



## *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)

April 2017

Issue 0035

### **Who are you?**

Have you ever been asked this question before? How did you respond? I imagine if we were to answer these two questions honestly, most of us would have to confess to some degree of variation. What I mean by this is, that it would depend on who had asked the question, where we were at, and maybe what we were doing at the time.

I am sixty years old and don't think I have ever met anyone who has been consistent in their character, activities, or lifestyle. I think that, to some degree, we are all like chameleon lizards. They have the inherent ability to adapt their skin color to match their surroundings to camouflage for protection. There are many insects and fish that can do similar things for the same reason. My consensus is that, we humans do something like that for somewhat the same reason. Yes, even Christians.

I am not trying to point fingers or condemn anyone. I just think it might be an area where we could be more honest, and possibly change for the better. I think it is just an effort on our part to just try and fit in. I call it the old, "*When in Rome*" syndrome.

Maybe before someone else asks us, who are you, we could honestly ask ourselves, who am I? Am I the same person at home, work, play, school, grocery store, bumper to bumper traffic, loving or controversial situations? Am I more giving and appreciative at church than I am at work or out in public? How about being the same when things are going bad verses good in my life? Does my conversation differ depending on who I am around or who may be listening? Will I go places with one group of people that I wouldn't dare go with another? Are the things I read, watch on TV, and the internet, open for anyone in my life to view. I could go on and on but I think this gets the ball rolling enough to get us to thinking about who we are.

I believe that a Christian's conversion is an instantaneous event. However, my observation is that a person's character, who we are, is in a constant state of development. There is nothing wrong with changing for the better, in fact that is what progressive sanctification is all about. All our starting points are as different as our DNA. The important thing is that we are growing into that Christ-like character. The Bible says, "*but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, 'YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.'*" (1 Peter 1:15)

What we must avoid is digressing and not progressing. We do not want to take two steps forward and three steps back, that's not growth in the right direction. Let's stop being a blender and be a trender, someone who stands out in a crowd for all the right reasons and draws others to do the same. Let's

Please feel free to contact us on our website, [www.TheLordsMountainMovers.org](http://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, PO Box 1211, Boulevard, CA 91905-0311. We look forward to hearing from you.

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make a positive difference in the world around us. Let's be the light bearers for Christ and the preserving salt of Christian character.

*Pastor Pete*

In His service



## THE WORD IN MOTION message

### **Who am I supposed to be and how do I get there?**

Earlier I wrote that the important thing is that we are growing into that Christ-like character. And, that the Bible says, The Bible says, “ *but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.”*” (1 Peter 1:15)

The Apostle Peter gave us this call to action and the mindset we are to have in our transformation process. <sup>13</sup> *Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.* <sup>14</sup> *As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance,* <sup>15</sup> *but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior”* (1 Peter 1:13-15)

He tells us first to get our minds right and be ready to move, that we are to have a soundness in our spirit, and that our aim is sighted on what we will finally become. It's about having a proper and clear goal, and then moving towards that goal, it is what Christ has called us for. We are to change for the better. To do that we need to rid ourselves of those character traits that are not part of the Christian character.

In his second epistle Peter gives us a more detailed outline of how we are to attain to this Christ-like character. He calls it being, “*partakers of the divine nature.*”

*Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ: <sup>2</sup> Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; <sup>3</sup> seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. <sup>4</sup> For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. <sup>5</sup> Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, <sup>6</sup> and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, <sup>7</sup> and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. <sup>8</sup> For if these qualities are yours and are*

*increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*  
(2 Peter 1:1-8)

In verses 5-7 we have a chain of characteristics that we are to assimilate, or build, into our new character, who we are to become. They are as follows; Moral excellence (virtue), knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. Interesting how these character traits parallel the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23. I say these are a chain of characteristics because of the way Peter links them together. He says, “*and in your*” between each attribute or characteristic. Some versions of the Bible say, “*and add to your*” in between each one. Just like a major goal must have little progressive goals before it to accomplish the end result, so must taking on the divine nature. Like I mentioned earlier in the newsletter, I believe that a Christian’s conversion is a constant state of development. There is no jumping ahead or leaving out any of these attributes. There is a term I heard years ago, called, irreducible complexity, which basically means that something reduced to its bare bones parts cannot function if one of those parts is removed. The failure to incorporate any of the above traits of the divine nature will result in something less than it is.

In the closing part of this passage, Peter gives us the end result of following through with this process of taking on the divine nature, “*For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*” If you want to know who we are supposed to be and know how to get there, then here are our instructions and an outline of Christ’s character.

In the following verses from our passage we can see that these character traits are not self-generated, they are God given and God empowered. They are also promises that we can count on if we only choose to desire and appropriate them. What an awesome deal! Everything I need to become Christ-like at no cost, except the old self must die to make room for the new me. “<sup>2</sup> *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;* <sup>3</sup> *seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.* <sup>4</sup> *For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature*” We could spend countless hours discussing each one of these traits and what they look like in the life of a Christian. We could stand ourselves next to them and see how we match up. Or we could use them as a template for our maturation. Let’s just start at the beginning in applying all diligence, with a clear mind, a sober spirit, with a hope fixed on what we will one day ultimately be.... Christ-like.

Lord help me to desire with all my heart to take on the task of being more like you each day. Let me stay focused on the ultimate goal, knowing that it is a process, not an event. Endow me with the motivation and perseverance this task requires. Help me when I tire and let me exalt you with each victory along the way. May you be glorified as I seek to one day see your glory. Amen.

*In His Service*

*Pastor Pete*

## BE A BARNABAS

*“He who watches the wind will not sow and he who looks at the clouds will not reap. Just as you do not know the path of the wind and how bones are formed in the womb of the pregnant woman, so you do not know the activity of God who makes all things. Sow your seed in the morning and do not be idle in the evening, for you do not know whether morning or evening sowing will succeed, or whether both of them alike will be good.” (Ecclesiastes 11:4-6 NASB)*

Sometimes we wait for the weather to be right, permission to be granted, someone else to change, new leadership to take over, absence of risk, more self-confidence, someone else to lead us or make the decision for us, or for the pain to just go away. We look or depend upon our situation or circumstance, waiting for it to be perfect. Circumstances and situations are changing all the time, but they won't always line up perfectly in the way we think they should. God gives us enough and then we need to take the next step by faith. This is how we build our trust in Him and not in our situations. We step out in faith. Let us look to Him who can cause the storm to rise or calm it at the right time. *“He has showed you, O man, what is right; And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8)*

Do not wait for things to be perfect or for someone else to come along to do the thing God has called you to do. Move in His grace and be used by the Holy Spirit. Be that blessing to others around you because you walk by faith not by sight and be blessed yourself because you trust God! Sow good seed and allow God to bring the increase in His timing.

Be blessed in Him,

*Brother Daniel Rodney*

### **We want you!**

That's right; the Lord's Mountain Movers Ministry wants you to be a bigger part of what we are doing in God's kingdom. We have received several contributions for your newsletter and thank those of you who have taken the time to send your submissions. We hope that more of you will share some of the talents God has given to you through writing, drawing, etc. Keep them coming. If you send something you need to have back, we will be glad to return it to you, just let us know.



### *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 sisters all over the world 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 us 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. Previous prayer requests are still there on the website for people to read. We are wondering if your prayer has been answered yet? We want to know and share it with everyone else who reads the newsletter, so keep us updated. We look forward to hearing from you and standing in the gap as a prayer warrior. Please note that we will be removing older prayer requests, especially when we do not hear about updates. The newest requests are at the top of the list and the oldest requests are at the bottom of the list. These will remain on our website prayer list.

### **March – April 2017 Prayer List**

David. G .....Pray for children: Emily, Natalie, James, Brother Don and that they receive Salvation/Reconciliation and for the Ministry at Mule Creek.

Connie C .....She has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Pray for her trusting in the Lord for a healing and restore her back into the life of Larry's K.

Tom M .....Pray that prop. 57 helps get me out so I can take George L. fishing.

George L .....George has been ill in the hospital; he is 89 years old. Pray that he survives and can go home. And that Tom M. may be able to take him fishing one last time. PRAISE REPORT: **He is recovering and doing better.**

Rex S.....Pray for him and his family for strength and peace as he recovers from open heart surgery. He is doing better.

Gary B.....Needs prayer for his business and his health.

Chris C .....Prayer for a wonderful marriage.

Roger C .....Prayer for him in his peace and strength as he moves forward with the challenges of his incarceration.

Barbara M .....Was diagnosed with Complex Regional Pain Syndrome. Prayer that she receives a long-term resolution to her health challenge, and that her and her husband's medical and financial needs might be met.

Winifred W. ....Pray for God's favor in an upcoming board review and that he remains healthy and that he will be released soon and that the attacks on our chapel & pastor get resolved and services are restored.

Richard D. ....Pray that the Lord will use him to help others in the Celebrate Recovery program.

Gabriel.....Prayer that chapel services to run smoother and for the KAIROS program to continue.

Robert M. ....Asks for prayer and healing for Rudy, Betsy & Maria (Valley fever and Carpel tunnel)

James.....Prayer for the program on the yard to change for the better for everyone.

Matlock .....Requests for prayer for a closer relationship with his son.

Joe S.....Asks for prayer for his family to come to know the Lord Jesus Christ.

Geno.....For help with his soon-to-be-wife's family. To have them come visit him.

Pastor Jack .....We pray for his health to improve and to get instruments on the yard.

Tom S.....Asked for prayer to be able to spend time with his wife.

Bob &

Gina N.....Asking for prayer for the family... They suddenly lost their 36-year-old daughter, Laura, after complications from elective Dental surgery. She is survived by her Husband and 2-1/2-year-old son. The Family is struggling to understand this sudden loss. Pray for their healing.

Dave G. ....Asks for continued prayer for favor in appeal, family, delivery from excessive incarceration, re-unification of marriage and children, provision to fund all needs and continued blessings to this ministry. Pray that AB1909 will be retroactive.

Sebastian M....Requests prayer for his children, that the Lord will soften their hearts and they will turn to Jesus for salvation.

Hazel C.....Pray for her condition to improve. She is now in a convalescent hospital.

Alice S.....Brother "Tee" prays for her and her kids during a difficult time and transition in her life.

Pete C.....Keep him in prayer that he obtains better housing.

Daniel R. ....Pray that he stays patient with the business situation he is in right now, waiting for God to reveal His plan for his life.

This Ministry..Please pray for this ministry that we may be girded up with faith and strength to keep this ministry going to spread the Lord's word.

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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)

Mail to: The Lord's Mountain Movers, PO Box 1211, Boulevard, CA 91905-0311

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