blockt.com
More information: 903.526.4680
Second Wednesday of each month

**The Oilfield Christian Fellowship
of Fort St. John, B.C.**

Coffee and Desert @ Whole Wheat & Honey Café
(100th & 100th)
When: 7:00 PM, Thursday
Music by a local musician. Speaker: TBA
Tickets available at Kurios Bookstore \$7.50 each
Call Pieter Hoogenboom for more information:
cell 250 262- 5747
home 250 827-3936

**The Oilfield Christian Fellowship of Grand
Junction, Colorado**

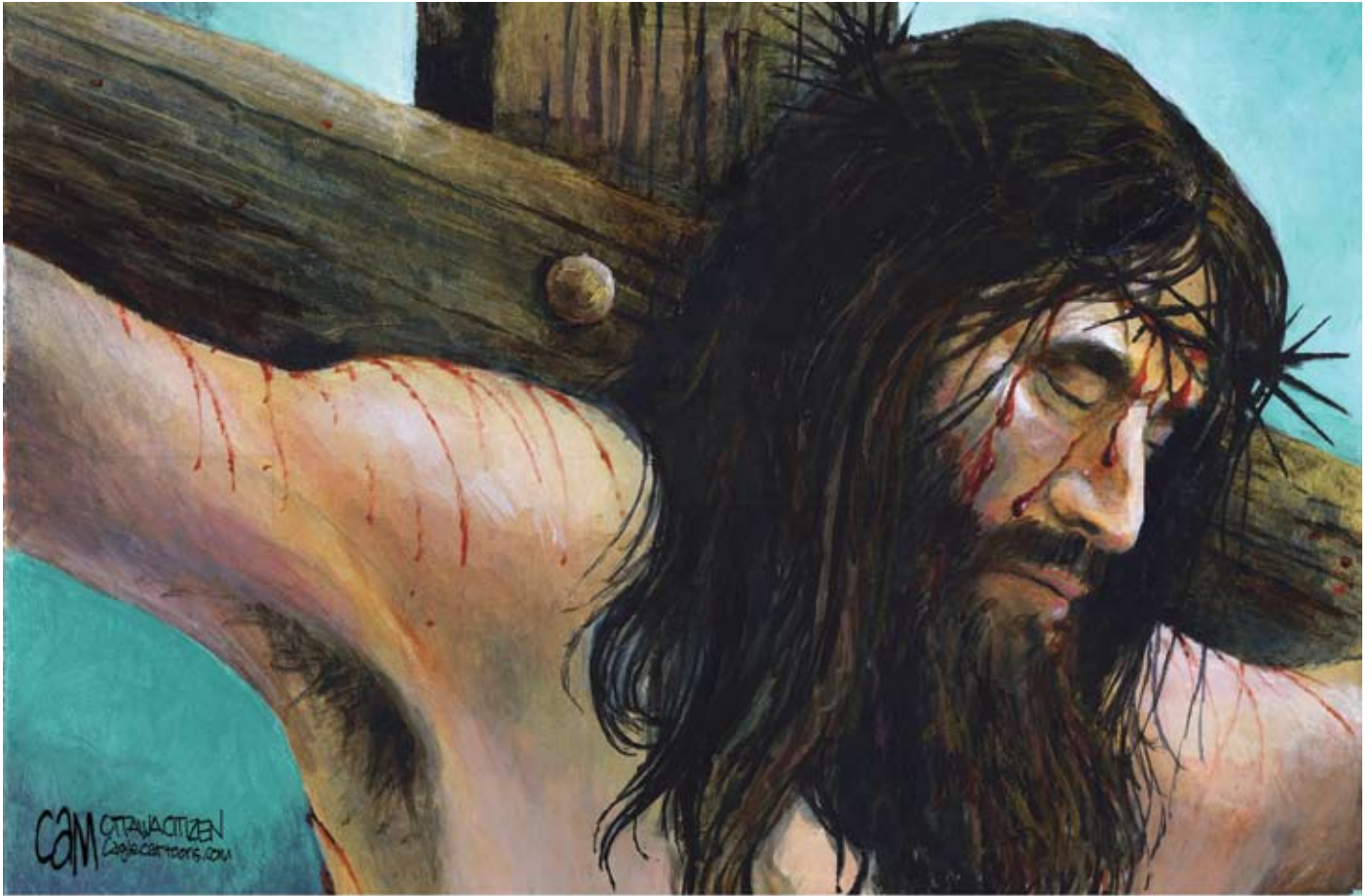
When:
7 PM until 9 PM
Where: Canyon Vineyard Church
736 24 _ Road
Guest Speaker: TBA
Dinner Cost:
RSVP: Wayne Stewart
314-7628

Oilfield Christian Fellowship of Morgan City
Thursday, April 24, 2009

When: 11:30 am to 12:30 pm
Where: Days Inn – Morgan City
Speaker: TBA
Cost: \$15 per person
Always the last Friday of the month
For reservations call Greg Roussel @ 985-397-2360
groussel@sewartsupply.com
Matt Dragna @ 985-519-7903
mldragna@oceanearing.com

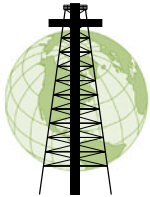
For concerns or comments call John Bird:
Cell: 713-899-1675
Home: 281-359-1258
email: jbirdocf@cebridge.net





"IT IS FINISHED.."

Oilfield Christian Fellowship



Attn. John Bird
1511 Palmetto Lane
Kingwood, TX 77339
281.359.1258

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