



## *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)

August 2016

Issue 0030

### **Reprint from March 2014**

Grace and peace to you my brothers and sisters in the Lord. I can't believe that it is already March. Many people make New Year's resolutions. They are normally things about themselves that they want to change, or things they want to do, or stop doing. Usually by this time of year those resolutions have been forgotten or the desire has faded away. They are right back where they were before they made the resolution. Change is only change when it becomes a part of our character and our life.

I saw a license plate frame the other day that said, "Why don't you be the one to make the changes you want to see in the world." It is easy for us to see the negative things all around us and just as easy to make comments about them. But, how hard is it for us to be a part of changing those things? I want to share an insight by Ruth Tucker, from a daily devotional called, Time with God, page 299.

"What appears to be foolish in the eyes of society is often that which is most effective in the work of the kingdom. The ignorant, the uneducated, the despised of the world are sometimes God's choicest servants. So it was with Sophie "the scrubwoman" Lichtenfels, "whose sermons rose not from an exalted podium but from the callused hands and knees and with the rhythm of a lowly washtub and scrub brush"...

...Her testimony was simple. "God called me to scrub and preach. I was born a preacher, but since I was poor I had to work. My work is good and I can be trusted, so they want me. But if they have me, they must hear me preach. No preach, no work. I scrub as unto the Lord and I preach to all in the house. When I am out of work I tell my Father. He is the best employment office. You don't have to pay or wait..." sometimes we pray so foolish. For 12 years I prayed the Lord to make me a foreign missionary. One day I prayed like that and my Father said, 'Stop Sophie. Where were you born?' 'In Germany,' I replied. 'And where are you now?' 'In America.' 'Well, aren't you already a foreign missionary?' Then he said to me, 'Who lives on the floor above you?' 'A family of Swedes.' 'And above them?' 'Some Swiss'... "Yes, and in back are Italians and a block away Chinese. You have never spoken to them about My Son. Do you think I'll send you a thousand miles away when you've got foreigners, even heathen all around you?" Ruth Tucker

I like Sophie's story because it reminds me that as Christians we are called to preach the gospel. We don't need to stand in front of congregations, we can preach from our hands and knees. We don't need to go anywhere, when we are needed right where we are. Instead of making resolutions or asking to be somewhere else, or be somebody different, let's just be who we are and be obedient to our calling right where we are. Let's also not be the person who sees what needs to be done and only speaks about it, let's be the person who is willing to put forth the effort to make those changes.

I pray that God will enlighten, inspire, and encourage each one of us in the calling He has placed on us.

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In His service



## THE WORD IN MOTION message

### **The Day the Church got Started (Part 2 of 2)**

Last month we began looking into the beginning of the church as recorded in Acts 2:37-41. Let's continue on together in exploring, "The Day the Church got Started."

*<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"<sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." <sup>40</sup> And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!" <sup>41</sup> So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. (Acts 2:37-41)*

In the first part of verse 39, Peter tells his listeners that the gospel message is not just for those who were there that day and witnessed those events, but that this promise was also for those who would come after them for generations. "*For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off.*" This is important information, especially for us today. The beginning was not the end. What happened that day was only the beginning of the church, it would, and continues to grow and multiply until God will close that door just like He closed the door of Noah's Ark. In Romans 11:25, the Apostle Paul even speaks of a time when the exact number of gentiles will be reached, concluding their entrance into the church, "*For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.*" So, just as Peter began with the preaching of the gospel message it should continue to be preached today, just as it was then.

In the last part of this verse we find a statement that unfortunately causes controversy through misunderstanding, "*as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.*" Without going into great detail I will just say that the Bible is very clear as to who does the saving of man, that "who" is God, through Jesus Christ. In John 14:6, Jesus said, "*I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father but through Me.*" and in John 6:44, Jesus says, "*No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him.*" As we saw from last month's study on this passage, we see the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit working the salvation of man. The real church, i.e. the body of Christ, is not an open house for anyone to enter, any way they want. They must enter through the door, and that door is Jesus Christ (John 10:7, 9). God created the church; establishes the church, builds the church, and one day will come for His church.

In verse 40 we find this statement, "*And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, 'Be saved from this perverse generation!'*" For me, this is an encouragement to keep on preaching the gospel and not give up. We keep on testifying regardless of the outcome. We need to remember the Apostle Paul's exhortation in 1 Corinthians 3:6-7, "*I planted and Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth.*" Preaching the gospel can become discouraging, and create despondency when we set up expectations and forget that it is not our preaching, or our desires, that brings people to the saving knowledge of Christ, it is God's job to do that.

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The last verse in this passage reads, *“So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.”* Notice that this verse does not say that everyone who heard the word was baptized and added to the church, it was only those who had received the word. Remember, that in part one of this study we noted what Paul had said in his first letter to the Corinthians that the gospel message is foolishness to those who are perishing. It is only those whose ears have been opened and hearts prepared beforehand that receive the gospel message and the salvation that follows. The Apostle John wrote in his gospel, *“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.”* (John 1:12). When it comes to salvation a person cannot take what is not his, he must receive what is freely given to him from above.

What an eventful day, three thousand souls added to God’s church and yet it was only the beginning. The book of Acts continues on with the birthing of the church as God had planned it. If you think that you cannot make a difference in God’s Kingdom, that you cannot do something to further God’s plan for His church. Then you should take note that this started with the preaching of one person. One person who was obedient to the calling we have all received, and that is to preach the gospel to the lost. Let us do what we have been called to do and let God do the rest. Remember that it is not us, but the Holy Spirit working in and through us, and the power of the gospel message that will save those whom God is calling. What a privilege and responsibility the creator of the universe has bestowed upon us, to include us in His plan of salvation. He could accomplish it on His own, but has allowed us this honor.

The beauty of God’s church follows in verses 42-47, *“<sup>42</sup> They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.”*

God’s church is a fellowship of unity. It is not made up of the “haves” and the “have-nots.” It is a group of people whose lives have been changed forever. It is a group of people who are united in one Spirit and in one body. It is body of believers who interact with each other as Christ intended, who eat with each other and feed off the Word of God. I like what Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:1-6, *“Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, <sup>3</sup> being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.”*

How wonderful it would be to be a part of a fellowship like we find here. I believe that it will be that way in the future Kingdom of God. I pray that we would begin to just taste what it will be like, by moving in that direction today. I believe that God would respond with overwhelming enthusiasm if we would take one tiny step toward true fellowship. Are we willing? Let’s make the change in our attitude so we can make the changes in the world.

In His service

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## Reprint from March 2014

### *A Testimony* (by George Bishop.)

For 53 years I rejected a relationship and a belief in God & Jesus Christ. On November 23, 2006, I fell to my knees, and in great pain and despair, asked God to help me and my family. Why did I reach out to God as a non-believer? We as humans have an internal drive to seek out our purpose. To discover why we are here, to try to understand the world we live in, our past history and striving for understanding on what our destiny or future may be.

I thought my God-believing friends must be weak minded to have faith in an unseen God and that they were being manipulated mentally by mass hypnosis or just following the crowd. I didn't get it.

In the summer of 2007, while watching a TV evangelist show with my wife. I started to understand. It's not a question of intelligence; it's a question of faith. I know many intelligent people who have faith and believe in God. Why do they believe? What do they see that I didn't? I know by watching them they are not weak; they live fulfilled lives, seem happy, are well adjusted and do what I do mostly. What am I missing? If it is only faith, why can't I find it?

How is it that we can have faith in some things unseen like gravity, pilots flying the plane we are in and have no faith in God? How is it possible that just by having a little faith in something that cannot be seen can make us feel so at peace, so whole, so fulfilled? All I know is that faith as small as a mustard seed has changed my life for the better. The Bible states that by having faith in Jesus Christ, even a little faith, that we become a new creation in Christ. The old man dies and we are renewed in spirit, not in the flesh. It is because of the unseen miracle known as the Holy Spirit described in the Bible; yielding not to our own selfish wants and desires but to humble ourselves to the teaching of Jesus Christ as the Bible teaches.

Faith is a search of understanding. This search is often done with other people as a community; it shows us harmony, intelligence and order in what we call nature. Our intelligence & curiosity about the world drives our life-long quest to search for the meaning of our existence. So philosophically, I believe that when we really look at our world, and how everything works in harmony, soil, water, plants, everything is interconnected. We can agree that there must have been some intelligent design for all we see, all we are in the universe and I call that intelligent designer, God.

Faith is evidence not seen. God never wants to take anything away from us. He gives us freedom, peace, love, grace, mercy everything for our good. Our wrong choices destroy us, our right choices set us free.

It's not about religion, laws or rules to follow. It's about a relationship with Jesus Christ. God wants to make a difference in your life so that you can make a difference in the lives of others. The greatest freedom we can ever have is the freedom of faith in Jesus Christ.

It is written in the Bible; Just Believe and have faith. Go with God and He will go with you. Your response to God will determine where your life will go. It is your choice which way you choose to turn.

The love of Jesus is free, it's powerful, and it's pure. If people in your life have let you down; I invite you to join someone who will never let you down, Jesus Christ. I thank my God and His Son, Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior, every day for all the blessings in my life and for the forgiveness, grace and mercy that they have shown me.

**My Prayer for us all**...Only you oh Lord can lift up my soul, only you my God can heal my troubled heart. Come and take away my shame, show me all Your ways for your goodness sake, lead me to Your ways. Turn yourself to Him. He will dwell in you, ask Him to forgive, let Him live in you. God has a hope and a future for you all. In Jesus' name, AMEN.

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## 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.

### June - August 2016 Prayer List

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. ....Askes 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.

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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.

Helen C. ....Keep Helen and her son “Tee” In prayer for safety and guidance from the Lord.

John L.....Pray for his family’s healing. He lost his son Michael who went to be with the Lord. He died of congestive heart failure in his early 20’s.

Roger C .....Prayer for him in his current situation that it will be resolved soon.

Anthony S. ....Pray that my brothers in Christ; get blessed, have a speedy trial and go home soon.

Steve T. ....Pray for God’s favor over trial- strength in fasting prayer, soften his wife’s heart and not divorce him.

Winifred W. ...Pray that the attacks on chapel, pastor get resolved and evening services are restored.

Maurice A. ....Request urgent prayer for his young niece not to be tried as an adult and for his warrant to be dismissed.

Richard L. ....Please pray that he gets right with the Lord before he gets a life sentence, he is messing up bad.

J. Jackson .....Request prayer for Soledad Prison and its staff. Prayer for the Jackson and Packer family that God would become the center of their lives and reunify them again. Prayer that I will be a good person and husband and we will have a good life together.

Greg.....Prayer for clear vision on what God wants to do with “The Cure” Ministry. Maintain ministry’s focus on God only. Also prayer for his marriage to Shelia as he gets ready to go home. Prayer for Shelia as she recovers from a work injury. Update on previous prayer requests; Aaron passed SD Sheriff’s test, Stephen is working at a Christian Camp, Justin has a job at Toyota Dealership and is working for EMT position.

Joshua H.....Pray to take me away from drugs and bless me with a new life and family of my own.

Timothy R. ....Pray that all families stop lying and tearing fathers from their kids and wife. Prayer for the Lord’s blessing in court case and trial.

R. White .....That the Lord will open doors for suitable housing upon his being paroled.  
**Praise report: He has found a place to welcome him and is doing well,  
reconnecting with brothers as well as family.**

Pete C. ....Keep him in prayer that he will run to the Lord and not from Him.

This Ministry..Please pray for this ministry that we may be girded up with faith and strength to  
keep this ministry going in order 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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Person requesting prayer \_\_\_\_\_

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Place request on Ministry website      Yes    No

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