

The New River Rapids

Night and Day Difference by Pasture Scott



Later this month little draculas, zombies, aliens and hobgoblins will be prowling the streets at night extorting candy from innocent victims who are not safe, even while ensconced in the shelter of their own homes. These menacing little beings promise cruel tricks unless their demands are met. There is no “please” from these potential vandals, simply an order to comply—or pay the consequences.

Cute holiday, huh?

According to Celtic tradition, “All Hallows Evening” (shortened centuries ago to *‘hallowe’en*) is the end of the ‘dark half’ of the year and the one night during which the separation of the two worlds, the natural and the *supernatural*, is thinnest and when hostile spiritual beings like ghosts and goblins are free to roam the earth and interact with mankind in mostly violent fashion. If there was any night of the year when demonic jubilation was strongest, it was always found on Halloween.

In Wales they refer to it as “Spirit Night.” Detroit calls it “Hell Night.” Witches call it “THE great Sabbath.” Everything associated with it is divination, darkness, occultism, evil and death.

In the Upper Room on the “eve” of His crucifixion, Jesus told Judas (*actually He was addressing satan who had entered into Judas*) that whatever mission he was on, he’d best do “quickly” (John 13:29) because this was his final night to do his menacing work and the clock was ticking. Judas bolted from the table and ran out the door. Verse 30 adds this evocative phrase: “And it was night.”

That single statement paints with bleak tones and Gothic brushstrokes what was going on in that room: Jesus saddened to see His friend go, the disciples perplexed by recent developments, Judas sealing his own doom, the mood suffocating...“*it was night.*”

I believe the night that shrouded the Upper Room was as dark on that night as when it was actually *felt* in the Garden after our Original Parents’ rebellion. It was spiritual night, oppressive and hopeless. I can see Messiah staring at the doorway, after his friend, for a few solemn moments. Then He turns and faces the addled expressions of those who remained and draws a meaningful breath. The very next words He offers the Eleven transcend the somber cloud hanging in the room:

*“Now is the Son of Man glorified and God glorified in Him!”
(John 13:31)*

Almost in a single breath John’s gospel moves from “it was (spiritual) night” to “Praise God! His Kingdom triumphs over darkness because His Son is its King! Glory!” You can almost hear the netherworld’s coming-out party become a real debby-downer at that precise moment and it continues to this day. There’re no parties in hell no matter what Hallowe’en tradition says. It operates in wrath, not jubilation, angry that the Son is now glorified.

Remember that on the 31st.

And remember this too: satan’s kingdom is in the world but the Kingdom of God collided with the devil’s in a massive explosion of Light when Christ came and preached, “*The Kingdom of God is here...NOW...your ‘eve’ of reign on the earth is over, deceiver; your kingdom is weighed in the balances and declared naught...night is over for it is SON-day!*”

Father, thank you for making us sons and daughters of the Day.

We rejoice in this eternal New Day where Christ reigns and the enemy is defeated.

Our hearts say “Hallelujah!” and our desire is that Jesus Christ would stay enthroned in our hearts and glorified through our lives, in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

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October Events

For more details about these and other events at New River go to www.newrivercc.com/events

Global Bridegroom Fast	6th-8th
Prayer	2nd,9th,16th,23rd,30th
Navigator meeting.....	8th
Fellowship Dinner.....	19th
LIFEgroup leaders meet.....	19th
Silent Siege	18th
City of Refuge	26th

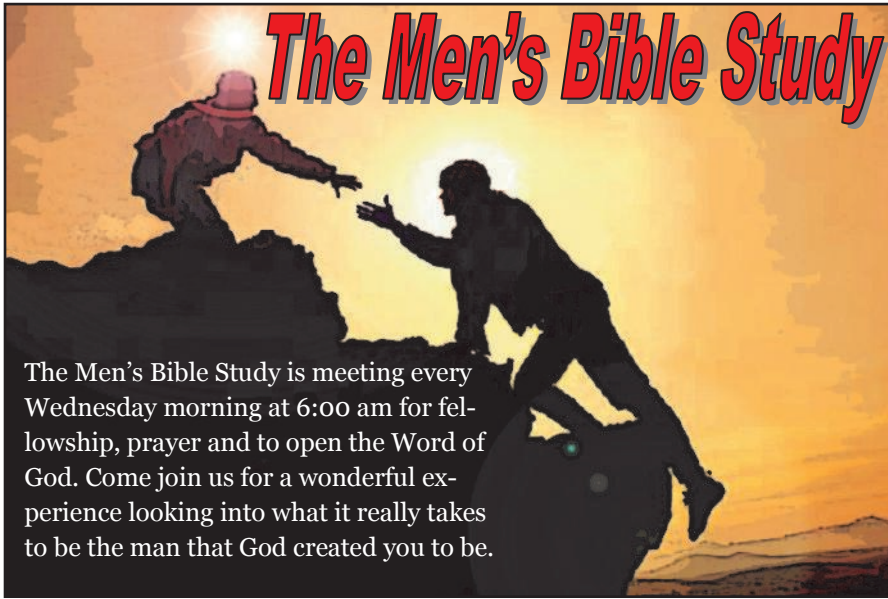
Future Events

Hallelujah Fest	Nov 1st
Men’s Retreat	Nov 14th-16th
New River Thanksgiving Lunch	16th



LIFE ON THE RIVER

The Men's Bible Study



The Men's Bible Study is meeting every Wednesday morning at 6:00 am for fellowship, prayer and to open the Word of God. Come join us for a wonderful experience looking into what it really takes to be the man that God created you to be.



New River is participating in a RECYCLE campaign to clean up the environment while bringing in a little cash to the church. We not only can recycle toner cartridges and ink jet cartridges but now we will take iPods and mobile phones. Bring your used toner and ink jet cartridges and your old iPods and cell phones to the church and put them in the container in the foyer. We'll do all the rest.

BACKPACK MINISTRY UPDATE: WE NEED YOU

We are currently feeding 10 children on the weekends through the backpack ministry and are receiving much positive feedback. Alice, the school counselor, said these kids cannot wait to get their backpacks each week and they are eager to check and see what is inside when they get them. These are hungry children right here in our community and often when they do have food, it isn't nutritious. The free lunch they receive at school is often the only nutritious meal they receive each day and that doesn't help on the days they are out of school. The food we are sending weekly is simple enough that the kids can prepare it but has nutritional value too in order to ensure that they are receiving some proper nutrition on the weekends. I did have the privilege of meeting one of the families that moved away before they moved. They were so touched by the ministry they wanted to give back by giving away a lot of the items they had before they moved to bless others. This family blessed me with a crib. Another one of the children we are helping has a Mom who works in the lunchroom at one of the local schools, barely making over minimum wage and the Dad was a custodian at another school. He recently fell off of a ladder at a side job, breaking both heels and further compounding the financial and emotional difficulties they are dealing with since he is unable to walk or work either job now. These are sweet families that need to know they are not alone.

Additionally, we will be blessing these children with food over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays as well. The kids will be out of school a total of 25 days over the holidays. We will be packing boxes of food for these 2 holiday breaks for parents to come and pick up at the church. This is our opportunity to love on the parents, share Christ with them, pray with them, and invite them back to the church and thus is a very important part of this ministry. We need a good organizer with a heart to serve to head up this part of the ministry. There are no formal plans yet so it can be laid out however you feel would work best.

Juanita Clay has also graciously offered to let us use her account at the Atlanta Food Bank to help cut down on the food expenses and further stretch the funds we have coming in for this ministry. We need someone who would be willing and able to go to the Food Bank once every couple of weeks to get food for the ministry. The food is much cheaper than even Sam's since everything cost 17 cents/lb.

We are so grateful for the donations that have come in but we know many are not able to contribute financially and would like to help in another tangible way. Please prayerfully consider helping us by volunteering your time for this ministry. Volunteers, like yourself, help make it a success and bring much glory to God. If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact Kim Obermeyer 770-577-7097. Many blessings to you!

Hallelujah Fest

When: November 1, 2008

Where: New River

Who: Everyone ages under 1 to over 101

What: A time of family fun

Included will be

- Cake (Dessert) Auction Fundraiser for Kids Backpack Ministry

- Chili cook off—We need to see who makes the best chili at New River
- Hot Dogs
- Games, Games and more Games
- Blow up Obstacle Course
- Hay Ride
- Music
- Cotton Candy

Your Part: Sign up to bring a Cake (dessert) for the auction, sign up to enter your chili, purchase a bag of candy for the games (they will be half price at Target starting at 8:00 AM on Nov 1), volunteer to help organize or work one of the events (just email Jerald at Jerald@newrivercc.com)

If you have any questions email Jerald

This not meant as an alternative to your families activities on Oct 31. It is a new family time that will be on the New River calendar the first week-end in November for years to come.

You don't want to miss this fun family time

Hey, This Looks Familiar

I was reading a book by C.S. Lewis not long ago and...Now before you think I'm getting all deep and spiritual on you it was the final book of the Narnia series called "The Last Battle". Anyway, near the end of the story all the characters enter into another world that looks strangely similar to the Narnia they know and love. The difference being that everything looks indescribably brighter and purposeful. They have the ability to run and not grow weary and swim up waterfalls. The fruit tastes....well the bottom line is this place is great, heavenly really, but they are trying to understand what is happening and where they are. Here is the quote from the book:

"The difference between the old Narnia and the new Narnia. The new one was a deeper country: every rock and flower and blade of grass looked as if it meant more. I can't describe it any better than that: if you ever get there you will know what I mean.

It was the Unicorn who summed up what everyone was feeling. He stamped his right forehoof on the ground and neighed and cried: 'I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now. The reason why we loved the old Narnia is that it sometimes looked a little like this. Bree-hee-hee! Come further up, come further in!'"

Have you ever had one of those moments that you never wanted to end? Maybe it was walking on a mountain trail in autumn, the temperature was just right, the leaves were waving in the sun and you were holding your loved ones hand with no pressure to be somewhere else. Or maybe it was that first day you met God and everything seemed new. Maybe like that feeling you get when you look at the Grand Canyon or you smell a thunderstorm coming. You may have experienced it watching your kids play when they did-

n't know you were looking. Brethren, these are just shadows. Little tiny glimpses God gives us of what He has in store for us. It is going to knock our socks off! Scott is getting us ready to go outside the camp (Heb 13:13) but the next verse is really cool: *14 For here (on earth, in this age) we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come. (the new Jerusalem).*-NASB parentheses mine. This is one reason we should guard our hearts from falling in love with this world. It looks a little like the age to come, but it really can't compete. Besides, are we not just passing through? This all sounds great Mic but what about right now, today? I thought you would never ask. God says you can't even imagine what I have for you NOW. 1 Cor 2:9 *"but just as it is written, things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him."* -NASB Study this and you will find Paul is not referring to heaven but he is talking about here and now. He has so much waiting for us then, but oh, He has so much more for us now!

Announcements You're Invited!

Who: 7th- 8th grade GIRLS

When: Each Saturday Night from 6-8:15PM beginning on Oct. 18th

Where: Alisa Obermeyer's house

3885 Willow Ridge Court
Douglasville, GA 30135

Phone: 678-391-2995 Email: Obermeyer7@yahoo.com

What to bring: Bible & Pen (folders will be provided)

What to expect: An opportunity to fellowship with friends and meet new ones in a safe environment! An opportunity to learn & share with one another as we grow closer to the Lord through Worship, Word, and Prayer!

We look forward to seeing you!*

Dear Parents: If you have any questions about the meetings, please do not hesitate to call me. I would love to share my heart with you and answer any questions you might have. Some of the topics to be discussed will be on Faith, Family & Friendships.

New Youth Service

We are going to start services for the youth on Wednesday, October 29 @ 7 PM! We are going to meet in the dug-out. Be prepared for deep discipleship, deep intimacy with Jesus, worship, friendship, and an opportunity to be apart of all the amazing things God is going to do with this youth group! We are going forward to fulfill the plans of our King and can't wait to see all that the Lord does!

Youth Rally

Wednesday, October 15 @ 7 PM is the pre-event rally for the 7 Project at First Baptist Church in Douglasville. This is going to be where all the youth groups in D-ville come together to worship and receive a teaching and to pray for the students of Douglas County to come to the feet of Jesus! It's going to be a powerful time and you don't want to miss it!

The 7 Project - October 17-23

Abstinence

Peer Pressure

Moral Clarity

DREAMS

Choices

Anti-Violence

Scholastic Achievement



Self-Respect

Integrity

Suicide

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Tobacco

COPING

The Douglas7Project is a multi-faceted, unprecedented, cooperative effort between local churches, businesses, organizations, law enforcement, the court system and the Douglas County School System, coming to Douglas County this fall to reach over 7,000 high school and middle school students with a message of hope, character and positive choices! Character-based school assemblies will take place October 17th through October 23rd, 2008, followed up by a community-wide rally where over 1,500 students will gather for live music, giveaways, free food, fun and inspirational guest speakers. This effort requires the participation of dozens of local partners & sponsors, providing representatives for organizing team positions, youth group participation, funding and thousands of volunteers.

Numerous opportunities for additional partnerships remain! Won't you join us in our effort to change the future of the students in Douglas County? For more info go to: <http://www.nospectators.net/7project>

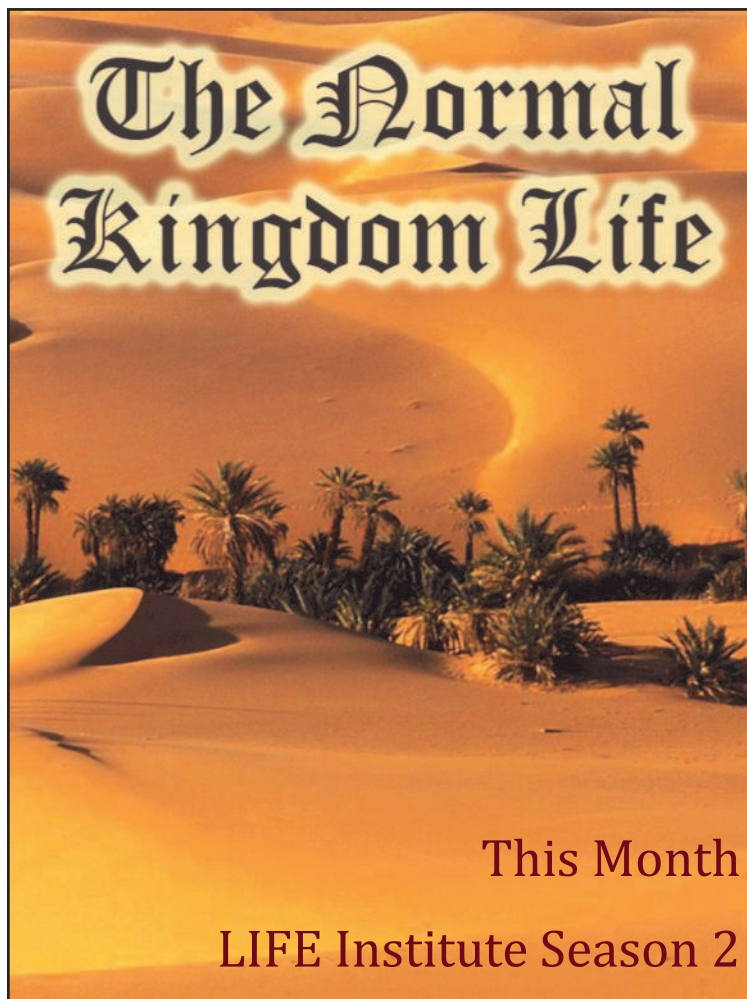
THE SEVEN PROJECT

MEN'S RETREAT

Men! Manly Men! Massive Men! and the rest of you! It is almost time for the MEN'S RETREAT in the north Georgia Mountains! The dates have been changed to try to accommodate as many men as possible, so we hope you can come on these dates: November 14, 15, 16 (Friday-Sunday). If you are able, the "early birds" will be going up as early as Wednesday Nov 12! Come and join us for a relaxing weekend of fellowship, worship and EATING!! Yes we DO eat!!! Cost will be \$40, at least two pounds of thick sliced bacon, and a minimum of two dozen HOME-MADE COOKIES!! (Notice I said HOMEMADE. If yours are NOT home-made, you WILL be sent home!!! ☺)

You are welcome to sit and enjoy the huge camp-fire or join us on a hike to a great hidden waterfall and/or to the lookout tower on top of the mountain, (bring a camera) and our camp site is near a beautiful creek (which we will be bathing in!) We also set up a target range for Air rifles (BB-guns) and archery, so bring em if you have em! We cut our own firewood, so chainsaws, axes, etc are useful, but we will supply them if you forget yours! You WILL want to help out with clearing the campsite, cutting, gathering, and carrying firewood as to work up a good appetite for the meals we are going to eat. Just to whet your appetite, consider some of the dishes we've had in years past, smoked turkey, deep fried turkey, pork loins wrapped in bacon, Low-country boil, venison steaks, and seafood skewers just to name a few.

So invite your family and friends 16 years to 160 years old! (That means you Don.) All will have a great time. Contact Mark Grant at 770-891-9159 or Bill Demarest at 404-216-6563, be sure to leave a message if we don't answer, because we'll be answering all the other guys that want to go! Again, Cost will be \$40, two pounds of thick sliced bacon, and two dozen HOME-MADE COOKIES!!



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"Our mission is to advance the kingdom
of God as devoted followers of Jesus
Christ by intentionally passing our faith
on to our children, our community and
the world,
**MAKING AND MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES TO THE
GLORY OF GOD!"**

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE