

Overcomers for Christ

November 2022

Psalm 91:1

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the
most High will rest in the
shadow of the Almighty.

Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

December 2021



God's Word Is Seed – Part III

By Wade Anderson

Let's pray: *"Father, I thank You for Your Word. I love You Jesus! Holy Spirit, I give You permission to cultivate the seed of Your Word as I place it in my heart. I have witnessed Your Word many times in my own life, as it has brought forth fruit I never could have imagined. Holy Spirit, help me, through conviction, to keep my thoughts and heart pure for Your glory. Father, continue to show me, in Your Word, in prayer and my relationship with You, the direction You have planned and set apart specifically for my life. I thank You that nowhere in almost 67 years have You ever left me, but instead You've remained faithful, by Your Spirit, even in the life I was living against You, to nudge me to help draw me close to You. I thank You Lord that Your hand remains on this newsletter ministry, bringing forth the harvest for Your glory! In Jesus name, AMEN!"*

I want to stop right here for a moment and pray this same prayer Paul prayed over every single person that reads these pages. ***"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, and His incomparably great power for us who believe."*** (Ephesians 1:17-18)

Paul in **1 Corinthians 1:3**, opens with this greeting, ***"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."*** Hallelujah! Grace and peace are now ours through what Jesus has accomplished when He went to the Cross! This side of the Cross, as Jesus rose from the grave, we became victors and overcomers when we believe and simply receive the Gospel, The Good News, about Jesus Christ!! ALL of our works will never give us true peace. We see here that grace and peace are a free gift from God through Christ Jesus. If you are a born-again child of God, the devil cannot take your peace! However, he can attempt to get you discouraged with the things your soul sees. All he has to do is get you to believe what you physically see in the natural more than you believe God's Word. If he can accomplish that 'you', of your own will, there's that will issue again, step out of God's peace and directly into satan's lies.

Let me explain how simple this is. When a boxer trains for a fight he doesn't go into the ring with just the thought of hitting his opponent. No! They also develop a strategy of having their opponent miss 'their' target. All the devil has to do is to get you to 'miss' God's direction and that quick 'you' give away your peace! So let me ask you this, "Are you going to continue to shadow box with the devil and keep believing his lies or are you going to knock him out by standing on, believing in, and confessing the Word of God over every area of your life?" Remember, the peace of God is a fruit of the Spirit. God's peace is not an emotion, it's a weapon!

One more time I want to show you how David spoke to his soul man when it was trying to overpower his peace, in **Psalm 103:1-5**, ***"Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all His benefits— Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, Who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's."*** I can see David tipping his head downward and speaking to his innermost being, putting his mind, will, and emotions in remembrance of Who God is and what He had already done for him. Brothers and sisters, this is powerful! I've literally had to do this very thing myself, and it worked! Here's the catch, if you don't already know who God is and what He has already done for you then you will never be able to convince your innermost being of the goodness of God. This kind of interaction only comes from an inner action with God's Spirit through the written Word of God!

Before we move on, I would like to finish Paul's remarks about being a new creation in Christ, this time from the Message translation, in **2 Corinthians 5:18-20**, ***"All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and Him, and then called us to settle our relationships with each other. God put the world square with Himself through the Messiah, giving the world a fresh start by offering forgiveness of sins. God has given us the task of telling everyone what He is doing. We're Christ's representatives. God uses us to persuade men and women to drop their differences and enter into God's work of making things right between them. We're speaking for Christ Himself now: Become friends with God; He's already a friend with you."*** Quite simply I can see Paul literally saying, "Because of what God has done for you through Christ Jesus He now calls YOU to settle the differences in your relationships with each other. Get up and go tell others what God has done in your life so that your testimony will persuade them to experience the love and peace of God that you are experiencing in your life. When you speak to people about the goodness of God don't get offended when they don't respond. They aren't rejecting the messenger; they're rejecting the Message. God gave you His Son so that you could have a personal intimate relationship with Him, not just know ABOUT Him!" Brothers and sisters God is not mad at you, heck He's not even in a bad mood! All of the work's mentality was settled with God when Jesus went to the Cross and said, ***"It is finished."*** (John 19:30)

In the past two years, especially, I've experienced that a few verses in the morning are not enough to sustain me. It's the same as my natural food intake. I could eat salads and vegetables every single day, and I do, but it's only when I eat a

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steak, chicken, or fish that I get the protein my physical body needs in order for me to accomplish the physical activities that I set out to do. It's no different with my spiritual well-being. I can literally feel the deficiency when I don't sit still to read and allow God's Holy Spirit to minister to me. I have seen, both with my physical eyes and my spiritual eyes, Holy Spirit revealing amazing revelation directly from God. How do I know that it's from God? This is how I know! In **John 16:13-15**, Jesus himself guaranteed us, *"When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth, for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak, and He will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take what is Mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is Mine; therefore I said that He will take what is Mine and declare it to you."*

Brothers and sisters, listening to someone else teach is a good thing but it's meant to cause us to be hungered into seeking more of God in His Word. Someone else's revelation of the Word will never sustain you. This goes for all the Word and messages you read in this newsletter as well. The things written here on these pages, I pray, encourage, and cause a hunger inside of you to dig deeper in your own Bible studies. Even though the newsletter is filled with the Word it's intended to be an appetizer, not the whole meal. When I get alone with God, through His Word, I can meditate and chew on a few Scriptures, over and over and over and as more revelation comes ... then it becomes a meal with Him! I believe this is what Jesus meant, in **Revelation 3:20** (NIV), when He said, *"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with Me."*

The best way that I've learned to hear Jesus' voice is to go into my office, close the door, and begin worshiping God. Sometimes my heart offers praise with a few statements of adoration like, "I love You Lord, I love You Lord, I'll worship You forever." Many times, my heavenly language begins to well up inside of me until it bursts forth into prayer my natural ears don't understand. But as I surrender to speaking in tongues, it's just a short time and I begin to feel His presence where most times my eyes begin to leak. After a bit, in that atmosphere, directed by His Spirit, I open the Bible as He begins to speak to me just as He has promised there in **Revelation 3:20**. In **James 4:2** James explains to us, *"You don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it."* Then, in the very next verse, he explains why you may not be getting what you ask for, *"And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure."* God doesn't always give us what we specifically asked Him for. Why? Because he knows what His best is for our lives and also knows our worldly desires could destroy our spiritual life with Him. This is why Jesus not only encourages us to come to Him, to hear His voice, but also promises, *"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."* (**Matthew 7:7-8** NIV) That's a powerful promise!

As I've shown throughout this message, the foundation seed of our faith has to be God's Word. In **Matthew 13**, **Mark 4** and **Luke 8** Jesus was talking about the importance of His Word in our lives. Let's look at **Mark 4:3-8**, *"Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times."* Jesus wasn't trying to teach the people how to farm or how seeds grow. To show how the Kingdom of God works He was using an illustration that they were already acquainted with and understood. Brothers and sisters, if it's in the Word of God it's there specifically to teach us as well. Even though Jesus was teaching in a parable here I love how just like the Twelve, He didn't leave us out of the loop trying to cipher and figure this out on our own, but continued, in **Mark 4:11**, *"The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables"*

As children of God, we are now disciples of Christ, therefore, not angrily but in a teaching way Jesus unfolds Mark 4:3-8 with clarity, in **Mark 4:13-20**, *"Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? The farmer sows the Word. Some people are like seed along the path, where the Word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the Word that was sown in them. Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the Word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the Word, they quickly fall away. Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the Word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the Word, making it unfruitful. Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the Word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."* There are four different soils here, and in different seasons of my life I have found myself in all four of Jesus' examples. Believe me when I say, "It's never been because the Word is not good seed. It's always been because of the soil of my heart."

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THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE WE HAVE IN APPROACHING GOD: THAT IF WE ASK ANYTHING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARS US. AND IF WE KNOW THAT HE HEARS US - WHATEVER WE ASK - WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE WHAT WE ASKED OF HIM. 1 JOHN 5:14-15 (NIV)

Prayer Requests

May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lifts up His countenance upon you and gives all at **OC&C** peace. May the Lord above continue to bless all the family at **OC&C**, you are all in our prayers. Thank you for the card, it means so much to me, thank you for the love. I love **OC&C** very much, you are in my prayers.

The brothers send their love and prayers, we're good here because of the Almighty - His blessed word is upon us all, we are standing on holy ground here at Red Rock ... **U.S.**

I can surely use some prayers. It's not easy understanding and putting into action legal issues. And finding competent help isn't easy either. God willing, He'll help me figure it out and get me home somewhere in 2032. With this blessing I will have done 19 years. So please, all of you prayer warriors, join me in prayer for the wisdom and understanding necessary for my case ... **D.P.**

These prayer requests I send are very important to me and my family. I know we have a great dedicated team of praying people throughout this ministry so please, all of you, lift each of these family members in your prayer time. My sweet loving mom, Gayle, has been hospitalized twice in the past couple of months. I'm believing God to strengthen her heart and body, lengthen her days and that she walks in divine health. My youngest brother, Roger, in an addiction issue is not doing well either. Pray that these addictions, like chains, to break from his life and God's light to replace all of the darkness in his life. Mark for a stronger heart and blood pressure to get back to normal. Manny's mom has cancer. Lift Mark M., he has ALS. Pray for me to have a normal size and healthy prostate as well as victory in mine and brother Corte's hearings, from this day forward ... **G.M.L.**

Please pray for my mom's sisters, Tammy, and Kathy. Lift my girl, Michelle F., for healing. They all have some health issues and unforgiveness issues. Also pray that I get out soon on probation. Thank you all for your love and fellowship over the years ... **R.H.**

Would you all please pray for my life-long best friend Miranda. Join me in agreement for her happiness and well-being with Type 2 Diabetes. Pray that she comes to Christ where she will experience His real love. Also pray for her mother who has been given a diagnosis of cancer. Lift her brother and sisters, stand against substance abuse issues. Thank you all and God bless ... **A.S.**

A.D.O.C. has moved almost all of the 'Row' to this new location. Do keep us all in prayer as there has been much opposition to the local church body by this current administration. We do believe that the Lord has us though and I will do whatever calling He has for me in here. Be blessed and keep being that light for the Lord ... **P.B.**

Praise Reports

First, I'd like to say thank you! I appreciate the fact that even if and when I move around, the newsletters always seem to find me. A lot has transpired here on my end over the past 1 ½ years. Due to my being a former gang member I've landed yet in another location. In spite of the movements, things are truly looking up as I could be home anytime to a halfway house, I pray by the end of September. Worst case scenario I max out in February 2023. I can barely wait to be in the next chapter and put this lifestyle and its ways behind me ... **C.P.**

Wade and the **Overcomers for Christ** team! It's been some time since I've reached out to you. I realize it's now time for me to thank all of you for the love and respect you've continually sent my way. My roller-coaster ride is almost over and through the ups and downs in here you all have lifted me up and kept my compass pointed towards God and freedom. Thank you. All of the prayers you all have prayed, God answers and I see His work in my life on a daily basis. All of the years of being in the devil's den, I now proclaim 'I'm a seed of Abraham!' God is Good ... **T.W.**

Well, to bring you up to date, I've been accepted to go to Hamilton Unit and participate in a 6-month training course to become a peer support coach. It's kind of like an inmate drug counselor. I'm just ecstatic because this is something that I love to help people with, inside and outside. I don't know where I will go after the training, but I'm told we will go wherever we are needed. While I was clean and sober in the 'free world' I used to facilitate 2 groups at a half-way house. Yeah, I know, I should have stayed out of my own way ... **R.G.**

I want to give you all a praise God report. I have landed a 'retention job' at Hickman's Family Farms. Chickens, eggs and \$4.65 an hour, with over half of that being saved for me until I am released. So, I'm no longer working with wild donkeys and horses, instead I'm working with berserker chickens, and their upkeep. Millions of chickens! Father has provided for me a much needed 'source' for saving AND giving. I am very elated, now, since I have the means to give more. I GET TO GIVE NOW! Isn't our Pappa cool? And smart? He knew what would make me happy. When I land my first paycheck, the top 20% goes back to its owner, my Father! I'm not bragging here, I'm praising our Father for His eternal goodness, His holiness, His mercy and His loyal love for all of His children ... **J.S.**

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Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

Good Friends

By M.D.

There are areas of our lives and hearts that we tend to keep hidden away, private, or a secret. Some personal struggles, sorrows, or hopes and dreams can't be shared with the whole world. That's just one reason our dearest close friends are such a treasure. They're the ones we turn to when we need an understanding ear, or even someone to celebrate a victory or special good news.

God's Word says, **"A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity."** (Proverbs 17:17) Not just in certain seasons. Imagine having such a person in your life – or being that type of companion for someone else. Jesus had good friends on earth, and He knows we need some too!

Over a course of a lifetime companions come and go, but friendship itself should be a constant influence in our walk with God. Good friends share a different dynamic than other relationships in our lives and play a unique role in our spiritual growth.

So how do we develop sincere friendships, or enjoy them to their fullest potential? Especially for those of us under the confines of incarceration?

Be an honest friend.

The Apostle Paul declares that believers in Jesus are "All children of God through faith". Therefore, we are ultimately connected and intentionally designed to work together. Listen here, in **Galatians 3:26-29**, as Paul explains, **"So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."**

Follow the example of Jesus

Jesus embodies and gives peace to those He loves, even when they face hardships and death. **"For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."** (Isaiah 9:6)

Bear with one another and forgive one another

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." (Colossians 3:13) This treatment isn't limited to the people whose lifestyles and beliefs we agree with. Even when it's difficult, may we extend grace and love to everyone we encounter as Christ guides us, recognizing that we've been redeemed by His love.

Be a generous friend

No matter how we give of ourselves, we're to do so with a ready and loving spirit. Whether our time, or resources, or actions, our goal is that the works of God might be displayed. For God so loved the world that He gave! (John 3:16)

Be a praying friend

We can rely on the Holy Spirit to daily transform us to be more like Jesus, the best friend we will ever have! We can always look to Him for His amazing help.

Be a serving friend

"God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them." (Hebrews 6:10) Serve other's needs!

Be a loving friend

Whenever love is selfless and true it reflects the character of Jesus and offers an example of a true, reliable, real friend.

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

There are many examples in Scripture as to how to be a good friend. Many examples of encouragement, and how good friends hold one another accountable to being obedient to Christ. God said that we must be careful to obey the law. Not to turn to the right or the left of it, to meditate on it day and night so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. This is exactly what God spoke to Joshua, in *Joshua 1:7-8*, "**Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.**" Then you will be prosperous and successful and a good friend!

That seems to be the answer to my question, "How do we develop sincere friendships, or enjoy them to their fullest potential?" My fellow Overcomers by our complete obedience to Jesus and His Word! I consider all of us Overcomers for Christ as friends, all part of the same body of Christ and His kingdom. May you all meet new friends throughout this year and grow and flourish in your current friendships. May the love of Christ abound more and more in and through all of us!

Obedient in Tithing

By B.A.

Hey, how is everything out there? I hope all is well. Thank you for the message you passed on to us about tithing and giving. You did well and just by doing what the Holy Spirit guided you. I am writing to thank you for that first and second is this, well I have been obedient in tithing for some time. I do it, I love to do it. I know it is right and I know from experience that not only does "it work", but if I don't do it, things don't work right. A little help from the street and a good job in prison is just that.

We all know it isn't much, just isn't a whole lot to work with ... obedience in my case is only a range of \$10 up to \$25 a month. I make out okay, I eat on the weekend, I got what I need, I am good, praise God! But if or when I don't do right, right from the start and send that tithe out, it doesn't work out so well. To the Glory of God, I know obedience works.

Okay, well that being said, I want to tell you for accountability as well as guidance, that \$80 has been on my heart. Don't know "why" or "what", I just know "who", and "how", \$80 is what I have been told or heard – or felt or whatever it is – so here is what I got. I am selling my music collection (that is the how) then I am going to send y'all the money (that is the who) that leaves the "why" and "what" – I understand the broad reasoning of the "why" as in obedience and stewardship and I'm grateful that God allows me to be as blessed as He does but I need your guidance for the "what" part, I don't know specifically what to pray over this offering. All I got is to pay that separate from my tithe, y'all put this where it needs to go to further or continue the work God gives you all to do.

So, there it is, I know I am doing the right thing and I hope I am doing it the right way. I'm selling the first couple of CDs this morning and I have no idea how long it will get them all sold and the money together, but I know God will make it due in His time, so I am sending this today to ask you to pray and plan what it needs to do. Please this is all just a little odd for me. I usually don't like to talk about this type of stuff, I just do it quietly and happily and sometimes even randomly. But this time it has come to me specifically and your message came days after the Spirit gave me the number.

So, I am being more intentional than usual. I pray I am doing what I am supposed to do. I hope y'all are well and all is good. God bless all of you and thank you.

Soldier of the Cross ... Ministering to the Saints with Christ

By U.S.

We believe God is getting ready to shift the church here at Red Rock. God is building up spiritual warriors. God is taking men who were nearly destroyed by the enemy. Some of us were outcast gang members, no gooders, menace to society! *Genesis 50:20* says, "**What the enemy meant to harm us, God intended it for our good to accomplish His will, saving many lives.**"

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Foot's Bible Study

Ezekiel 5:1-6:14

The people's wickedness was so great that they couldn't even be compared favorably with the pagan nations around them, not to mention how they would appear with respect to God's law. (5:7)

Have you ever seen someone try to discipline a child by saying, "If you do that one more time ...". If the parent doesn't follow through, the child learns not to listen. Empty threats backfire. God was going to punish the Israelites for their blatant sins, and He wanted them to do what He said. The people learned the hard way that God always follows through on His Word. Too many people ignore God's warnings, treating them as empty threats. Don't make the mistake of thinking God doesn't really mean what He says. (5:13)

A ray of light appears in this prophecy of darkness – God would spare a remnant of people, but only after they had learned some hard lessons. God sometimes has to break a person in order to bring him or her to true repentance. The people needed to change their attitudes, but they wouldn't until God broke their hearts with humiliation, pain, suffering and defeat. Does your heart long for God enough to change those areas displeasing to Him? Or will God have to break your heart? (6:8-10)

The purpose of God's punishment was not to take revenge but to impress upon the people that the Lord is the only true and living God. (6:14)

Hebrews 6:1-20

It's easy to get discouraged, thinking that God has forgotten us. But God is never unjust. He never forgets or overlooks our hard work for Him. Presently, you may not be receiving rewards and acclaim, but God knows your efforts of love and ministry. Let God's love for you and His intimate knowledge of your service for Him bolster you as you face disappointment and rejection here on earth. (6:10)

Psalms 106:1-12

If we ever stop to list all the mighty acts or miracles in the Bible, we would be astonished, they cover every aspect of life. The more we think about what God has done, the more we can appreciate the miracles He has done for us individually – birth, personal development, salvation, specific guidance, healing, loving friends, and family – the list goes on and on. If you think you have never seen a miracle, look closer. You will see God's power and loving intervention on your behalf. God still performs great miracles!! (106:2)

Proverbs 27:7-9

Those who are full or have everything do not appreciate what they have, while those who are hungry or have nothing, anything is good. (27:7)

"Foot" Notes

Hey ya'll, I want to give some love and respect to all my sisters in Christ. By now ya'll know I sometimes come out left field with my observations, that being said, this morning during my Bible study, while reading **Matthew 27-28**, I had an epiphany.

As we are going through the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ and that whole situation, what hit me was that all the disciples bounced on Jesus, for example Peter's three denials. There were two souls who did not. How cool is it to read about and realize that the two Mary's were ride or die, they were the only ones still hangin' when the bottom fell out for Jesus. To the point of hiding off to the side watching as they put Jesus in the tomb, keeping their eyes on our Lord and Savior. Which would lead me to the reasonable fact that the two Mary's were the O.G.'s of that ride or die mentality. Out of all those people around Jesus it was the two Mary's who never tapped out.

May God continue to bless capable women. I'm thinking that I myself at times had been around descendants of the two Mary's up in Sunnyslope in the day. But even more so today as a man of faith, I'm blessed to be acquainted with very capable Christian sisters.

Vaya con Dios ... Love to ya'll short and tall ... Don't ride faster than your angels can fly!

Jesus continues, in **Mark 4:26-29**, *"This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."* To further their understanding with more of what they were already accustomed to in their everyday lives. I've told you all many times how I too have taught my grandsons, when they were younger, what they can expect when they plant seeds in the ground here at our home. Taking a pack of Marigold seeds, we put the seed in the ground and then I would put the package on a little stick, with the picture of the Marigold on it right where they planted the seeds. Every time they would come over they would go out and water the seed while looking intently at the ground. Time after time they would do this and then one day, there it was, a little green stalk. Although it didn't look like the package, yet the excitement they had presented me an opportunity to also share that the Word of God works the same way when you plant it in your heart.

Here's another story I've shared with you all through other messages in the newsletter. God said, in **Genesis 1:11**, *"Let the land sprout with vegetation—every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came." And that is what happened.*" Around four years ago, Michelle and I had bought some Palisade peaches while we were on a road trip in Colorado. When we got home, we still had a couple of those peaches left so we put them in the refrigerator. Then one day as I was eating the last one, I saw that the peach 'pit' was cracked open, so I pulled it apart to find a huge seed. All of those years as a kid, planting the whole pit expecting to grow a peach tree, I never knew God was protecting the life of the seed inside the pit! Anyways, with excitement I took the 'seed', not the pit, outside and put it in an old pot of soil I had by the back door. Every day I watered that 'seed' and confessed the Scripture above over it. I knew the Word was true but didn't see anything. Then one day my brother Monty came in from out back and asked me, "Wade, did you plant something in that pot by the back door?" Probably more excited than my grandson's, I answered Monty, "YES!" as I ran out to see the blade finally poking through the soil.

Just like **Mark 4:27-28** says, *"Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head."* I didn't see it happening and I definitely couldn't explain how it happened, but it did happen! As that 'seed' grew into first a small plant it has eventually grown to be a nice size tree. But the tree is not the end of the promise. Remember **Genesis 1:11**, *"every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came."* The Scripture promises that this tree, from a 'seed', will produce fruit. In this particular case it will be peaches, and inside of that peach pit there's another 'seed' that will again produce a peach tree. Do you get it? Had I taken the seed from the ground, checking to see if it were growing, there wouldn't be a peach tree story.

When I took that little plant out of its pot, I then planted it in a 2' x 2' planter box with mulch and soil mixed together. I never let that peach tree go without watering it, keeping it trimmed and fertilizing it. In fact, for the past four years, every time that we have gone out of town, I have purposely had either our niece or our daughter come to the house and water the peach tree. I've even gone as far as having my niece's daughter, Madison, talk to the peach tree while she is watering it. She tells it how beautiful it is, and how she knows it will produce delicious fruit that she will one day eat. Each year I trim it as summer begins and by the end of the summer, still without fruit, it grows even more beautiful. Knowing that the soil is what produces the fruit, just a couple of months ago I took that peach tree out of its temporary 2' x 2' home and planted it in the soil, in a perfect place near the house. NOW this tree will flourish and produce the fruit that God has promised it will. I personally could only give the tree what I knew too. Taking it out of the pot and replanting it I know it will receive all that God has placed in the 'soil' in order for it to bear the fruit He has promised in His Word. And you can bet, there will be a future story about those big, beautiful, juicy Palisades peaches! ;)

Understanding this simple story should also help you better understand the principle of sowing God's Word in your hearts, nurturing it and cultivating it until it too will bring forth a harvest, *"some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."* (**Mark 4:20**) Reading in this parable, we notice the only 'seed' that produced a crop was the one sown in good soil. Everything in the natural has come through the supernatural, believe that. God's Word is the seed necessary to bring forth every promise you will ever find written within it!

Perhaps you are believing God for healing either in your own body or for a loved one. Again, it's the Word of God that is the seed for these healings. Maybe you've been on your knees sincerely in prayer pleading with God, "Lord, please heal my loved one. Lord, why am I not being healed?" Listen, I'm not saying that God doesn't see your heart in these situations, but what He really wants is for us to come to Him with His promise concerning the issue you are praying for, from His written Word.

Several years ago, Michelle and I purposed in our hearts to take our grandsons, after school was out, on summer

vacation road trips. The first trip we took was when our oldest grandson, Frankie graduated. He wanted to go to Hawaii. We made the plans and then we went to Hawaii. Of course, we didn't drive to there, we flew, but when we arrived, we did drive almost completely around the Big Island. In preparing for the trip Frankie didn't ask one time if we were still going to go. Since then, every summer we take the grandchildren, and have even taken a couple of their friends, on these road trips with us. They already know that we are going somewhere and are always excited to go. As soon as this year's trip is over, they're already excited to see where we are going the next year. Why do you think they're already excited? Because they know we have promised to do it with them.

Right after Jesus talks to us, in **Matthew 7:7-8**, about asking, seeking, and knocking He goes directly into, *"You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not!" (Matthew 7:9-10)* Here Jesus is expressing the love of a good earthly parent or in our case grandparent. We love our grown adult children and our growing grandchildren. We don't want to spoil them, but we do love them and only want what is good for their lives. Jesus goes into the very next verse by expressing how our goodness doesn't even compare with the goodness of God! *"So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him."* (Matthew 7:11)

I shared that to better help us understand the goodness of God. Those Scriptures show me that sometimes God doesn't give us what we may be asking for because in His view what we are asking for could truly be a snake in disguise. We think we're asking for a fish or a loaf of bread, but God knows our request could actually cause us heartache and even possibly draw us away from Him. Then how do we go to God knowing that what we are asking is the right thing? In **Isaiah 43:26** God says, **"Put Me in remembrance: let us plead together."** I've been in prayer about something thinking I'm being very specific, when God interrupted me and said, "But what do you want Wade?" Instantly I realized I was being vague and praying out of emotion. Right then my heart went to, **"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of Him."** (1 John 5:14-15)

In most cases people pray, "God Your will be done." Don't be hating on me when I say, "That's pretty vague! In a sense you are telling God you don't know what His will is so just go ahead and fix it however He sees fit. And when it doesn't turn out the way you expected it to, you blame God!" I told you don't be hating on me. I'm only trying to get us to see the goodness of God, that He is faithful to fulfill His promises when you remind Him of the very thing He promised! What John just said was that if we ask anything according to God's will. Well then, what is God's will? God's will is written plainly in His Word. So, when God says to put Him in remembrance, He's sincerely asking us to go to His Word, which is His will, find the promise that lines up with our request, and then remind Him of what He has promised! God LOVES for us to come to Him with what He has promised in His Word, it shows Him that we believe in His Word.

Right then, where I was in prayer above, I was reminded of **Psalms 118:17**, **"I shall live and not die, to declare the goodness of the Lord."** This was a time when my mother was very ill, the doctors were telling us she would not pull out of it. I whipped all of the emotional tears away, looked up toward the ceiling and said, "Lord, Your Word says that my mom will live and not die. I believe Your Word Lord and I know she WILL also praise You for this promise. Lord, I truly believe there is at least one more person gathered there around her bedside that she will witness too so You can touch their heart in this as well. Use her right where she is Lord. Thank You Holy Spirit for reminding me of this one thing that God has promised. I do believe my mother will live and not die! Thank You Jesus!" Inside I knew God was already honoring His Word.

Get yourselves prepared for next month's issue of the newsletter. God's Word is getting ready to bring some deep dark issues into the light!

Quote Worthy

"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."

- Maya Angelou (1928 – 2014) - an American memoirist, popular poet, and civil rights activist. She published seven autobiographies, three books of essays, several books of poetry, and is credited with a list of plays, movies, and television shows spanning over 50 years.

Christian Comedy

I only know one bad pun about paper. It's tearable.

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From the Inside Soldier of the Cross ... Ministering to the Saints with Christ By U.S. ... continued from page 7

What I am trying to say is God is on the move, I know you got some **OC4C** soldiers at Red Rock. God is building up spiritual soldiers to be a menace to the enemy to take back territory that the enemy has taken from us, the Church to be soul winners – fishers of men – Amen!!

Here's the challenge for us all! **Matthew 8:1-3** was passed on to me, so now I pass it on to you all. A leper came to Jesus! Jesus put His hand and touched him. Coming in touch with a leper made you unclean under Jewish Law. Jesus touched the untouchable, and the leper was healed through the touch of God's power. Over and over again the touch of Jesus heals the lepers, the blind and deaf, the demon possessed. Jesus reached out to us when we were "untouchable", and He changed our hearts. I don't know about you; I needed the Almighty Jesus to touch my heart. My life is awesome in Christ. I'm free, my chains of addiction and gangs are broken praise God. Now my family at **OC4C** reach out to the untouchable in your crowd today with the touch of faith in Jesus, and watch Jesus turn that Faith into a touch of power – God's blessing awaits you!

Let's push forward because He pushed the Cross all the way to Calvary for you and me, Amen!!

FUN FACTS

November 6th – In 1869, Rutgers College defeated Princeton University (then known as the College of New Jersey) by the score of 6-4 in the first modern intercollegiate football game.

November 30th – In 1782, provisional articles of peace were signed in Paris between Britain and the United States, under which Britain recognized U.S. independence.

November 30th – In 1939, the Soviet Union invaded Finland.

November 30th – In 1993, U.S. President Bill Clinton signed the Brady Bill, a major gun-control measure.

November 30th – In 1999, Exxon Corp. and Mobil Corp. completed their merger, creating the largest publicly held oil company in the world.

ATTENTION

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Editor's Note

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Hello everyone! We have been working with Andrew Wommack Ministries, Charis Bible College, to have their books and Inmate Bible Study (IBS by mail) available to ALL of you that are currently incarcerated. The request was finally approved! This is **FREE** of charge! Each month when you write they will ship your requested book, **FREE!**

To obtain these materials in either English or Spanish you simply need to write: **Andrew Wommack Ministries - P.O. Box 3333 Colorado Springs, CO 80934-3333** and begin to grow even deeper in your relationship with the Lord. Get started today, your walk will never be the same!

Living Word Bible Church Locations

Mesa - 3520 E. Brown Rd. Mesa, AZ 85213 Ahwatukee - 14647 S. 50th St. #165 Phoenix, AZ 85044
Scottsdale - 8551 E. Anderson Dr. #105 Scottsdale, AZ 85255 Gilbert - 202 S. Gilbert Rd. Gilbert, AZ 85296

Ministry Tithes & Offerings

Here is how you can give to the **Overcomers for Christ** ministry:

By **check** or **money order** – Make checks payable to **Living Word Bible Church** and in the memo section put "For Overcomers for Christ". Mail your check or money order to PO Box 42023, Phoenix, Arizona 85080

Your giving does qualify as a charitable contribution on your taxes. For donations of less than \$250, your cancelled check is sufficient proof for taxes. For donations of \$250 or more, you will receive a contribution statement from the organization. If you have any questions, please call or write Wade Anderson.

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Million Kisses to the Messiah

By A.J.

I delight in the start of the day, to begin blessing the Messiah in heaven with a million kisses

My lips are made to praise our King with loving kisses

He is robed in majesty, glory, and honor in heaven

His beauty makes heaven gasp of amazement

I kneel and spread my hands in reverence, it's my heart's law

If I'm short of half a kiss, I'll be distressed

His feet have the fragrance of a thousand miles of roses

His sweet hands can attract all the bees in the world

His cheek is softer than a thousand rose petals combined

I dream of kissing the Messiah in heaven

May all of the angels of heaven be jealous of my request

God Almighty sits on the throne of worship from man on earth,

But nothing compares to my worship of a million kisses in reverence kneeling
My passion extracts a smile of eternity on Him that will be a golden pillar in heaven

May the awesome and compelling angels worship the Messiah,

With all their might that shakes heaven for one day

I will shower Him with an orchestra of a million kisses from my yearning lips
God is stunningly beautiful in character that my worship must parallel His beauty!

Help us be better stewards by sending your change of address when you move to help reduce unnecessary waste and expense

EDITORIAL Wade "Duck" Anderson, Michelle Anderson **ART & DESIGN** John Dobbins **PRINTING** Living Word Bible Church

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