

EPIC Bible College will be closed Monday, May 30 in observance of Memorial Day. See you Tuesday, May 31—the first day of Finals. Study hard.

Getting to Know Jacob Sanchez, by Robin Pepper

It has been my privilege to get to know Jacob and his mother Helen. Their faithfulness and perseverance has been such a source of inspiration and blessing to me. Jacob told me, through his mother, that Epic Bible College has given him the opportunity to meet some good friends, to be encouraged to follow the call God and not to give up.

Jacob's circumstances present many challenges in his life. He explains, "My body does not function like normal people." Due to a car accident, Jacob experienced some brain damage that prevents him from forming words in addition to placing him in a wheelchair. He can say "mom," "move," and "leg." At home, Jacob uses a communication device to express himself.

Jacob's physical limitations prevent him from doing many of the things you and I take for granted. However, Jacob faces, these daily challenges head-on with the love and support of his family. On campus, you will find his mother being his hands and feet so that Jacob can pursue his interest in counseling.

Jacob acknowledges that the Lord leads his future. "It is His will, not mine." One of Jacob's life verses



Jacob with Jon Foreman of Switchfoot.

is "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" (Jeremiah 29:11).

"I believe God is going to heal me in His perfect will and timing. I must trust God and wait on Him." Jacob shared about a reoccurring dream the Lord has given him. In it Jacob is driving in a car with his wife and children. Jacob's hearts desire is to get married and have children of his own. "I am going to hold on to that dream and claim it as mine. I know it comes from the Lord." Let us, as Jacob's family of faith, join the Sanchez family in praying and believing for complete healing. After all, we serve a mighty God.

Only Dust, by Alexandra Edith Renkvist

The human eye has a wondrous way of seeing things. Often seeing just what we want to see, or what is right in front of us, we block ourselves from seeing and receiving life and what it has for us. Faith--a choice--but so much more. Faith can move mountains, part the seas, and bring joy to our hearts in every area of life no matter how disheartening the reality in which we may live. Faith is everything and everything is built upon faith. Without it we are only dust.

We often think that what we have is all that there really is...what we see right in front of us is all that can be found. This, however, is a false perception in which we have been led to believe by the chaotic, fallen world that we live in. A world that says it believes in dreamers, but as soon as there is a dream, it is shut down. A world that tells us to do anything we want, but as soon as we do, they mislead us to believe that we are incapable. A world where people around us handicap us; the result of our seeing ourselves through their reasoning—their perceptions. It is a world that jails us in our own lives and keeps us from having our own mind: the mind of Christ. Without God's eyes to see through, we are all only dust.

We live in a world that believes faith is idiotic, an assumption made by those whom do not have faith in Jesus Christ. However, there is a God who loves us--who cares so much He gave the life of His own Son as a

sacrifice for our sins. To an undeserving people He lay down His life. Through suffering trials, hatred by those He loved, and with a loss of worth to others, He persevered to save the least of us. Suffering until death, He is the image of faith... the reality of faith... the reason why we live... It's Him! This is faith. This is the reason for life- the reason why we have to die to ourselves. This is faith. Without faith--without Him--without death we are without life... only dust.

"Then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature."

Genesis 2:7

"Faith is everything and everything is built upon faith. Without it we are only dust."



Tax Break for Charitable Giving Targeted

By Steve Pepper

For the third consecutive year, the tax deduction for charitable giving is in some policymakers' sights. Nonprofit officials fear, given the belt-tightening mood in Washington, this time could be the charm. Nonprofits have stressed that, with government agencies around the country looking for ways to cut costs, giving incentives to charitable donations is now as important as ever.

But with President Obama proposing once more to curtail the deduction, as he did in 2009 and 2010, and lawmakers indicating that very little is not on the table when it comes to deficit reduction and corporate tax reform, officials in the nonprofit sector feel more on the defensive than they have in previous years. Under the president's fiscal 2012 budget, the amount wealthy taxpayers could save through itemized deductions would be reduced to 28 percent, down from the current top level of 35 percent. The extra revenue would then go toward a three-year patch in the Alternative Minimum Tax. (In 2009, a similar proposal in the president's budget was to help make healthcare more affordable.)

In February, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner defended the White House plan, suggesting both that the fiscal situation had forced the administration's hand and that it was not fair to give the richest households a larger deduction for donating the same amount as less wealthy taxpayers. "We don't like doing this," Geithner told the Senate Finance Committee. "The only reason we're doing this is because, as many people have recognized in this room, we have unsustainable deficits. We've got to bring



them down over time. And that's going to force us to do things we'd otherwise not like to do."

The president's fiscal commission also sought to revamp the tax incentive for charitable giving, proposing to install a 12 percent credit for all taxpayers. A bipartisan group of senators – the so-called "Gang of Six" – is using the debt panel's work as a guide for legislation to reduce the deficit, while more than 60 senators have called for that plan to be the foundation of talks on the issue.

All of those developments have left defenders of the charitable deduction somewhat worried, and this only two years after 94 senators voted for a measure aimed at protecting the tax break. Steve Taylor, a United Way Worldwide vice president, said he thought the charitable deduction was different because it wasn't focused solely on economic gain. "Maybe that's an overgeneralization," he said. "But this goes to the core of who we are as a nation. We have a long tradition of charitable giving, of taking care of our own groups, and this deduction is an embodiment of that spirit."



EPIC Yearbooks are on their way...

There is still time to get yours. You may purchase yours at the first floor reception desk.

Extra copies of this year's book were ordered. This yearbook is a must have if you are graduating, or just want to have a pictorial memory of this momentous year in EPIC's history.

Find out who was voted:

Best Humor
Most Computer Savvy
Friendliest
Most Humble

Most Photogenic
Most Artistic
Best Laugh

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIELD MINISTRY REPORTS

Your Spring Quarter Field Ministry Report is NOW PAST due. A list of all students and their advisors will be posted near the mailboxes—in case you don't remember who your Advisor is.

Volunteers Needed

•Volunteers are needed to assist with Graduation decorating (Friday, June 10) and the Graduation Ceremonies (Saturday, June 11). Set up for the Graduation Reception will begin at 9:00 AM, Friday, June 10 at TLC. Please sign up in the reception area to volunteer in the following areas: ushers, serving, set-up, tear-down, and more.

**Pastor T
Memorial Service DVD**

Only \$5

**Copies available at the first floor
reception desk.**

Letter to the Editor

Concerning Americans celebrating Osama Bin Laden's death, my thoughts were the same as Paulina's ["Justice in Pakistan," *Campus Chronicles*, May 9, 2011]: We are not to rejoice when our enemy has been defeated, and we must remember that we are just a second away from slipping into sin ourselves.

Patricia Wells Dunmeyer

Job Openings



4330 Auburn Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95841

PHONE:
(916) 348-4689

E-MAIL:
info@epic.edu

We're on the Web!
See us at:
WWW.EPIC.EDU

MERCY MINISTRIES - Residential Assistant

Part time position. Mercy Ministries of America is a Christian residential home for women. This immediate opening is in the Lincoln, California location.

Applicants must have good communication skills, and a valid driver's license. Mercy Ministries will only hire and employ individuals that live a life conducive to Christian principles. Qualified candidates should send: Resume, personal testimony and salary requirement to: Mercy Ministries of America, ATTN: Director of Human Resources, P.O. Box 111060, Nashville, TN 37222 (or) Fax to 615-760-1114 (or) Email to HRStaffing@mercyministries.com.

Further job requirements are posted on campus in the student lounge, student mailboxes, library and reception desks.

COLFAX BAPTIST CHURCH - Minister of Music

Job Description: oversee, lead and provide vision for the music and worship experience. The leader will combine music, drama and other means with biblical truth to glorify and praise God during worship services. This position will include responsibility for developing, planning, budgeting, scheduling, coordinating and directing all worship-related programs of the church.

Position Information:

- Part-time, 10 to 15 hours per week, to collaborate with the senior pastor
- Seeking individual skilled in contemporary music
- Current team composed of vocalists, pianist, & drummer/guitarist

Qualifications: Strong musical leadership and instrumental skills, a growing relationship with Jesus Christ, personal integrity and moral purity with authenticity in witness and testimony

Salary: To be negotiated depending on experience

Contact: Pastor Gary Howard

Email: pastorgaryhoward@yahoo.com

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 531, Colfax, CA 95713

Office Phone Number: 530-346-8110

Cell Phone Number: (208) 221-0497

Website: colfaxbaptistchurch.org

EPIC Bible College does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin in all school administered policies and practices.