

New Website Offerings

Excerpts Only

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WEEK OF JULY 11, 2005

A MOMENT OF MEDITATION

PEACE

The coordinated attack on London transportation systems has reopened the wounds of terrorism. The shock shared by those whose lives have been changed forever by the latest transit bombings has renewed a sense of loss and vulnerability in all of us.

This most recent tragedy has brought out the best and worst in us. While rescue workers risked their own lives for survivors, others breathed words of vengeance and hatred.

I'd like to weigh in by saying to Believers worldwide, let's think carefully about our reactions. Is this a time to be demonizing or dehumanizing our 'enemies'?

Vengeance does belong to God alone. Love sees even a terrorist as some parent's son or daughter. The heart of Christ teaches us to see even our mortal enemies as someone for whom He died.

PATIENCE

Time was that I thought it would be wonderful to have more free time — perhaps time to be quiet in the mountains or to ponder sunset after sunset on a tranquil beach. The

accumulation of those quiet, unstressed moments could teach me the tranquil virtue of patience.

But that's a monumental mistake! Patience doesn't come from stress-free days and quiet nights. It comes from facing down trouble, heartache, and frustration in the midst of a stressful, noisy environment. Patience is standing your ground over time - when that ground is shaking under your feet. It is your willingness to take the long-term view of life and to wait for God to bring a holy result from an unpromising start.

PERSERVANCE

Some people so internalize rejections they encounter that they become paralyzed by life. They abandon their dreams. They settle for less than God intended with their lives. They give up and resign themselves to mediocrity. They allow the judgments other people pass on them to define them. What a shame!

Imagine the difference that would have been made in our world if certain people had accepted others' rejection of them as the final word on their worth. Beethoven's music teacher said he was "hopeless" at composing. The Wright brothers were ridiculed for their dream of a flying machine. Albert Einstein was feared to be mentally retarded as a child. Martin Luther King was born to a culture that had institutionalized racism to make people like him "stay in their place.

SPIRITUAL WARRIORS PRAYER GUIDE PAGE

HOW TO FACE THE ENEMY

Always remember that Satan is behind every force that challenges true spiritual power.

Some opposition to spiritual power comes through the circumstances of life. The "cares of the world" can become great and many. Satan is behind any circumstances that hinder the flow of God's power in your life.

Most opposition comes through other people around you, but you must always remember that it is not the people themselves who are opposing you. They are allowing their thought and behavior patterns to be influenced by Satan. Satan is actually the force operating against your spiritual power and authority.

WEEK OF JULY 18, 2005

SPIRITUAL WARRIORS PRAYER GUIDE PAGE

INVASION

You have answered the call to arms and been inducted in God's army. You have studied about enemy strategy and territory. You've learned about God's battle plan and been armed with defensive and offensive weapons. With this message you actually enter the combat zone and begin to fight!

This message also focuses on Satan's strategies and Scriptural counterstrategies for overcoming his deceptive tactics.

"Strategies" are the science of forming and carrying out military operations. They are the methods or plans which lead to victory.

BATTLE OVER THE WALLS

Are you trying to rebuild your life and experiencing attack from every direction? Are you facing Criticism, Mocking, Lack of Support and Diversion? There are spiritual walls Satan has targeted to destroy in your life. He wants to destroy your

praise and Christian witness. He wants to destroy the work of the cross and the Holy Spirit in your life. He tries to keep you from studying God's Word and acting upon its truths.

Satan wants to defeat you in spiritual warfare, prevent self-examination, and entrap you in the works of the flesh and the old sinful nature. He wants to destroy your hope in the return of Jesus. These are your spiritual walls, and Satan attacks them with strategies identical to those used in the battle over the walls in Jerusalem. This message focuses on the battle over the walls of your spiritual life and how you can experience victory in that battle!

BATTLES OVER STRATEGIC TERRITORY

Previous messages focused on major attacks of the enemy on the mind, the tongue, your spiritual walls, and the combat zone of the world and the flesh. This message continues the study of specific targets of the enemy focusing on the strategic territories of the physical body, the family, finances, and attacks through human personalities.

NATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD UPDATE

It is not too late to provide information on your services. Our main focus continues to be the creation of “electronic services portfolios,” for those who have services to offer. I would like for you to provide specific information regarding your services. The electronic portfolio should contain brochures, photos or any material that describes your product or service.

You may even have a PowerPoint presentation that we can place in your portfolio. We feel this level of information will give the individual in need of the service a clear picture of your product. So, if you already have a small business or looking to create one, let me hear from you.

THE LEARNING TREE

GOD SPEAKS TO OUR GENERATON

“Do We Need A New Church”

Part II

No single person or small group within the Body of Christ – whether considered globally, denominationally, or congregationally – should presume to think for, interpret for, and give orders about what to be or do in the life of a church. There are no junior heads, princes, or secondary lords. There is Jesus. There are the rest of us. And there are some among us who have leadership gifts to exercise for the sake of building consensus but never as “lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock” (I Peter 5:3)

The church is not called to be a religious corporation with the customary managerial structure of a business; it is called to be a priesthood of all believers that respects the ‘relationship’ nature of the church as family. Yes, families have structure. And there is biblical instruction about how leadership works in a family setting. But neither in the church nor in a family is leadership to be understood as autocratic, authoritarian, or oppressive. Both are to be thought of and applied in terms of humility and nurturing, guidance and empowering. Godly leadership in a church will always be committed to the development and deployment of the natural and spiritual gifts of its members, not the protection of its own turf or authority. Their love for Christ is just so genuine and obvious that other believers who see their godliness naturally follow them.

AUDIO MESSAGES & MUSIC - TEENS

JOYFUL, JOYFUL-SISTERS ACT 2