



GMAU Journal

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New School Opens

Lewistown, MT. The Master's Warriors martial arts ministry opened its doors on Thursday, January 29th to 44 beginner students. With no advertising, we had a full class on day one. The class is using the fellowship hall of the church as its dojo. Teaching the basic moves, structure of a class and etiquette to 44 beginners was a most interesting and challenging task. The class now has 58 students, with twenty-seven of them having earned their white belts. Doc said, "In my 25 years of teaching the martial arts, I have never seen a more committed group of beginners. Their zeal and discipline is an encouragement. The retention rate is phenomenal." This team is under the direction of Dr. Kent Haralson and is a ministry of Emmanuel Baptist Church.



New Ryu Recognized

Mr. Steven Jones of

The GMAU Journal is a quarterly, non-profit publication designed as a channel of communication between GMAU members and other Christian martial artists.

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Feature Article...

The Covered Fist

Pastor Mike McClure, 4th Dan

Text: Matthew 11:27-30

"All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. 28) Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29) Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30) For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Add to your thinking: Matthew 5:5

"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."

And Numbers 12:3 "(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)"

The meekness of our Lord is an example to those who would follow Him.

In the Valour School of Self Defense, as in many martial arts schools, we greet each other with a covered fist. In the symbolism of our class, the fist says: "I have knowledge and I have power." The covering of the fist says: "I will cover my power because I wish to be a man of peace."

1. Covering the power by no means diminishes the power. What it does do is control the power.
2. Controlling one's own power is an essential to true martial arts training. Uncontrolled power indicates a pride problem in the heart.
3. Power under control is, in a word, "meekness".

The Bible talks a great deal about meekness.

We have just read that Jesus referred to Himself as meek. He said the meek shall inherit the earth, and we understand that Moses was the meekest man on the face of the Earth. The concept of meekness is one of the most misunderstood principles in the word of God. Generally, when the word meek is used, the image that comes to most minds is one of cowardice and weakness. Synonyms for the word meek are gentle, docile, mild, tame, humble, lowly, modest, and unassuming. But weakness and cowardice are not equal to meekness. Meekness is being gentle when we could be harsh. Meekness is being mild when we could be rough. Meekness is being tame when we could be wild. Meekness is being lowly when we could be assertive. Meekness is being modest when we could be self-aggrandizing. Meekness is being unassuming when we might assume a great deal. Meekness is power under control.

Now let's explore this character trait of meekness in the text before us:

I. Matthew 11:27 "All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father,

save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him."

Jesus' words, here, tell us that we can only know God as we know His Son.

1. Jesus Christ is the incarnation of God.
2. He is God come to Earth.
3. He is the revelation of the Father to mankind.

If we would know God, we must know Jesus Christ. If we would know Jesus Christ, we must come to know Him by faith. We must believe that He is, in fact, God come in the flesh. We must believe that He loves us. We must believe that He gave Himself for our sins. We must believe that He is ready and willing to forgive our sins.

"...Christ died for our sins, according to the scriptures..." and all He asks us to do is to believe Him. When we do believe Him, He will:

1. Forgive our sins.
2. Save our souls.
3. Grant us eternal life.
4. Give us a home in heaven.
5. Reveal the Father to us.

II. Matthew 11:28 "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

- A. Jesus bids anyone who will, to come to Him.
B. He offers rest to those who carry a heavy load.

1. He gives us rest from our guilt.
2. He gives us rest from our sin.
3. He gives us rest for all eternity.

III. Matthew 11:29 & 30 "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Jesus bids us to take His yoke. A yoke is a device that teams two together to work. Jesus asks us who come to Him to

serve Him. He says that He will join us in the yoke. He will pull the load and leave us with a yoke that is easy and a burden that is light. Jesus says that He is meek and lowly in heart. There never was such a definition of meekness! Here, at once, is Jesus who spoke the worlds into existence and upholds them by the power of His Word. Here is One who could will all men into eternity. But here, also, is the One who humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Those who want to be saved by Jesus must come to humble themselves and believe. Those who want to be like Jesus must learn to be meek and lowly of heart. We must learn to humble self. We must learn to put Christ and others ahead of ourselves.

The martial artist who desires to be called a Christian martial artist must, at the very basis, know and do two things:

1. He must put away his pride, admit his sin and place his heart's trust in the Savior Who died on the cross for that sin and Who rose again as the guarantor and grantor of eternal life.
2. He must surrender himself completely to the control of the Lord by submitting himself to the Holy Spirit of God. That includes, but is not limited to, controlling the power of his martial arts knowledge and technique. This must translate into a guiding principle for all that he does inside and outside the training area. The martial artist who has not learned meekness has missed the point of being a Christian martial artist.

About the Author: Pastor McClure recently earned his 4th degree Black belt. He is Senior Pastor of West Park Baptist Church in Delray Beach, Fl.



11th Annual GMAU Clinic Report

On March 6th and 7th, the 11th Annual GMAU Martial Arts Clinic was hosted by the Gospel Karate Team, of West Palm Beach Fl., A ministry of Berean Baptist Church, West Palm Beach Fl.

The weekend started on Friday (March 6) with black belt examinations. We had 17 black belts sitting on the four exam boards (one for Shodan-ho, one for full Shodan, one for 2nd Dan and one board for 4th Dan tests). The examiners included four 8th-degrees, one 5th-degree, two 4th-degrees, two 3rd-degrees, seven 2nd-degrees and two 1st-degree black belts. A lot of heavy hitters. We examined eight candidates. Of those, five were promoted: Shodan-ho (Provisional) to Julie Bare and Jim Sturgis; Shodan to Katie Merrell and Gary Brown; and Yondan (4th) to Michael McClure. The tests involved a one-hour written exam, followed by a 5 1/2 hours physical exam. Ours thanks to the examination board members: Kent Haralson, John Wilcox, Sherry McGregor, Chris Foley, Scott Hoffer, Rick Merrell, Homer Kennedy, Kendra Kilpatrick, Sara Lawson, Christian Phillips, W. Boan, S. Boan, B. Smith, Scott Gilbert, and M. Holloway. Following the review and awards, we all went out for dinner, compliments of Larry Phillips and the host West Palm Beach club.

The clinic continued with seminars starting at 6PM Friday night and running all day on Saturday. There

were parallel tracks for black belts and students. In all, we enjoyed a total of 34 seminars being offered on a variety of martial arts. We were privileged to have 33 black belts with us this weekend from FL, VA, IN, MT, MN and Australia. There were also 36 kyu students at the clinic.

The highlight was the presence of Kyoshi George Brich, a 78 year old judo expert, who is still an active teacher and practitioner. Watching Judo George perform his techniques and being tossed himself was a very amazing experience.

We were also honored to have Chris Foley with us from Australia. Chris was in the states conducting a series of seminars on tour and was able to make West Palm Beach one of his stops. He conducted several clinics in Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Minnesota and Montana returning to Australia.

The clinic concluded with a banquet for 140 participants and guests. Kent Haralson gave a challenge from God's Word to the crowd from Mark 12 (For Show or for Service). Belts and certificates were awarded. The host sensei (Larry Phillips) also presented each visiting instructor with a book as a token of appreciation. Johnny Russell (4th Dan - Indiana) was presented with his Master Instructor Certificate. Scott Gilbert (4th Dan - Virginia) was issued his Instructor certificate and school charter. Kent Haralson (8th Dan - Montana) also received a school charter. John Wilcox, Paul Wheeler, Sherry McGregor and Alline Olds then put on a short self-defense demo for the crowd, followed by a full-scale demo by the host class demo team.

Here are some reactions after the clinic:

- "I was on a Spiritual High three days after coming home from the GMAU clinic, and I am still riding the wave!" -Dave Hyde.
- "I now have a vision of just HOW BIG the martial arts ministry is, and how it is impacting the world

for Christ!" - Pastor Doug Hendrick.

- "Never before have I felt such love and camaraderie among such awesome warriors!" -Mick Mulry.
- "In nearly 60 years of training, I have never experienced such a spirit of humility and willingness to learn from others as I experienced at the Gospel Martial Arts Clinic. Even though I had never met any of these people before, they opened their minds and hearts to me. It was refreshing to attend a seminar where there were no egos or chips on shoulders. I can hardly wait for next year! The people of the GMAU made my 78th birthday the BEST!"-Kyoshi George Brich (aka Judo George).
- Well, Doc, meeting you and the GMAU group was probably one of the greatest and most influential experiences of my life. I felt as if I had known you all for many years. Never before have I enjoyed such a widespread spirit of friendship and fellowship among martial artists. I felt like a square peg fitting perfectly into a square hole. I know it may sound funny, and kind of corny, but as I sat in the midst of the GMAU group during the banquet, I felt like: I was home. The spiritual and emotional experience is really quite difficult to describe. But, when I was sitting there looking around at all my new friends, I felt the love of Christ warming the room. Thank you Doc, and GOD BLESS YOU for listening to the Holy Spirit when he led you to start the GMAU! It is a high privilege and honor for me to wear the Gospel Martial Arts Union patch on my arm, and hold it's principles in my heart. From the depths of my heart, I thank you. - Johnny Russell



Recent GMAU Promotions

Rank Awards:

<i>Michael McClure</i>	4th Dan
<i>Yung Fu Shang Shou</i>	WPB, FL
<i>Julie Bare</i>	Shodan Ho
<i>Seigi Bushido Ryu</i>	WPB, FL
<i>Jim Sturgis</i>	Shodan Ho
<i>Seigi Bushido Ryu</i>	WPB, FL
<i>Kathryn Joy Merrell</i>	Shodan
<i>Seigi Bushido Ryu</i>	WPB, FL
<i>Gary Brown</i>	Shodan
<i>Seigi Bushido Ryu</i>	Graceville, FL
<i>Scott Gilbert</i>	Yondan
<i>Chutoku Ryu Budo</i>	Virginia Beach, VA

School Charters:

<i>Scott Gilbert</i>	Kicks for Christ Virginia Beach, VA
<i>Dr. Kent Haralson</i>	The Master's Warriors Lewistown, MT

Instructor Certifications:

<i>Scott Gilbert</i>	Dojo Sensei Okinawan Kenpo Virginia
<i>Johnny Russell</i>	Master Instructor Karate, Judo, Ninjutsu Indiana

New Members:

<i>Scott Gilbert</i>	Virginia Beach, VA Black (4) - Okinawan Kenpo
<i>Sherry McGregor</i>	Longwood, FL Black (8) - Seidokan
<i>Dwight Libengood</i>	Scottdale, PA Black (1) - Japanese Goju-Ryu



GMAU Event Calendar

- Instructors' Seminar: West Palm Beach, FL - May 9th at 09:00am. Contact point is Larry Phillips at phillipswpb@adelphia.net

- June -

- Kung-Fu Mini-Clinic with Sifu John R. Himes (founder of Chin Bei Lum Tao and the Temple Chinese Boxing Association) of Hokkaido, Japan. Saturday, June 6, 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., \$10.00 per person. All proceeds go to Sifu Himes who is a missionary in Japan. He has almost 30 years experience in the martial arts. Mini-Clinic to be held at West Park Baptist Church, 4004 Lake Ida Road, Delray Beach, Florida. Sponsored by the Gospel Martial Arts Union, the Temple Chinese Boxing Association and the Valour School of Self Defense. Contact Michael L. McClure at (561) 495-2107 for more information.

- July -

- 3rd Annual Northeastern Regional Martial Arts Clinic: St. Johnsbury, VT - Friday and Saturday, July 24 & 25, 1998. Contact Mr. Steven Jones for further information at RFD #2, Box 149, St. Johnsbury, VT. 05819

- September -

- 6th Biannual Forms Tournament: West Palm Beach, FL - Saturday, September 12 starting at 9AM. Participants will be awarded certificates, ribbons, medals and trophies depending on how well they perform the "forms" of their specific style. Contact point is Orville Osbourne - orvilleo@adelphia.net

- January '99 -

- 7th Biannual Forms Tournament: West Palm Beach, FL - Saturday, January 16 starting at 9AM. Participants will be awarded certificates, ribbons, medals and trophies depending on how well they perform the "forms" of their specific style. Contact point is Orville Osbourne - orvilleo@adelphia.net

- March '99 -

- 12th Annual Southeastern Regional Martial Arts Clinic: West Palm Beach, FL, March 5th & 6th 1999. Contact point is Larry Phillips at phillipswpb@adelphia.net

- May '99 -

- 1st Annual Rocky Mountain States Regional Clinic: Lewistown, MT, May 14 & 15, 1999. Contact Dr. Kent Haralson at haralson@lewistown.net

- July '99 -

- 4th Annual Northeastern Regional Martial Arts Clinic: St. Johnsbury, VT - July 30 & 31, 1999 Contact Mr. Steven Jones for further information at RFD #2, Box 149, St. Johnsbury, VT. 05819

- Fall '99 -

- 1st Annual Mideast Regional Martial Arts Clinic: Indianapolis, IN - fall 1999

GMAU Announcements

GMAU President, Scott Hoffer, made a couple of announcements during the 11th Annual clinic in West Palm Beach. First was the availability of bulk orders of the GMAU Journal for a sensei who felt that his or her class

would benefit by having the students receive the Journal. The charge will be \$.75 per copy (which is the printing cost). We will mail a bulk order to the sensei that can then be mailed to them or handed out to their students with or without cover letters. Larry Phillips will need a count and a check by the first of the month before release of each issue (issues are releases in January, April, August, and November) indicating your desire to receive extra copies of that issue of the GMAU Journal.

Scott also announced new policies to govern the sanctioning of GMAU Clinics. The purpose of these policies is to insure the highest level of quality and testimony at all events carrying the GMAU sanction. These policies will be finalized and published in a document soon.

Forms Tournamant A Success

In January, the Gospel Karate Team in W.P.B. Fl., held its biannual forms tournament. Four schools were represented. The objective was not to compete with each other, but to "strive for the mastery". The results:

Name	Rank	Awarded
Julie Bare	Brown	Ribbon
Jim Sturgis	Brown	Ribbon
Nathaniel Millev	Brown	Ribbon
Frank Garguilo	Brown	Ribbon
Danny Kovach	Brown	Ribbon
Matt Clough	Brown	Ribbon
Erin Askew	Purple	Ribbon
Jessica Worley	Purple	Ribbon
Derek Garguilo	Purple	Certificate
Mario Garguilo	Purple	Certificate
Jerry Clough	Purple	Ribbon
James Wilson	Blue	Certificate
John St. Jacques	Purple	Ribbon
David St. Jacques	Purple	Certificate

Taylor Blake		Purple
Certificate		
David MacKinnon	Blue	Ribbon
Dominic Consalvo	Blue	Ribbon
Susan James	Green	Certificate
Linda Henry	Green	Certificate
Chris Henry	Green	Certificate
Chris Beairsto	Green	Ribbon
Logan Blake	Green	Ribbon
Nichola Fonseca	Green	Ribbon
Tim Weaver	Green	Certificate
Ryan Bachor	Yellow (2)	Tip Ribbon
Ocatavia McGill	Yellow	
Certificate		
Deloris McGill	Yellow	
Certificate		
Patrick James	Yellow	
Certificate		
Chris Bradley	Yellow	
Ribbon		
Rachel Askew	Yellow	
Medal		
Nathan Burrell	White (2)	Tip
Medal		
Elizabeth Dillon	White (2)	Tip
Ribbon		
Danielle Engle	White	Tip
Certificate		
Joel McGill	White	Tip Certificate
Amanda McClure	Green	Medal
Sean McClure	Gold	Ribbon
Melissa Ortiz	White	Ribbon
David Millard	White	
Ribbon		
Daniel Millard	White	Ribbon
Daniel Martinez	White	
Certificate		
David Bradley	White	Ribbon
Ashley Wellman	White	Ribbon
Cactrin Cash	White	
Certificate		
Kenel Geffard	White	
Certificate		
Justin Goodwyn	White	
Certificate		
Jerry Bell	White	Ribbon
Rachel Askew	White	
Certificate		
Donald Wilson	White	Medal
Joshua Bell	White	Ribbon
Nate Davenport	White	Medal

Tim Tress	White	Ribbon
Ray Askew	Black	Medal
John Jones	Black	Medal
Jason Durant	Black	Medal
Jimmy Hernandez Jr.	Black (P)	Medal
Katie Merrell	Black (P)	Medal



A Meal for the Mind

- - by Dr. Kent Haralson

For Show or Service?

Are your Martial Arts for Service or for Show? Get your Bible out and turn to Mark 12. Read verses 38 through 44 and notice how they apply to the life of a Christian Martial Artist as it pertains to how you use your skills. Consider five things about this passage and ask the Holy Spirit to show you areas of your martial arts that are not wholly yielded to Him.

I. In this passage, Jesus differentiated between two kinds of people. First, there were those who loved to show off, as described in vv. 38-40. Secondly, there were those who loved to serve no matter how little they possessed (v. 42). Why are you in karate? Is it for show or for service? Is to learn how to kick, punch and fight? Is it to show off physical skills? It can also be used to discipline oneself, to reach others for Christ, and to grow others in Christ. What is your motivation for being in the martial arts? For show or service?

II. When and why did the Lord give this teaching? This teaching occurred on the Tuesday afternoon of Passion Week, after Jesus had answered both the multitudes and His disciples. But, they appeared to have forgotten the lesson right away. How quickly do you forget or dismiss the instruction and pointers given to you by your

sensei? Jesus first warned His disciples, "Beware of the scribes..." (v. 38). The Greek expression for "beware" is blepete, see or perceive. His admonition was contrary to modern teaching about accepting people as they are. Jesus told His disciples to stay away from people who are not genuine, in order not to participate in their hypocrisy. It took some of them a long time to learn this lesson. The Lord brings experiences and people across our path so that we will learn from them. We should be careful to get out of an experience only the wisdom that is in it - and stop there. Human beings, who are unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so. Consider your motives for working in Children's Church, teaching Sunday School, earning a green belt, entering a tournament, putting patches on your uniform and becoming a sensei. Is it for show or service?

III. Who were the show-offs? They were the scribes, or grammateis, which means the learned ones (a remarkable similarity to sensei here). To know is not evil in itself, but to be proud of it is worse than being ignorant. There is no known correlation between knowledge and the ability to teach or character or integrity. Knowledge does not equate with wisdom. You don't teach from the head, but from the heart. In particular, the scribes studied the Law of God. After the return from Exile, the duty of interpreting the Mosaic Law had fallen first to the priests, and later to a group called the Scribes, who became professional students and teachers of the Law. Due to this important task, it was tempting for them to assume the authority of God Himself. Even today pride lurks at

every Bible student's desk and behind every pulpit. It hides inside every black belt and comes with the colored uniform tops. We, too, must be careful lest we become proud peddlers of God's Word and the special martial arts skills, which we possess. You see a great many people who think they are thinking, when they are merely rearranging their prejudices.

IV The characteristics of the Scribes. Jesus first mentioned their dress (v. 38). The Greek word translated "in long clothing" is stolai. This was a long, flowing robe reaching to the feet, which was worn by kings and priests, or other persons of rank and distinction. The scribes wished to be set apart in order to receive homage. Some salutations were abject prostration, and a slave might also kiss the sleeve or skirt of his lord's clothing to show respect. The Lord Jesus prohibited the seventy he sent out from engaging in such activity (Lu. 10:4, "Salute no man by the way"). He said this to stress the urgency of proclaiming the Gospel, rather than fuss with things that don't really matter in the big picture of life. There is a lot of unnecessary fuss and sacred cows in the martial arts (and the church) that need to be purged. You see, Sacred cows make the best hamburger. Our mantra ought to be "Lord, burn eternity into our eyeballs." Help us to do what You would do and avoid what You would avoid. To love what You love and hate what You hate. The scribes, on the other hand, made a show of themselves by seeking "the chief seats in the synagogues, and the uppermost rooms at feasts." (v. 39) They were more intent on drawing attention to their glory than God's. The scribes were totally unworthy of the honor they demanded for themselves. They even took advantage of the poor by

taking away the little food that widows had in their house (v. 40). There is positional power and there is personal power. Positional power is the belt, the uniform, and the title. It can teach or help little. Personal power is character, integrity, passion and heart. Only those who have yielded their all to Jesus can have both in the proper balance. Make sure that you are cultivating the inside as much as you are the outside and the show. You teach only from the overflow of your heart. Lastly, they completed their shame by saying long prayers for show. By their actions they demonstrated their lack of love for either God or man. Because of their hypocrisy, Jesus said they would receive "greater damnation." (v. 40) Don't try and make up for a lack of skill, character, heart and integrity by long speeches, long titles behind your name and endless tirades at your students. Love your students. Encourage them. Criticize in private and praise in public.

V. In contrast was the widow who sacrificed. As Jesus sat opposite the treasury, He observed a widow put in a very small amount of money. He commented upon her gift to His disciples. (v. 42, 43) Even though her two coins would buy little, in comparison to what she had, they were the greatest gift given that day. She had denied herself the necessities of life in order to give them to God. Only the Lord, however, saw the great worth of her sacrifice in contrast to the wealth others had given out of their plenty. They had their reward from men, but she received her commendation from God Himself. I learn more from teachers that I can respect than from the most talented gifted individuals in the world. I tend to emulate the integrity and character of those I respect. Be a teacher or student of integrity. Use it to build up others. Let us

also avoid the tendency to brag on and elevate those with natural physical talent, when it is the student who overcomes great physical, mental and spiritual diversity, who experiences great self-denial to advance in the martial arts, that deserves our praise and support. The mind of our students is not so much a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled. To be kindled to love Jesus and to be sold out for Him, Him From Whom we come, to Whom we go and through Whom we survive.

Martial Arts Missions Trip to Peru

Last month Jim Hernandez Sr. led a Karate Demo team to Peru for a week. Here are notes from his diary of that trip.

Day 1: Sunday

We left from Miami to Peru on Saturday, Feb. 14, 11:50pm. We had a nice flight to Peru, but I didn't get much sleep on that 5.5-hour trip. I spent most of the time studying my sermon notes, which turned out to be a very good idea. The trip has started with a bang. We arrived in Lima airport at about 5:40 am Sunday, and finally got through customs; the rest of the team arrived within the hour and Carlos Odicio (missionary) picked us up in a large Suburban he borrowed. We traveled through Lima and went to a town called Cieneguilla (one hour from Lima) to where Carlos lives. After freshening up and breakfast we went to our first church service in Lima at 10am. I had the opportunity to preach my first message in Peru; this seems to be the custom when a speaker comes to town. The church had one of the ladies prepare lunch for us after the service and afterwards we went to the church basement to practice with the new

Demo Team. The Demo Team consisted of myself, Jerry Hernandez (Purple), Dwight Keafer (Provisional Black), Wayne Nutter (Brown), and Marty Montour (Blue). After practice, we went to an open park to do our first demo. We had to wait for them to call us in during the entertainment for that evening and we finally went on. There were over 400 to 500 people watching the demo. We gave a good demo and 1 person came forward to accept the Lord! After that we freshened up again at a brothers house and we went immediately to another church in Lima where I was asked to preach again. We finally went home and had some dinner, showered and went to bed. I think we went to sleep about 11 p.m. that night. What a long day! We planned to travel to Ica on Tuesday where the floods and mud slides had devastated the town and surrounding areas.

Day 2: Monday

It was another long and event packed day. We started a little later this morning, 10 am, and went into Lima to exchange American dollars to soles (Peruvian money). Afterwards, we went on a 3-hour ride to Pachacamac, near the coast, where Carlos Odicio has bought about a 3 or 4 acre piece of land to build an orphanage and mission church or training center. We stopped for lunch, went by the beach (Pacific), and saw some of the Incan ruins on the way to the site. We arrived at a mountainous area with many little villages on the mountainsides. The area was mostly used for farming and quarries where they make bricks for construction. Later, we went to Manchay where we did a demo in one of the small parks. It was incredible how many people came out to watch and listen. Carlos suggested I change the invitation method and ask them to pray right

at their seat. This got a much better response from both kids and adults. Most of them are very shy and difficult to come forward. The kids were crazy about the performance and when I gave the message and invitation about 25 to 30 people raised their hands to pray and receive Christ as Lord. WOW! On the way back we stopped in a small Indian market and did some shopping; the only shopping we got to do with this hectic schedule. That night about 10 p.m. we got back to Lima where we were supposed to give another demo for a church youth group. But, there was some confusion as to who would go first, the demo team or the youth soccer game. They decided on the soccer game, so Carlos decided that we had had a long day already and it would be too late after the soccer game to have the demo. We went home.

Day 3: Tuesday

We head to Ica where the floods have destroyed much of the area. We started the day by going to the market and buying food and supplies to take to the churches and children in Ica. Some of the churches in Lima also gave supplies and clothing for the needy. But, the El Nino effects were still in the air and it had drizzled all night at Carlos' house. It turns out that the roof had leaks and we had to repair it before leaving to Ica. Jerry, myself, Wayne, and Lucho (another missionary traveling with us) stayed behind to cover the roof with plastic sheets to prevent the roof from collapsing. The others left for Ica on a 5-hour bus trip. We followed after repairing the roof at 6 pm. When we arrived in Ica, the church put us up in a Bible Seminary building for the rest of the week. Every morning we had a great time of fellowship and devotions.

Day 4: Wednesday

Early that morning we went to one of the churches where the floods had come. The small church building they had there was completely swept away by the floods. Only partial walls remained which had to be torn down. All of us got to work and demolished everything in site. This was typical of most buildings since most of the bricks are made of adobe in a desert climate like Peru. Floodwaters had crumbled most of buildings and made many places unsafe to live. Another danger to everyone was the affects of the dust in the air. The waters had receded and the mud started to dry. As the clean up started, much of the hard mud turned the whole city into a large dust cloud. We had to work with dust masks most of the time to protect us from the dust. Many people had respiratory problems from the dust and diseases from the poor drinking water. We finished most of the work at the church at 2 p.m. and went to the seminary to prepare for a demo at 4 p.m. Carlos had scheduled, roughly, 2 demos per day while we where in Ica. We were supposed to perform for a kid's Bible camp, but that had been cancelled and we were taking the demos right to the streets of Ica. The church there had prepared 200-250 lunch bags for the children after every demo. We did our first demo in Micaela, Ica where we saw 75-100 people, mostly children, receive Christ as their Savior. Afterwards, we would help give out the food to the children and answer questions.

Day 5: Thursday

We went to another section of Ica where Carlos had planned to visit and reach more children. This time we did a demo in Tupac Amaru, Ica at 10 am where another missionary brother preached the gospel. The results were very good and we saw another 20-30 people accept Christ. Again, we helped give out lunches

and afterwards returned to the seminary for lunch. We did chores around the seminary to help the ladies that prepared our meals. By 3:30 p.m. we were preparing for another demo. We tried to do most of the demos either early morning or late afternoon since the temperatures were between 90-100 degrees F at mid-day. The afternoon demo in Camal, Ica went very well and again the response to the gospel message was incredible. Afternoon demos were much larger since most people came out after the temperatures cooled. We saw over 400 people come out to watch the demo. At least 1/3 of those in the crowd responded to the gospel. It was amazing to see God work through the demo team. We gave out the lunches and talked to the people. Many times the mobs of children would crowd the car to get food, so we had to do some crowd control and keep some order. We would also give out tickets to the children so they could get in line for food. Often, there were more children than we had food, which was very heartbreaking. After returning for the night, we planned to have an American barbecue for the families preparing the meals and staying at the seminary.

Day 6: Friday

The plan was to do our demos in Huachipato, Ica and Pasaje Valle, Ica for the day and then head to Huacachina, an oasis in the middle of the desert, to start the barbecue. God blessed us again and we saw many accept Christ in their lives. For the mid-day trek three of us went to the market and bought everything we needed for the barbecue. After the late presentation we headed to the oasis and had a great time of fellowship, swimming, and eating. The demo team did all the food preparation and cooking for the big barbecue. This would be my and Jerry's last night

in Ica before the trek back to Lima on Saturday.

Day 7: Saturday

We did our last demo together in La Esperanza, Ica with the guys from Vermont early that morning. After lunch we headed back to Lima to stay the night and be at the airport on time for our flight back to Florida. We were riding such a spiritual high watching God work in the people that our aches and pains seemed insignificant. I felt for the guys from Vermont that were going to for stay another week.

Day 8: Sunday

Early morning we arrived at the airport and flew back home. We got back Sunday, Feb. 22 after a week in Peru.

A trip I will never forget. Pray for all those in Peru that have been devastated by floods and pray for the churches that have a big job of following up on the many who accepted Christ.

God Bless,
Jim Hernandez Sr.

Jim is an instructor, holds a 1st Degree Black Belt, and leads the Demo team at the Gospel Karate Team in West Palm Beach, Fl. Also on the Demo team were:

Coordinators: Walter F. Knight, Lois Knight, and Stephen Jones (USA) Missionaries: Carlos and Marion Odicio (Peru)

...DOJO & EVANGELIST UPDATE...

Mail from GMAU schools and evangelists.

Golden Valley, MN. Dynamic was happy to host Chris Foley from Australia for a week in March. He visited our dojo on the heels of a large testing session where several

students tested for advanced rank, including three students who received brown belts with black stripe. In addition, our demo team is gearing up to be back in action for the spring, as we already have dates scheduled. God has blessed our ministry with dedicated students and great support from our church!

Delray Beach, FL. The Valour School of Self-Defense and its Sifu, Pastor Michael L. McClure are celebrating several anniversaries in 1998. The school is 4 years old (under its present name) and has ranked 47 students in its Kung Fu style. Pastor McClure celebrates the following anniversaries: 29 years as a Christian, 25 years as a licensed minister of the gospel, 14 years as an ordained minister of the gospel, 25 years as a student of the martial arts, 10 years as a black level, ranked sifu, 15 years of marriage, 13 years as a father, 14 years as Pastor of the West Park Baptist Church.

The Valour School of Self-Defense plans to offer martial arts instruction in the Summer Day Camp of the West Park Baptist Church again this year from June 10 through August 18. The camp is a ministry of the West Park Baptist Church in conjunction with Men of Valour Ministries, Inc. This will be the 15th camping season for this joint ministry venture. Over the years more than 1,100 children have received martial arts instruction through this effort.

Recent rank promotion: Sean McClure was recently promoted to 7th level Gold Sash. (Yong Fu Hu Sheng Shou - Valour School of Self Defense)

Graceville, FL. The GRACE Karate Team, which is under the leadership of Gary Brown, hosted their first annual forms tournament on

Saturday, March 14th. The tournament was very successful, having members from a dojo in Marianna, Florida and Chipley, Florida present. Chris Foley, 4th Dan in the art of jujutsu presented a mini-clinic on Saturday afternoon, which was equally as successful. Everyone who had the opportunity to attend received a real blessing. Chris is truly a man of God and is an inspiration to everyone he comes into contact with. When he left to continue his US tour, it was as if a part of our family had departed. The GRACE Karate Team continues to grow steadily as the "Word" gets out! Plans are already being made for a repeat tournament and mini-clinic next year. We appreciate all the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Sioux Falls, SD. The EBT-Self Defense team recently issued the following promotions: Quinn Cook to 1st level brown belt; Nolan Ruby to 2nd level brown belt; Charity Cook and Mrs. Amy Willis to 6th level green belt; and Fausto Valdez, Lydia Ruby and Jonathan Sickmeyer to 8th level yellow belt. We are excited about our clinic and testing set for mid-June. Our students are studying and practicing diligently. Testing will be of all students from Yellow belt through 1st Degree Black Belt. Also, a new school has been established under the Ji Ei Budo Ryu in McAlester, OK with Dr. Phil Kopyscinski, 1st Degree Black Belt, as the Sensei.

St. Johnsbury, VT. Team members joined martial artists from the Gospel Karate Team of West Palm Beach Florida on a GMAU missions demo team trip to Peru in Feb (See report elsewhere in this Journal). The 3rd annual GMAU northwestern regional clinic is scheduled for July 24 and 25 1998 in St.

Johnsbury.

Palm Beach Gardens, FL. The Masters School had the following belt advancement this past month: David Merrell -- brown, Erin Askew -- brown, Nick Fonseca -- purple, Rachael Askew -- yellow, Jerry Bell -- yellow, Nate Davenport -- yellow, Seth Haller -- white, Andrew Haller -- white, Joshua Bell -- yellow tip, Ashley Wellman -- yellow tip. We are averaging about 20 students per week and are going through the pains of reorganization. Progress is slow and we are experiencing the standard turnover rate. It is great having such a good complement of upper belts.

West Palm Beach, FL. We held a forms tournament in January (results in this Journal). And the 11th annual clinic in March (write up in this Journal) Jim Hernandez Sr. lead a Demo team to Peru (results in this Journal). The following are the rank advancements over the past three months: Melissa Ortiz-Yellow, Ryan Bachor-Green, Nathan Burrell-Yellow, Joshua Johnson-Yellow, Ryan Monagham-White, Chad Adams-Yellow, Billy Ludwig-White, Marie Garguilo-Purple, Jerry Clough-Brown, Julie Bare-Black (p), Jim Sturgis-Black (p) This team is under the direction of Mr. Larry Phillips and is a ministry of Berean Baptist Church.



Lessons From History

by Larry Phillips

I live in south Florida and I have been reminded several times this past winter of the lack of manners exercised in our society. I would like to direct your attention to Genesis 18. Now most of you Bible scholars will know this the passage that deals with the promise given to Abraham and the destruction of two cities. Perhaps I can give you a different view.

Abraham is watching the world going by one day, and sees three men coming into his neighborhood. Now I, wanting to greet the men would have sent a servant or family member, certainly there were many servants around doing whatever. But he did not, instead, he "hurried..to them..", and bowed low to the ground. He knew who they were! Remember now that God had made some promises that to date had not happened. Had it been me, or perhaps you, upon getting up from the ground, we would have started asking, where is the promised son, I am old, my wife is old, how is this to happen? But he did

not, instead he asked to refresh them and they accepted.

Easy you say, go to the freezer, pull something out, toss it in the microwave, and 10 minutes later, we dine. In v 6 he orders up three loafs of bread (from flour). In v7 he orders up beef (its on the hoof). The point is that the refreshments took lots of effort and time to serve in v7part b. Even more interesting , Abraham didn't eat with them but stood by them while they ate. You and I might have put out leftovers, sat down with them and tried again to ask where is the promise?

After the meal, God brings up the topic and addresses it with great detail.

Look at v 17, It is God thinking out loud. He is considering whether to

include his friend, Abraham in the upcoming drama. "Shall I hide from Abraham..." God is taking him into his confidence. How does God know to trust him? It was his manners, his attitude of heart. That Jesus would feel so comfortable with us so as to take us into His confidence.

Abraham was humble, meek, a servant at heart, he put the needs of others ahead of his own. We could learn a lot from Father Abraham and his manners.

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