

Since 2000 A Monthly Christian Newsletter Publication

Celebrating JESUS' Birthday



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It's Time to Party...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Melva McClain Cynthia Spears Carlton Williams Deloris McNair

Happy Anniversary



A Union of Holy Matrimony to Celebrate. Cheer to ... Howard & Evelyn Magee

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO OUR TROOPS

Pray for Peace. Pray for those in the Armed Forces during the holiday season and throughout the year. They need our prayers to come home safely.

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in time of need. In Jesus name, Amen."

McClain Ministries 1050 Ridgeside Drive, Brandon, MS 39042

Melva's Corner

THE CHURCH...BIRTH IN PRAYER



(Isaiah 58:58 RSV)

Central Truth: "Let's not play games with ourselves. Let's not divert attention away from the weak prayer life of our own churches."

Have you ever noticed that Jesus launched the Christian church, not while someone was preaching, but while people were praying? In the first two chapters of Acts, the disciples were doing nothing but waiting on God. As they were just sitting there ... worshipping, communing with God, letting God shape them and cleanse their spirits and do those heart operations that only the Holy Spirit can do ... the church was born. The Holy Spirit was poured out.

What does it say about our churches today that God birthed the church in a prayer meeting, and prayer meetings today are almost extinct?

Am I the only one who gets embarrassed when religious leaders in America talk about prayer in schools? We don't have even that much prayer in many churches! Out of our humility, you would think we would keep quiet on that particular subject until we practice what we preach in our own ministries.

I am sure that the Roman emperors didn't have prayer to God in their schools. But then, the early Christians didn't seem to care what Caligula or Claudius or Nero did. How could any emperor stop God? How, in fact, could the demons from hell make headway when God's people prayed and called upon His name? Impossible! In the New Testament we don't see Peter or John wringing their hands and saying, "Oh, what are we going to do? Emperor Caligula's nuts . . . he wants to appoint his horse to the Roman senate . . . what a terrible model of leadership! How are we going to respond to this outrage?" No the early church didn't ring there hands at Caligula or any emperor's proposed actions, they just kept praying.

Let's not play games with ourselves. Let's not divert attention away from the weak prayer life of our own churches. In Acts 4, when the apostles were unjustly arrested, imprisoned and threatened, they didn't call for a protest; they didn't reach for some political leverage. Instead, they headed to a prayer meeting. Soon the place was vibrating with the power of the Holy Spirit (vv. 23-31).

As Christians, through prayer, we have the power to change things. We can reach out and embrace new opportunities with expectation. We can welcome the future with excitement.

The apostles had this instinct: When in trouble, pray. When intimidated, pray. When challenged, pray. When persecuted, pray. Always, yes, always pray.

I can't leave this message without reference to Daniel's prayer life, especially when his death decree was issued:

"Now when Daniel knew that the document was signed, he enters his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day giving thanks before God, as he had been doing previously." (Daniel 6:10)

I submit to you, that's an incredible response to one's own death warrant. Daniel's response reflects his consistent walk with God.

I think the last part of that verse is most remarkable: as he had been doing previously. Daniel did not turn to prayer in panic. He had been consistently on his knees three times a day before His God, day in, day out, year after year. By the way, remember, he was one of the top officials in the land, yet he had time with God regularly. The psalmist writes, "Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and crv aloud: and he shall hear my voice." (Psalm 55:17, KJV)

Isn't that a great verse? "Evening, morning, noon, I will pray." Daniel was no stranger to prayer. But still he didn't flaunt the fact the he was a man of prayer. Notice his windows were already open. He didn't suddenly bang them open so that everyone would know he was praying and be impressed with his piety.

There was an advertisement some time ago from one of the airlines. It said, "When you've got it, flaunt it." That may work for an airline, but it doesn't work for an authentic man or woman of God. When you've got it you don't flaunt it. Why? Because when you flaunt it, you don't really have it.

Daniel just quietly walked up to the chamber in his home and again before God he poured out his fear, his concern, his future, his life. Daniel is phenomenal. Just We 21st Century unreal. verv near Christians have a low threshold, don't we? When things run along pretty well, we can stay fairy consistent, but a little ripple comes in the water, and we plunge! We pray at those times, but they are usually panic prayers, "Help-me-out-of-this-mess" prayers. Not Daniel! The remarkable thing about him is that he simply went back to God as before. I think if they had had an electrocardiogram, his would have read just the same as always.

Daniel responded to his death warrant with ... "Well, what else is new? What do you

expect from this world?" So he heard about this news and he just went right back to God and told God about them. He had a place to meet.

How is your time in prayer? What does it take you to get your attention? A tragedy? A real emergency? This man had been doing this as a habit all of his life. He had a place to meet with God and he met. He consistently, kept his burdens, at the throne. Please don't excuse yourself because you are too busy. Not a person reading this message is busier than Daniel could have been as one of the three top men in the country. You can't get any busier than that. But somehow, his consistent walk with God was so important; he simply stayed before His presence.

As 21st Century believers are we going to let a lack of prayer rob Jesus of His goal in us, or will we seize the opportunities and seek the changes that brings Him glory.

Let's welcome the rebirth of the Church with prayer; when in trouble, pray. When intimidated, pray. When challenged, pray. When persecuted, pray. When things are going well, pray. Always, yes, always pray!

Scriptural References:

"Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard" (Isaiah 58:8 RSV).



Peace, Love, and Joy...To you this Christmas. May the Spirit of the Season be with you now and the Coming New Year.

A LIFE WITHOUT FAILURE (Learn to Love)



(Corinthians 13:8 NIV)

Central Truth: God's love for you is unconditional and undeserved. He loves you in spite of your disobedience, your weakness, your sin and your selfishness. He loves you enough to provide a way to abundant, eternal life.

Love is the greatest thing in the world. It is the greatest privilege and power known to man. Its emphasis in life and word changed the course of history as the first-century Christians demonstrated a quality of life never before witnessed on this earth. The Greeks, Romans, Gentiles, and Jews hated one another. The very idea of love and selfsacrifice was foreign to their thinking. When they observed Christians from many nations, with different languages and cultures, actually loving one another and sacrificing to help each other, they responded in amazement, "Behold, how these people love one another!"

Everybody wants to be loved. Most psychologists agree that man's greatest need is to love and be loved. No barrier can withstand the mighty force of love.

Today, let me share with you the first of four vital truths about love that will help you understand this amazing concept:

- 1. God loves you unconditionally.
- 2. You are commanded to love others God, your neighbors, your enemies.
- 3. You are incapable of loving others in your own strength.
- 4. You can love others with God's love.

There are three Greek words translated into the one English word "love"; eros, which suggests sensual desire. It does not appear in the New Testament; phileo, which is used for friendship or love of one's friends or relatives. It conveys a sense of loving someone because he is worthy of love; and agape, which is God's love: the purest, deepest kind of love. It is expressed not through mere emotions but as an act of one's will.

Agape is God's supernatural, unconditional love for you revealed through Jesus' death on the cross for our sins. It is the supernatural love He wants to produce in you and through you to others, by His Holy Spirit. Agape love is given because of the character of the person loving rather than because of the worthiness of the object of that love. Sometimes it is love "in spite of" rather than "because of."

God underscores the importance of this kind of love through the inspired pen of the apostle Paul, recorded in I Corinthians 13. In this beautiful and remarkable passage of Scripture, Paul writes that, apart from love, anything that you might do for God or others is of no value. Consider these words:

"If I had the gift of being able to speak in other languages without learning them, and could speak in every language there is in all of heaven and earth, but didn't love others, I would only be making noise.

If I had the gift of prophecy and knew all about what is going to happen in the future, knew everything about everything, but didn't love others, what good would it do? Even If I had the gift of faith so that I could speak to a mountain and make it move, I would still be worth nothing at all without love.

If I gave everything I have to poor people, and if I were burned alive for preaching the Gospel but didn't love others, it would be of

no value whatever"

In other words, no matter what you do for God and for others, it is of no value unless you are motivated by God's love.

But what is agape? How does this kind of love express itself? Paul gives us an excellent description:

"Love is very patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud, never haughty or selfish or rude. Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable or touchy. It does not hold grudges and will hardly even notice when others do it wrong.

It is never glad about injustice, but rejoices whenever truth wins out. If you love someone you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him.

All the special gifts and powers from God will someday come to an end, but love goes on forever...

There are three things that remain - faith, hope, and love - and the greatest of these is love.

In the next chapter the apostle Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, admonishes: "Let love be your greatest aim."

God Loves You Unconditionally

God loves with agape, the love described in I Corinthians 13. He loves you so much that He sent His Son to die on the cross for you, that you might have everlasting life. His love is not based on performance. Christ loves you so much that while you were yet a sinner, He died for you.

God's love for you is unconditional and undeserved. He loves you in spite of your disobedience, your weakness, your sin and your selfishness. He loves you enough to provide a way to abundant, eternal life. From the cross Christ cried out, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they are doing." If God loved those who are sinners that much, can you imagine how much He loves you - His child through faith in Christ and who seeks to please Him?

The parable of the prodigal son, recorded in Luke 15, illustrates God's unconditional love for His children. A man's younger son asked his father for his share of the estate, packed his belongings, and took a trip to a distant land where he wasted all of his money on parties and prostitutes. About the time that his money was gone, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. He finally came to his senses and realized that his father's hired men at least had food to eat. He decided, "I will go to my father and say, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired man."

While he was still a long distance away, his father saw him coming and was filled with loving pity. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. I think that the reason he saw his son coming while he was still a long distance away was that he was praying for his son's return and spent much time each day watching that lonely road on which his son would return.

Even as the son was making his confession, the father interrupted to instruct the servants to kill the fatted calf and prepare for a celebration - his lost son had repented; he had changed his mind and had returned to become part of the family again.

God demonstrated His love for us before we were Christians, but this story makes it obvious that God continues to love His child who has strayed far from Him. He eagerly awaits His return to the Christian family and fellowship.

Even when you are disobedient, He contin-

ues to love you, waiting for you to respond to His love and forgiveness. Paul writes:

"Since by his blood He did all this for us as sinners, how much more will He do for us now that He has declared us not guilty? Now He will save us from all of God's wrath to come. And since, when we were His enemies, we were brought back to God by the death of His Son, what blessings He must have for us now that we are His friends, and He is living within us!"

The love that God has for you is far beyond our human comprehension. Jesus prayed, "My prayer for all of them (the disciples and believers of all ages) is that they will be of one heart and mind, just as you and I are, Father . . . I in them and you in me, all being perfected into one. - so that the world will know you sent me and will understand that you love them as much as you love me."

Think of it! God loves you as much as He loves His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. What a staggering, overwhelming truth to comprehend! You need have no fear of someone who loves you perfectly. You need never be reluctant to trust God with your entire life for He truly loves you. And the almost unbelievable part of it is that He loves you even when you are disobedient.

When you are disobedient, He disciplines or corrects you because He loves you.

Hebrews 12 teaches about the love that motivates God's discipline:

"My son, don't be angry when the Lord punishes you. Don't be discouraged when he has to show you where you are wrong. For when he punishes you, it proves that he loves you..."

Let God train you, for he is doing what any loving father does for his children.

Since we respect our fathers here on earth, though they punish us, should we not all the

more cheerfully submit to God's training so that we can begin to really live?

Our earthly parents trained us for a few brief years, doing the best for us that they knew how, but God's correction is always right and for our best good, that we may share His holiness. Being punished isn't enjoyable while it is happening - it hurts! But afterwards we can see the result, a quiet growth in grace and character.

Christ's death on the cross has once and for all satisfied the wrath and justice of God for the believer's sin. God chastens and disciplines you to help you grow and mature spiritually."

The early Christians endured persecution, hardships and unbelievable suffering. Yet Paul wrote to them:

"Who then can ever keep Christ's love from us? When we have trouble or calamity, when we are hunted down or destroyed, is it because He doesn't love us anymore? And if we are hungry, or penniless, or in danger, or threatened with death, has God deserted us? No, for the Scriptures tell us that for his sake we must be ready to face death at every moment of the day - we are like sheep awaiting slaughter; but despite all this overwhelming victory is ours though Christ who loved us enough to die for us.

I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love. Death can't, and life can't. The angels won't, and all the powers of hell itself cannot keep Gods' love away. Our fears for today, or worries about tomorrow or where we are - high above the sky, or in the deepest ocean - nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God demonstrated by our Lord Jesus Christ when He died for us."

Such love is beyond our ability to grasp with our minds, but it is not beyond our ability to experience with our hearts.

Scriptural References:

"Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away." (Corinthians 13:8 NIV)

∞ SPECIAL FEATURE ∞

GOD MADE YOU SOMEBODY! (The Journey Continues)

(Matthew 1:20-21)

Central Truth: God wants us to be part of something important.

"I just want to be somebody! I want my life to matter!"

As kids, we played games pretending to be someone important. Our beloved stories as children involved ugly ducklings becoming beautiful swans and a mistreated stepdaughter, named Cinderella, becoming the beautiful princess chosen by the handsome prince. But life seems to beat the dreams out of most of us. We settle for more pedestrian plans and give up our "unrealistic" dreams of being someone important who is part of something important and is specifically chosen to do something important. We settle for being spectators cheering for strangers to win games that mean very little so we can chant "We're number 1!"

Luke writes to reawaken our dreams. "Cinderella isn't a fairy tale!" his story reminds us, "look at Mary, she becomes the mother of the Messiah."

"Ugly ducklings do become lovely swans!" his gospel tells us, "remember Elizabeth and Anna who are gloriously blessed after years of disappointment."

"Snow White CAN come back to life!" his words beckon us to believe, for "more than just hopes get resurrected in the Jesus story." And it all begins with the least likely of heroes. Luke introduces us to an old, forgotten but faithful priest and his wife. God chooses Zechariah "by lot" to serve in the Temple, something he would only do once his whole life. The "barren" Elizabeth suddenly is given a son in her old age. Together, they are filled with Spirit-inspired prophecy after nine months of a baby growing in Elizabeth's womb and silence covering Zechariah's days.

Mary, Elizabeth's relative, is given a child in her womb without the help of a man. The angel Gabriel, sent straight from the very presence of God Himself, informs her of this miracle. This peasant and godly young woman becomes the mother of God's Messiah, the Promised One of Israel.

Simeon, perceived as a devout "religious fanatic" is blessed to see and hold the Redeemer of Israel. He is filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesies about the destiny of this Wonder Child.

God chooses Anna, a "widow woman" dedicated to prayer in God's Temple, to be the first preacher proclaiming the arrival of the Savior.

Meanwhile, the rich, powerful, and influential are mere bystanders and pawns in God's great drama of redemption. King Herod is merely the token tyrant in the story. Caesar Augustus is only the prop that brings Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem. Quirinius, the governor of Syria, is a mere historical reference marking the time of the Messiah.

A whole host of everyday unknowns are swept up into God's glorious drama of grace. Shepherds, once glorious because of the heritage of Abraham and David, are now despised. Yet when God announces the birth of His Son with a heavenly chorus of angels, shepherds tending their flocks on the hillside are the chosen audience for God's symphony of joy. They become the first human witnesses proclaiming the birth of the Savior, Christ the Lord. The unknowns of the world the village friends of Zechariah and Elizabeth, the residents of the unknown inn where Jesus was born, the Temple goers who heard Anna and Simeon become the first to know about God's glorious arrival.

God wants us to be part of something important. So He had everyday folks play the key roles in His story of salvation. He wants us to identify with the person most like us, and realize this story is not just FOR us, it is ABOUT us. We are important to the Creator of the universe. We are part of something important, lasting and wondrous when we tell others about Jesus. When God tuned the world to His grace, we were asked to join His heavenly chorus and proclaim with joy, "Our Redeemer, Christ the Lord, has come!"

Luke wants us to know that this story is ultimately about us being more than spectators. It is about us being chosen by God to be His partner, in His story, to share His joy and grace and salvation in the birth of His Son, Jesus the Christ.

Scriptural References:

"Joseph, Son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:20-21)

HIGHER MOUNTAINS...HIGHER PRAISES

NEVER COULD HAVE MADE IT WITHOUT GOD Jannice Horton

Original Prayer Request: My brother-in-law, Ellis Ross Hogan is having heart surgery triple bypass on 11/20/07 in Hattiesburg, MS at 11:00 a.m. Please lift him up in prayer. Update 11/20/07: My brother-in-law is doing well. Surgery was at 4:30 p.m. instead of 11:00 a.m. as scheduled. He came out of surgery at 8:45 p.m. The doctor scheduled it for a triple bypass, but as he got in, he found out he had to do a quadruple bypass and from the looks of his heart, says doctor, he had already had a heart attack, but just did not know when it happened. We found out this week that the doctor mentioned to him about having the surgery last year, but he never told his wife (my sister). Thank you for all your prayers. Keep lifting him up for a speedy recovery. I will keep you posted.

Update 11/24/07: My brother-in-law was released from the hospital. He is at home and doing well. Thanks for all your prayers and faithfulness.

21ST CENTURY MIRACLE Lauren McDonald

Original Prayer Request October 8, 2007:

Melva received a call from our sister Lauren McDonald who requested prayer on behalf of Suzanne Green. Suzanne has been diagnosed with Liver Cancer. She is in room 307 in the Presbyterian Hospital -Charlotte, NC. Lauren's prayer circle plans to go to the hospital at 6:30 P. M. tonight to have prayer with Suzanne.

Let's not wait until tonight. We are believing for Suzanne's total restoration NOW!

10/13/07 update from Lauren:

I spoke with Suzanne Green and she said her liver is responding and that the swelling is gone. The only thing that is keeping her from being released is that the white blood cells are low after chemo. I told her that I would pass this on so that she can continue to receive prayer. I'm so happy for her because initially things did not look promising in the natural, but with God all things are possible. I'll keep you informed.

Melva received a call from Lauren on Friday, October 26th. Lauren was pleased to

report that Suzanne Green has gone home from the Hospital. Praise God! She thanks all of you for your powerful prayers. As you know the doctors had given Suzanne a grim prognosis...But God!

Hallelujah, God stepped in and reversed the doctor's prognosis. Yes, He is still in charge!

SEED AFTER GOD'S OWN KIND! Denise Jones

I give Glory to God for my new grandson Samuel Blake Bender II.

My daughter Anitra only dilated 5 (five) centimeters so she had to deliver by csection. She previously told me and her doctor she didn't want to go under the knife so when she was told there was no other choice, tears began to fall from her eyes.

When Samuel was delivered Anitra's cord was wrapped around his neck.

Saints GOD ALWAYS KNOWS WHAT IS BEST! NEVER DOUBT HIM.

She didn't want the c-section but God SAW it all. Praise God! Anitra and Samuel are both doing great!

DIVINE REVELATION Sylvia Washington

I am at work (11/9/07) and I closed my eyes for a minute and I saw someone walking that could not walk. They were jumping up and down with so much excitement. I don't know who it is but somebody is going to walk. PRAISE GOD!

LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT Mary Bennett

I spoke with Melva about my sister. She had a stroke sometime ago and had begun to use a wheelchair. I felt in my Spirit, that she did not belong in a wheelchair. At the time she was having problems with her back. Recently, I was lead by the Spirit to start praying for her and to lay hands. As the Spirit led, the swelling in her legs begin to disappear.

Also, this past Saturday (November 10th) she stated she was no longer having back problems. Glory Be to God! He is still doing a work on her. I got confirmation from Sylvia, via Melva (speak with Melva about this, so you can know the complete story), that she will be walking soon. In the Name of Jesus, under His Precious Blood. All Glory goes to Him.

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES Melva McClain

I am so excited that one of our youngest members, seven (7) year old Lawrence Cooper, was so inspired by November 5th's Inspirational Message that he decided to write his own. I believe as he was reading the message his exact words were, "This is cool." So he set about writing his own inspirational message. His Aunt Carolyn Cooper sent it to me via email and here it is just as he wrote it.

November 5 - Inspirational message By Lawrence Cooper 7 Years old

Being A Good Person

You will be a good person in Gods' way. You are God's son and Jesus' brother or sister in Christ.

He took the blame for us....We are still doing bad things. And when we do it we can ask for forgiveness and he will forgive you.

When you ask Him to come into your heart he will come in. You only have to ask him one time.

Jesus is the way, truth and the life no one comes to the father except through him. He will tell you what to do to be a good person. There are three gods in one. God the father, the son. and the Holv Spirit.

GAVE IT OVER TO THE LORD AND HE WORKED IT OUT Jannice Horton

Earlier this month my sister Helen Barnes went to the doctor for a routine physical. They found some tissues in her breast that did not look good, so her doctor sent her to a specialist. The specialist looked at the test results that was sent to him, and from there scheduled her for a biopsy. To make a long story short...We prayed, she prayed with a friend, who asked God to not let the specialist find anything. On the day of the biopsy the specialist ordered a sonogram. From the results they found nothing, clear, clean, as if someone wiped it (whatever it was) off the charts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Home Bible Workshop Schedule



Mark your calendars for the months of December 2007and January 2008. Please join us and take the next step in your walk with God.

December 8, 2007

5:00 P.M. CST "From Meditation to Manifestation" Includes Nationwide Video Conferencing

And

January 12, 2008

5:00 P.M. CST "From Meditation to Manifestation" Includes Nationwide Video Conferencing



The GOD Effect of Prayer

6:00 P.M. HOUR OF PRAYER



SPEND TIME PRAYING FOR OTHERS

Use this wonderful supernatural tool the Lord has blessed us with the 6 o'clock hour of power. This is the time to intercede for the needs of others, the concerns of the ministry, and to pray for the leadership within our community, our nation, and our world.

Hearts throbbing as one, prayers ascending to heaven multiplied by those praying in one accord. Sharing burdens, joys, and petitions to bear. Lay all your cares at the foot of the cross and encourage others to do the same. Lives are being changed. Breakthroughs are happening.

WEBSITE OFFERINGS

GOLDEN NUGGETS www.mcclainministries.org

TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF!

"And they brought the boy to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit threw him into a convulsion, and falling to the ground, he began rolling about and foaming at the mouth. And He asked his father, 'How long has this been happening to him?' And he said, 'From childhood. And it has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us!' And Jesus said to him, 'If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." (Mark 9:20-23)

The only place I know of in the Scriptures where Jesus made that kind of statement is in this passage. The father looked at his son, and turns to Jesus and said, "Lord, if

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You can help . . ." And Jesus said, 'If I can?' "Why, I'm a specialist in this kind of thing. It's impossible with you, but with Me it's a piece of cake."

The father's response is commendable. When he realized his need to trust completely and not fret any longer, he cried out, "I do believe; help me in my unbelief." (vs. 24)

Sure enough, some of you who are reading these words are facing some of the most unbelievable situations anyone could imagine. You've come to the absolute end. There is nothing else you can do—zero!

What's God saying to you now? "All things are possible to him who worries?" No. "All things are possible to him who attempts to work it out?" No.

"All things are possible to him who believes!" The story in Mark 9, of course, is that Jesus saves the son's life, freeing him from an unclean spirit and providing healing.

The inner work God wants to accomplish occurs when we learn the family secret: God specializes in things we think are impossible. But He won't grab them out of our hands if we insist on holding on to them.

"The Lord longs to be gracious to you," says Isaiah, "and . . . He waits on high to have compassion on you . . ." (Isaiah 30:18)

Your impossible situation might be a marriage that is almost or altogether on the rocks. It may be a romance that's left you disillusioned. It may be a terrible habit you can't seem to conquer. It may have to do with your work or your career or your dream. Listen, if it seems impossible to you, here's what you should do . . . after you have done all - TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF! Ask God, in absolute faith, to take over.

WHAT IS REALLY HOLY?

Centuries ago somebody began spreading the false idea that the Christian life is to be understood in terms of two arenas – sacred and secular. Sacred places are church buildings. Sacred events are those such as worship or baptism or weddings.

Sacred people are preachers or church officers. The remainder of life was declared secular. So farms, stores, and schools were secular places. Surgery and manufacturing, accounting and teaching, driving and watching TV – all were labeled secular. And ordinary people doing the routine and humdrum things of shopping, eating and reading are secular.

But that is so terribly wrong. In God's plan for human existence, it makes no sense. In light of Christ's teaching, work is witness. And it can be a truly holy thing!

I can grant that there is a sense of the sacred and holy in a church assembled for worship that is sometimes missing from a crowded, noisy office. But work is sacred too. It is holy by virtue of divine presence you bring to it as a person filled with God's Spirit and participating in God's creative work.

Writing letters, people, hiring selling lumber, stocking shelves, cleaning office buildings, firing someone who broke company policy again, answering phones these and whatever other things you will be expected to do today are not secular. They're that not. is. unless vou misunderstand your role in them. You and I are in the world to continue the work of God. Creating... Improving... Empowering. Doing things that we and others will look at and say are "good" or even "very good."

My appeal is not that we should become workaholics. Instead, it is that we see ourselves as God sees us. We are extensions of His presence into the nooks and crannies of the world. If Paul could tell slaves to do their chores "with enthusiasm, as to the Lord and not to human masters" (Ephesians 6:5-8), surely all believers should take a more elevated view of their tasks in the workplace.

Work isn't an unspiritual curse from which you should desire freedom in order to visit retreats, seminars, and workshops on spiritual life. It is your lab for turning lead to gold, humdrum to holy by the Spiritpresence you bring to life.

Your spiritual life won't be on hold as you work today. It will be on display. \square

1ST QUARTER TELECONFERENCE

January 26, 2008 8:00 A M. CST Toll Free Dial-In Number 1-888-422-7124 Participant Code: 730940



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For questions: computers.learning@gsa.gov

Phone (866) 472-9161

Criteria: If you are a school, you must supply a valid NCES number; if you are an educational nonprofit organization you must supply a valid 501C number on the registration form. After you successfully complete the registration, the system will instantly assign and send you a User ID via email.

ENTREPRENEURS

Positive Affirmations are vital to your Success! Here are three (3) examples of well-constructed affirmations:

Attracting great business success:

My business attracts more new customers every day My business is highly profitable My customers are very loyal I enjoy a high level of repeat business I effortlessly achieve an unlimited income stream I am always alert to new business opportunities My customers think very highly of me I easily create new sources of money My ability to attract money is unlimited

Attracting great wealth:

Money flows to me effortlessly I always have everything I desire I manage my money very effectively I always welcome new sources of income I instantly attract to me everything I desire I welcome great abundance into my life I greatly enjoy everything I have I can easily attract anything I ask for I enjoy giving money to worthy causes

Enjoying complete self-confidence:

I face all situations with total confidence I have total faith in God I always feel completely motivated I believe completely in everything I do I know that everyone has complete faith in me

I always ask for help if I need it I feel very comfortable around other people I always look forward to new situations I always look forward to meeting new people

"Great Minds Discuss Ideas . . . Average Minds Discuss Events . . . Small Minds Discuss People"

McClain Ministries National Bulletin Board Entrepreneur Party October 2007









McClain Ministries 1050 Ridgeside Drive, Brandon, MS 39042

CATCH THE VISION OF OUR GIRL'S SCHOOL IN AFRICA

These Youngsters Need Your Help. Our Project Is Already Making A Difference In the Lives Of Their Village.

Don't Almost Give! Give Today!



Not Only Are We Involved In The School Project. The Girls That Have Received Scholarships Are Starting To Plant Gardens And Cultivate The Land



McClain Ministries 1050 Ridgeside Drive, Brandon, MS 39042



AFRICAN SCHOOL PROJECT

Our goal is fourfold:

1. Build a school that includes 4 classrooms, 2 bathrooms and 1 administration office at a cost of approximately \$25,000.

2. Provide 300 Girl's Secondary School Scholarships at a cost of \$117,000

3. Supply 160 benches for the new school at a cost of \$6400

4. Supply 100 benches for existing schools at a cost of \$4000

Our total target goal for this project amounts to \$152,400.

Here is how you can help with this vital project:

School contributions: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 other _____

Scholarships:

\$75 (1 year of secondary school including uniforms)\$450 (6 years of secondary school)other _____

Benches: Bench for school \$40 *(specify no. of benches)*

Thank you in advance for your support!

Please send to:

McClain Ministries 1050 Ridgeside Drive Brandon, Ms 39042

McClain Ministries 1050 Ridgeside Drive, Brandon, MS 39042

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST

Hello Everyone,

Christian Word Ministries is requesting prayer. They are indeed doing the work of the Lord by providing a valuable service through the distribution of the prayer books that many of you have received. I am requesting that you join me in daily prayer for this worthy ministry.

Here is their prayer request:

Hello,

We produce, with God's help, the Book of Prayers that you have received from us at Christian Word Ministries. In the past year we have sent out hundreds of thousands of these books. We need your help! We would like to ask you to become our prayer partner and pray for Christian Word Ministries, on a daily basis, the attached prayer. If you would commit to praying for us on a daily basis, we would really appreciate it. You will notice by praying this prayer that each of us and our prayer partners will also be praying for you. Pray about this and we thank you for your prayers.

Blessings,

The Staff of Christian Word Ministries

Daily Warfare Prayer for Christian Word Ministries, Staff and Partners

(Pray Out Loud)

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I come to You with praise and thanksgiving, in worship, in humbleness and through the Blood of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Holy Spirit I ask You to quicken me to my Heavenly Father's Voice and reveal to me any un-confessed sins that I may have in my heart at any time. Heavenly Father, I ask You to forgive me, every member of my family, Dick Broadbent, Sandy Broadbent, Peggy Spotts, Daniel Hardigree, Millie Rheinsmith, the staff of Christian Word Ministries, every partner of Christian Word Ministries, and every member of their families, from all sins known or unknown, and transgressions, iniquities, trespasses and wash each of us clean with the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ. Lord Jesus, I ask You to destroy any witchcraft prayers, charismatic witchcraft prayers, psychic prayers, side effects, stings, and influences of any witchcraft prayers that have been prayed over us. I ask You to destroy any hexes, vexes, curses, incantations, chains, fetters, snares, or traps and all of their effects, side affects, adverse effects that have been placed on any of us. I ask You to destroy any assignments, plans or works that Satan has against us. I ask You to cause Your anointing to break and destroy the yoke of every bondage that is over

us. Lord Jesus, I ask You to pull down and destroy all demonic strongholds, vain imaginations, and every high thought that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bring every thought captive to the obedience of Christ according to 2nd Corinthians 10:3-6 in each of us. Lord Jesus I(we) ask You to destroy every demonic spell, demonic attacks, demonic assaults, witchcraft spell, voodoo spell, black magic spell, white magic spell and all their side effects in each of us. Lord Jesus, I ask you to destroy every false prophecy that has ever been prophesied over us. Lord Jesus I ask You to do all these things according to John 14:14 in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Heavenly Father, I ask You to give us and every person that I pray for today; total deliverance, total freedom, total liberty, total salvation, from all sickness, diseases, infirmities, afflictions, infections, viruses, abnormal cells, radical cells, organs, glands, muscles, ligaments, and bones and I ask You this, according to John 16:23.

Heavenly Father, I plead the Blood of Jesus Christ over us and everybody I pray for today, our houses, cars, offices, and properties, as our protection and ask You, Heavenly Father, I ask You to fill each of us and everyone I pray for today, with Your Holy Spirit. Heavenly Father, please help us to keep our eyes fixed on our Savior Jesus Christ and to know that through Him we are victorious. Heavenly Father, I ask You to release Your healing virtue into our bodies and to give us divine health. Heavenly Father, I ask You to give us all these things according to John 16:23. Lord Jesus I ask that You touch everyone I have prayed for today and loose and encamp Your warring angels and ministering angels into our presence, the presence of our houses, cars, offices, properties and pets to force out, drive out, clean out, all evil, wicked, demonic, lying and perverse spirits and prevent any demonic curses, false prophecies, demonic assaults, from entering into our presence. I ask You to force them to go wherever You, want to send them Lord.

Heavenly Father, I ask you to bless and prosper me, these people I have been praying, interceding for, our families and everybody we have prayed for today. Lord Jesus, I ask You to continue to bless and prosper each and every one of us according to John 14:14. I ask You to do these things according to Your Will in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. To God be the glory. Amen

God is Increasing Our Territory Daily! Melva



4th QUARTER PRAYER MONTHS

October – November – December

"Dedicated Prayer Time"

McClain Ministries has decided to continue our dedicated prayer time into the 4th quarter. For the months of October, November and December we will continue to turn up the prayer volume.

Here are the instructions for our designated prayer time once again; we will start with the Covenant Prayer and Declaration . . . this prayer is done each morning before starting your day. Second, we will all pray the Hedge of Protection prayer at noon each day. And third we will post our angels around our beds each night and ask God to give us Divine Revelation regarding our destinies.

When you pray the "Hedge of Protection" prayer use the pronouns of "we" & "us" ... I am so excited about the subsequent praise reports that will continue to manifest as a result of the time we assemble together this quarter. So spread the word the "Jubilee" has come!

A COVENANT PRAYER AND DECLARATION

PRAYER-HEDGE OF PROTECTION

CHRISTIAN WORD MINISTRIES-FREE PRAYER BOOKS

Many of the prayers we designate during the 4th Quarter will come from the FREE PRAYER BOOK distributed by <u>Christian Word Ministries</u>. I encourage you to check out their website and order the prayer book. I suggest you order two (2); One to keep and one to share. The book includes prayers on a number of powerful subjects. Please use the link below to place your order today:

CHRISTIAN WORD MINISTRIES-FREE PRAYER BOOKS

You can also find the entire PRAYER BOOK online and ready to print:

http://www.christianword.org/php/default.php?page_id=dp

You can also call to order your FREE PRAYER BOOK: 1- 859 - 219 – 9082



McClain Ministries 1050 Ridgeside Drive, Brandon, MS 39042

NCCLAIN MINISTRIES
Deuteronomy 16:17: Every man shall give as he is able according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee.
This Ministry has been such a blessing to me I want to share in reaching others with a monthly gift of:
☐\$30
Enclosed is my ministry additional financial donation of: \$
Total Enclosed: \$
Name
Address
Home Number
Work Number
Fax Number
Email
Please send to:
McClain Ministries 1050 Ridgeside Drive Brandon, Ms 39042
McClain Ministries 1050 Ridgeside Drive, Brandon, MS 39042

GLOBAL OUTREACH MAILING LIST
Fill in the information below and mail using the self addressed envelope enclosed.
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