

West Valley Church of God
P. O. Box 343
San Fernando, CA 91341

Pastors & Elders

Pastor: Wayne and Patty Mitchell
West Valley Elders
Carlton & Judy Green
Cornell Smith

Happy Mother's Day Sunday, May 13th, 2018



*Painting by Mary Cassatt
May 22, 1844-June 14, 1926*

God could not be everywhere,
and therefore he made mothers.
—Rudyard Kipling

A mom's hug lasts long after she
lets go. —Unknown

Call your mother. Tell her you
love her. Remember, you're the
only person who knows what her
heart sounds like from the
inside.
—Rachel Wolchin

Mama was my greatest teacher, a
teacher of compassion, love and
fearlessness. If love is sweet as a
flower, then my mother is that
sweet flower of love.
—Stevie Wonder

Blessed is a mother that would
give up part of her soul for her
children's happiness. —Shan-
non L. Alder

Mothers can forgive anything!
Tell me all, and be sure that I will
never let you go, though the
whole world should turn from
you. —Louisa May Alcott

Moms are life's number one
cheerleaders without uniforms.
—Richelle E. Goodrich

He who loses his mother loses a
pure soul who blesses and
guards him constantly.
—Kahlil Gibran

Quotes

*"Your attitude is like a box of
crayons that color your world.
Constantly color your picture
gray, and your picture will
always be bleak. Try adding
some bright colors to the picture*

*by including humor, and your
picture begins to lighten up."*
~~~Allen Klein

*"Sometimes we stare so long at  
a door that is closing that we see  
too late the one that is open."*  
~~~Alexander Graham Bell

Editor's Corner

● Submissions for inclusion in
"The Vine" are welcome **at any
time**. We need your input!
Please email to the editor (See
right column) - in **10 point type**,
Arial font, for easier placement.

Send submissions to:
TheVineEditor@aol.com -
Subject Line: Title of Article. **Time
sensitive** submissions due **5th**
month for following month's issue.
**News and Inspirational articles
welcome any time.**

NOTICE... Many paintings shown in this publication are
for sale. Check your old copies. Contact Editor.



*"I am the Vine, you are the branches:
He that abides in me, and I in him,
the same brings forth much fruit: for
without me you can do nothing."
John 15:5*

May 2018

West Valley Church of God -- "Come worship with us..."
Submissions: TheVineEditor@aol.com
We meet at the Congregational Church of Northridge
9659 Balboa Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91325
Saturday Service 10:30 A.M. - www.westvalleywgc.org

Heart of Stone

By John Brown

Ex 31:18 And he gave unto
Moses, when he had made
an end of communing with
him upon mount Sinai,
two tables of
testimony, tables
of stone, written
with the finger of
God.



When asked to pray
for someone it was
never easy for me to know
how to pray. If something
specific was mentioned, such
as healing or financial
problems, I could pray for
that and thought that I was
fulfilling God's requirements.
Now I am learning how to

pray for someone through my
own needs.

When asked to pray for me in
my open-heart surgery
I know that many of
you did, as is
evidenced by my
presence with you
today. However, I
have learned a new
dimension to praying
since that time. When you
were praying for me, you
may not be aware of it but not
only were you praying for me to
come through surgery, you were
praying for much more than
that; you were praying for me.

Remember when God said of
the Israelites, "O that there
were such an heart in them, that
they would fear me, and keep
all my commandments always,
that it might be well with them,
and with their children for
ever?" Deut 5:29

Upcoming Events

● **Bible Studies, Letters
and other Events...see
Weekly Bulletin and
Bulletin Board.**



Inside This Issue

- Heart of Stone Cover
- Sensational! 2
- Mother's Day Back Cover
- Quotes Back Cover
- Pastors and Elders Back Cover
- Editor's Corner Back Cover

He gave His people a promise
that some day in the future we
would have that heart. "But this
shall be the covenant that I will
make with the house of Israel;
After those days, says the
LORD, I will put my law in their
inward parts, and write it in their
hearts; and will be their God,

Illustration © Sharon Mills 2018

Continued on Page 2

"Heart of Stone"... (cont.)

and they shall be my people."
Jer 31:33

I wondered how He was going to accomplish that in my life and then one day He showed me. I was laying on the operating table and the doctor was digging around in my chest to keep my heart pumping and God had His hand in there, too, writing with His finger, "His law in my inward parts, and writing it in [my] heart."

I now pray that God will use you, causing you to grow *because* of whatever test you are having; that you will become more like Jesus Christ growing in His grace and knowledge and love. He says that we can't see Him in His kingdom if we don't go through the same suffering that Jesus went through. "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:" 1 Pet 2:21

Thank all of you for your prayers over the years. They have taught me that I have to show God how much I love Him by how much I love you.

"There has no [test] taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not [allow] you to be [tested] above that ye are able; but will with the [test] also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."
I Cor 10:13 (The people in the world don't have this hope, yet).

New Insights...

I was sitting at the breakfast table this morning thinking of my favorite Scripture: **1 Corinthians 10:13**: "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation ALSO make to escape that ye may be able to bear it." ***I used to think: "Father, give me the strength to bear this."***



After some consideration, I thought **"Father, help me to love my family and my neighbor the way You want me to."**

I have a new Scripture now.
It's 1 Corinthians 10:13!

Sensational!

Every day is a day to praise the Lord and thank Him for his grace and participation in our lives.

We are grateful for the food we eat, the air we breathe, our families, loved ones, friends, the things we have, opportunities, even our pets.

But one thing we may have forgotten to mention. Our senses. The Bible often gives sensory descriptions of visions, the universe and the world around us. Let's face it, without our senses, there would be little we could do to describe or communicate with each other.

Psalms:111:2: The works of the LORD are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.

Psalms:111:3: His work is honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

Psalms:111:4: He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

We have eyes, sight, to enjoy and see beauty around us. We have ears, hearing, to enjoy sound of the world – birds, ocean waves, wind in the trees, music, and voices, including animals. We have the sense of smell, to enjoy the sweetness of a flower, or to enhance the food we eat. We have the sense of touch, to communicate our feelings,



and all aspects of the created world. We have the ability to taste, without which our daily sustenance would be much less rewarding. All this was given us to enjoy and witness what the Lord has created... and the creation, of which we are a glorious part.

Psalms:139:14: I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

Psalms:139:15: My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

Psalms:139:16: Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

Psalms:139:17: How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!

Psalms:139:18: If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.

I would add to this, we have been given intellect, which allows us to be master creators, like our Father in Heaven... of which we now access only a portion. The

gifts we have been given are to aspire to the place and condition which we will one day inhabit. With the intellect God has given to mankind, we are able to discover His eternal secrets. But there is more! HE HAS ADDED A SPIRIT to us, which has access to eternal truth and discovery.

Moreover, He has plans for us. We cannot know all things now, but in due time, we will.

1Co:13:12: For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

~~~ Sharon Mills