

Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.

- Colossians 2:7

## Back to School ~ Sr. High Bible Study—Slumber Party—Casting Crowns—Youth Camping

### Before you Leap

Cameron Bishop

**I wrote this article for last years "Roots: Back to School" newsletter. Just thought I'd share it with you all again.**

In my office there are many books written by a wide variety of authors. Want to know about youth ministry? I have lots on that subject. I have several on backpacking in the Smoky Mountains. I have books on leadership by Coach K of Duke. I have books recounting Lance Armstrong's recovery from cancer and winning of multiple Tours. I have psychology books, philosophy books, and theology books. I have fiction and non-fiction. I have books that I have read multiple times and books that I have never even opened. Of all the books in my office (about 300 total), there is one that really sticks out. This book was written by an international television and motion picture superstar. The author is a humanitarian and an educator. His story is one of overcoming humble beginnings and leaping into fame and fortune. He has appeared on The Tonight Show, Nightline, and the Tournament of Roses Parade. Kermit the Frog is truly one of my favorite authors.

In his book, "Before You Leap," Kermit offers "a frog's-eye view of life's greatest lessons." In this edition of Roots, you will find bits and pieces of wisdom straight from Kermit's book. As you prepare for your return to school, I would like to pass along some advice from our friend the amphibian. In his chapter on leading a most sensational, inspirational, and motivational life, Kermit discusses three challenges and strategies for school.

Challenge: *How can I make a good impression on the first day of school?*

Strategy: Fozzie suggests trying to impersonate Elvis. It's easy to do and a real crowd-pleaser. Being able to do a good Elvis will not only make you a hit at recess, but repeatedly saying, "thenkew, thenkew very much" will surely win you points for politeness.



Challenge: *The teacher doesn't seem to like me.*

Strategy: Okay, maybe you shouldn't have been singing "I'm just a hunk, a hunk of burnin' love" in the middle of a math lesson. Try taking requests. If this fails, do what I do when our show is in trouble: Toss your sweat-soaked sequin-studded scarf into the crowd and sing louder.

Challenge: *I'm not "in" the "in" crowd.*

Strategy: Miss Piggy suggests forming your own "in" group with you as the only member. To emphasize your exclusivity, always carry a red velvet rope and a clipboard with only your name on it. If you become weary of being alone, Piggy can refer you to a number or reasonably priced entourage rental services such as Rent-a-Groupie and Sycophants-to-Go.

Maybe Kermit's advice will help you as you begin this new school year. Although dressing and acting like Elvis might be considered inappropriate for the classroom and against dress code policies, it is totally acceptable at any youth function. As Kermit tell us in his book, "Every journey begins with a single hop." I wish you all the best as you hop into the journey of a new school year!

## Sunday School

Come see what's new on Sunday Mornings!  
Games, Videos, Skits, and Great Discussions.

Join us starting at 9:45 in the Youth Room.  
Doughnuts and Juice Served Each Week

## Sunday Night UMYF

New Series: "God's Call"

When God calls, will you answer?

5:00—7:00

Dinner Provided—Invite a Friend

## *Sr. High Bible Study*

Monday Night's 6:00—7:30

"Faith—Movies—and Life"

584 Corbin Ave. Macon GA 31204

## *Bald Mtn. Camping*

October 9—11



## *Upcoming Events*

August 16—Promotion Sunday & Back-to-School Lake Party

August 17—Sr. High Bible Study

August 19—Church Suppers Resume—Youth Small Group

August 23—Sunday School, UMYF & Student Council Elections

August 24—Sr. High Bible Study

August 26—Church Supper—Youth Small Group

August 30—Sunday School & UMYF



## *Slumber Party*



### *"Girls Night Out"*

*You're invited to join the Mulberry Youth Girls on Friday, August 28th—Saturday, August 29th for a slumber party at Lori Martin's Lake House. The group will meet at Mulberry at 5pm on the 28th to depart for their night out. There will be plenty of movie watching, eating, late night talks, and fun with your friends. On Saturday, you'll spend the day out on the lake tubing, jet skiing, and swimming. You'll need to bring your sleeping bag, bathing suit, towel, PJ's, and snacks to share with the group. Invite your friends to join you! There is no cost to attend, but please RSVP to Lori by August 26th so she'll know how many to expect (478-731-8773 or 478-474-7400).*



## *Casting Crowns & Matt Redman*

*In Concert on October 18*

*Cost: \$25*

*Sign-up in the Youth Room*

*[www.castingcrowns.com](http://www.castingcrowns.com)*