



SONrise

July/August 2007

**EMMAUS
NEWSLETTER**

... Strengthening the Local Church

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WALK REGISTRARS

Men's Registrar Mary Lynne Peterson	864/580-5563 (864)582-4040(w)
Women's Registrar Linda Smith	288-6463
Boy's Chrysalis Flight/Journey Larry Arms	239-5475
Girl's Chrysalis Flight/Journey Phil Clemons	239-7939

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

When I was a teenager, a good friend and I walked over to the TVA settling pond about two miles from his house. A cold spell had frozen most of the pond well enough for us to play on it. Several other boys were already on the ice when we got there, so we found ourselves a stick about four feet long and joined them in a game of Poor-Man's hockey. The puck was a stick about three inches long. We didn't know any rules except to flail one another with our stick. Without skates we spent a lot of time falling on the ice.

When the shadows began to lengthen, my friend and I headed for his house. He walked along the bank, and I walked on the ice about 15 feet from the bank. We got to a point where the shadows of the trees no longer protected the ice, but I just didn't think about the consequences. All of a sudden, cracks began to radiate out from where I was standing. Having been a Boy Scout, I had learned that you should lie down and roll if the ice breaks. So, like a good Scout, I laid down just as I went through the ice and tried to roll back up on something solid. After thrashing around for a few moments, being thoroughly soaked from head to foot, I stopped moving and noticed that I was lying in about four inches of water. If I had just stood still when I went through the ice, I would not have even gotten my feet wet, since I had on boots!

All I did was prove the old adage, "A little knowledge can be a dangerous thing."

The same is true with my relationship to God. If my knowledge of God is based on what someone else has told me, I may think a problem is going to swallow me up. How am I going to react? Am I going to trust my senses? Am I going to trust what I heard someone else say? Am I going to lay down and wallow in the problem? Am I going to stand firm with my hand in God's hand?

Moses prayed, "Show me now thy way, that I may know thee..." The secret is to dig into God's word with the Holy Spirit's help. As we spend time with God, we can be rooted and grounded in Him and His ways. Then when the bottom drops out, we can draw from God Himself and not from our own understanding. He can make us stand where we would otherwise fall.

De Colores,
Barry Smith

