



## *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 2015

Issue 0022

### **SOW WHAT'S HAPPENING**

Better yet, what's happening was sown. Have you ever planted an apple seed then tended and watered it until it grew and then realized you had an orange tree? Or, did you plant poppies and end up with mums? The answer is no. Why? Because what you plant is what you get! It is an absolute law. An apple seed will never produce an orange tree and a poppy seed will never produce a mum. Jesus, in teaching on the difference between false and true teachers, reiterated this multi-applicable law by asking a rhetorical question, "Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they?" (Matt. 7:16)

Many (and I mean many) years ago when my family and I were attending a church pastored by Chuck Swindoll he gave a sermon on this very subject. Sometime during the teaching he said the following, which I still remember to this day.

Sow a thought - reap an act.  
Sow an act - reap a habit.  
Sow a habit - reap a character.  
Sow a character - reap a destiny.

The Apostle Paul put it this way, "*Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.*" (Galatians 6:7-8) Just as it is true in the physical world so it is in the spiritual world, whatever we sow, that we will also reap.

As Paul noted above, the law of sowing and reaping begins in the incorporeal (spiritual, intangible) not in the act itself. Jesus put it this way, if you have lusted in your heart you have committed adultery, if you have hated in your heart you have committed murder. You have probably heard the old saying when something has been done, and it doesn't turn out right or is half-done, someone will say, "It was the thought that counts." Well that is never truer than in the process of sowing and reaping. It is the thought that started the whole thing in the first place, that was the first seed sown.

In His service,

Pastor Pete

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## THE WORD IN MOTION message

### **Sowing and reaping**

The law of sowing and reaping is never more apparent than in the following Biblical account of Abraham's grandson Jacob. It is a story most of us have heard many times and we would do well to keep this at the forefront of our minds as a filter for our thoughts.

From the very start Jacob and his twin brother Esau were at odds with each other. Isaac's wife, Rebekah, is pregnant with these two boys and seeks the Lord for answers as to why they are struggling within her. The Lord answers her this way, "*The LORD said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb; And two peoples will be separated from your body; And one people shall be stronger than the other; And the older shall serve the younger.'*" (Gen 25:23) As she was delivering the twins Esau was coming out first but Jacob held on to his brother's foot. Consequently, he was called Jacob which means sup-planter. Sup-planter is defined as; 1) to supersede, 2) to eradicate and supply a substitute for, or 3) to take the place of and serve as a substitute for. Jacob was named for the character he displayed, even from his birth.

Jacob begins to sow from his character. The next thing we hear concerning Jacob is when he uses his brother's hunger to gain his birthright. Esau has been out hunting and is famished and needs something to eat. He comes in and asks his brother for some of the stew he was making. Jacob tells his brother the following, "*But Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' Esau said, 'Behold, I am about to die; so of what use then is the birthright to me?' And Jacob said, 'First swear to me'; so he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob.*" (Gen. 25:31-33)

Jacob continues to sow from his character. Later on, as Isaac is growing old and is about to die, Jacob needs to make sure he gets the birthright before his father gives it to Esau. Jacob and his mother conspire to deceive Isaac as his sight is all but gone and cannot recognize one person from another. Rebekah puts Esau's clothes on Jacob and covers his arms and neck with the skins of a young goat so he will smell and feel like Esau. They even go as far as making Isaac his favorite stew. The following is the account of what followed.

*"Then he came to his father and said, 'My father' And he said, 'Here I am. Who are you, my son?' Jacob said to his father, 'I am Esau your firstborn; I have done as you told me. Get up, please, sit and eat of my game, that you may bless me.' Isaac said to his son, 'How is it that you have it so quickly, my son?' And he said, 'Because the LORD your God caused it to happen to me' Then Isaac said to Jacob, 'Please come close, that I may feel you, my son, whether you are really my son Esau or not.' So Jacob came close to Isaac his father, and he felt him and said, 'The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau.' He did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him. And he said, 'Are you really my son Esau?' And he said, 'I am.' So he said, 'Bring it to me, and I will eat of my son's game, that I may bless you.' And he brought it to him, and he ate; he also brought him wine and he drank. Then his father Isaac said to him, 'Please come close and kiss me, my son.' So he came close and kissed him; and when he smelled the smell of his garments, he blessed him..." (Gen. 27:18-27)*

Do you see the level and detail of this deception? Jacob and his mother cover every possible avenue. Jacob even brings the Lord into his deception. A lot of time, effort, and planning went into deceiving Isaac into giving his younger son the birthright of the older. Would Jacob reap what he has sown?

After being blessed by his father, Jacob is sent away to Paddan-aram to find a wife. While on his journey there he runs into a girl named Rachael who is watering her father's sheep at a well. He is enraptured with her beauty and ends up returning with her to her father's house. Jacob finds out that Laban,

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Rachael's father, is a relative of his. After some formalities, Jacob strikes a deal with Laban to marry his daughter Rachael. He will work seven years and then receive her as his bride.

Seven years pass and the day finally comes. A wedding celebration takes place and Jacob goes to his tent where Rachael is supposed to be waiting. All the toil and years of service will be rewarded tonight, Rachael would be his prize! Or would she? Jacob consummates the marriage to the woman in his tent but in the morning finds out that he is now married to Leah, Rachael's older sister. Jacob is furious and asks Laban the following, "So it came about in the morning that, behold, it was Leah! And he said to Laban, 'What is this you have done to me? Was it not for Rachel that I served with you? Why then have you deceived me?'" The chicken has come home to roost. Better yet, Jacob has reaped what he has sown, and he is not happy about it.

The seeds we plant will someday bring forth the fruit they were designed to produce. Jacob had done his sowing and now, years later, he was reaping the consequences. God's law of sowing and reaping had rendered its judgment on Jacob's character and the things he had done to others. He was getting exactly what he deserved and it didn't feel good.

God is patient with us, even in teaching us valuable lessons about how we treat others. Our consequences may not always come from the victims of our deception, or whatever other negative things we sow into others' lives, but trust and believe this; they will come back to us. The shoe will be on the other foot and although it will fit perfectly, it will not be comfortable wearing it.

Next time something happens to you ask yourself, have I done similar things to others in the past? Or am I doing them now? Am I reaping what I have previously sown? God deliberately and lovingly teaches us these lessons. They are not given to us to destroy us, but to build us and others up. When we personally get to experience and feel some of the things we have done to others it can be a real character changer and that is what God is doing, changing our character. He is trying to take out of us what is wrong and put into us what is right, holy, and acceptable to Him and His character. He is trying to form in us that Divine Nature.

We are known by what we do, what we do is predicated on who we are. Seems like a conundrum doesn't it? How does this destructive cycle get broken? By God and the ongoing process of sanctification within us. The Apostle Paul, after explaining the battle within him says, "Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!..." We are new creatures through our union with Christ. (II Cor. 5:17) We gain new character by the trials and tribulations we go through, by the lessons God teaches us. (Heb. 12:7-11)

So the next time you find the shoe is on the other foot and it hurts, don't be so quick to take it off and relieve the pain and forego the gain. Ask yourself why it hurts so badly? Better yet, ask God why it hurts so badly? Let your pain create a compassion for others and a changed character within yourself. The pain will eventually fade away but the gain of a Christ-like character will go on for eternity.

Remember this too. God's law of sowing and reaping works both ways. When we sow goodness, righteousness, love, peace, joy, etc. into the lives of others it will come back to us. Let's all do something nice today and all of our tomorrows, amen!

*Pastor Pete*

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## BE A BARNABAS (Acts 4:36)

*“Preserve me, O God, for I take refuge in You. I said to the Lord, “You are my Lord; I have no good besides You.” As for the saints who are in the earth, They are the majestic ones in whom is all my delight.” (Psalm 16:1-3)*

Do you delight in your brothers and sisters in Christ, the saints? David did, and so should we. God is perfect and has no need of anything from us, but He has given us the charge to serve one another as we see the need arise. In doing well for one another, we reap the blessings from good works and share in His delight. It can be hard fellowshiping with Christians at times, because many of us are needy. But we are blessed to be a blessing to others and especially to the household of God. When we allow the blessings of God to flow through us by serving, this will bring us joy and further blessings. God must be the source of our servitude. We must first put our trust in Him and nothing or no one else. It can be hard to not trust in our jobs, the things we have or people God has put into our lives. By the spirit God has given us, we have all the abilities we need in order to be a blessing to others. When we focus on the great sacrifice God has provided for us, our response will be a readiness to give to others joyfully. As we serve others, our witness of love will be viewed, not only within the church, but also by those outside of it. Serving our brothers and sisters gives up purpose and is satisfying. I believe this is why Christ said, *‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’* Acts 20:35

Keep your eyes open, looking for the opportunities to meet the needs of others. Be the first one there and you will be blessed!

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.

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## *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 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.

### **July and August 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. Pray that God will use his time in prison to build him up and help him to submit to God once and for all.

J. Jackson .....Request prayer for Soledad Prison and its staff. Prayer for the Jackson family that God would become the center of their lives and reunify them again.

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. Also 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.

Sonhai H.....Requesting prayer for her and the family so she could talk to her brother Jonathan.

Brian D.....Prayer for his relationship with his father and as he strives to give up drinking.

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

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

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R. White .....That 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 S .....His mom, Rosie, his Uncle and brother who need prayer for recovery from health issues.

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

Justin .....Praise 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 F .....Prayer for answered prayer in his period of fasting.

Benjamin .....Guatemala, 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 M .....Pray for her marriage and family.

Jamie P .....Favor with the Parole Board and upcoming hearing.

Linda D .....Continued recovery from health issues.

Rich H.....Living situation and employment. Prayer for his sister Darlene who was just diagnosed with terminal cancer. Please pray for the family also.

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

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

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

TJ L.....Pray for his health issues.

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

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.

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.

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. Gorton .....Prayer 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.

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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 9324, Moreno Valley, CA 92553-9324.

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