

To encourage and equip Christian business and professional women to reflect Christ in their world.

May/June 2004

Honor

Who Is Your Father?

By Jodi Decker

Book Reviews

By Norma Joy Hart

By Diane Larson Lippard

CBWA Luncheon Location

North Phoenix Baptist Church

5757 N. Central Avenue
Lunch Price \$13 with RSVP
Lunch Price \$18 without RSVP
Or \$5 Program Only
RSVP 480-948-CBWA (2292)
cbwa@globalcrossing.net
www.cbwa-az.org

Program Information

See the back cover



In Honor of Father's Day

Father, Pops and Dad; just to name a few. All mean the same; love, caring and true. Teaches us values, manners and more Helping us become greater than before Excited when he watches us succeed Remember: Father's are the greatest indeed!

By Amber Miller

Who Is Your Father?

By Jodi Decker

Reprinted from June 2000 Faith at Work

“Who is the Father?

1-800-DNA-TYPE.” I read the billboard sign as I sped by on the freeway. Hmm, I thought, is there a big demand for this kind of service? Yes, I know that unexpected pregnancies happen, but is there a market for women who aren't sure which man is the father's baby? Apparently so.

Do you know who your father is? When infants are born, they will often turn their heads to the sound of their mother's or father's voice. They know that voice. What a beautiful picture of recognition. It's like a duckling that imprints on the first thing it sees, be it a duck or a human.

Luckily, I know my dad. He's 79, ex-military, retired. He survived World War II. He loves his grandchildren, his sports teams, his books. He taught me the love of books and pursuit of higher education. We look alike. And, I know my dad is a believer, praise God.

Whether or not you know your dad, or have lost your dad because of death, divorce, estrangement or adoption, how awesome that we as Christian businesswomen all know our Heavenly Father. He adopted each one of us into His eternal family. We don't need to take a blood test to see if we're related. Jesus took this blood test for us. Fortunately, for us, His blood test was positive for us, and we're His.

We believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God, without error, and the final authority in our lives. We believe in one God eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died as a sacrifice for our sins, was raised from the dead, and that all who receive Him by faith are born of the Holy Spirit and enter into a relationship in which they are eternally secure.

Who Is Your Father?—from page 1

Further, we know His voice. Jesus doesn't bump into us casually on the street and say, "Don't I know you from somewhere?" Rather, He identifies us specifically. *"I am the good Shepherd; and I know My Own, and My Own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they shall hear My voice..." John 10:14-16.* There's even room in the family for more children!

I recently met a woman and we struck up one of those "instant" deep conversations. She shared with me that when she was an adult, and after her mother passed away, she discovered that the man listed on her birth certificate was not her biological father! She doesn't know who her "real" father is, and presently it's a well-kept family secret. She struggles with her mother's decision to promote this deception, and she wonders about her own identity. What a painful and missing legacy she carries.

God tells us in *2 Corinthians 6:18*, *"I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."*

As Father's Day approaches, it's an appropriate time to honor our earthly and Heavenly Father. Although we do that year round, we are especially fortunate that when it comes to God, we never have to ask ourselves, "Who is the Father?"

Jodi Decker is a freelance writer and college instructor. She lives with her husband and three children in Glendale, Arizona.

Book Review

BUSINESS FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

By Dr. Wayne Grudem

As a Christian businesswomen, I highly recommend this book to all of you. Dr. Grudem has sub-titled his book, "The Bible's Teaching on the Moral Goodness of Business." He explores eleven different categories of business and puts forth the Biblical foundation and premise of each of these areas. The intriguing part of his study consists of also exposing the potential to sin in all of these areas. In other words, ownership, money and competition are inherently good in the pure sense. However, within each of these categories of business is our humanness, hence our innate tendency to sin.

Dr. Grudem points out the potential within each of the following categories for glorifying God, and provides examples of the dark side of each of them:

- Ownership
- Productivity
- Employment
- Commercial Transactions
- Profit
- Money
- Inequality of Possessions
- Competition
- Borrowing and Lending
- Attitudes of Heart
- Effect on World Poverty

Dr. Grudem is Research Professor of Bible and Theology at Phoenix Seminary.

Book Review by Diane Larson Lippard



Our Heavenly Father

*"Just as the
Father has loved
Me, I have also
loved you; abide
in My love."
John 15:9*

Forgives our sins. *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* 1 John 1:9

Almighty Powerful One. *"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the Shadow of the Almighty."* Psalms 91:1

Truth that will set us free. *"Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father but through me."* John 14:6

Healer of our body, mind and spirit. *"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for You are my praise."* Jeremiah 17:14

Eternal Life and Love. *"And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace."* Isaiah 9:6

Rewarder of eternal life. *"...knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve."* Colossians 3:24

“HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (WHICH IS THE FIRST COMMANDMENT WITH A PROMISE) SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.”
EPHESIANS 6:2

Book Review WHAT KIDS NEED IN A MOM

by Patricia H. Rushford

I love the opening statement of this book. The author starts out, “There is one holiday that strikes fear in the hearts of mothers everywhere. Mother’s Day! It’s that day when we must stand up and be measured against the standards set forth on millions of (Hallmark) cards.”

Rushford’s book, republished in 2002 by Revell is a golden oldie and still going strong. Tim Hansel has written the companion book, *What Kids Need Most In A Dad*.

With humor and hope Rushford, who is also the author of *It Shouldn’t Hurt To Be A Kid*, teaches women to evaluate what is really important in life and to find creative ideas for sharing these discoveries with their children. You’ll find no magic formulas for becoming a “super-mom” or the perfect mother; instead, this seasoned mom of two focuses on such essentials as: 1) trusting your life and your kids to God’s care; 2) being a servant mom without being subservient; 3) instilling forgiveness in your children; 4) celebrating life and 5) growing with your children.

Rushford dreams of a fictional class called: “Creative Nagging 101.” Nagging, creatively of course, can be an excellent tool for mothers in teaching the essential principles of life: always wear clean underwear, quit making faces, it will freeze that way, etc.

She underlines the fact that as a mom, you always want to get inside your kids to see the beauty God created within their minds and souls. The key is you have to show them the inside of you! Oh, by the way, the answer to what your kids need most in a mom! YOU.

Book Review by Norma Joy Hart of Central Christian Supply

In Honor of A Step-Mom

Surrender your will—step parenting is not about you
Thank your stepchildren for the gift of their parent (your spouse)
Encourage them in their gifts and passions
Pay attention to what they are really saying
Make time for your stepchildren
Open your heart—let your stepchildren know that you are “real”
Make time for your spouse to spend with his/her children.....then step aside for the moment.

By Diane Larson Lippard

IN HONOR OF *Mother’s Day*

Make time for your Mother (time is a gift!)
Offer yourself as a friend or companion to your Mother
(especially once you are both adults)
Tell your Mom you love her
Hug your Mom whenever you can
Encourage your Mom with a card or note or phone call
Respect your Mother
‘Stop occasionally to lift your Mom in prayer

Devote yourself to honoring your Mother (even if she isn’t exactly what you had in mind as a Mom)
Affirm your Mom for the job she did in raising you
YEAH Mothers everywhere!!

By Diane Larson Lippard

Never Walk Alone *A Psalm for Single Parents*

When God blessed me with children,
a gift beyond all wealth,
I never thought I’d face the job
of raising them myself,
That’s why each day and night I ask
for guidance from above;
For patience, faith...a gentle push,
so I may act with Love.
I’ll show my children right from wrong,
encourage dreams and hope;
Explain respect for others,
while teaching them to cope
With outside pressures, inside fears,
a world that’s less than whole;
And through it all I’ll nurture
my children’s most precious soul!
Though oftentimes a struggle,
this job I’ll never trade;
For in my hand tomorrow lives...
a future God has made.

Author Unknown

PHOENIX LUNCHEON MEETINGS

■ Monday, May 10, 2004 12:00-1:15 p.m.
RSVP by Wed., May 5th, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR
cbwa@globalcrossing.net or online at www.cbwa-az.org

Dangerous Decoys - Pastor Chris Mueller

Decoys: The enemy's way to get Christians off track and busy with the wrong things. We will look at four of the most effective decoys of the enemy today: False Assurance - When Christians assume that someone they love is saved, but they are not. Psychology - When Christians get their focus off Christ and on to themselves. Selective Teachability - When Christian responses stifle their own growth, and Churchless Christianity - When believers neglect their Body Life relationships and hinder their walk with Christ. Come learn how to identify and avoid these decoys in order to glorify God in greater ways.

Chris Mueller is a pastor at East Valley Bible Church. He and his wife, Jean, have two sons and live in Gilbert.

■ Monday, May 24, 2004 **No Luncheon Scheduled**

CBWA News

CBWA SURVEY

We want to hear from you - if you haven't already, please fill out a survey form - copy enclosed with newsletter - your input is valued and appreciated and makes the ministry a part of your life.

WOMEN'S EXPO

Here's a recap of how it went in March - we had great traffic this year; and received hundreds of raffle tickets for the CBWA gift basket. We are sending out a one-time group email to about 100 gals, who gave us their email address. We also have added about a half dozen already to our email list, who specifically asked us to include them. We gave out almost all of our 500 Daily Breads by the end of the first day, and hundreds of newsletters. It was quite an event! *Thank you to all who volunteered a part of their day to serve in the CBWA ministry. You made a difference!*

■ Monday, June 14, 2004 12:00-1:15 p.m.
RSVP by Wed., June 9th, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR
cbwa@globalcrossing.net or online at www.cbwa-az.org

Amos: Deadly Compromises

Dr. Paul Wegner

Amos had the job of going to the Northern Kingdom and telling them that what they were doing was wrong and would lead them down the road to destruction. The prophets in the north had already compromised their messages. If Amos compromises God's message, as the other false prophets, it would be deadly. In what ways do we compromise God's message?

Dr. Paul Wegner is the Professor of Old Testament at Phoenix Seminary.

■ Monday, June 28, 2004 12:00-1:15 p.m.
RSVP by Wed., June 23rd, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR
cbwa@globalcrossing.net or online at www.cbwa-az.org

One Woman's Story

Come be encouraged as two of CBWA's members share their own "One Woman's Story" how God has impacted their lives personally and professionally.

Upcoming Luncheons...

July 12 - Les Taylor

July 26 - Pastor Tom Shrader of East Valley Bible Church will speak on "Possession vs. Ownership."

August 9 and August 23 - Bethay Bice Helm on the topic of Connecting.

CBWA Financial Facts

Did you know that we have over 300 women who receive our newsletter? The annual cost of our newsletter is \$2,100? Our annual fixed expenses are nearly \$14,000? Our primary source of funding is from individuals who are encouraged by CBWA? Look at the impact we could have for God's ministry if each of us gave \$10 per month or more!!

$\$10 \times 12 \text{ months} \times 300 = \$36,000$

Please consider involving CBWA as part of your financial ministry by using the enclosed envelope. *"They gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability..." 2 Cor. 8:3*

The CBWA Connection is a bi-monthly newsletter published by the Christian Business Women's Association, a nonprofit organization based in metro Phoenix area, Arizona. Newsletter ideas and comments, and editorial contributions supporting CBWA's statement of faith are welcome. The CBWA Connection is an outreach of CBWA and donations are tax deductible. To help underwrite newsletter expenses, a suggested donation of \$25 would cover the annual cost of preparing and mailing each newsletter. Editor: Joy Cervantes, cervantes@mpmcpa.com; Copy Editor: Kristen Wehrli; Newsletter Advisor: Diane Lippard; Newsletter Layout: DreamCreek Design; Printed on recycled paper by Techniprint. CBWA 24-hour Phone 480-948-CBWA (2292) www.cbwa-az.org Email: cbwa@globalcrossing.net

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