



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)

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Issue 11-13

Greetings to my brothers and sisters in the Lord. Welcome to the first edition of *The Mountain Mover's Newsletter*. The motivation behind this newsletter is to continue passing on some of the blessings I received while incarcerated in the California Department of Corrections and especially while being a part of the wonderful fellowship in the Chapel of Brotherly Love, Tehachapi California, (CCI).

Over the five plus years of being a servant of God at the Chapel of Brotherly Love I witnessed many men come to know God for the first time, and others renew a relationship with Him that had long grown cold. More importantly, I watched a lot of these men be released back into society to continue their lives and face new challenges. It was through continued contact, whether direct or indirect, that I received a new and invigorated hope for my future. If they could make it with the help of God, then so could I! If they could put prison behind them once and for all, then God could do the same for me. And if God did this for former prisoners, then will He not for those who have never been there?

My prayer is that this newsletter will be a ministering tool that God will use to benefit and grow His kingdom. The plan is to include updates on how brothers and sisters are making it on the outside. What kind of challenges they have faced and how God has led them through each one. The newsletter will include short testimonies; where they are in their life; family relationships, employment, health, and the ups and downs that living brings to all of us. It will also contain brief updates on those who I have been able to keep in contact with. I pray that their stories will lift you up, inspire you, and give you a new and invigorated hope for your future, whether you are on the outside or living in prison.

Additionally, there will be a short message from God's word to help all of us become the people God desires us to be so we can be effective in this world and the kingdom to come. This will be called, "The Word in Motion Study" a practical application of God's word in our daily lives.

Lastly, the news letter will contain prayer requests submitted by, or for, brothers and sisters in or out of prison. The idea is that we not loose contact with those who God has brought into our lives and continue to lift them up in prayer. As true born-again believers, we are all God's children and should be concerned when a member of our family is in need. You may not be able to directly supply the need, but you can pray to the One who can, Amen!

Whether God has placed a mountain in your life, or there is one because of a bad decision(s), the fact remains that it is there. Faith does not deny the mountain's existence, but it gives us the ability to scale it, or remove it, whichever is God's will. Let's join together in being Mountain Movers. Do you have the faith of a mustard seed? Use it!

May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ continue to teach, guide, and bless you each and everyday.

Pastor Pete

In His service



SUCCESSFUL BROTHERS FROM TEHACHAPI

DANIEL R.

Working in metal fabrication. Doing great! Has his own apartment. Doing text-ministry.

DANIEL V.

Unemployed. Volunteering at church fulltime.

RANDY C.

Unemployed. Preaching at local church from time to time.

LARRY H.

Retired. Dealing with medical issues. Has his own apartment. Serving others at the Veteran's Hospital.

TOM C.

Working at a sandwich shop. Active at his church.

TONY A.

Discharged. Working on boats in San Pedro. Active in his church. Raising his daughter.

GEORGE B.

Retired. Helping elderly in his mobile home park.

JUAN G.

Truck driver. Doing great. Sings in church choir and involved in his church.

CHRIS C.

Discharged. Self-employed. Very active in his church ministries. Finishing college degree. (irregardless of Satan's efforts) ☺

GARY G.

Living in Christian sober living home. Working on relationship with God. Starting email prayer circle.

BENJAMIN A.

Finished first year of seminary in Guatemala. Preaching and going into prisons & hospitals to minister. Back with his family. Getting ready to plant a church soon.

DALE C. (DC)

Working and very active in his church's ministries. Taking care of elderly father. Reunited with wife and daughter.

JOEL C.

Territorial manager for national storage company. Racing NASCAR IAAMC. Active leader in his church's Celebrate Recovery Program. Discharged parole.

TOM M.

Retired and living with his wife in Hanford.

PETER C.

Unemployed. Living in sober living home in Moreno Valley. Fellowshiping with several pastors from past. Starting online ministry.

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

A Testimony

In a recent phone conversation with Joel C. we were discussing job seeking. He related to me that from the time he got out of prison until he finally found a job he had put in over 710 applications. Out of those applications he only received approximately 50 call-backs. Out of those call-backs he got less than 20 interviews and only three third interviews. It was very discouraging in the beginning for him, denial after denial, rejection upon rejection. When he got to the point where he just wanted to give up, and there were a few of those, he cried out to God for encouragement. God's answer was not what Joel expected. God told him that the denials and rejections were necessary, that he needed to get all the "no's" out of the way so he could get to the "yes" God had waiting for him. Keep digging, keep pressing forward, and keep believing. All this was necessary to make Joel the person God wanted, and his future employer needed him to be. Joel's success in his job today is due in part to what it took to get him there.

Are you experiencing rejection and discouragement? Are you doing what you know God wants you to do and not seeing any results yet? Take encouragement from Joel's story and keep moving forward in faith. God knows where you are, what you need, and who He is making you into. You will arrive just when you are supposed to be there, and you'll be ready for the task!



THE WORD IN MOTION message

Who am I, really? (Part 1 of 3) “THE PROBLEM”

How or what do you feel about yourself? When you compare yourself to those around you, family, friends, co-workers, and even your fellow Christians, what goes on in that heart and mind of yours? How do we respond verbally, in our mind, or in our actions to those around us? The answer to these questions may very well cut deep into our hearts, revealing some very dark things.

In Luke 18:9-14, Jesus tells us a very poignant parable about a Pharisee and a Tax Collector. The main point and purpose of the parable is justification before God, but there is also another lesson, a lesson in personal perspective. This is what I want to share with you in this message. The parable goes like this:

And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector, I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, “God, be merciful to me, the sinner!” I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, be he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

I want us to look at this attitude of what I call, “status by negation.” What I mean by this is that attitude, whether internally possessed or externally expressed, that we use to make us feel better about ourselves. We’ve all been there at one time or another if we would dare to be honest for just a moment. It’s those times when, for whatever reason, we see someone and we begin to look down our nose at them. We so easily find something about that person that we cannot or will not see in ourselves. Suddenly we begin to feel better about ourselves. It feels so good we start looking for more flaws in that person or character defects in other people we know. How can this be wrong or ugly if it makes me feel so good, so justified before myself? Remember the Pharisee was, “praying this to himself.”

Why should we change? Why put any effort into becoming a better person when it is so easy to just put others down? The answer is easy if you know the truth. The real truth about who we are is determined only by the discerning eye of an all knowing God. A God who does not grade us on a curve. A God who sees through all the facades we parade before others. A God who will judge us by the content of our heart. And a God who will judge us as we stand there all alone before Him, no one else for us to compare ourselves against. Just you and I, all alone before a mighty and just God. Do you remember the handwriting on the wall in Daniel 5? “MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN” (you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient). Sobering thought considering the attitudes we sometimes harbor.

Jesus said in this parable, “for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled.” Would it not be better for us to humble ourselves before God finds it necessary to do the humbling Himself? Does God’s word not say, humble yourselves in the sight of God and He will lift you up? Have you ever sung the song with the same lyrics? Have we ever meant it, or have we ever tried it?

Let’s seek to don the attitude of the tax collector in this parable. Let’s not look to see who is around us, who we can compare ourselves to. Stand, kneel, or lay prostrate before God and no one else. Cry out to Him for forgiveness and seek His mercy. Realize that we have faults, faults that will not go away by focusing on the faults of others. Let us leave our time with God and head home justified before Him and not self-exalted before ourselves or others. When we have done this, then we can reach up, to those we used to look down at.

May God bless you through His word and your effort to apply it in your life.

Pastor Pete

In His service



Our Prayer Requests for God's Children

Brothers in

Chino West..... Yard That God would continue to honor and direct their efforts in putting His church in order.

PARTIALLY ANSWERED – COMPLETED GUIDELINES AND ESTABLISHED SOUND LEADERSHIP

Pete C Praying to find work. Reunification of his family. Healing of oldest son's addiction issues.

PARTIALLY ANSWERED – DAUGHTER IS TEXTING AND CALLING HIM

PARTIALLY ANSWERED - SON IS SOBER AND GETTING HELP

David (Daniel R's. 14 yr. old cousin) – That God would help him make it through his cancer treatments.

PARTIALLY ANSWERED – DAVID LEFT THE HOSPITAL ON NOV. 16th

Daniel V.....Reliable vehicle. To be reunited with his daughter. Praying for employment.

Gary G.....That he reach out to God and hang on. Praying for his prayer circle idea.

PARTIALLY ANSWERED – PRAYER CIRCLE UP AND RUNNING

TJ & Julie W. Pray for God's wisdom in conducting the marriage classes. TJ's surgery on his wrist.

ANSWERED – SURGERY WAS SUCCESSFUL, HEALING WELL

Scott F Pray for resolution to his health issues.

Daniel R. That his boss would get saved and the business would flourish. Praying for a home church to fellowship in.

Benjamin A Praying to get Spanish Bibles for prisoners in Guatemala.

Larry H..... Praying for healing for his continuing health issues.

PARTIALLY ANSWERED – COLONOSCOPY SHOWED NO CANCER

Gabriel S..... Praying for favor for his release date. God's will for his family.

Randy C..... Praying he can find a job.

Acts

Foundation..... Praying for continued support for their prison ministry.

Jean P Praying that God would make her family whole and at peace.

George B Pray for reunification of family, and that he would maintain a healthy relationship with God. Please pray for my children to open their hearts (Michael, Christina and Jason). Request prayer for God's wisdom in the purchase of real estate property.

Johnny L..... God would prepare him to get out and further the Lord's kingdom.

Victor A..... That the issues with the city & county would come to a mutual agreement.

Larry S..... Missionary to Kenya is having health issues and needs prayers for strength and healing.

Please feel free to contact us on our website, www.theLordsmountainmovers.org. You can sign up to get the monthly newsletter free of charge. You can also place your prayer request on our website and join us in praying for our other brothers and sisters in the Lord. You can also contact us at The Lord's Mountain Movers, 14910 Perris Blvd., Suite B-182, Moreno Valley, CA 92553. We look forward to hearing from you.

Rodney (?).....Needs prayer. He is being sucked into discouragement and despair.

Mary S.....Pray that God would continue to give her a sound and clear mind. That he would bless her and her ministry.