Faith & Family Wednesday, September 14, 2016 21

Pastor's Corner

The smartest man ever known



BY DR. ANDREW RANKIN Senior Pastor Freedom Church

Think about the three most intelligent people you think the world has ever known. Stop and do that now (re-

Most of us likely included people like Albert Einstein, Stephen Hawking or Leonardo da Vinci. These men had or have an above-average intellect - we call them geniuses. We consider them experts in their respective fields of study. It's doubtful, however, that we would turn to Einstein for a lesson in Mandarin Chinese or to da Vinci for petroleum engineering. Why? It's out of their purview. They aren't expected to be knowledgeable in fields of study outside of their own.

It is sad that few, if any, who read the opening sentence included Jesus in their list. Moral teacher, yes. Nice guy, yes. But genius? A man with a superior brain? You've got to be kidding, right? Jesus did not earn a degree or wasn't even considered a professional teacher by other teachers in His day. He did not write any books or leave behind any scientific theories. Even today, He would still be considered uneducated by many

Part of our problem in our churches today is that few believers see Jesus as smart and truly knowledgeable. Everything in the New Testament portrays Him as an authoritative teacher who spoke truthfully about every single subject that He addressed. Let that soak in. Every subject He addressed, He spoke about truthfully, perfectly and with divine authority. No one else does this or even comes close.

Jesus was called "Teacher" or "Rabbi" by both the crowds who heard Him as well as His closest followers. The word "Rabbi" is Aramaic for teacher. Jesus' remarkable ability to teach is seen as early as when He was 12 years old (Luke 2:41-52), and the gospels record over 75 different situations in which Jesus taught others.

As Jesus taught, He revealed God and His will for us. His main focus was on the Kingdom of God. Although He never spoke on many things in our modern world, He did address the most important subjects we still face today, such as how to talk to and hear from God, how to love God and others, how to be changed from the inner person so that vour outward behaviors are different. and more. He taught that mankind is sinful and needs a Savior, and through His own life, death and resurrection, how to be saved from sin and become spiritually alive to God.

Jesus is not just a moral or spiritual guy, He's also just plain smart. We would all do well to listen carefully to everything He says. No one else has ever been able to say with confidence, "I am the truth" (John 14:6) and "I speak the truth" (John 8:45). He really knows what He's talking about. Listen to the Teacher.

\$239,000

Library Corner —

Upcoming Owasso Library events

BY JENNIFER MCQUADE

Owasso Library Manager

Make sure to like the Owasso Library on Facebook and subscribe to our events so you don't miss any great free programs.

Library programs for adults

Radical Home Economics: This is a series of programs focusing on skills to help you live a healthy, green and frugal life. Registration is required for each class. Call 918-549-7624 to register, or come by the library. Seating is limited.

The Owasso Library is partnering with Michelle Bonicelli, family and consumer sciences educator, at the OSU Extension Center-Tulsa to present a new Radical Home Economics program this fall: Waffle It, held on Thursday, Oct. 6 at 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

You might think a waffle iron has the sole purpose of making perfect breakfast waffles, but your waffle iron is a multitasker! Think outside the box of waffle batter mix, and learn to use your waffle iron for other foods such as bacon, scrambled eggs, brownies, cinnamon rolls and quesadillas - all from your waffle iron.

Stay tuned for another adult program series in November.

Library programs for children

My First Storytime, Preschool Storytime, and Stay and Play are on Tuesdays, Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27 and Wednesdays, Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28.

My First Storytime

10-10:25 a.m. Learn and enjoy songs, stories and activities that are just right for your little one at this lapsit storytime. For newborns to 2-year-olds and their caregivers.

Preschool Storytime

10:30-11 a.m. The best in children's literature, songs, games, finger plays, rhymes and other reading-related activities are shared with your preschooler. For ages 3-5.

Stay and Play

11-11:30 a.m. For babies and toddlers, playing is learning. After our regularly scheduled storytime, join us for games, toys and activities that foster critical early literacy skills. For ages 5 and younger and their caregivers.

Homeschool Storytime

Tuesdays, Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2-3 p.m. Join us for stories and a craft. For ages 5-10.

1-2-3 Play With Me: A Parent/ Child Workshop

Fridays, Sept. 16, 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 10-11:15 a.m. Join us in this fiveweek series for parents and children ages 1-3. Each program offers opportunities for children to play with developmentally appropriate toys in a play group atmosphere and for parents to visit with early childhood specialists in the areas of child development, speech and language, nutrition, play movement and music. Class size is limited.

Registration is required and is for the series. Call 918-549-7624 to register.

PAWS for Reading

\$298,500

Monday, Sept. 19, 4-5 p.m. Registered therapy dogs are excellent listeners. Kids ages 5-12 are invited to read their favorite books to a furry, four-pawed friend. Each reader will receive a free book provided by the Tulsa Library Trust. Registration is required. Class size is limited. Call 918-549-7624 to



\$325,000

Experience. Expertise. Excellence. · 918-592-6000 ·

12620 E. 86th St. N., Owasso, OK • mcgrawrealtors.com











McGraw Realtors® Real Estate School Offered Call Holli 918-381-7070

experience

more

Contact Holli Woodward to hear about a Rewarding Career in Real Estate! hwoodward@mcgrawok.com