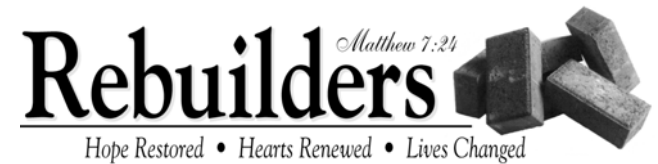


**Rebuilders**  
Chapelgate Presbyterian Church  
2600 Marriottsville Road  
Marriottsville, Maryland 21104

The monthly newsletter  
of Rebuilders.

For those experiencing  
separation, divorce,  
or broken relationship



June 2008

## How God Uses Our Adversity

Adversity is God's most effective tool for growing us in our faith. Did you know that? What puts us on our knees is what grows us up. The apostle Paul said that he had learned to be content with insults, distress, and persecutions. He had discovered that he experienced God's presence and power most strongly through troubles. (Philippians 4:11-13) God carefully selects where He wants to work in our lives and often uses affliction, His choicest tool, to accomplish His plan.

In intense times of difficulty, we may be hard pressed to understand what God is doing, but we can be certain He has a divine purpose in it. It does not matter what the source of the trouble is—whether adversity is from something we caused, from someone else's actions, straight from the Devil, or from God Himself, our Father has a purpose and a plan for it. (Romans 8:28) He is engineering all of our circumstances for His glory and our good. Do you believe that?

Adversity is an accurate barometer of our spiritual life. If we want to know the strength and quality of our faith, we need only look at how we handle our troubles. Ask yourself a few questions: How am I handling my circumstances? Am I showing more patience than I used to demonstrate or exhibiting greater self-control in my troubles? Am I more at peace and less in turmoil than before?

The Lord invites us to see adversity as He does. Will you commit today to cooperate with God and bring Him glory by advancing through adversity?



Rebuilders is a 26 week curriculum where people can find help, and experience healing while going through the trauma of separation and divorce or a broken relationship. We understand that divorce affects the whole person; therefore, we provide the emotional, relational, and spiritual help that is so desperately needed during this time. Rebuilders offers more than just support – it offers hope. Rebuilders meets every Monday night from 6:45 to 8:30 PM. We offer relevant talks including some of the “DivorceCare” material, testimonies, small group interactions, and one-on-one conversations. You will also find a caring environment where healing can take place and God’s love and compassion can be experienced.



“DivorceCare For Kids” (ages 5 thru 12) meets at the same time as the adult Rebuilders meeting. Our DivorceCare for Kids group combines games, crafts, activities, music and videos to create a fun atmosphere where children feel comfortable and accepted. At DC4K, kids find joy and hope built on God’s love! Childcare for children under 5 years old will be provided.

## contacts

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**Ladies Night Out and Single Mom’s:**  
Kathy Starsonneck, 443-255-6677

**Auto Care Ministry:**  
Robin Reiter, 410-442-7677 x149, [rreiter@chapelgate.org](mailto:rreiter@chapelgate.org)

## rebuilders monday's start at 6:45 pm...

<u>Date</u>	<u>Rebuilders Topics</u>
June	The Wounds That Shape Us (also First Monday Café)
June 9	Forgiveness
June 16	Is There Really Any Hope?
June 23	Reconciliation (It's not what you think!)
June 30	Caught Between Two Trees

## Your Home is not Broken *By Linda Ranson Jacobs* (part 4 of 9)

At times these parents in the broken homes even look broken. They tend to carry themselves slumped over with a beaten-down look. They take on the role of "victim": victim of divorce, of death, of society, of their economic situation and even of their own children.

### God Has Other Plans for You

God didn't intend for us to live in broken homes. God didn't intend for us to be victims. His plan is for us to be victorious in Him and for Him. God can rework or reshape your home into a home that can honor Him. Broken homes do not honor the Lord. To give you an understanding of what God can do, let's go to Jeremiah 18:1-6:

"This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: 'Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message.' So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. Then the word of the LORD came to me: 'O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?' declares the LORD. 'Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand.'"

Verse 4 says, "But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him."

God designed the family to include a mother and a father. That was His intention; however, some of our "vessels," or families, are spoiled. Allow God to be the potter who reshapes your family into what He wants for you and your children. Put it into your mind that you are a single parent family. Use the word *family* often.

## single parents

Single Moms and Single Dads will meet on our regular schedule this month.. Single Moms and Single Dads will meet on Tuesday the 10th and 24th at the regular places between 6:45—8:30pm. If you want to be a part of these groups contact Rich on 410-442-7677 x150.