

# *Builders In Ministry*

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## **Messages**

### *Andrew Singh in Kentucky*

Greetings in the name of Jesus, our saviour and Lord. Friends I am currently serving as a student pastor at a small United Methodist Church in Hodgenville, Kentucky. The name of the church is Wesley Meadow UMC and there are about 80 faithful members who come to church regularly. So far I have really enjoyed being part of the Hodgenville community. The people here are very nice and supportive and I have certainly felt the presence of God here.

### *Greetings from Max Maskevich*

God has blessed me richly this summer. A few days after I moved to a new state, I received a phone call from a local company wanting to interview me. I landed an internship with this company. A friend of the family had put in a referral for me, and the company had the need for summer help. I have been learning about how great my dependency upon God really is. Without his perfect grace I am completely unworthy of His kingdom. I look forward to coming back to SC this fall and enjoying the great fellowship I have with my friends. ~Max Maskevich

### *A Message from Paul Farney*

When I was asked to think about what God has done in my life this summer, a rush of things came into my thought process. This has been, without question, the biggest time of growth in my life that I can recall. I've learned so much about the heart of love and the heart of God. It's interesting that oftentimes we get into a rut where we really don't learn a whole lot, and can somehow accept that, but when we are actually diving in and trying to learn things, it seems like we can never get enough.

Things are often revealed to us in ways we wouldn't normally expect, and those moments are amazing. The idea that is at the heart of the Christian faith is love. If we are arguing about how often communion should be taken, or whether or not we should lift our hands during worship, we are missing something huge. It's interesting how so many of us are still stuck in Old Testament doctrine which is largely laws governing how we are to live our lives, completely forgetting that we are under the grace doctrine of the New Testament. As Paul says in the book of Romans, the law that so many people cling to (this is how things like the WWJD bracelet fad got started) is nothing more than the evidences of love. If we have love, and are constantly loving people, how can we transgress these laws. Why are we so worried? Of course we are going to mess up, but we are covered by the blood of the Lamb.

The second point I want to make deals with people's perceptions of God's Will. I was in a Sunday school class once where the teacher had listed a few difficulties she had had, then finished with, "and that's how I knew that I was outside of God's will that day." I was floored by that. I don't know about you, but the God I know doesn't punish us by making our lives difficult if we step out of His will, whatever that might be for a moment. The will He has is that we do our best to grow closer to Him and others. He wants us to make decisions for ourselves, and if we make poor choices, He will be there to help us through them. He is not moving us around like little chess pieces, forcing us, against the Free Will that we all know we have, to do things we wouldn't normally do. He is there to guide us, and to be there for us in all times, I do not believe

He takes the kind of control of our lives that I have heard many churches say that He does. I just pray that I can continue to grow closer to Him, and learn even deeper the heart of what a Godly man is to be.

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*Builders in Ministry is an e-mail bulletin that goes out to all alumni and current students of Southwestern College that are involved in ministry. E-mail [BuildersInMinistry@sckans.edu](mailto:BuildersInMinistry@sckans.edu) with your updates on where you are, words of encouragement, or anything else that you would like to say to other alumni and students in ministry.*

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