

## “Wisdom from the Mother of Jesus”

Rev. David J. Bauer



*There are great abilities that people acquire, cultivate and demonstrate. But in God's service there is an ability that is the greatest of all. Is it sociability, compatibility, accountability or adaptability? No, it is none of these. The greatest ability is availability. If we are not available to God, no matter what other kind of ability we have, it is no good. Ability without availability is a liability. When a person is willing to be used, there is no limit to what God can do and accomplish through that person. He can do a whole lot with a little, providing He has all of that little. Mary, the young maiden who would bear the Divine Son of Man would demonstrate a willing spirit. There are some wise principles we can learn from Mary in her sayings and her actions:*

**We must have a heart of a servant -Luke 1:29-38.** This was a completely new situation for this young maiden. Pregnancy and childbirth was probably in her plans, but not yet. It was an impossible situation as well, since she had no physical relationship with a man up to this time. Upon Mary's inquiry, “How can this be...?” the angel, Gabriel, offered an explanation which probably raised many more questions in this young lady's mind. “The Holy Spirit shall come upon you, the power of the Highest shall overshadow you, and that holy one that shall be born of you shall be called the Son of God” (Luke 1:35), is an explanation that has baffled theologians for centuries. Yet Mary was willing, trusting and obedient. We know this by her answer: “I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be unto me according to your word” -Luke 1:38. Mary was young and baffled, but made herself available to do the will and service of the Lord. We should do likewise. God could do some incredible things in our lives!

**We must confess our own total inadequacy -Luke 1:46-55.** When something miraculous is taking place it is important that God gets all the credit. As Mary appeared before her cousin, Elizabeth's reaction to Mary was spiritually flattering. She was called “blessed” and “the Mother of my Lord”, which would be lofty compliments. Yet Mary's humble response is recorded in Luke 1:46-48: “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior...” She also cited the “low estate of God's handmaiden (her)...” God would get the only credit for Mary's salvation. She still needed a Savior, as is the case of every other member of the human race. We too must realize our sinful condition and the need for a Savior. Then Mary begins spouting off quotes from Old Testament prophecies (no less than 15 in Vs. 46-55 according to Charles Ryrie). Mary relied absolutely on God's Word, the only perfect standard. God's Word will endure forever (1 Peter 1:25) and it is impossible for God to lie (Heb. 6:18). God values His word even above His name (Psa. 138:2).

**We must meditate upon the promises of the Lord -Luke 2.** What would it have been like to be in the family of Jesus? Shepherds found that unusual place where the Savior was born (Vs. 18-20). This caused Mary to “ponder these things in her heart.” A stranger named Simeon blessed the child in the temple (V. 33), which caused Mary and Joseph an astonishment they kept to themselves. An elderly widow named Anna had a similar affirmation (V. 38). Later, Mary and Joseph were visited by Magi from the east seeking the “King of the Jews” (Matt. 2). Years later, Mary and Joseph found Jesus instructing educated doctors in Jerusalem's temple, who were astonished by the wisdom of this 12 year old boy (V. 47). In answer to His mother's complaint, Jesus' statement, “I must be about my Father's business”, though unflattering, caused Mary simply to “...keep these sayings in her heart” -V. 51. Mary remained silent, but trusted in God's promises; Assured all would be OK, though puzzling at the time. But she knew this was no ordinary son.

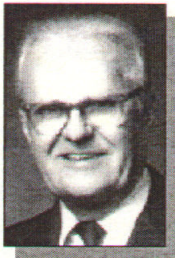
**We must do what God says to do -John 2:1-11.** At a local wedding celebration with Mary and Jesus' 5 disciples present, the wedding hosts were embarrassed as they ran out of wine for the invited guests. Mary shared this inside information with Jesus, only to be answered by His insistence that His “hour was not yet come” -Vs 4. Though this sharp comment might have insulted mothers in our modern world, Mary then gave to the servants her one and only commandment: “Whatever He says to you do!” -Vs. 5. This passage is hardly a veneration of Mary, but a confidence in her Son, Jesus. The servants were obedient in doing what Jesus instructed them to do, a great miracle followed, and Jesus demonstrated His creative glory in a practical way. A wedding can be a blessed event when Jesus, obedient servants and disciples are present. As His loving servants, we should do what Jesus says to do! -John 15:14.

Are you available exclusively for God's use? God still uses people today!



Rev. David J. Bauer  
BRM Director

Words of Wisdom  
Dr. Charles Svoboda



Dr. Charles Svoboda  
1919 - 2014

### “The Good Life”

What would you define as being the good life? Winning the lottery? Retirement? Popularity?

Basically, the good life is having received Christ as Savior by faith and then endeavoring with the help of the Holy Spirit of God to honor Him in all our decisions. See it in I Cor. 10:31: “Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” Each of us have been gifted with God-given consciences which send signals about right and wrong. Romans 2:15. The Scripture speaks of a:  
Weak conscience - I Cor. 8:17  
Defiled Conscience - Titus 1:15  
Seared Conscience - I Tim 4:2  
Evil Conscience - Hebrews 10:22  
Conscience is God's warning bell. Saved and unsaved folks are equipped with a conscience making us morally responsible to God. “That was the true Light which lights every man that comes into the world” - John 1:9. Have you invited Christ into your heart? Is there a tug at your conscience? Jesus may be calling you to let Him in. Answer the call. -Rom. 10:13



### Dump Cake

1 Can Crushed Pineapple (16 oz)  
1 Can Cherry Pie Filling (or other flavor)  
1 Pkg. Yellow Cake Mix  
½ lb. Butter or Margarine

Dump cans of Crushed Pineapple and Pie Filling into a 13”X9” pan, spreading it around a bit.

Sprinkle Yellow Cake Mix right out of the box onto the fruit. Cut up Butter or Margarine and spread on top.

Bake one hour in a 350 degree oven.



### Vinegar Solutions

**Dishwashers:** Add ½ cup vinegar to an empty dishwasher and run the rinse cycle. This will open up any clogs in the dishwasher drain lines and deodorize the machine.

**Microwaves:** Is your microwave splattered with old sauces and greasy buildup? Place a glass measuring cup with 1 cup water and ¼ cup vinegar inside the microwave. Boil 3 minutes, then remove measuring cup and wipe inside of oven with a damp sponge.

**Stains:** Tackle mineral deposits around sink's faucets by squirting them with undiluted vinegar. Let vinegar sit 15 minutes or longer, then scrub away deposits with an old toothbrush.

**Countertops:** Wipe your kitchen countertops with undiluted vinegar once a day to shine them and keep your kitchen smelling fresh.

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# Bible Related Ministries Newsletter

Rev. David J. Bauer, Director



*"But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law."*

*—Galatians 4:4*

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## Rev. David Bauer December Itinerary

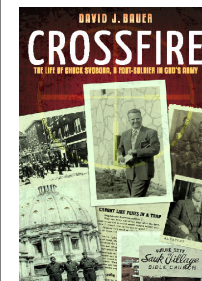


Dec. 2 Parker Road Bible Church, Mokena, IL  
8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

Dec. 21 Pacific Garden Mission, Chicago, IL 12:00 p.m.

Dec. 31 Devon Church, Chicago, IL 9:30 a.m.

Note: On Sundays when not scheduled to preach, Rev. Bauer will be visiting supporting churches.



**From Cicero Gangland, to Enemy Gunfire, to Church Organization, to Arbitration in Churches... and beyond! The Chuck Svoboda Story & Bible Church History!**

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**On the Lighter Side...** Rhonda's dishwasher quit working so she called a repairman. Since she had to go to work the next day, she told the repairman, "I'll leave the key under the mat. Fix the dishwasher, leave the bill on the counter, and I'll mail you a check. Oh, by the way don't worry about my bulldog. But, whatever you do, DO NOT TALK TO MY PARROT!!!"

When the repairman arrived the following day, he discovered the biggest, meanest looking bulldog he has ever seen. But, the dog just lay there on the carpet watching the repairman go about his work. The parrot, however, drove him nuts the whole time with his incessant yelling and name calling. Finally the repairman couldn't contain himself any longer and yelled, "Shut up, you stupid ugly bird!" To which the parrot replied, "Get him, Spike!"

## BRM Field Report #Twelve

There's lots of going on in our churches out there and lots of interference too, with pastoral attack on the rise, especially with young pastors:

A small, but vocal family voiced their absolute displeasure at other church members in a business meeting, because the church called a certain pastoral candidate they didn't like, voted for by a wide majority. This angry family left the church.

A couple families have decided that the current new pastoral staff must change and they are the ones ("God's agents") to change it. So they are running around the church trying to get others in their corner to get rid of pastor and assistant pastor -Prov. 6:19.

A young pastor was verbally abused by a church leader in an unfriendly way right before the celebration of "Pastor Appreciation" Sunday, on the same day. (What was he thinking?) -Hebrews 13:17

A pastor dealing head on with board problems is encountering attack after attack from staff people, who seem to be trying to force the pastor's resignation. So far he is not giving in.

A former pastor is offering advice to disgruntled church members, steering them to a revolt against the leadership of the church-Stirring up discord.

Pastors who have been told they are not "feeding their flock" on Sunday or they are not adequately preparing their sermons or that they are not spending enough time visiting families in the congregation. (One pastor was told all three of these complaints-Guess they are expecting Super-pastor.)

Promoted to Glory: Elizabeth Stark, wife of Rev. Norman Stark, pastor of Charleston Bible Church, IL departed this life to be with the Lord on September 21, 2017. Both Pastor Norm and Elizabeth have been long friends of BRM, and we have sent the Starks to their last two church assignments: in Mendota and Charleston. Please remember the Stark family in prayer at this time. Psalm 116:15

Thank you for prayer and support towards our ongoing ministry of keeping church doors open.

In His Service,

Rev. David J. Bauer -Isaiah 9:6