

# PATHWAY

a Wesleyan church

February 18, 2018

Love | Learn | Live | Lead



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Is God really concerned for me? As a child I had a simple faith in God. I tested God and He showed himself to be concerned for the very things that I was concerned about. My childish concerns were few and they were really not that important. In the grand scheme did it really matter if a storm came and ruined my picnic? But I really believed that God held off the rain – not just once but repeatedly. These situations, however, that concerned me as a child were minuscule compared to the pressures that I would face as a teen and as an adult. My faith became more complex as I aged. The childlike faith that I had once clung to got lost in the complexity of life. I still believed in God. I still believed that he could do great things, but would He do great things for me? As life became more complex, this uncertainty became more problematic.

As our story unfolds with Moses' faith we see how God pursued him. God gave birth to Moses' faith through stick and snake; through disease and healing; through a bush that did not burn up while it burned. God gave Moses' his faith even over Moses' objections and the faith ran deep enough for Moses' to begin a faith journey with God. But what God had promised seemed to hit a roadblock. The progression stalled. Things did not get better right away – in fact they got worse. Pharaoh not only would not let Israel go he made the situation worse. The elders who worshiped God because they realized God saw their misery and was concerned were now perplexed and angry with God. Moses also took his complaint to God.

What is God's message to us when life gets worse? I am so glad that you are joining us today to investigate that very question.

- Pastor Mark Lipscomb

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### Coming Up

- Saturday, March 3: Branch Adventures Fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner: 5-8 pm
- Tuesday, March 20: Secret Prayer Pal Reveal: 6:30 pm @ Ellen Lipscomb's House
- Friday, March 23: Teens All-Nighter @ Craig's Cruisers

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### Announcements

- Over the next several weeks, the **Trustees will be assisting the Yakes** as they prepare their home for move-in! The trustees have invited any interested persons to help with this project. There is a need for both skilled and unskilled labor. If you have any questions, please contact Ron Jordan or Andy Penninga.
- On **Saturday, March 3, Branch Adventures will be holding a Fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner** in the Ebenezer Center from 5-8 pm. Dinner will include spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, dessert, and drink. There will also be a silent auction. All proceeds will go to the Branch Adventures Scholarship Fund, which is available to families who are unable to pay the full cost of camp. If you would like to help at this event, donate to Branch Adventures, or contribute an item for the silent auction, please see Caroline Dibaba.
- The **Ladies' Secret Prayer Pal** reveal and new sign up will take place on Tuesday, March 20 at 6:30 pm at the home of Ellen Lipscomb. Please bring a gift for your current prayer pal and a snack to share. For more information regarding the prayer pals, contact Connie Jordan.
- On **Friday, March 23**, our teens will be participating in an **All-Nighter at Craig's Cruisers** in Grand Rapids. Cost is \$15 and includes pizza, go-karts, laser tag, trampoline park (\$3 extra for socks), Ninja Warrior course, cruiser coaster, bumper cars, and ropes course. Teens must sign up by March 7. Each teen can bring one new friend at no additional cost. **ADULT DRIVERS ARE NEEDED!** Please contact Ellen Lipscomb (616.822.0718) for more information.

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Global Partners : Goal - \$6,750 Received - \$5,040 (75%)  
WKFM: Goal - \$300 Received - \$76 (25%)  
Parsonage Kitchen Remodel: Goal - \$15,000 Received - \$7,110 (47%)



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