



The Lord's Mountain Mover's **NEWSLETTER**

"If you have the faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you."
(Matt. 17:20)

June 2015

Issue 0020

WHY CAN'T YOU LOVE ME?

The Pharisee's hatred for Jesus compels them to drag a woman into the temple who had been caught in adultery so they might trap Jesus. (John 8) Imagine what was going through her mind as she was being used as a pawn in their soon to fail scheme. A guilty woman standing face-to-face with her accusers, her judge, and her just punishment, stoning. Imagine the relief she felt when what she deserved was dismissed and what she got was unmerited!

Jesus is invited to dinner at the home of a Pharisee. (Luke 7) While He was there a woman, who was a sinner, came and began to wipe Jesus' feet with her tears and anoint them with perfume. Under his breath the Pharisee discredits Jesus as a possible prophet and reveals his disdain for who this woman is by saying, *"what sort of a person this woman is."* No doubt the woman knew her situation and felt the condemnation of those who thought better of themselves, yet she continued to worship at the feet of the only one who seemed to welcome her in an unwelcoming environment.

Leaving the temple where He was about to be stoned by some self-righteous leaders, Jesus passes by a man who was born blind. (John 9) Jesus indicated that this man was born blind in order, *"that the works of God might be displayed in him."* After receiving his sight the man enters the temple and encounters a spiritual darkness that far exceeded the physical blindness he had lived with all his life. Never focusing on the wonder of what Jesus had done for this man the leaders discredit the miracle and the person who performed it. All the man wanted to do was rejoice in his gift, all he got was rejection.

Two men are in the temple, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. (Luke 18) In this parable Jesus is speaking to, *"some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt."* The tax collector knew he was a sinner and earnestly sought forgiveness from God. The Pharisee couldn't see his own sinfulness and exalted himself by putting the other person down. I call this, status by negation.

There are several common threads that run through these biblical passages. The first is that there is someone who thinks more highly of themselves than they ought to. The second is that there is a person who is the object of hatred, disdain, contempt and condemnation. Lastly, and most disturbing to me, is that three of these passages take place within the confines of the temple. How can these attitudes exist in a place designated by God for worship, holiness, and tribute to the maker of all things, including those who were in them?

Scripture says, *"Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."* Yet there was condemnation for the persons in these passages, and condemnation in and from the church. Unfortunately, this has not gone away but still exists within Christianity today. How can this be? How come after all these years have we not grown out of this attitude of self-righteousness? I would expect this from unbelievers and from the world but not from Christians and especially not in the church.

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If you are suffering the disdain, hatred, condemnation and contempt from others, then I beseech you to stay at the feet of Jesus worshipping Him and rejoicing in what He has done for you. If you find yourself donning this attitude, then pray to God for help in overcoming it, that you may see yourself and others as God does. Those who you are looking down on may be crying out inside, why can't you love me? Why can't you love me? Please... just love me.

In His service,
Pastor Pete



THE WORD IN MOTION message

Last month we looked at the consequences sin has on our fellowship with God. How it displeases Him so that He cannot look upon us, His face must turn away. Sin has a way of reaching its ugly tentacles into many areas of our life, both inside and out. This month's lesson deals with the effect sin has on us personally. I pray that I have not exceeded the words of Jesus or any imparted meaning intended by His words.

Lesson Five

The darkness was almost over, it was about three o'clock. Still alive and hanging on the cross Jesus said, "*I thirst.*" (John 19:28) Someone dipped a sponge in sour wine and put it to His mouth. Isn't it ironic that the last thing the world offered Him was bitterness?

We could easily assume that His request for something to drink was merely a response to the physical condition He was in. He had been on the cross for around six hours and endured an incredible amount of suffering. Anyone who had gone through that would indeed be thirsty. But to limit His comment to only the physical realm I believe would be to do it a great injustice. I believe that we must also look beyond the physical to the spiritual message behind His words.

In the fourth chapter of the Gospel of John we have the story of Jesus' encounter with a Samaritan woman at a well. During their conversation Jesus tells her, "*If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'give me water,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.*" (John 4:10) Scripture tells us that, "*the gift of God is eternal life, through Christ Jesus.*" (Romans 6:23) Scripture also tells us that, "*eternal life is that we may know God, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*" (John 17:3)

If this woman only truly knew who was sitting by the well in front of her. If she had an intimate knowledge, not a superficial knowledge, but a knowledge that had found its very home deep within her heart. Then she would have realized her spiritual condition and the only thing that could have come out of her mouth would have been, give me a drink of that water.

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If we reflect back on what Jesus had just endured, the separation from His Father in taking on the sin of the world, then I think we can begin to understand the spiritual meaning behind Him saying, *“I thirst.”* Jesus had taught in the beatitudes that, *“Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.”* (Matthew 5:6) What I believe He was spiritually thirsting for was the restoration of righteousness. Remember that He had just finished experiencing the loss of fellowship with the Father and now He wanted nothing more than to feel the presence of God once again.

The spiritual consequences of sin should create an overwhelming thirst in our soul. Sin should so deplete us of that, “living water,” that the only possible thing we could utter is, I thirst. Can we be like King David and cry out to God and say, *“Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me in your generous Spirit.”* (Psalm 51:10) Or maybe like Peter when he was preaching from Solomon’s porch, *“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.”* (Acts 3:19)

Is there anything in our life that is causing a dryness within our spirit, a barren or arid-like relationship with our Heavenly Father? Then let’s listen to what Scripture says. *“Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst.’”* (John 6:35) Are you calling out to God for that refreshing He has promised? *“Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying ‘If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.’”* (John 7:37) Can you hear Jesus telling you right now, *“If you will ask Me, I will give you living water.”* Are you responding, yes Lord, I thirst, give me a drink?

Beware of the sour wine the world will offer in its place. Beware of the water from wells dug by men. These cannot satisfy the thirst of the soul. They are bitter, and the wells will run dry. Only Jesus can satisfy us today and for all eternity. If you are spiritually dry then there is a remedy. Believe it, seek it, and receive it!

I want to leave you with the words of King David to meditate on and make them your prayer to God.

“I stretch out my hands to You; My soul longs for You, as a parched land.” (Psalm 143:6)

“My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; When shall I come and appear before God?” (Psalm 42:2)

“O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly; My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, In a dry and weary land where there is no water.” (Psalm 63:1)

In His service

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BE A BARNABAS (Acts 4:36)

“Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who carries out wicked schemes. Cease from anger and forsake wrath; Do not fret; it leads only to evildoing. For evildoers will be cut off, But those who wait for the Lord, they will inherit the land.” Psalm 37:7-9

Be patient. How many times have we heard that one? How hard it is to do sometimes, just being patient.

In 1 Corinthians 13, the love chapter of the Bible, the ingredients, or definition, of what love is, is given. The very first component is patience. Love is patient.

We are called to give freely, because God has freely given to us. In the same respect, we all called to be patient, for we know God has been patient with us. The love of God should move us every day to do the things He has done for us. Christ said, *“Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”* He did this in His love, in His patience. So how do we do it?

We rest in the Lord. The Lord will go before us and He will be our rear guard. We can't get caught up in what other people seem to be getting away with or think that we can get away with a little evil ourselves. Resting in the Lord has a promise to it. An inheritance.

So next time you see someone getting away with something, remember the patience of God and don't let it get you angry or take matters into your own hands. Wait on the Lord to do His perfect work and in the end you will have your reward. Rest in Him, or you might wear yourself out, and encourage your fellow brothers and sisters to do the same. In all this, let us glorify God together!

Be blessed in Him,

Brother Daniel Rodney



Our Prayer Requests for God's Children

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters in Christ who receive our newsletter through the mail. Due to financial constraints we have revised the way we do our prayer requests. We are currently posting and maintaining all prayers requested on the Internet so your brothers and

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sisters all over can continue to pray for your petitions and praise God for the ones He has already answered.

We are encouraged by the work that God has already done through so many people praying for the needs of those they do not even know. What a privilege we have to go before the throne of God with our requests and the requests of others. Let's keep praying and seeking His will for our lives and the lives of others. If you have a prayer request you would like added to next month's newsletter and/or posted on the ministry website, please fill out the form below and mail it to us. We look forward to hearing from you and standing in the gap as a prayer warrior.

May and June Prayer List

Todd S.Prayer for Theresa, that God would hold her tight and take care of His child while I am gone. Pray for her health issues too. Prayer for himself protect and guide him through his incarceration and recovery from addiction issues. Prayer for Pastor Pete to never give up on me.

Piper & Rex....Prayer for God to help him his recovery from surgery.

DouglasPrayer for God to help him become the man that He desires and change his old ways.

Cliff S.....Prayer for recovery from eye surgery.

Steven W.....Prayer for himself and his mother as his father passed away and the family is going through the grief process.

R. WhiteThat the Lord will open doors for suitable housing upon his being paroled.

Alice S.....Chesapeake VA – prayer for personal issues.

Sheila.....Prayer for her health issues, finances, and God's direction for personal decisions.

Greg.....Praise report; God is in control, using me, and I am being blessed by Him. Woo Hoo!

Helen &

Hazel C.....Prayer for their dialysis treatments and recovery from health issues.

Kenny J.Requests prayer for steady employment.

Gabriel SHis mom, Rosie, his Uncle and brother who need prayer for recovery from health issues.

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Stephen.....Prayer for change in career course.

JustinPraise report; finished EMT school and looking for work.

Joshua.....Continued prayer for personal issues.

The C.U.R.E...Prayer for God’s guidance and provision.

Greg FPrayer for answered prayer in his period of fasting.

Johnathon J.....Needs prayer for F. Cruz – that he will have God in his life. Prayer for Soledad Prison. Prayer also for his pending release date. Prayer for his family, his brother Sorhai, C, Carlos (for love between them), Cora.

BenjaminGuatemala, Praise report for Bibles that their church has received. Asking for prayer for his family, the church that they might finish the floor, the windows and doors.

Barbara MPray for her marriage and family

Jamie PFavor with the Parole Board and upcoming hearing.

Linda DContinued recovery from health issues

Rich H.....Living situation and employment

Sandy (Bill A’s Sister)Pray for her continued recovery from health issues

Vance V’s SisterPray for her health, just found a lump on her liver

Robert BPray for God’s direction and provision in his life.

Wes & Ashley B.....Pray for the birth of a healthy baby boy.

George & Amy.....Lift them both up in prayer

Todd S.....Prayer for his continued strength in putting his life in order.

TJ LPray for his health issues.

Bob P.....Needs prayer, was just diagnosed with stage two and four cancer in lymphatic system

Brian D.....Needs prayer for recovery from surgery

Joanne R.....Her and the rest of the family need your prayers as they continue to deal with the loss of a child to cancer.

Sue C.....Prayer for the elderly man she is taking care of and her own physical and financial issues.

Jose

Rodriguez.....Pray for his ex-wife as she deals with an abusive relationship. Also prayer for his parents (dad's recovery from surgery and mom's health issues)

Larry K.....Asks for prayer for Lisa and her daughter. They need your prayer for God in their lives and peace in their home. He also has a praise report that God is setting the church in order where he is at and that the spirit is moving in the hearts of fellow believers.

Sebastian M....Asks for your prayers for his two adult children who need the Lord in their lives.

Pray forFamily and friends of those who were killed or injured in the Nepal earthquake.

Pray for.....Christians who are facing the loss of their lives for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Darrell R.....Prayer for his health and life issues.

G. GortonPrayer for housing and work upon his release.

Pastor Gray.....Pray that the Lord will continue to guide and strengthen him as he brings the light of the gospel to those who are still trapped in darkness of sin and false gospels. Prayer for all those who are following in his faithful footsteps.

Thomas M.....Pray for his upcoming review by the board and release back where he belongs. Also pray for his dear friend George that his health holds up.

Sebastian M....Prayer for his continual growth in Christ. Prayer for his children's salvation and wellbeing.

Rich Howeth ..Wants prayer for his sister Darlene who was just diagnosed with terminal cancer. Please pray for the family also.

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The Lord's Mountain Movers - Prayer request

Person requesting prayer _____

Pray for: _____

Nature of request: _____

Place request on Ministry website Yes No

Place request in Newsletter Yes No

(Use back of request if necessary. You can also use blank paper)

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