# Journey Through Life Ministries Your Spiritual Newsletter The Kingdom of God is "Serving" Page 4 Clothe Yourself in Praise Page 10 The Answer is Always in His Word Page 16

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

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

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

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



Strength For Your Journey ....."His Word!"

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

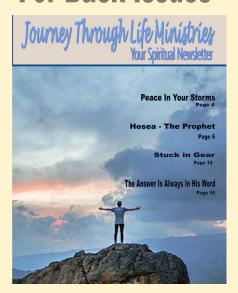
Our goal is to fulfill the great commission Jesus commanded in Matthew 28:16-20 to "...go and make disciples of all...."

This is being achieved by working with churches, professional organizations, social services, and the publication of this quarterly newsletter. As an outreach ministry in the communities, we also offer to adults and youth, Biblical studies through various enrichment programs, motivational teachings, and discipleship workshops. All of these programs are created to help individuals to discover the "love" of God and who they are in Christ. And, finally these programs will help individuals to learn the "freedom" they have in Christ Jesus as they become "free" spiritually enabling them to live their lives walking victoriously in the destiny God has planned for them.

#### We Would Love To Hear From You!

Do you have a testimony or praise report you would like to share? We would love to publish it! Your testimonies and praise reports are encouraging words of praise and glory of what God has done in your life—and it will be a great help to others in their walk with the Lord. Email your testimony to journeylife@verizon.net or visit our website www.journeythroughlifeministries.net (prayer request page).

## For Back Issues



Visit our website at: www.journeythroughlifeministries.net/newsletters



Shoe Boxes for Seniors is an on-going program drive. You can send donations any time during the year for the Shoe Boxes for Seniors Program. Checks or money orders can be mailed to:

Journey Through Life Ministries P.O. Box 17968 Pittsburgh, PA 15235

We are in need of: Socks; Hats, Scarves; Puzzle Books; Men's Tee Shirts; Travel Mugs; Adult Coloring Books; Pill Boxes; Toothpaste; Tooth Brushes; Sugar-Free Candy and Cookies; etc. Gift items can be dropped off at our Teaching Facility any Wednesday from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at 10529 Lindberg Avenue; Penn Hills, PA 15235.

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Visit JTLM's Blogger site for Ministry News and Updates



http://journeythroughlifeministries.blogspot.com/

# The Kingdom of God is "Serving"

Rev. Georgetta Head

"Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me. I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me...inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matt. 25:34-36;40

astor Bill was sitting at his desk reviewing his schedule for the upcoming week. When he looked at Saturday's schedule he began to frown just a bit. He was scheduled to speak at their Church's youth group. This was going to be a very important message, he was asked to preach a message that could possibly help shape the lives of 50 young people in learning the importance of serving for the Lord. Two weeks earlier, Pastor Bill received a call from Minister Larry, one of the Leaders from the Youth Ministry. Larry planned a weekend Missions Event for the youth to serve the homeless in the neighboring communities. He was concerned because the youth wanted to do something different, they saw no need or benefit in serving others in the community, so, he asked Pastor Bill to speak to the youth Biblical principles in the area of serving.

The day finally arrived! Pastor Bill felt in his spirit the best way to deliver a message on "serving" was to approach it from Jesus' viewpoint — How He saw the benefits of serving others. Pastor Bill decided to preach from Matthew 25:34-36;40 "Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me. I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me...inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Pastor Bill preached that those who serve in the name of Jesus are blessed through serving others, and they bring Glory to God's name. In serving, we are the light that the dark world needs to see! He went on to list eight ways in how one is blessed and how one benefits by serving others. For instance, serving others increases our faith, serving others helps us to grow closer to God; serving others takes the focus off our problems; serving others allows us to use our spiritual gifts; serving others allows us to see miracles done by God; serving others can bring joy and peace into our lives. And, most importantly, serving others is copying what God is doing in our lives—serving us by providing our daily needs even when we don't ask!

"...serving others allows us to see miracles done by God; serving others can bring joy and peace into our lives. And, most importantly, serving others is copying what God is doing in our lives—serving us by providing our daily needs even when we don't ask!"



Pastor Bill continued his message by explaining the following blessings and benefits we receive by serving others.

Serving others using our Spiritual Gifts: God has gifted each of us with gifts to be used in the kingdom. When using our gifts collectively in the missions field, in our church, or our neighborhood we are using our "gift of helps." In using our gift of helps, we are taking care of others physical needs and showing them Jesus at the same time. 1 Peter 4:10 reads, "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

We experience joy and peace when serving: Serving is a form of "worship." When we worship God, it brings joy and peace to our spirit and God is being praised and glorified by our acts of kindness toward others.

Serving helps us to become more Christ-like: Serving others takes the focus off our problems and we begin to see others as Jesus Christ sees them. We will begin to learn what it means to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. As Believers we should be like Christ with a "heart of compassion" for the less fortunate,

**Serving increases our faith:** As you experience God's power working through you helping others, you will begin to see potential in yourself and in the Body of Christ and you will continue seeking God's will looking for opportunities to serve others.

Serving others helps us to grow in Christ: God cares about the homeless, the poor and the needy, so when we serve in the "gift of helps" we begin to understand the heart of ministry and a very important "key" in the kingdom of God, which is "love is serving" and "serving is love!"

Serve as God directs you: We are not called to devote

our entire life in serving. However, we should allow God to direct our steps into areas of service that need help or our gifts. God will put a desire in your heart to meet the need of others. We need to listen to His still small voice prompting us with opportunities to serve. And quite often He will use others to confirm His direction in our lives.

Serving others Honors God: Pastor Bill continued by explaining how God was angry with the children of Israel for neglecting the needs of the poor, the widow, the homeless, and the fatherless. Why? Because God has a heart of compassion for those in need and He wanted them to learn the spiritual blessing of serving others, and that by serving others they were showing the love of Christ. Unfortunately, many of the Israelite children, who were living lives of ease, refused to help those less fortunate. Due to their stubbornness and lack of fear of God, judgment was pronounced on them. (Jeremiah 22)

Pastor Bill continued by explaining Jesus' reason for coming to earth was to show us the "way" and to "redeem mankind" through His sacrificial death on the Cross. But, as He (Jesus) was showing people the way. His ministry became one of serving. Jesus had much compassion for the poor and needy. Wherever He went, He ministered to the physical and spiritual needs of the people. He healed the sick, fed the masses, ministered to the wounded souls; freed those bound by demons, then He taught them the Kingdom of God. Pastor Bill concluded by stating Matthew 25:34-36;40 reveals an important message to all Believers. When we serve others we are serving Jesus. When we feed the hungry, visit the sick, clothe them, and visit those in prison, we are doing these acts of kindness to Jesus, and one day the faithful Believer will be honored in heaven.



t was nearing the end of the reign of King Solomon. He was the third king to reign in Israel and reigned from 971 BC to 931 BC—40 years. His reign as king was very unique! He was one of the richest kings to ever reign in Israel and he was one of the wisest men in the world to sit on any throne. Unfortunately, Solomon's heart did not stay fixed on the Lord! Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines, which stole his heart from God and lead him into idolatry worship. He forsook the only true and living God to lust after the false gods of his wives and to build altars to them. The Lord became angry with Solomon because of this sin of idolatry, which the Lord himself commanded him not to do, but Solomon ignored God's Word.

Solomon had a servant, name Jeroboam, who was a mighty man of valour and also very industrious, so he made him ruler over all the charge of the house of Joseph. So, when God judged Solomon for his idolatry, He appointed the kingdom to his servant, Jeroboam to reign after this death. But, in the midst of this judgment against Solomon, God showed mercy for the sake of king David His servant. He told Solomon the kingdom would be torn into two at his death and that two tribes would remain in Judah (southern kingdom) and ten tribes of Israel, would be given to his servant (northern kingdom) (1 Kings 11:10-13).

Before the death of Solomon, the prophet Ahijah met Jeroboam, Solomon's servant, on the road outside Jerusalem and told him the prophecy from God. God was going to give him the opportunity to reign over ten tribes of Israel and most importantly, an opportunity to know the only true and living God. Ahijah tells Jeroboam, God says; "if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my ways, and do that is right in my sight, to keep my statues and my commandments, as David my servant did; that I will be with thee, and build thee a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee" (1 Kings 11:38).

Jeroboam became king in 931 BC just as God spoke! He established himself as king by building up Shechem in Ephraim and then Penuel in Gilead. He fortified his position in the central part of the northern kingdom and in the eastern territory between Syria and Israel. Unfortunately, Jeroboam didn't put his faith in God and His word! Once he established himself, he began to devise a way to maintain his throne! How foolish, God had already given him a blueprint for establishing the throne. Jeroboam feared that Israel would return to the house of David in Jerusalem because of religious worship. So he made two golden calves and set them up at Dan and at Bethel and called Israel to worship them as their gods—a direct rebellion and violation of God's commandment against idols. This became a great sin for Israel, for they did as Jeroboam directed, and worshipped at these altars.

How foolish of Jeroboam! God offered him "grace" and he refused it using his own strength and mind to accomplish something that only God can do, and that is to "keep and protect people and a kingdom!" Unfortunately, he lost much when he refused God's gift of grace and protection and most importantly, God establishing him as a "sure house." The lesson to be learned here is that God is the only one that can keep anyone or anything. Put your trust and faith in God and not self, and He will make you a "sure house!"

# **Bible Facts**

Rachel was a "shepherdess" (Genesis 29:9).

After his conversion, Paul went to Arabia for three years (Galatians 1:11-18).

Jesus had a least 4 brothers named: James, Joses, Jude, and Simon as well as sisters (Mark 6:3 & Matthew 13:55-56).

Noah lived 350 years after the flood (Genesis 9:28).

Three people killed lions in the Bible: Samson (Judges 14:5-9); David (I Samuel 17:34-36) and Benaniah (2 Samuel 23:20)

When Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be born again, it was at night (John 3:1-3).

Forty-two youths were mauled by two female bears because they made fun of Elisha's bald head (Il Kings 2:23-24).

## **Book Review**

# Order your copy of the Bible today!



The Bible is a great book written about a King and His Kingdom. It reveals why the most important King, ever, left His Heavenly throne to redeem lost man.

The Bible teaches man why they need salvation and how to have a relationship with God, our creator. And, most importantly, the Bible teaches us why Jesus Christ died on the Cross, and what the Cross means for fallen man.

Available at any Christian Book Store.

Order your copy today to learn the truth about salvation, eternal life, real love, and how to live in this world.



Is your church or Women's Group planning a Women's Conference, Bible Study, Workshop, or Retreat?

Rev. Georgetta is available for the months of April, May and June 2019

For Booking or Information, call
412-583-8628
Email:
journeylife@verizon.net

## 7 Keys to life:

- #1 God first.
- #2 Love one another.
- #3 Never hate.
- #4 Give generously
- #5 Live simply.
- #6 Forgive quickly.
- #7 Be kind always.

#### Journey Through The Bible:

Weekly Bible Study every Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. all are welcome to attend as we study the Word scripture-by-scripture.

#### Daughters of Wisdom and Virtue Meetings:

Women's meeting are held the 2nd and 4th Thursday's monthly. We are currently studying: "God's Original Plan and Purpose." Through this series we are learning that God has not aborted His original plan and purpose for His people the Church. New attendees are welcomed and participation from previous weeks is not a prerequisite for attending.

#### Men On A Journey Fellowship:

Men's Fellowship meetings are held the 3rd Saturday monthly. All men are invited to attend these monthly meetings. Time is 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at JTLM Teaching Facility.

#### **Shoe Boxes for Seniors Outreach**:

Shoe Boxes for Seniors is an ongoing project throughout the year collecting items for distribution in December. Individuals can contribute items or cash donations for Christmas 2019 any Wednesday from the hours of 5:30 to 6:30 at our Teaching Facility in Penn Hills or mail cash donations to JTLM, P.O. Box 17968, Penn Hills, PA 15235.

#### Footsteps in The Word Workshops:

Interested in growing in your relationship with God; desiring to understand the Bible; interested in understanding your position as a Believer; or interested in understanding Bible principles, statues, commandments, and precepts—great! These workshops are for you!

To register contact Elder Charles or Rev. Georgetta Head at 412-583-8628 or email your inquiry to *journeylife@verizon.net* or visit website's Event page for more information:

www.JourneyThroughLifeMinistries.net





"For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?" (Luke 14:28)

ou have made the decision to purchase a home! The next step is to find a lender that will meet your financial needs. When deciding on a lender you need to know, how much money you have for a down payment for the home? How much do you have saved for closing cost? If you are purchasing a home that needs repairs, are you going to factor those costs into the loan, or do you have money set aside for remodeling a fixer upper? Unfortunately, the average first time home buyer rarely has 20% saved for a down payment on a home. So, what are the choices for the first time home buyer? They can investigate options available through a "mortgage broker!"

What is a "mortgage broker?" This is an individual who works as the middle person between banks and mortgage lenders and borrowers to secure financing for homeowners. Mortgage brokers are a big part of the mortgage industry, accounting for more than 10% of all home loan originations. Let's explore the benefits of using a mortgage broker!

First, borrowers who have trouble qualifying for a mortgage or need special financing deals will often get turned away from conventional banking systems. Mortgage brokers have access to many loan products and types of loans than most conventional banks, such as FHA loans, VA loans, borrowers with poor credit, jumbo loans, etc. Working with a mortgage broker gives one a more personalized loan experience with the mortgage broker working to find solutions customized for the homebuyer.

Secondly, the mortgage broker is not so quick to turn a buyer down because of low credit scores. The mortgage broker will explain how credit scoring works and make suggestions to make the homebuyer eligible in the near future. They will go the extra mile to find viable solutions when roadblocks seem to be the problem.

Thirdly, the benefit of working with a mortgage broker is that they will: 1) Do all the legwork for you, working on your behalf with the lender; 2) They will compare wholesale mortgage rates from a large number of banks and lenders all at once; 3) Wholesale interest rates can be lower than retail (conventional banks) interest rates; 4) You will have more loan options because they work with numerous banks and lenders; and 5) Mortgage brokers can finance tricky deals because of their knowledge and various lending partners.

The home buying process can be challenging, but if you do your homework and ask lots of questions you will discover that a mortgage broker can be a good option when shopping for a loan. Sit down with a mortgage broker, ask questions and compare their rates and service to those of your local bank.



ast quarter we discussed how the Word of God can be the first line of defense when facing fear and other troubles. This quarter we will talk about how praise can provide strength when dealing with anxiety or depression.

What does praise have to do with finding strength? Praise is powerful and important to God. It gives us strength by taking the focus off of our burdens and inviting God (Holy Spirit) to help us overcome a depressed spirit. Gratitude and thankfulness changes ou hearts and renews minds. King David continually chose praise in the midst of difficult and trying circumstances. Apostle Paul drew his strength from God by praising Him and remembering His faithfulness at all times. Even while in prison, Apostle Paul and Silas chose to sing songs of praise to God in their jail cell instead of wallowing in their depressing situation. As a result, the jail cells were opened supernaturally and the jail keeper and his family were saved (Acts 16:16-34).

How is praise different from worship? Praise is an expression of adoration and respect for God and is initiated by us (mankind); worship is God's response. Praise begins with thanksgiving and leads to worship. Praise brings us to God and worship brings God down to us. Praise gives us access into God's presence. When we seek God with genuine and heartfelt praise, He often graces us with His presence. Once God is present, everybody and everything else is cleared out of our mind (Habakkuk 2:20, 2 Chronicles 5:13-14).

Isaiah 61:3 (AMP) states what Jesus was anointed to do while on earth: "To grant to those who mourn in Zion the following: To give them a turban instead of dust [on their heads, a sign of mourning], the oil of joy instead of mourning, the garment [expressive] of praise instead of a disheartened spirit. So they will be called the trees of righteousness [strong and magnificent, distinguished for integrity, justice, and right standing with God], The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."

Why a garment? A garment is an item of clothing. Clothing is usually worn to *protect* us from exposure to weather conditions, to *cover* our nakedness, for style and **comfort**, and to <u>identify</u> with a certain profession or social-religious status (i.e. Uniforms or Royal garments). Priests in the Old Testament wore garments that emphasized their position and importance in the temple. Each piece of the garment had a specific function and significance (Exodus 28). Life circumstances can weigh us down! When we clothe ourselves with the garment of praise, we allow the Lord to:

Protect and shield us from despair and lift up our head (Psalm 3:3-4, Psalm 121).

Cover our weaknesses because He understands them (Psalm 5:11 (AMP), Hebrews 4:15).

Comfort, strengthen and restore our souls as we magnify Him (John 14:16 (AMP), Psalm 23:3-4).

Identify us as trees of righteousness so that He can be glorified in our lives (Isaiah 61:3). (cont'd page 14)



s God's born again believers, we are to be different from others, not meaning we are to be arrogant or self-centered, but set aside for a higher standard because of who we represent. We have no need to strive or try to make ourselves perfect or we will still come up short on the message God has portrayed for us.

Acknowledge God

In all your ways and

He will direct your path. Prov. 3:5-6 In I Peter 2:9 we read: "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." What does this mean:

A chosen generation: a new race, made up of all who have accepted Christ. A royal priesthood: Christ is King and High Priest, do to being "In Him" we as well are "kings and priests. An holy nation: a multitude of people of the same nature. A peculiar people: each saint is God's unique possession, just as if that saint were the only human being in existence. That you should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light: We should ever PRAISE HIM because of the "finished work" of the Cross. Why is this necessary for us? Because we represent "the light of Christ" in us. When we become transformed (born again) we become the carrier of God's glory "the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-16).

Jesus went back to "His Heavenly Father's side," but He entrusts us to be His "ambassadors of light" on earth in order to convince others to join us someday in Heaven, which is our reward. Our responsibility is to allow our light to shine in "a dark world" as a "peculiar people" on a mission for God's glory. The world around us has a right to watch us and when we have enough "salt and light" in us it will make them thirsty for "the Jesus in us."

#### **Answers to Last Quarter Puzzle**

#### CAN YOU FIND THE 16 BOOKS OF THE BIBLE?

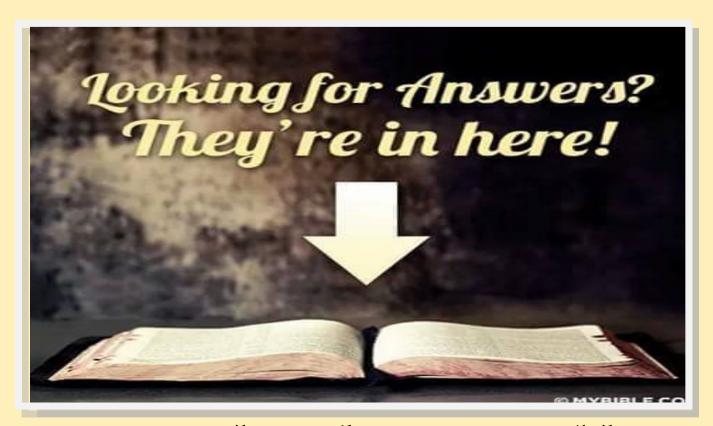
I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the name of the books were not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you.

YES, THERE WILL BE SOME REALLY EASY ONES

TO SPOT. Others may require judges to help them. I

Will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one
of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is
found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea, so she
can concentrate better. See how well you can
compete. Relax now for there are really sixteen names
of books of the Bible in this story.

(One preacher found the 15 books in 20 minutes but it took him 3 weeks to find the sixteenth one)



# Footsteps In The Word Meetings & Workshops

Journey Through The Bible

Bible Study—Wednesday Evenings 7:00—8:30 p.m.

JTLM Teaching Facility
10529 Lindberg Avenue

Penn Hills, PA 15235

Cost: Free

Daughter's of Wisdom & Virtue Fellowship

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4th Thursday's Monthly

7:00—9:00 p.m.

JTLM Teaching Facility

Penn Hills, PA 15235

Cost: Free

Men On A Journey Fellowship

3rd Saturday Monthly 10:00—12:00 Noon

JTLM Teaching Facility

10529 Lindberg Avenue

Penn Hills, PA 15235

Cost: Free

Save the Date "Living The Life" Annual Luncheon & Tea

April 13, 2019
Comfort Inn, Penn Hills

To Register Call 412-583-8628

Online: www.JourneyThroughLifeMinistries.net

## "Clothe Yourself in Praise" (contd)

"But you, LORD, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. I call out to the LORD, and He answers me from His holy mountain." Psalms 3:3-4

Put on a garment of praise as your daily attire and dress for success over your fears, anxiety and depression. Let the joy of the Lord be your strength (Nehemiah 8:10).

Personal Experience: Praise and worship play a major part in my life. I wake up frequently to a song playing in my heart that guides me throughout the day. Songs lift my soul from depression, take my mind off my problems and draws me closer to God. Whenever I encounter deep distress in my life, I go to my piano and sing praise songs to God. Instantly my mood lifts and I experience joy and strength to carry on. Before I get out of bed each morning, I clothe myself with the garment of praise. Praise is not always music related but can also be a way of offering a sincere expression of gratitude to God for who He is, and what He has done in our lives (Hebrews 13:15). Jesus came to earth to save us from damnation; teach the good news of the Kingdom; comfort, heal and deliver us from mourning, hopelessness, sickness, captivity and bondage; and to show us how to walk in freedom. "So if the Son makes you free, then you are unquestionably free" (John 8:36 AMP). Just as I wrote in the chorus to my original song: PUSH (Praise Until Something Happens) "You've got to push, gotta push, You've got to push through the problems, push through the pain, push in Jesus' name."





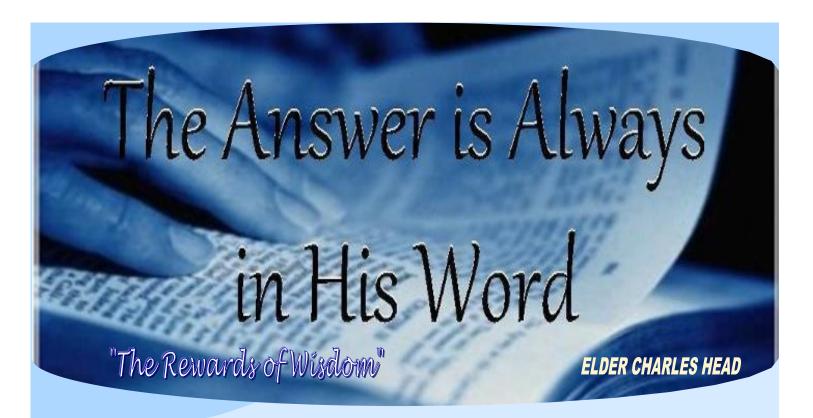
"And when the daughter of the said Herodias came in, and danced, and pleased Herod and them that sat with him, the king said unto the damsel, Ask of me whatsoever thou wilt, and I will give it thee. And he sware unto her, Whatsoever thou shalt ask of me, I will give it thee, unto the half of my kingdom." Mark 6:22-23 KJV

alome, daughter of Herodias, was caught up in all the excitement going on in the palace! Herod Antipas' birthday is just days away! The bakers were busy making fancy pastries filling the air with a wonderful sweet aroma, and the cooks were preparing large amounts of food for this grand affair and others were hustling to clean rooms for the grand guest of Herod's, such as his lords, high captains and chief estates of Galilee.

Salome's mother, Herodias divorced her father, Herod Philip I, and was now married and living with her uncle Herod Antipas in the palace (reads like a soap opera). When John the Baptist heard of this, he told Herod Antipas, "it is not lawful for thee to have married your brother's wife." Herod would have killed John, but he feared the people, because they saw John as a prophet. When Herod told Herodias what John the Baptist said, she became furious because this rebuke threatened her position! Her heart turned to hate for John the Baptist. Out of revenge, Herodias convinced Herod Antipas to imprison John, but she really wanted him dead! After ten long months John was still imprisoned with Herodias trying to find a way to have him put to death! And, Herod fearing John, knowing that he was a just man and holy man would not put him to death (Mark 6:20).

The day of Herod Antipas birthday finally arrived! The tables were set, the guests were seated, and the grand feast began, and what a feast it was—unlimited food, drinks, entertainment! Presents were given to Herod, each one more magnificent then the next. Salome wanted to give her uncle a unique present, something none of the other guests had given! That's it she thought, "I will dance before him and his guests as my present." Salome, danced so well that it "pleased" Herod and as a reward for such a great performance, Herod granted Salome up to half the kingdom.

So excited about Herod's reward, Salome not able to think so quickly, ran to her mother and asked her "what should I ask for?" Her evil mother, without hesitation, said "John the Baptist's head on a platter." When Herod was told of her request, He became very sorrowful, but He had to honor Salome's request. Herod honored Salome's request and gave her John's head on a platter! Hate is cancerous and spiteful! Just think one dance and one innocent request caused the death of a "godly man."



"The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath He established the heavens." (Proverbs 3:19)

"Wisdom" is something we can never have too much of, even if we just have enough to make our daily decisions, it could make our lives a lot less stressful and our health would be much better. Wisdom is good both for "the spiritual and natural." It has been around a long time and it's source comes from God, the giver of all gifts. In Proverbs 3:19 we find that "the Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath He established the heavens." God knew it was important for us to have "wisdom," this is why He gave us "the Book of Proverbs," known as "The Book of Wisdom," Holy Spirit dedicated chapter 8 of Proverbs for teaching on the subject of "wisdom." We read in Proverbs 1:7 "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise "wisdom" and instruction.

As I look back on my own life, I can see where I didn't use wisdom in many of my decisions and it caused me a lot of unnecessary heartaches and reaping of unwanted consequences. It was a learning process and had I listened to wisdom much of it could have been avoided. That is why we must get wisdom early, before we make bad decisions and have to regret them for a long time.

Proverbs 8:17 reads, "I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me." We must acknowledge God before we make decisions and wait for "wisdom" from Him. Don't operate from a pre-made up mind and do what you want to do. Instead follow the wisdom from Proverbs 3:5-6 "trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

When we disregard the wisdom of not acknowledging God, we are just going through the motions and defeating the purpose at the same time. Even when we have a world full of people who make good business decisions each day without acknowledging God, this is part of God's mercy, in which all gifts come from God, whether men give Him glory or not.



he Staff at Journey Through Life Ministries held their first fundraiser event to benefit the "Shoe Boxes for Seniors Christmas" program. Thanks to Rev. Karen Longcrier for organizing the twelve presenters to each represent an ingredient found in a cake. They took the audience on a journey explaining how a natural ingredient found in a cake could have a significant "spiritual" application in a Believer's daily walk with the Lord. What a wonderful time we had! The event was so well received that the audience asked for a repeat performance in the future.

We would like to thank our Praise & Worship Leader, Min. Karen Arrington; Mime Dancer, Portia Evans; Ingredient Presenters: Evangelist Victoria Hodge, Elder Charles S. Head, Rev. Glenda Parker, Rev. Carmelita Kirvel, Rev. Georgetta Head, Evangelist Kim Jones, Elder Donna Simms-Key, Elder Nicole Hickman, Rev. Beverly Willie, Deaconess Diane Hudson, Rev. Scott Entwisle, and Rev. Karen Longcrier

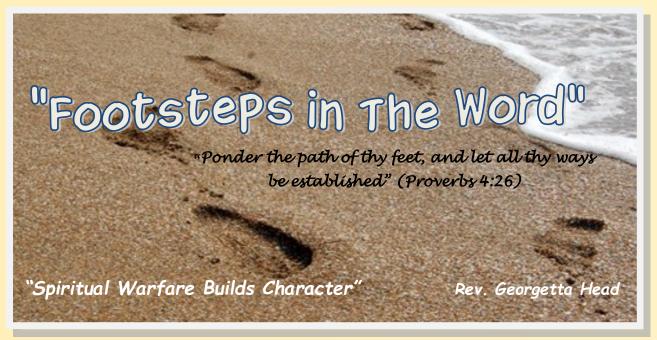












hen you hear the words "spiritual warfare" what comes to your mind? "Ugh, not me, or why me?" Unfortunately, spiritual warfare is unavoidable in the life of a Believer. Second Timothy 3:12 reads, "Yes, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution." Why, because we have chosen to be a child of God! So satan desires to sift us through trials, tribulations and temptations. These trials or tribulations may come in the form of an illness, loss of job, marital problems, fighting within families, etc. He tempts us to sin and to doubt God through our attitude, old or bad habits, etc. In order to wage war with the enemy, satan, we need to know his strategies and his character.

First, satan is a created being and as a created being he has limited power against the children of God. He has to ask permission from God to touch us (read the Book of Job). So why fear Him? We shouldn't because greater is the power in us than the limited power satan has. Satan may tempt us or cause trials to come our way, but he can't keep us his prisoner unless we allow him to. We have the authority of God's word to defeat satan and he has to flee. Plus, 2 Timothy 4:5 tells us to be "watchful," in other words be alert, knowing that there is an enemy out there that desires to sift us.

Spiritual Warfare can be painful emotionally and physically, especially when it comes upon us suddenly. Many find themselves complaining and walking in defeat because they aren't being "watchful" as instructed in 2 Timothy 4:5. Some actually make statements such as "if God is a loving God why is He allowing these trials or tribulations to come my way?" God doesn't cause bad things to happen to us, satan is the instigator of bad things! God may allow trials caused by satan to come our way, but He uses them for our good, Romans 8:28 reads "...He (God) works all things together for our good." Trials and tribulations that come into our lives have a divine purpose, and that is to become more "Christ like!" 1 Peter 1:6-7 says we are to rejoice in that God will use these trials for a testing of our faith.

In Jeremiah 20:11 Father God encourages us to know: "...the Lord is with me as a mighty terrible one: therefore my persecutors shall stumble and they shall not prevail..." So do not fear! Stand on the Word trusting Father God to fight your battles and to deliver you from the wiles of the enemy and to bring healing to your body physically and emotionally. Trials develop godly character within a Believer that empowers him or her to rejoice and persevere through future trials. Satan may think he is defeating a Believer, but Father God has given us enough weapons to wage spiritual warfare victoriously. Plus, Believers that persevere under trials will receive a "Crown of Life." We may be in spiritual warfare, but satan has NO AUTHORITY over the Believer in Christ. Don't fear satan, instead start PRAISING GOD WHILE IN THE MIST OF THE BATTLE. King Jehoshaphat did and he won the battle—and you can too!!



all is upon us and winter is not too far behind, which means many will be hibernating from the cold wintery weather! Many will find themselves seated comfortably in their favorite chair munching on comfort food that will unfortunately give them unwanted 5 to 10 pounds to the waistline, that will leave them trying to figure out during the summer months how to shed these unwanted pounds. Instead of eating foods that have no health benefit, why not incorporate soup into your diet during the fall and winter months. Eating a bowl of soup filled with veggies is packed with much needed nutrients. Fiona Kirk author of the book "Soup Can Make You Thin", states that "eating nothing but soup for a meal can also make one slimmer; and, the wealth of ingredients in a bowl of soup provides a good balance of carbohydrates, protein and fats as well as the vitamins and minerals required to create energy and keep us firing on all cylinders."

Some top reasons why you should eat soup: 1) Soup is delicious; 2) Soup can be a comfort food as it is delicious. It is easy to make. With only a few ingredients, one can make a bowl of hearty soup for a cold evening. 3) Soup is good for the health; 4) Perhaps the easiest way to add vegetables to your daily meals is to make and eat soup. You can make several bowls of soup filled with veggies each day and you'll be filled. Eating vegetables is part of a healthy diet so veggie soups are highly recommended. 5) Soup can help one lose weight. 6) Soups are slimming, that is if you strictly follow a weight-loss plan and exercise more. A bowl of soup packs minimal calories but is very nutritious. 7) Soup makes you feel full. 8) Soup fills you up because it stretches the stomach. You easily feel full so it's ideal to eat soup at the beginning of every meal. 9) Soup is affordable to make. Making soup won't require a lot of money. Visit your local grocery store, buy some vegetables, broth or water, and you can easily make a batch enough to feed the entire family. For a small cost, you can make a lot of people feel full and healthy. Soup can make you feel better. Ever wonder why chicken soup is always given to the sick? It is easily digested and is filled with health benefits.

## People, Places, or Customs In The Bible

Did you know that Camels were a common mode of transportation during Biblical times? Due to this knowledge they were domesticated in 2500 BC because they were uniquely suited for dessert life. Camels have three separate stomachs that can hold a total of 22 gallons of water, and fat is stored in its hump for use when food is scare.

What did Genesis 21:8 "on the day Isaac was weaned" mean? In Abrahams' time, infant mortality was common. It was customary to celebrate the dangerous passage from infancy to childhood when the child was two or three years old.

What did Abraham mean in Genesis 24:2 when he told his servant to "put your hand under my thigh?" The loins were considered the source of procreative power. To swear an oath in this way made it solemn and binding. The custom was particularly appropriate in this case, because the oath will fulfill God's promise to Abraham that his line would descent through Isaac.

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#### 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.

### 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.