



Issue 11 March 4th, 2008 "Joy Edition"

Good morning Ladies! Today we welcome Chris & Allan Miller.

Chris recently celebrated his tenth anniversary with his wife Angela. They have two wonderful sons, Keegan (3) and a cute little newborn named Truitt (1 mo). Chris is the oldest of the two brothers and says he has the receding hair line to prove it.

Allan, the younger brother (by 2 ½ years), also has two sons, Tobias (4) and Henry (2). His wife Sarah has been a strong supporter of his dreams for nearly 8 years. Even though his hair is not receding, he does have a few more grey hairs than Chris, a fact that should not be overlooked.



So, if you're keeping count, the two Miller brothers are now fathers to two sets of Miller brothers. The clan is growing. They have had the distinct privilege of growing up in a CBA Bookstore-literally. As children they often played behind the shelves of their family run bookstore in Fairbanks, AK, where they learned firsthand the value of faith-based stories. They moved to the Seattle area in 1987 and homeschooled through their high-school years. After graduating, they attended the Art Institute of Seattle where they formally trained in Computer Animation and Multimedia Design with the hopes of one day creating stories that encourage a Biblical world view.

For the past 10 years they have been in business together, designing and programming websites as a means of supporting their dreams. More recently they have founded Lumination Studios to produce stories of faith and fun for families everywhere. Over the last several years they have worked as animators for the popular CBA kids video series, Juniors Giants, and have recently written and illustrated two published books *The Legend of Gid the Kid and the Black Bean Bandits*, the first book in the *Heroes of Promise Series* (Warner Press Kids) and *The Legend of Ten-Gallon Sam and the Perilous Mine*. They also are proud to announce that their first novel (book one in a youth fiction fantasy trilogy) will be published and released this coming fall. The mission of their company is to produce "Stories that Shine". Chris and Allan say "The favorite part of our job is when we get to go to schools, or events and meet the kids who enjoy our books. It is fascinating to watch them discover our stories for the first time. It is one of the most rewarding feelings in the world." Their "spare" time is dedicated to either, playing with their kids, writing new stories, or reading books.

Chris and Allan went on to say "Moms hold a special place in their children's hearts. As husbands we are truly amazed at the sacrifices our wives go through to encourage our son's to grow up and follow Jesus. Recently, while we were on a trip to appear on a national talk-show, we sat at a restaurant and had the chance to observe a young mom and her two sons, probably 5 and 2. It didn't take Dr. Phil to see that this was not the 2 year old's day. In the mother's own words, he was "ornery". Helpless to change his attitude, she finally had the waitress change her order "to-go". Through it all, we were both struck with how well she handled the situation and impressed by the reminder of how much a mother gives to her children when she chooses to stay at home. It gave us a little glimpse of a day-in-the-life-of for our own wives; something we don't get to see that much as working fathers. So, "Thanks Moms!". We appreciate all you do, and all you *endure* for the sake of loving your children."

The Living Room

...where you experience life and spiritual growth



Good morning ladies. I hope you receive a real blessing and encouragement for being in MOPS today. The topic of ACCEPTANCE has been on my mind for the last week or so. I looked it up in the dictionary and found these definitions. ACCEPTANCE = the act of receiving, to submit to, be resigned to, approving reception. Do you find it difficult to accept some of the situations, trials, or circumstances God is allowing in your life?

We as mothers are a lot like God in that we ask and expect our children to obey us and accept our decisions about many things that affect their lives everyday, i.e.; what they should and should not put in their bodies, what they can and cannot wear, where they can and cannot go. We try to help them prioritize their day to accomplish what is needed for school, work and down time. Why do we do this? It is the process of being a parent. We brought them into this world and have joyfully accepted the responsibility that goes along with that birth even if they may not like what we say or do at the moment but we ask them to trust us.

God is no different. In James 4:7a He says, "Submit yourselves, then to God....." and in Romans 13:1 He says "Everyone must submit himself [or herself] to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God." There are authorities in the home as well as in government. Husband is under the authority of God, wife is under the authority of the husband, and children are under the authority of the parents. That is the way God designed it and if anyone of these is out of kilter the home is in chaos. Just as we have a responsibility to our family, so God has a responsibility to each of His children. He asks us to trust Him in everything - EVERYTHING. Trust Him with our children, our husbands and their job opportunities, our health, wealth, other family members and even where we are to live. Where we lived was a difficult one for me as an Army wife. But I finally learned to trust God even in this. In fact I took Him literally when He said through Paul in Philippians 4:11 (King James Version) "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever STATE I am, therewith to be content. [or to accept]." We traveled a lot and had duty assignments in many states and countries. It was a great comfort to me knowing God, not the Army had sent us there. I accepted His plan for me at that time of my life.

Some people are all hung up on this free will thing and we as humans being responsible for our lives. True, we are responsible for the decisions we make and must learn how to make proper ones in all phases of our lives. But we must commit our lives to the one who created us and knows more that we do. He can see the beginning and end of things and knows what the consequences of those decisions will be. He asks us to trust His leading. We present our desires to Him, commit ourselves to His will and leave the final outcome in His hand.

Do you really believe God is who He says He is? That He is more than able to accomplish what concerns you? Then put your belief to the test and stop fighting and complaining about those issues in your life that you don't understand. Place your whole being in the very capable hand of the one who created you and loves you dearly. Can you do it?

Jeremiah 29:11-14a say "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you,....."

ACCEPT GOD AT HIS WORD.

God bless you all!

Judy D



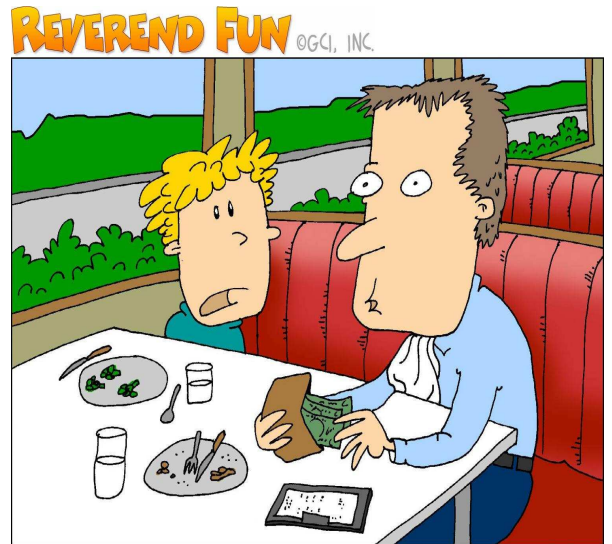
Editor Note:

The following business was inadvertently left out of the last issue of "The Front Porch" for our Business Fair..



Kristy Miller is an interior decorator and the owner of *Kristy Miller Design* "Making your home and office a place you and others want to be".

When asked about her passion for decorating, Kristy stated "I've always loved decorating and making living spaces inviting. As a little girl I spent hours decorating and re-arranging my bedroom. In college my dorm room was one of the favorite hang outs on the floor. People would always comment on how warm and inviting it was...how they just loved being in it. That's the atmosphere I love helping other people create. What started as a hobby, then became a service to family and friends and has now been a business for close to four years." Kristy can be contacted by phone at 253-640-8139 or you can email her at kristym@kristymillerdesign.com



HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?

*"Learning is a treasure
that will follow its owner
everywhere"*
Chinese Proverb



The Library

...for your reading enjoyment, Book Reviews etc.

Looking for a Good Book? Try 'The Good Book.'

Colossians 3:13-15 "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the LORD forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Timothy 3:16-17

"All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."



In the Nursery

...a cure for SIDS?



What is the cause of SIDS?

SIDS-FAQs Answer: Reputable studies show that gaseous poisoning caused by microbiological generation of highly toxic gases from certain chemicals in the baby's crib and in certain types of bedding is the true cause of crib death. This explanation is the only one that answers all of the questions posed concerning cot death.

What law was passed that perpetuated crib death after 1950?

SIDS-FAQs Answer: Since 1946, governments of industrialized countries have mandated the use of fire retardant chemicals in mattresses. Phosphorus and antimony are the most commonly used chemicals to meet the fire retardant mandate. Arsenic was also later added as a preservative. It also, unknown to them, causes a potential chain-reaction of events: naturally forming fungus in a baby mattress can combine with these chemicals when a baby's body temperature rises. This can and does create arsine, phosphine and/or stibine gases. These gases are more toxic than carbon monoxide.

Why did cot death come to the fore in about 1960?

SIDS-FAQs Answer: Because prior to that, and for at least 50 years previously, Plunket INSISTED on baby mattresses being covered with a sheet of rubber! They gave this advice for reasons of hygiene, but it also prevented cot death. Rubber sheets are still commonly used in Russian and Salvic countries, and cot death is far less in those countries, even today. A BabeSafe mattress cover has been molecularly structured to eliminate these poisonous gases from reaching your baby.

Why SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) being called "cot death"?

There are no observable or described symptoms of crib death - the only commonality is death itself. Therefore, the term SIDS is incorrect and should be abandoned. It is highly misleading, and has added greatly to the confusion, which surrounds this topic; because it perpetuates the incorrect assumption that cot death has a medical cause. The term SIDS was first proposed by Dr. Beckwith in 1968, but he recently wrote: "If a prize were to be given to the worst definition of a condition, the term [Sudden Infant Death Syndrome] would be a strong contender."

Is smoking a cause? Or is it hand-me-down mattresses?

SIDS-FAQs Answer:

No cause-and-effect relationship between smoking and cot death has been established. There are socio-economic parallels. Put another way, cot death is more common among poorer families, and so is smoking (as many studies have shown). However, it does not follow that smoking is, therefore, a cot death risk factor. It is not smoking but the re-use of mattresses, which causes the high SIDS rate among lower socio-economic families. The continued re-use of mattresses from one baby to the next increases the fungal growth, which produces the gases, which cause cot death. The rising rate of crib death among babies who sleep on re-used mattresses has been confirmed by research carried out by the Scottish Cot Death Trust: "Case-control study of sudden infant death syndrome in Scotland, 1992-5", British Medical Journal 1997:314:1516-20. The finding was confirmed again in a subsequent study by the Scottish Cot Death Trust (reported in the British Medical Journal in 2002).

What conclusions and possible solutions can we draw?

SIDS-FAQs Answer:

- The toxic gas explanation for cot death explains and is compatible with every known feature of cot death.
- An intervention based on this explanation has proved to be 100% successful over a ten-year period.
- This technique has been used overseas for about 7 years and in 32 countries. Not ONE cot death has been reported by any of those users.
- **A BabeSafe mattress cover has been molecularly structured to eliminate these poisonous gases from reaching your baby.**
- **If you want to order a mattress cover** our local source is SIDS Prevention
 - PO Box 288 Lynden, WA 98264; 360-354-6964
 - www.SIDS-prevention-baby.com

In the Playhouse

...serving in MOPPETS childcare rotation.



March 4th – Joy

Lindsay McCabe
Becky Elfers
Amy Roark
Rachel Vinson
Janet Hewa
Heather Seven

March 18th – Joy

Iris Westwood
Heather Seven
Leesa Ostrander
Amy Scherr
Katy Turner
Megan Flynn-Raab

April 15th – Peace

Hwan Hein
Liz Hall
Courtney Palady
Brenda Garinger
Amber Molen
Noha Habashi
Amber Wong
Erin Pakney

April 22nd – Joy

Heather Seven
Amy Scherr
Sarah Moser
Rachel Vinson
Leesa Ostrander

March 11th – Peace

Amie Cross
Dana Morrell
Amber Molen
Heather Wilson
Kirsten Haines
Tamara Trujillo

April 1st – Peace

Krista Williams
Hwan Hein
Teresa Williams
Amber Molen
Trish Burton
Erin Pakney
Amber Wong
Eleena Olander

April 8th – Joy

Iris Westwood
Heather Elwell
Amy Mesece
Alicia Rogers
Carolyn Williams
Megan Flynn-Raab



Thank you to all who volunteered to take an extra turn in childcare rotation to fill our vacant spots!

We have 5 vacant spots for moms to work during the MOPPETS Thank You Brunch on Tuesday, May 27th. Please contact **Candace Allen or **Julle Watson** if you wish to volunteer.**

Housekeeping

MOPS announcements, reminders, etc.



Visions of sugarplums
still dancing in your
head?

We all have a favorite Christmas memory or tradition. Please send your uplifting Christmas stories, testimonies or Christmas traditions while they are still fresh in your head! Please send them to Jenifer Keltto KLTO@comcast.net to be used for an upcoming MOPS project in December '08 (how's that for planning ahead?)

Help Wanted!

We need a few "crafty moms" who are interested in helping out with children's crafts for MOPPETS. Please contact Erin McWayne at erinmcwayne@gmail.net



Recipe Book Contest
has been extended until
March 11th!!!

For each recipe you submit to
Email Leesa Ostrander
lmo200@hotmail.com
You will be entered into a drawing to win your recipe book for free!

This promises to be a great recipe book, but
WE NEED YOUR RECIPES!!!