



# OAK GROVE ENCOURAGER

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works” Hebrews 10:24

SEPTEMBER 3, 2006

## DID YOU HEAR THAT?

By Bruce J. Dehut

Sound is collected by the outer ear and funneled down the ear canal (outer ear). The sound vibrations cause movement of the eardrum and the chain of three tiny bones connected to it (middle ear). The middle ear system serves to intensify the energy of the sound vibrations and delivers them to the cochlea (inner ear). Inside the cochlea are thousands of tiny hair-like cells that connect to fibers of the hearing (acoustic) nerve. Sound vibrations entering the cochlea cause a wave to travel through the fluid-filled organ of hearing. This wave causes movement of the hair cells which then generate electro-chemical signals which travel through the acoustic nerve to the brain where they are recognized as sounds.

- From: How does the ear work? (helpkidshear.org)

Even though most of us possess the ability to physically hear as described previously in

this article how many of us truly listen? Many sounds can grab our attention, like a person's scream, a car horn, screeching tires or maybe a tornado siren while the hum of the refrigerator can go unnoticed. We are inundated with audible information on a regular basis such as on the radio, in the grocery store, the school P.A., our friends and relatives, etc. The flood of noises that stream into our ear canals is never ending but somehow we differentiate the worthwhile from the worthless. Sometimes we purposely “tune out” something we don't want to hear; i.e. the droning on of a boastful individual, a dripping faucet or (and this is bad to do) even the instruction of our parents.

Realizing that different people listen and learn in varying ways, God chose an assortment of avenues of speaking to His people.

- He spoke to Job out of a whirlwind.  
*Job 38:1 & Job 40:6*
- He spoke to Joseph in dreams.  
*Genesis 37:5 & 9*
- He spoke to Moses in a burning bush.  
*Exodus 3:2-4*
- He spoke to Samuel in the night.  
*1 Samuel 3:1-4*
- He spoke to Elijah in a still, small voice.  
*1 Kings 19:12*
- He spoke to Daniel in visions.  
*Daniel chapters 2, 7, 8 & 10*

Hebrews 1:1-2 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

It is no coincidence that John begins his gospel describing Jesus not just as another

prophet but as the embodiment of God's redeeming message.

*John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

*John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,...*

Many supposed spokesmen have arisen over the years but none were validated by God's voice from heaven like Jesus was.

*Matthew 17:5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"*

If we opt not to hear and heed the soul preserving message of the Christ our Father above will demonstrate His ability for selective hearing.

*John 9:31 "Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him.*

God's utterances can echo like thunder (*John 12:28-29*), whisper to us in a still, small voice (*1 Kings 19:12*) or speak to us from the Spirit inspired pages of the Bible (*2 Tim. 3:16 & 2 Peter 1:21*). The point is we need to pay attention to the life altering messages that the Lord has chosen to share with us.

*Hebrews 12:25 See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven*

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Oak Grove  
Church of Christ

(502) 749-9209

Sunday

Bible Class:

9:30 AM

Morning Worship:

10:30 AM

Evening Worship:

6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Class:

7:30 PM

Evangelist:

Bruce J. Dehut

Home Bible Studies Available  
Upon Request

# God's Embroidery

When I was a little boy, my mother used to embroider a great deal. I would sit at her knee and look up from the floor and ask what she was doing. She informed me that she was embroidering. I told her that it looked like a mess from where I was. As from the underside I watched her work within the boundaries of the little round hoop that she held in her hand, I complained to her that it sure looked messy from where I sat.

She would smile at me, look down and gently say, "My son, you go about your playing for a while, and when I am finished with my embroidering, I will put you on my knee and let you see it from my side."

I would wonder why she was using some dark threads along with the bright ones and why they seemed so jumbled from my view. A few minutes would pass and then I would hear Mother's voice say, "Son, come and sit on my knee." This I did only to be surprised and thrilled to see a beautiful flower or a sunset. I could not believe it, because from underneath it looked so messy.

Then Mother would say to me, "My son, from underneath it did look messy and jumbled, but you did not realize that there was a pre-drawn plan on the top. It was a design. I was only following it. Now look at it from my side and you will see what I was doing." Many times through the years I have looked up to my Heavenly Father and said, "Father, what are You doing?"

He has answered, "I am embroidering your life."

I say, "But it looks like a mess to me. It seems so jumbled. The threads seem so

dark. Why can't they all be bright?"

The Father seems to tell me, "My child, you go about your business of doing My business, and one day I will bring you to Heaven and put you on My knee and you will see the plan from My side."

*2 Cor 4:17-18 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

- Author unknown, verse added BJD

# Counting the Cost

by Jeff Himmel  
*Life Lines* - February 21, 1999

J. D. Tant was a colorful gospel preacher in the southwest many years ago. One story tells of some brethren who wanted to have him hold a gospel meeting, but said they couldn't afford it.

Tant made them a proposition: "Brethren, every time you buy a sack of tobacco or a plug of chew, put the same amount of money in the treasury and save it for the meeting next year. I will take whatever you save up and be satisfied with it."

The brethren seemed delighted and said they would get back to him. They got off to themselves and did some figuring, then came back and pointedly informed brother Tant that they could not possibly do it with a clear conscience. They explained, "No preacher is worth that kind of money."

# Men's Weekend Bible Study



Join with other men of faith as we encourage and strengthen each other from the word of God. The speakers possess a wide variety of experience and the lessons are designed for men of all ages and each will have ample time for discussion.

## Session #1 - Warrior

Lesson A - Which way is the war?  
Lesson B - Suiting Up  
Lesson C - Healing Battle Wounds

## Session #2 - King

Lesson A - The servant/shepherd  
Lesson B - Discovering God's vision  
Lesson C - Your kingdom's legacy

## Session #3 - Mentor

Lesson A - How to find a mentor  
Lesson B - Methods of mentoring  
Lesson C - Where do the mentors go?

# Oct. 13-14, 2006

Reserve your spot as soon as possible!

## Location:

North Central 4-H  
Camping Center  
Carlisle, KY

## Web-Site

[www.menswbs.com](http://www.menswbs.com)

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# THE LORD'S DAY PRIVILEGE LIST

## Sunday Morning Service

Announcements: Arvil Young

Song Leader: Steve Smith

Opening Prayer: Jr. Stout

Lord's Table: Doug Smith  
Brian Shepherd  
Jr. Alford  
Andy Milliner

Scripture Reading: David Shepherd

Sermon: Bruce Dehut

Closing Prayer: Greg Walker

## Sunday Evening Service

Announcements: Arvil Young

Song Leader: Steve Smith

Opening Prayer: Larry Runner

Singing Service

Lord's Table: Doug Smith

Closing Prayer: Kenny Case