



# Pinehurst Post

*We exist to love Jesus and live for Him.*

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*We envision a congregation whose love for Jesus and one another leaves a clear and compelling witness for Christ.*

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**I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.**  
Psalm 138:2

## Bible Trivia

From what Old Testament character do we have the English word that means "a bringer of back luck?"

Answer from the May issue: The word "excruciating" comes from the Latin, meaning literally, "out of the cross."



## Crazy Love in Action by Ryan Reese

Love God, love others. Jesus' summation of the Old Testament is still our most concise description of the Christian life today (Matthew 22:37-40). As we've studied the Sermon on the Mount on Sunday mornings we are continually faced with the challenge of dying to our obsession with ourselves and living for God's purposes instead. Our devotion groups seemed to lead us in a similar direction. Francis Chan, author of *Crazy Love*, begged us to take the words of Christ seriously by expressing a radical love for God in a deep love for others. We will do whatever it takes to meet our needs. He doesn't need to remind us to do that. But Jesus tells us that loving Him means loving others. How do we know if we love others? We care about meeting *their* needs, not just our own. James tells us that this service for others is an expression of true, saving faith in God: "If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warm and filled,' without giving them the things needed for the body,

what good is that (James 2:15-16 ESV)?" Our love for others needs to be tangible, not just consisting in compassionate thoughts, prayers, and well-wishes, but in deeds. And when it comes to meeting needs—physical or spiritual—we have a lot to offer others. Not only do we have the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ, but we also have material goods—food, clothes, etc.—in excess of our needs. Francis Chan asked us to consider our possessions in light of eternity. Will we take pride in heaven that we spent so much on ourselves, living lives of luxury, having the nicest car or home, going on exorbitant vacations, having 10 clothing options for each day of the week? Or will we wish we would have given more away? Will we wish we had shared with those in need? Jesus makes the choice seem obvious (Matthew 25:31-46), and Paul answers the question of "How much is enough?" by telling us we should be content with food and clothing (1 Timothy

6:8). None of us is there yet, myself included, but we need to work to grow in our love and service of others in real ways. So look at your possessions in light of eternity. Are there things you have that you don't really need, things that could be used daily by others? Raid your closet and attic; scan the living room. Make an "outgoing" pile that will bless someone else. On July 23-24, we are going to give our stuff away. Most of our clothing will go to those who attend the Salt of the Earth Food Bank at our church. We will donate larger items and household goods to Word Relief, a Christian organization that furnishes homes for refugees in the United States. So bring quality items (not junk)—clothing, household items, furniture, whatever you think someone else could use—to the church over the next few weeks. Put them in the storage room (behind the youth room) in the Fellowship Hall and mark them "Give Away." Let's start taking steps to put our *Crazy Love* into action.

## Summer Reading by Brian Watson

The summer is a great time to read. Seemingly, every publication puts out its own summer reading list. With that in mind, I would like to offer some suggestions for reading.

Before I do that, I would encourage you to check out the resource center at church. There are a number of excellent books available and we will be adding more in the future. (Also, if you have a book that you checked out eons ago, please return it!) If you want to read a good book, please talk to Ryan or me. We would love to point you in a good direction. There are so many books out there and they are not all worthwhile. It takes some discernment to determine which books are worth reading and which ones are not. Since we all have limited time and

energy, knowing what to read is important. Let us help you.

Most summer readings lists consist of a lot of fluff. I would encourage you to take this opportunity to read books that are good for your mind and your soul. (Remember the greatest commandment? "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your *mind*.") Take a break from fiction and pick up a book that will help you know more about God. For those of you attending our adult Sunday School, you may start to realize that you have a lot more to learn. We all do, so let's join together in the lifelong pursuit of learning about God.

Within our resource center, I will make several recommendations: *The Call* by Os Guinness; *Knowing God* by J. I. Packer; *Systematic Theology* by Wayne Grudem (it's a great resource to own!); *The Prodigal God* by Tim Keller; *Twelve Ordinary Men* and *Twelve Extraordinary Women* by John MacArthur; *The Grand Weaver* by Ravi Zacharias; *Suffering and the Sovereignty of God*, edited by John Piper and Justin Taylor; *The Hole in Our Gospel* by Richard Stearns; and *Respectable Sins* by Jerry Bridges. Of course, there are many other great books that we don't have (yet) in the resource center. If you want other recommendations, please see us. We can even let you borrow one of our books or point you to where you can purchase books.

## Getting to Know the Manns

We asked Jim and Amy Mann to share a little about themselves so that we can get to know them better. Here's what they said.

*Tell us about how and when you first came to PBC*

**Jim:** My wife actually started attending about five years ago, for reasons I cannot remember, and she said she really liked it. We had been going to the New Life Center off and on but I had grown up in relatively small church and preferred a smaller setting.



**Amy:** In December 2004 I visited PBC as my sister-in-law was singing in the choir. She is good friends with C h r i s t y

Compton. I really liked the small setting compared to where we were going.

*How did you meet?*

**Jim:** My sister introduced me to Amy as she was a friend of a friend. Our first date was with two other couples and I ended up driving place to place with my brother-in-law as she would not ride with me.

**Amy:** As Jim said it was a blind date through mutual friends. Jim is right - I would not ride in the same car with him - I was shy. To some of you, shy may not sound like me. We went bowling and at the end of the night the group left us so I had to get in the car with him.

*Did you grow up in this area?*

**Jim:** I actually grew up in Anacortes and other than a brief four-year stint in the Bay Area, have always lived in Washington.

**Amy:** I lived in Seattle until I was 5 and then we moved to Everett. My parents still live in the same house today.

*Tell us about when you first put your faith in God*

**Jim:** I think honestly my faith in God has really come about when I went from being single to having a family and life got more complicated. I realized that I needed to be less focused on myself and make God a regular part of my life so that my wife and children would have the chance they deserved to know Him also.

**Amy:** For me it was in April 2003 when I was baptized and gave up my old life in favor of following the Lord which was a leap of faith at the time.

*What verse or passage of scripture has special meaning to you?*

**Jim:** I think I am still figuring that out. Up until the last couple of years I really did not spend much time reading the Bible and only lately have I made that a regular part of my life. There is still much to explore and learn.

**Amy:** Like Jim I am still trying to figure this out as well. I really enjoy reading the books of Genesis and Psalms.

*Any fun/interesting hobbies?*

**Jim:** I like to golf when I can and ride my bikes occasionally. I actually enjoy building and repairing bicycles in my spare time. Other than that I spend most of my free time with the family.

**Amy:** I like scrapbooking, stamping, creating cards, or anything else creative. My favorite hobby is spending time with the men in my life.

*What is something that you particularly love about your spouse?*

**Jim:** I love the fact that Amy is so outgoing, social, and likes to get involved as I am almost the exact



opposite by nature. If it were not for her we may not be going to Pinehurst, we might not be teaching Sunday school (which I love) and our kids would probably not be involved as much as they are in various activities.

**Amy:** I love the fact that he works hard to provide for his family and is a good father to our children. He does his best to follow the Lord and set good examples for all of us.

*Tell us three words that describe Michael and Matthew.*

**Jim:**

Matthew is funny, caring, and shy. Michael is fearless, talkative, and curious.

**Amy:**

Matthew is loving, energetic, and sensitive. Michael is silly, happy, and carefree.

*Anything else your church family should know about you?*

**Jim:** If I don't talk to you don't take it personally. I am kind of socially awkward. When I am not working I am typically willing to lend a hand as needed and am somewhat mechanically inclined.

**Amy:** I feel blessed that we have found a church home with so many great people. Like Jim, I really love teaching Sunday school as it has made me a better person in the process. I love being a stay-at-home mom and being able to be there for my kids. I feel my life is extremely blessed.