

April 3, 2011

INTOUCH

Another Transaction

By Jill Carattini

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY – APRIL 3		
12:30 PM	CBC Choir hosting lunch for Master's Chorale	Fellowship Hall
12:30 PM	Missions Team Meeting	Library (205)
12:30 PM	Nursing Home Ministry	meets at Subway, 44 th & Indian School
2:00 PM	Nursing Home Ministry	serves at Osborn Health & Rehab
3:00 PM	MASTER'S COLLEGE CHORALE CONCERT	Sanctuary
4 & 5:00 PM	Children's Bell and Voice Choirs	201, 207
5:00 PM	Master's Choral Recording	Sanctuary
5:00 PM	CBC Ringers	208
6-8:00 PM	EXCEL High School	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	Sunday Evening Prayer	Library (205)
7:00 PM	CBC Choir hosting dinner for Master's Chorale	209
MONDAY – APRIL 4		
7:00 AM	Teleios: <i>Women's Prayer and Bible Study</i>	Family Room
9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – " <i>Kick Boxing</i> "	Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM	Community Bible Study	Fellowship Hall and Classrooms
TUESDAY – APRIL 5		
9:00 AM	Teleios: <i>Women's Precept Study of Jeremiah</i>	207
6:30 PM	Elder Shepherding Monthly Meeting	
6:45 PM	<i>GriefShare "The Uniqueness of Grief" Part 2</i>	Family Room
WEDNESDAY – APRIL 6		
7:00 AM	Elder Prayer	Paradise Bakery, Tatum & Shea
9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – " <i>That's A Stretch</i> "	Fellowship Hall
5:30 PM	Sanctuary Bells (Adults)	Sanctuary
6:45 PM	LOGOS Kids Club	Classrooms
6:45 PM	EXCEL Junior High	Fellowship Hall
6:45 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
6:45 PM	Teleios: <i>The Best Offense is a Good Defense</i>	Family Room
7:00 PM	EXCEL High School Small Groups	meeting at homes
THURSDAY – APRIL 7		
9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – " <i>Cirque Du Soleil</i> "	Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM	Young Adults Ministry	Fellowship Hall
FRIDAY – APRIL 8		
9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – " <i>Dance It Off</i> "	Sanctuary
SATURDAY – APRIL 9		
A DAY FOR SERVICE, OUTREACH, AND FUN!		
<i>Everyone come! For all or part of the Day!</i>		
7:30 AM →	Breakfast at & neighborhood clean-up around 2140 East Virginia, Phoenix	Machen School
10:30 AM	Easter Egg Hunt	CBC campus
Noon-3 PM	Lunch followed by Fun in the Snow	CBC campus
(10:30 AM	Messianic Bible Studies	209)
SUNDAY – APRIL 10		
9:00 and 10:40 AM	MORNING WORSHIP Rev. Gary Balock " <i>Stir It Up</i> " 2 Timothy 1:1-7	Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Nursery (birth – 23 months)	301-304
9:00 AM	Children's Discipleship (24 mo – gr. 6)	101-103, 201, 203, 206
9:00 AM	Adult Fellowship Classes	208, 209
9:00 AM	Teleios Study: <i>Christian History . . .</i>	207
9:15 AM	Teleios Study: <i>Loving God with All Your Mind</i>	Family Room
10:40 AM	Nursery (birth – 23 months)	301-304
10:40 AM	Children's Church (24 mo. – gr. 6)	101-103, 201, 203, 206
10:40 AM	Teleios: <i>Heartfelt Forgiveness</i>	Family Room
10:40 AM	Teleios Study: <i>Understanding Islam</i>	207
10:40 AM	Teleios Study: <i>Parenting Foundations I</i>	Library (205)
3:00 PM	Phoenix Chorale Concert	Sanctuary
4 & 5:00 PM	Children's Bell and Voice Choirs	206, 207
5:00 PM	CBC Ringers	208
6:00 PM	EXCEL High School	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER	Library (205)

There are a great many companies that think very highly of you and all that you deserve. You deserve the best. You deserve a vacation. You deserve to splurge on this because you're worth it. Even in the midst of economic downturn, flattery remains one of the most effective psychological drivers that compounds debt. In an HSBC Direct survey conducted not long ago, forty-two percent of the consumers interviewed said they had splurged on themselves in the past month. Twenty-eight percent cited their reason for the splurge, simply "because I deserve it."¹

Of course, each of us who has ever bought into the idea that L'Oreal thinks I am worth it or BMW believes I deserve the ultimate driving experience probably realizes that we have done exactly that: we have bought the idea, paid for both the product and the flattering suggestion. No one is giving away these things because they think we are worth it; their flattery is quite literally calculated. In effect, it's not that they think so highly of us, so much as that they want us to think highly of ourselves. Whether we see through the empty sycophancy or not, Geoff Mulgan believes it is working: "[Be]cause you're worth it" has come to epitomize banal narcissism of early 21st century capitalism; easy indulgence and effortless self-love all available at a flick of the credit card.² The enticing words are an invitation to reward ourselves, and it just so happens we agree with L'Oreal that we're worth it—and they're glad.

There is of course much that can be drawn from reflecting on the intemperate desires of a consumer culture, and the season of Lent, as some attempt to resist some of their own intemperate desires, provides the space and invitation to do so. The days before Easter present the world with an opportunity to strip away the psychological drivers of empty flattery and consumer seduction. And while the worldview of a consumer may not be as easily shed as chocolate or shopping, the message of the cross gives a startling commentary on a similar kind of compliment, but a very different transaction. Choosing the cross, Christ has indeed proclaimed our worth, but there is nothing required to accept the unfathomable gesture. In fact, there is nothing one could bring to Good Friday that would ever cover the cost. Christ has both given the affirmation and paid for it in full.

Accepting this undeserved accolade requires a dismissal of the very banal narcissism that epitomizes our numbed consumer hearts. When it comes down to it, we may find that we in fact prefer the consumer transaction, that there is something comforting and familiar in paying for our sense of worth and value. We might find it baffling to accept the idea that something deemed a gift could come to us broken. Or maybe it is the personal nature of his brokenness that we find altogether unnerving—namely, he was not simply broken, he was broken for you. It is far easier to accept an empty compliment.

Yet in these days before Easter, we are given good reason to try out the harder road. With the worth of the world in mind, Jesus chose such a path himself. He took the way of the cross, and he did not come down except to go to the grave. Of course, if God could raise him from the cold tomb, God could certainly have empowered him to step down from the cross. In the very public viewing of his own crucifixion, he could have come down in glory and power for all to see. It would have silenced the chief priests and the soldiers; it would have proved that he was not a force to be trifled with. And it would have made him a God to whom we could not say no, even if it was only to say yes out of fear or force. No instead, he was fully broken for you. He was brought down from the cross with the dead weight of lifelessness. He was crushed and he was buried. When we are battered by the great despairs of the world, when we take the piece of broken bread into our hands and are given strength for the journey, when we turn to him with nothing to give but love, we know why.

It is a transaction that makes every other seem empty, narcissistic, or fleeting at best. And it is worth expending everything to claim it. In my hand no price I bring; simply to thy cross I cling.

(1) "Making Peace with Your Plastic," The Wall Street Journal, Sept 8, 2008.
 (2) Geoff Mulgan, "Because You're Worth It," guardian.co.uk, June 12 2006, accessed March 1, 2009.

Jill Carattini is managing editor of *A Slice of Infinity* at Ravi Zacharias International Ministries in Atlanta, Georgia. This article was sent as the email daily devotional from A Slice of Infinity, a ministry of RZIM, for Friday March, 25, 2011, Slice 2426. www.RZIM.org.

Today at 3:00 PM

The Master's College Chorale in Concert

We are so grateful for the privilege and blessing of worshipping together with this wonderful chorale this morning and, with them, look forward to their concert this afternoon.

Do plan to be here as they lift their 55 voices in song, proclaiming the name and glory of God through the fine works of Joseph Haydn, Jean Berger, William Dawson and others. Admission is free. A love offering will be taken.

And bring along family, friends and neighbors. This concert provides yet another opportunity to draw others in to the truth and beauty of the God who created them and the Lord Jesus Christ who came to save them.

THE 21 DAYS OF GENEROSITY CHALLENGE: As you give daily, you can record what you're learning about your experience on the 21-Day Generosity Challenge by emailing Pastor James- hoxworth@camelbackbible.org. Again, as we live generously, we are reminded that it is out of the gratitude of what Christ has done for us that we give of ourselves to the work of Christ in our city and world!

AS WE APPROACH OUR WEEK OF REMEMBRANCE, HOLY WEEK, we would be remiss in doing so without meaningful time spent with our Lord. As He walked the dusty roads to Jerusalem, knowing what was to take place, may we walk with Him, understanding in a deeper, more profound way what His life, death and resurrection mean to us and to the world — today, tomorrow and into eternity.

PLAN NOW to worship together through our remembrance of His passion: beginning with Palm Sunday and His entry into Jerusalem, followed by our Maundy Thursday observance of His last Passover meal with His disciples, our Good Friday Service of Darkness as we go with him through His trials to the cross and His crucifixion and death, and culminating with Resurrection Sunday's Sunrise Service in celebration of the empty tomb and our worship services celebrating His resurrection and victory over sin and death. It truly is a time of meaningful worship. May the entire CBC family choose to participate in the fullness of the week.

A PASSOVER CELEBRATION, complementing our Holy Week observances, is planned for Saturday, April 23rd, at 10:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Tickets are \$10 and are available in the church office or by calling Rabbi Paul Saduskyj at 602-295-9815. Seating is limited, so do obtain yours as soon as possible.

LOOKING FOR A JOB WHERE YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR GOD in the lives of people with special needs? Check out iCare Family Health Services: <http://icarefhs.com>. Look over their site and get a sense of who they are and what they are about. If this appeals to you, click on the "Employment" tab and start the application process. Know anyone needing in-home care? Here is a resource.

A DAY FOR SERVICE, OUTREACH AND FUN!

This Saturday, April 9th

Join us for as much of the day as you can!

Participate in the Service Project described below

Come to the

Easter Egg Hunt . . . Yummy Lunch . . . Fun in the Snow!

10:30am-12:00pm 12:00pm until 3:00pm

that follow

on our CBC Campus

SEASON OF SERVICE CONTINUES! We have been invited to join volunteers from Machan Elementary School on the morning of April 9 to participate in a neighborhood clean-up project. We'll meet at the school, 2140 East Virginia in Phoenix, at 7:30 AM for breakfast and begin our project around 8:00 AM. Machan was one of our first stops during the Season of Service last year and we were blessed to have a student, Sebastian, join us at a worship service with his family last fall. If you would like to hear more about the morning, please email don.swierenga@cox.net for further details.

My dear Church family,

As you know, I'm away from you for a few weeks working on a book. This always brings mixed emotions: I miss being with my church family and yet I am energized when I sense the Lord is giving me words to encourage others and bring Him glory. Please pray for me – that the Lord would supernaturally empower me to write far better than my natural ability, that He would help me to make Christ appear as excellent as He truly is, that the ensuing book would showcase His glory in an irresistible way. The last time I was away I could really sense the effects of your prayers and I want the same blessing this time too. Thank you for standing with me – kneeling with me! – in this joint effort for the kingdom of Christ.

I love you in His matchless name,



OUR PASTORS HEAD FOR CHICAGO in a little over a week to attend the two-day Gospel Coalition National Conference being held there. Pastor Tim is a member of the coalition and will be leading a workshop session on "Power Through Weakness." The conference is open to anyone who would like to attend and fliers with basic details, including the website for registering, are located in the narthex. Do be in prayer for this event and the work of God through a powerful schedule of gifted speakers and a vision for restoring The Gospel message to its rightful place.

NOTE: Pastors Tim and Ron, along with Ron's wife, Ruth, and Elder Dave Delnoce will be worshipping at Edgewater Baptist Church there in Chicago the Sunday prior to the conference, April 10th, representing CBC at the ordination of Bill Pinalto as Senior Pastor. Pastor Tim has been invited to deliver the morning's sermon.

WITH HOLY WEEK COMES THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE in the nursery, an important ministry to our church family as well as the community:
Maundy Thursday, April 21, 6:30-8:30 PM (The service is at 7:00 PM)
Good Friday, April 22, 6:30-8:30 PM (The service is at 7:00 PM)
Resurrection Sunday, April 24, during morning services (9:00 or 10:40 AM)
This is a great way to serve not only our own CBC family but the many visitors who attend during Holy Week. Consider signing up as a family or small group. Please contact Carmen Benford at 480-831-5059 or cbenford4@cox.net. Thank you!

THE MUSLIM WORLD OF NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST is being shaken – and there is much to learn and understand from a Christian perspective. The Disciple Nations Alliance is providing a briefing, featuring Pastor Stephen Langa of the Watoto Church in Kampala, Uganda, this Saturday, April 9, from 2:00 to 3:30 PM at Church for the Nations, 6225 North Central Avenue, Phoenix.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL . . . SUMMER SEAQUEST . . . JUNE 6-10, 2011
The hours will be 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM (Monday-Thursday), 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM (Friday) immediately followed by the Closing Program and Family Festival! Set sail with us on a life-changing VBS voyage! Each action-packed day includes skits, contests, Bible stories, crafts, music, recreation, games, snacks and much more! Age 4 – Grade 5 (children must be age 4 by Sept. 1, 2011 and grade levels are for current school year, 2010-2011). Cost is \$20/child, \$40 maximum/family, \$7/T-shirt. Go to www.cbcaz.org/vbs to register.

VOLUNTEER FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL This is the major Children's Ministry outreach into our community each year. There are many ways to volunteer including: Classroom (teaching), Admin/Office Work, Crafts, Decorations, Music, and Recreation & Snacks. Please consider prayerfully whether God would have you serve. If you are interested in serving, please contact Pastor Jason at 602-955-6370 or doughty@camebackbible.org. Thank you!

CBC GIVING TO DATE, 2011

Last Week's Giving	\$ 35,088.00
March Giving to Date	\$ 98,736.00
Year to Date Giving	\$ 274,613.00