



Journey Through Life Ministries
Quarterly Newsletter

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Journey Through Life Ministries, Inc.

P.O. Box 17968

Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Phone: 412-731-1856

Fax: 412-731-1858

Email: journeylife@verizon.net

Website: www.journeythroughlife.net

Rev. Charles Head, President

Rev. Georgetta Head, Vice President

Journey Through Life Ministries' Newsletter is a quarterly publication promoting spiritual awareness and evangelism in the communities.

Contributors:

Rev. Charles S. Head

Rev. Georgetta Head

Sis. Gerry Hickman

Evangelist Victoria Hodge

All articles edited by:

Rev. Charles S. Head

Rev. Georgetta Head

Please submit all comments and church calendar events to: journeylife@verizon.net

Journey Through Life Ministries accepts articles provided they are related to spiritual awareness. All articles will be edited for content & validity.

Please note that Journey Through Life Ministries does not publish political or opinion pieces.

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Teach - Inspire - Equip

Welcome to Journey Through Life Ministries' Quarterly Newsletter. We pray you will be blessed by the reading of these inspirational articles.

Our goal is to fulfill the great commission Jesus commanded in Matthew 28:16-20 to "...go and make disciples of all..."

This is being achieved by working with churches, professional organizations, social services, and the publication of the quarterly newsletters. As an outreach ministry in the communities, we also offer to adults and youth Biblical studies through various enrichment programs and motivational teachings. These teachings will help individuals to know the "love" of God, and who they are in Christ. These programs are also designed for individuals to learn how to become "free" spiritually enabling them to live their lives in the purpose God has them.

Charles & Georgetta Head

Man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord (Deuteronomy 8:3).



Walking In His Steps

Rev. Georgetta Head

At the beginning of every new year believers by the thousands vow to start the new year with resolutions, to change what they didn't like about themselves, and to quit bad habits from the previous year. This sounds like a great idea! New beginnings, who wouldn't want to start afresh with New Year's Resolutions hoping to have a new life! Unfortunately, New Year's Resolutions are soon forgotten by the second week.

So why do individuals want to make resolutions if they abandon them by the second week? Because Ecclesiastes 7:29 tell us *"that God made man upright, but they (man) have sought out many schemes."* Believers recognize a need for change in their lives because of their choices and now are looking for ways to make the changes to live the life God wants them to.

John 15:5 tells us *"that apart from Jesus we can do nothing—including changing self or our situations!"* God has a successful plan outlined in His Word for His children, that if we walk in His steps we will prosper in all we do. We can prosper in our relationships with God and man; prosper on our jobs; God will give us favor with Him and man; protect us from our enemies, etc.

So how do we change our lives and begin living according to God's plan for our lives? By walking in the footsteps of Jesus! We walk in "His faith" the faith of the Son of God who loves us so much that He gave His life for us (Galatians 2:22), that we may have eternal life in Him.

God's Word is our inheritance and is filled with testimonies and precepts for living that will help us to be more than conquerors while sojourning on this earth. We learn in His Word: "Trust and Commitment to God: 2) To Eliminate Wrong Thinking; 3) Stop Fearing Man; 4) The Word is Life; and 5) Worshipping God.

The Patriarch Abraham learned **trust and commitment to God**. At the age of 75, when Abraham left his father's house, he began a trust walk with God. God made a Covenant with Abraham that

his descendants would be more than the sand of the sea and that he would be a father of many nations; and God promised Abraham and Sarah a son. It was 25 years before the promise of his son Isaac was realized. But during those 25 years Abraham had to learn to walk by faith, and this began by him leaving everything of comfort and assurance to go to a land he did not know. Imagine leaving for a trip and not knowing where you are going. Would you do it? We too have to learn to walk by faith by *walking in His steps*. Jeremiah 29:11 says God already has a plan for each of His children. Meaning our life is already predestined, so we just need to *walk in His steps* discovering God's plan for our life. Believe me, God has a great future for you!

Walking in His steps will help us to **"eliminate wrong thinking."** The Bible says *"As a man thinketh, so is he in his heart."* If you believe you will never accomplish anything in life or that you will always have challenges with your finances then you will! But, when you change your thinking, believing that with God you can do "all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens you," you will have the mind of Jesus and your walk will be prosperous. When God calls you to walk with Him, don't be double-minded wavering between two opinions. Anyone God calls, He will enable to perform what He already has planned for their life. Walk in His steps believing in your mind you already have what you need to complete your assignment!

Fearing man will stop you right in your tracks! Do you fear what man can do to you, or fear what man thinks about you? If you do, this will keep you from having a prosperous walk in His steps.

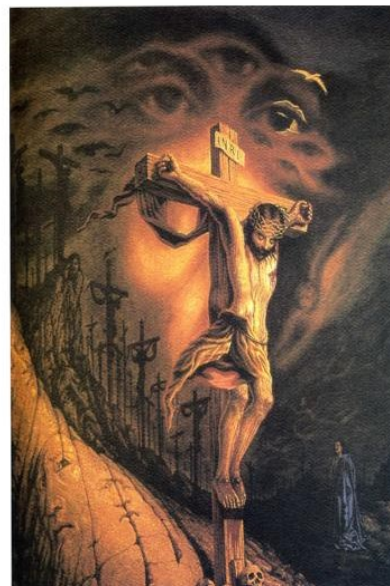
The Patriarch Abraham feared the Egyptians and because of his fear of man, his wife, Sarah, was taken from Him. God returned Abraham's wife to him and God had to teach Abraham that *"He (God) is his shield and exceedingly great reward"* (Genesis 15:1)

(Cont'd page 15)

Characteristics of Jesus Christ

B B F L O R T N O C F L E S G
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| Confident | Loyal |
| Content | Merciful |
| Courageous | Obedient |
| Fair | Patience |
| Faithful | Peace |
| Focused | Righteous |
| Forgiving | Self Control |
| Friend | Servant |
| Goodness | Submissive |
| Honest | Suffering |
| Humility | Teacher |
| Joy | Tolerant |
| Kindness | Victorious |
| Leader | |





FINANCIAL FITNESS—REV. GEORGETTA HEAD

The question for this quarter is a question that has been in debate in the Christian community for some time.

Question: Why should a Christian make plans when God says He already knows the plans for us and that He has already predestined our lives?

Answer: Let's explore God's Word for our answer. Habakkuk 2:2-3 tells us *"Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, it will not tarry."*

Father God gives His children dreams or visions of their purpose, which is His plan for their life—which also may be our "calling." When He gives us these dreams or visions, He instructs us to write them down. Also, these dreams or visions can be for a group of people with a message of God's intent for that group; messages for immediate fulfillment or a message meant for the future.

Dreams and visions were given to the Prophets by God to be spoken and written messages to the children of Israel and for the future Church. The Prophets personally recorded God's plans for Israel and the nations or they had a recorder write them on scrolls to be read.

Father God says to make the vision "plain" on tablets, meaning He wants the reader or hearer to understand what He is saying.

So what does it mean to plan? A plan is nothing more than documenting the direction of your calling/purpose revealed to you by God; such as a plan being financially debt free; or future ministry direction, etc.

Corporate America uses God's method of planning, otherwise they would not be successful in their business. Every functioning business has a "business plan" in place. This business plan keeps the company on track with the owners original vision. The business plan also serves as a guideline for others involved in the company to follow.

So you see a plan helps you stay focused and gives direction on where and what you want to do in life with the dreams or visions given to you by God. Writing the "vision or plan" on paper keeps us reminded of our destiny—the plans He has for us—to have hope and a future.

When God gave Joseph the interpretation of Pharaoh's dreams, He also gave Joseph a plan to

help the nation of Egypt. When Joseph told the plan to Pharaoh, Pharaoh made Joseph second in command in Egypt and told him to implement his plan immediately. Don't you think Joseph wrote the plan on tablet (paper)? Yes, he did! The entire plan is outlined in the Book of Genesis. Joseph wrote the vision (plan) and *"made it plain, that he may run who reads it."* This plan saved not only Egypt, but also the surrounding nations, including the Israelite nation!

God has a calling for all of His children. When we seek Him to discover what that calling is, we are instructed to write it down as a guide. *For you see, the vision is for yet an appointed time, but at the end it will speak....* God calls us, then prepares us to be able to walk and function in whatever the calling is. Some of us have some cross that needs burned off, and some of us need more training by Holy Spirit and some of us may need to learn how to slow down and "wait on the Lord." Whatever the reason, know that God is faithful to perform what He has chosen you to do for the future. It will come!

Waiting on the Lord, I believe, is the hardest. Once we know what God wants us to do, we want to run immediately, but remember Brothers and Sisters, God is in no hurry. In the fullness of time it will come. It will not tarry!

Father God is the author of "planning" and commending His "plans" in written format. The Bible is God's Master Plan for His creation. Genesis through Revelation is God's plan from now unto eternity. As you study the Bible and review history, you will discover that some things have already happened and the future plans are still waiting to happen. God has not deviated from his plans!

So, should we have plans? Yes! When Father gives you dreams and visions, ask Him what do they mean. Are they for you or for others? Write them down and date them. Also partner with Father God and ask Him what plan(s) does He have for you and your family, for your job, where to live. What about your stewardship? Ask Him to help you and your family to plan for your financial future to become debt free and to fulfill the dreams He has planted in your heart.

Too often I hear people say, *"I don't know what plans God has for my life"* or that they have no purpose in life. Let me assure you, God has a plan for you, and you have a purpose! It is your responsibility to seek God's advice for your life and trust me, He will tell you—*Jeremiah 33:3 "Call unto Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."* And guess what, God will make his plans plain to you so that when you write it down and read it, you may understand it and run with it.

If you give, you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving—it will be used to measure what is given back to you.

Luke 6:38

Old Testament Survey - The Pentateuch

Rev. Georgetta Head



The first five books of the Bible is commonly known as the **Pentateuch**. **The Pentateuch** is a Greek word which means “five books.” These books are: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

Jewish tradition name Moses as the author of the first five books of the Bible, written over 3500 years ago.

Genesis means “beginnings.” Genesis tells the reader how God created the entire universe just by speaking it into existence. God spoke the skies, land, water, sun & moon, stars, plant life into being. He then created man, Adam, from the dust of the ground.

Genesis also tells us about the beginning of sin; Noah and the ark; and about Abraham and the covenant God made with Abraham. Through Abraham we learn of “faith” - believing in God and that what God says is true.

Exodus means “exit.” In Exodus we learn how God’s chosen people become enslaved by the Egyptians. When they cried out to God, He raised up Moses to deliver them from the bondage of slavery.

We also learn from the Book of Exodus, God’s power and might in delivering his chosen people—through plagues and the parting of the Red Sea, God’s power was known to the entire world. We also learn of God giving man the Ten Commandments; God leading His people by a pillar of cloud during the day and by a pillar of fire during the night. And one of the most beautiful demonstrations of God’s love for His people is that of Him feeding them from Heaven—Manna (angels food).

Leviticus means “holiness.” In this book we discover that God established the sacrificial system so that His chosen people (Israelites) could enjoy fellowship with Him through worship and for repentance of their sins. The message of Leviticus is sanctification - receiving God’s forgiveness and acceptance followed by holy living and spiritual growth. This message of holiness extends to the Church of today. As with the Israelites, God has redeemed and consecrated Christians, but not with animals. But, with the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Numbers means “wandering.” Because of the Israelites fear, sin, and complaining, they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. In this book we find that the children of Israel tested God’s patience, and He in turn tested their endurance and faithfulness. God showed His own faithfulness by His constant presence in leading the way through a cloud by day and fire by night. Numbers also teaches God’s delight in obedience and our worshipping Him through our words and works.

Deuteronomy means “second law.” The Israelites wandered forty years. All who disobeyed God died except Joshua and Caleb. Moses offered a re-statement of the Law for a new generation not just a mere copy of what had gone on before them. In short Deuteronomy is a series of sermons in which Moses restates God’s command originally given some 40 years earlier in Exodus and Leviticus. (Research from: *Old Testament Handbook*—C. R. Swindoll)

Did you Know

REV. CHARLES S. HEAD

Before Joshua's death he called the Israelites together and reminded them of how good God had been to them. He told them to continue to serve God by choosing God as the only true and loving God. (Joshua 24:13-15)

God wants us to be useful and work as long as we can, He's against laziness. (Proverbs 6:6-11)

Discipline is good for us and helps us to become more productive if we receive it and learn from it. (Proverbs 3:11-12)

Satan tried to tempt Jesus to do something contrary to God's word, it worked with Adam and Eve, but had no success with Jesus. (Matthew 4:1-10)

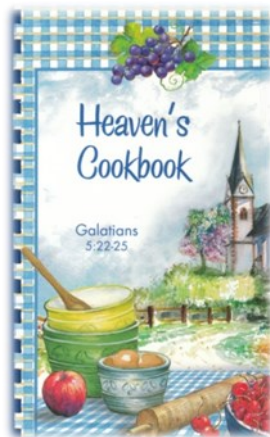
When we fast and pray, we need to stay humble and keep it to ourselves and God, not to be seen of men. (Matthew 6:5-8)

God's Word plainly tells us who will not go to heaven. (Revelation 21:8)

Jesus tells us about the peculiarity we should have as born-again Christians. Matthew 5:46-47 tell us: "if you love them which loved you, what reward have ye? Do not even the publicans so? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? Do not even the publicans?"

Book Review

Order today
Just \$10.00



Heaven's Cookbook contains a collection of recipes by family and friends of Dolores "Dee" Mitchell. It contains a variety of recipes that satisfy the physical and spiritual soul and includes Helpful Hints, Charts, Terms and Measurements.

Dolores has been a professional caterer and cook for over 20 years and specializes in soul food and desserts. The recipes cover a variety of food cuisines-including Italian, Soul Food and Sugar free dishes.

Heaven's Cookbook is dedicated to Dolores' deceased daughter and was created as a fundraiser with proceeds used for the purchase of a gravestone for her daughter.

**Call 412-322-4128 or 412-731-2567 to place your order
Just \$10.00 per book plus \$4.00 postage**

PLANNING: PARTNERING WITH GOD - A KEY TO SUCCESS



As the new year begins, many are going to make plans, resolutions or set goals that they want to accomplish this year. It's understandable that making/developing plans may be vital to governments, businesses, organizations or individuals, but they are also important to God. God, who is the inventor of time, exists in eternity—so he knows everything about us and has great plans for our future (**Jeremiah 29:11, 1 Corinthians 2:9**). God is in favor of planning and is ready to counsel us if we seek His direction. (**Psalms 33:11, Psalm 37:5-6, 23, Proverbs 3:5-6, Proverbs 19:21**)



Planning ahead allows us the ability to look into the future and close the gap between what we hope for and reality. It is the bridge that can carry us from where we are today to where God wants us to be in the future. Planning is important, but seeking God for direction, is key to success (**Proverbs 16:3 TLB**). Remember a man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps. (**Proverbs 16:9**)

I write my personal goals at the beginning of the year and have been doing so for many years. This keeps me focused and forward thinking. I find that when I pray and seek God's counsel, during this process, I have more peace and success.

The bible contains many scriptures about planning and encourages us to prepare for the future. Some Scriptures on Planning to study and meditate on:

Psalm 33:11
Psalm 37:5-6
Psalm 37:23
Proverbs 16:3 (TLB)

Proverbs 16:9
Proverbs 19:21
Proverbs 15:22
Proverbs 3:5:6

Psalm 20:4
Jeremiah 29:11
1 Corinthians 2:9
Ephesians 2:10
James 4:13-15

PLANNING: PARTNERING WITH GOD - A KEY TO SUCCESS (Cont'd)

Fill in the blanks

For I know the _____ I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for _____ and not for _____, to give you a _____ and a hope. [Jeremiah 29:11 \(TLB\)](#)

But as it is written: “_____ has not seen, nor _____ heard, Nor have entered into the _____ of man, The things which God has _____ for those who _____ Him.” [1 Corinthians 2:9](#)

The counsel of _____ stands forever, The _____ of His heart to all generations. [Psalm 33:11](#)

Commit _____ to the Lord, _____ in Him, And He shall bring *it* to pass. _____ shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday. [Psalm 37:5-6](#)

The _____ of a _____ man are ordered by the Lord, And He _____ in his way. [Psalm 37:23](#)

Commit your work to the _____, then it will _____. [Proverbs 16:3 \(TLB\)](#)

A man's heart _____ his ways, But the Lord _____ his steps. [Proverbs 16:9](#)

There are many _____ in a man's heart, Nevertheless the Lord's _____—that will stand. [Proverbs 19:21](#)

Without counsel, _____ go awry, But in the multitude of counselors they are _____. [Proverbs 15:22](#)

_____ with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ In all your ways _____ Him, And He shall _____ your paths. [Proverbs 3:5-6](#)

May He grant you according to your _____, And fulfill all your _____. [Psalm 20:4](#)

For we are His _____, created in Christ Jesus for _____, which God prepared _____ that we should walk in them. [Ephesians 2:10](#)

¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or _____ we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit”; ¹⁴ whereas you do not know what will happen _____. For what is your _____? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then _____ away.

¹⁵ Instead you ought to say, “_____”, we shall live and do this or that. [James 4:13-15](#)

Note: All scripture is taken from the New King James Version (NKJV) except Proverbs 16:3 and Jeremiah 29:11 are from The Living Bible (TLB)

Satan promises the best, but pays with the worst; he promises honor, and pays with disgrace; he promises pleasure, and pays with pain; he promises profit, and pays with loss; he promises life, and pays with death. (Pastor Thomas Brooks)

Shoe Boxes for Seniors Christmas — Rev. Georgetta Head



A very special thanks goes to all that participated in the "Shoe Boxes" for Seniors' Program this Christmas Season.

On December 23rd, Journey Through Life Ministries' staff visited three personal care homes: *Allegheny Place, Davis Personal Care Home, and Bey's Personal Care Home* delivering *Shoe Boxes filled with gifts to our wonderful Seniors.*

It was an emotional time watching as the Seniors showed and expressed their appreciation of everyone's generosity toward them. It was truly a blessing to watch some rip open their gift, while others saved their gift to open on Christmas day. At each personal care home we visited, we were told this gift was the only gift the residences would receive. So thanks again to all that participated in this program.

The Senior's asked us to express their sincere thanks to everyone who cared enough to make their day so special. As stated above, for most of the Senior's, this was their only gift, so thank you for your generosity and may God bless each of you for giving out of the abundance of your heart.



"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7



*If a child lives with criticism,
He learns to condemn.*

*If a child lives with praise
He learns to appreciate.*

*If a child lives with hostility,
He learns to fight.*

*If a child lives with fairness,
He learns justice.*

*If a child lives with ridicule,
He learns to be shy.*

*If a child lives with security,
He learns to have faith.*

*If a child lives with shame,
He learns to feel guilty.*

*If a child lives with approval,
He learns to like himself.*

*If a child lives with tolerance,
He learns to be patient.*

*If a child lives with acceptance and friendship,
He learns to find love in the world.*

*If a child lives with encouragement,
He learns confidence.*

Dorothy Law Noltz

Youth Corner

Teen Creed

Don't let your parents down;
They brought you up.
Be humble enough to obey;
You may give orders some day.
Choose companions with care;
You become what they are.
Guard your thoughts;
What you think, you are.
Choose only a date that would make
a good mate.
Be master of your habits;
Or they will master you.
Don't be a show-off
When you drive;
Drive with safety and arrive.
Don't let the crowd pressure you;
Stand for something or
You'll fall for anything.

**Journey Through Life Ministries
"Women's Ministry"**
Invites You To A "Tea Party" **Games**

Location:
Rankin Christian Center
230 Third Street
Rankin, PA

February 21, 2015

To Reserve Your Seat:
Call Rev. Georgetta Head
412-731-1856

Theme: "Acts of Kindness"
Don't Forget Your Cup to Exchange

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Time: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Donation: \$10.00 plus Covered Dish



Insecurities In Marriage: God's Antidote

EVANGELIST VICTORIA HODGE

Life is a journey and every step of the way we must continue to look ahead and not behind or we will miss it! A journey requires us to move from one place to another physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. While we are moving we have to remember the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night that the Israelites followed by our HEAVENLY FATHER'S guidance (Ex. 13-21, 22)! When we learn how to follow the pattern, it will look like what it is supposed to be. Not only will it look like it, but it will be what it's supposed to be from the inside out (complete totality).

When God called Noah to build the ark (boat) He gave specific directions based on a pattern. When Noah completed the boat it was the length, depth, width and height that had been instructed by God because he took his time and followed the pattern precisely. It did not appear to be anything other than what it was supposed to be. The pattern relating to marriage has little to do with all of the wonderful books on marriage, relationships and men and women coming together as husband and wife. Those things are great and some have even been inspired by the men and women of God, but the pattern that will give the best results is His Word in His Book; the **BIBLE**.

The world has a different set of standards concerning marriage. When they say yes to marriage it's generally based on lust, convenience and what they are going to get out of the marriage. Let us back up, not only those that do not know Christ shall this become a dilemma for, but for saved people as well, if we are not careful of our own insecurities. In a marriage that does not allow you and your spouse to grow together, in the hard, tough and sometimes unbearable times that will come; you can be sure it will result in separation and possible divorce.

Now, we know that Jesus is sovereign so all of the trials that come have to be taken to the foot of the cross and left there.

Uncertainty, not having confidence, lacking reassurance of who one really is and even not being stable or well adjusted are some of the emotions that make us feel insecure. Insecurity is the underlying portion of fear. It has been said that fear is (false evidence appearing real). When insecurity rises it allows the fear to become REAL. God's word says: "*There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear; because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love*" (1st John 4-18). Once the fear kicks in it triggers all kinds of other emotions and feelings that always result in negativity. The enemy comes to kill, steal and destroy with one of the most lethal weapons; lies and falsehoods. If he can get us to believe that we are not worthy of the blessings of the Lord or even worthy to be in a good relationship preferably (marriage) then he has accomplished part of his goal in destroying us.

The longer we live here on earth the more we will have to seek the face of our Jesus for peace, confidence, patience and trust. These are a few of the qualifications that are required in a Godly, sanctified and holy marriage.

Our job as wives is to become our husband's *help meet* according to *Genesis 2:18*. We must learn the roles which have been created for men to be husbands and for women to be wives.

As wives these are some of the qualities necessary as a help meet: to **push** (travail); to **position** (proper place); to **persevere** (withstand); to **persuade** (godly influence); to **pray** (labor on behalf of), to help him know his **purpose** (what God created him for).

We have the wonderful task of seeking God as we are in prayer for our husbands to be all that they have been called to be as servants of the Lord along with nurturing the relationship. Allowing respect to be at the forefront of every situation we might encounter as a family.

Using godly influence (persuade), we must *push* our husbands into *position*. As we continue to *persevere*, remember to pray for their destiny to be fulfilled, and their ultimate purpose to be reached for Christ Jesus.

The job of a Godly *husband* is to **provide** for his wife; to **protect her**; to have **patience** with her; to be **peaceful with her**; **praying for her**; having **patience** with her; (*understanding through kindness*), and to have a **purpose**, which God created her for.

Our men must provide a lifestyle that is pleasing to God as they protect their wives and children and letting patience be at the center of discussions in a peaceful tone and praying God's purpose is met in love. They have been selected as the head of the household. This task orchestrated by our glorious King from the beginning; is to make wives feel secure and loved. When we walk in these qualities with an attitude of servitude and selflessness we will be victorious in our marriages and any other relationships. When that spirit of insecurity tries to raise its ugly head; immediately God will shut it down.

Christ is the bridegroom and Zion (the church) is the bride and he loves his bride with an *unconditional* love. That is why the scripture says: Husbands love your wives even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it. The word also says; Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husband, as unto the Lord (*Ephesians 5-22*). This word submissive does in no way mean domination or control. It means we must respect and follow our husband's lead (*as long as it's a Godly leading*). God loves us equally men and women, as *Christ* is head of man and *man* is head of *woman* simply illustrates that someone must be the leader. So, men and women do not allow insecurity, insincerity, insensitivity, negative influence, to be an injustice to your marriage.

Men of the Bible - Daniel

Rev. Charles S. Head

Daniel had a heart purposed for God. Taken from his homeland into captivity as a teenager, Daniel quickly determined in the depth of his soul to keep his commitment to God. When commanded to eat the King's food (which did not follow Jewish dietary restrictions), Daniel refused to violate the laws of his God. He was unwilling to give into pressure and to conform to the new culture of his captors, obeying God no matter the consequences.

Daniel purposed in his heart to put God first in every part of his life, and God granted him favor in the hearts of others. His strong sense of direction and purpose gained him admiration and respect – even in the eyes of the king of his captivity.

From his days as a teenager to late into his adult life, Daniel refused to compromise his convictions, and God positioned him as a voice to speak God's message to the hearts of the kings. Daniel's life is a model to be followed and confirmation that you can succeed in life without compromising your soul – if you are willing to purpose in your heart to put

God first no matter the cost. There are six things that made Daniel a great leader:

1) A Humble Heart. Daniel 2:30, "But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightiest know the thoughts of thy heart."

2) His Personal Commitment. Daniels personal commitment to God was more important to him than his very life. Daniel 1:8 "but Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the kings meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself."

3) He had the Right Motivation. Daniel had earned quite a reputation as a wise man within the courts of the Babylonian and Persian kings. Daniel 5:12 – "forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting the dreams, and shewing of hard sen-

tences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in this same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation."

4) Daniel Gained Confidence Through God's Love. Daniel knew he was greatly loved by God. Daniel 10:11 "and He said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling."

5) Daniel Was Disciplined to Prayer. Daniel 6:10 – "now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house, and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, He kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God as he did aforetime."

6) Daniel was not afraid of Hard Work. He was industrious. Daniel 6:3 – "then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm."

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The Answer is Always in His Word

"TREASURES FOUND IN THE WORD" —

REV. CHARLES HEAD

God's word is full of "golden nuggets" that gives us examples of how the Kingdom of God operates—principles that we must use in order to live a victorious Christian life. Those in Jesus Christ are a special breed of people as born again believers. According to 1 Peter 2:5-9 we have a description of who we are in Christ. Following are six character descriptions we should have to represent the body of Christ. 1) **We are lively stones** built up on a spiritual house known as the church; 2) **We are a holy priesthood** to offer up spiritual sacrifices (the Cross) as our finished work; 3) **We are chosen generation** or new race made up of all who have accepted Christ; 4) **We are a royal priesthood** through Jesus Christ and what He did at Calvary; 5) **We are a holy nation**—a multitude of people of the same nature; and 6) **We are a peculiar people**. We have a unique possession as individuals as if we were the only human beings in existence.

Our purpose: to show forth the praises of Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. As future citizens of Heaven we need to occupy and be good representatives while living as "lights" in a dark world. We are in this world but our treasure is the King of Kings and Lord of lords (Jesus Christ). The next time someone calls you peculiar, don't look at it in a negative way because you are a peculiar person whose destiny is a "royal kingdom," not made by man, but by Father God Himself. This old song "When We See Jesus" tells the story:

It will be worth it all when we see Jesus; Life's trial will seem so small when we see Christ; One glimpse of His dear face all sorrow will erase; So bravely run the race till we see Christ. Sometimes the sky looks dark with not a ray of light; We're tossed and driven on, no human help in sight. But there's one in heaven—who knows our deepest care; Let Jesus solve your problem—just go to Him in prayer. Life's days will soon be o'er, All storms forever past; We'll cross the great divide to glory safe at last. We'll share the joys heav'n; a harp, a home, a crown; The tempter will be banished, we'll lay our burden down. Let us look to the Lord as we await His return.

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Women of the Bible - Shunammite Woman

REV. GEORGETTA HEAD



The Shunammite Woman was a wealthy person and lived in the town of Shumen. God mentions her in the Bible because of her hospitality and kindness toward His prophet Elisha.

Whenever Elisha would pass through her town of Shumen, she would insist on him dining with her and her husband. Knowing that he was a man of God she asked her husband to make a small room for Elisha on the roof of their home—and she decorated the room with a bed, table, chair and lamp for his comfort.

Because of her kindness, Elisha asked her “what can I do for you for showing me this kindness?” She answered, nothing. Elisha’s servant Gehazi tells him that the woman has no children. Elisha then calls

the woman again and tells her, “at this season, about this time next year, you shall embrace a son. As spoken the woman did embrace a son. So what can we learn from the Shunammite Woman character? Many things, such as she was a woman of contentment; she was a woman with a kind heart—she had compassion for the things of God; and she was a woman of faith. And 2 Kings 4:8-37 reveals to us that she was also a woman of persistence. When her son died in her lap, she did not give up on her faith.

Although the Shunammite Woman was wealthy she was content with what God had already given her. She kept herself focused on what God had already blessed her with. This is the secret of a

happy and thankful heart—“being grateful.”

The Shunammite Woman had a kind and compassionate heart and demonstrated this by taking care of the needs of God’s prophet. By doing this, she was expressing her love for God through His prophet Elisha, and making room in her heart for God through her unselfish acts of kindness.

The Shunammite Woman was persistence through her faith when her son died. By faith she knew God would use Elisha to raise her son to life again.

The Shunammite Woman’s heartfelt hospitality to Elisha and her sincere faith led to God abundantly blessing her (Matt. 10:41). God often uses His people’s humble acts of service to bless both the giver and the receiver. Would you like to be carriers of these characteristics: content, kind hearted, given to hospitality, thankful and persistence with your faith? Ask God for them—He will not withhold any good thing from you!

Walking In His Steps (cont’d)

God is also our “shield and exceedingly great reward!” He will protect and guide us safely (Psalm 91 & Psalm 27). But, fearing man and what man can do to us, or what he thinks about us, will stop us right in our tracks—taking us off the path of faith and keeping us from having a prosperous walk in His steps.

Having a relationship with Father God is the most valuable relationship we will every have in life. His relationship promises unconditional love, unexplainable peace, joy that will strengthen us, comfort when we are down, He will lift our heads, protect us from our enemies, supply all our needs, heal our wounds, deliver us from bad habits and generational curses and much, much more. A relationship with Father God offers more than I can even type. So, if you are looking for change in your life that will help you to live the upright life God created you to be, then I recommend reading and studying

your inheritance—the Bible. The Bible is God’s love letter to His creation. This love letter will teach us about the authors Father God, Jesus and Holy Spirit.

The Bible will teach us the importance of why and how to worship a Holy and living God. The Bible—our inheritance, our future will teach us, *the benefactors*, how to be prosperous in every thing we do for God and mankind.

God is our lifeline and when we walk in “His footsteps” we will never be disappointed. Father God has a great future for you, allow Him to change you and allow Him to set you free from bad habits. Jesus left heaven almost 2000 years ago to show man the way of life. He died on the Cross and rose on the third day to give His creation the gift of eternal life. Receive that gift today and walk in His steps for change that will carry you into eternity.

Know Your Bible

King Manasseh was the longest reigning king.

He started his reign at age 12 and ruled Judah for 55 years.

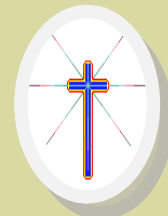
(2 Kings 21:1)

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"do you know that God loves you?"



"do you know that God forgives?"

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

Believe in Jesus and pray the "sinner's prayer below!"

Dear Jesus, I come to you today as a lost sinner. I am asking that you save my soul and cleanse me from all sin. I know that I need help and that I can't save myself.

I believe that you are the Son of God. Forgive me for my sins and all wrong doings I have done to others and help me to forgive those who have hurt me. I believe that you died on the Cross for my sins and the sins of the world. I accept You, Jesus, into my heart as my Lord and Savior.

I confess with my mouth the Lord Jesus, as my Savior and believe in my heart that God has raised Him from the dead and You are now seated in Heaven.

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Congratulations!

You are a "new creature in Christ and a child of God!" Now share the "good news" by telling someone else about your salvation.

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