



## *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)

December 2017

Issue 0042

### Value of a Friend

Who do you call, friend? What kind of a person fits your description of a true friend? What do you think of your friends and what do they think of you? Under what circumstances did these people become your friends? What is the longest tenure you have had with a friend? I could go on and on asking questions about friends, but I will let you ask yourself the rest.

Below are some notable quotes about friends that may, or may not, ring true with you. Either way I have placed them below so each one of us can begin a mental conversation within ourselves about why certain people are in our lives and the intrinsic value each person possesses. We may even see where they overlap in their qualities. This information may help us to choose friends better in the future. It may also help us to develop into better friends ourselves.

"When all is said and done, if you can count all your true friends on one hand, you are a lucky man." (Josh Charles)

"Friends show their love in times of trouble, not in happiness." (Euripides)

"Friends are the siblings God never gave us." (Mencius)

"It is one of the blessings of old friends that you can afford to be stupid with them." (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

"In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends." (Martin Luther King, JR.)

"So long as the memory of certain beloved friends lives in my heart, I shall say that life is good." (Helen Keller)

"Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?" (Abraham Lincoln)

"True friendship multiplies the good in life and divides its evils. Strive to have friends, for life without friends is like life on a desert island...to find one real friend in a lifetime is a good fortune, to keep him is a blessing."  
(Baltasar Gracian)

*In His Service*  
*Pastor Pete*

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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## THE WORD IN MOTION message

It is all well and good to hear from those who have encountered and benefited from having a true friend in their life, but I feel it would benefit us if we consider what the Bible has to say about friends.

Have you ever had a friend who told you what you needed to hear and not what you necessarily wanted to hear? You may not have initially liked or agreed with what they had to say, but when you calmed down and evaluated what they said, you knew in your heart of hearts that they were right. You may have even known it yourself, but didn't think that anyone else knew.

If someone calls themselves your friend yet only tells you what you want to hear then the Bible has a name for that kind of person. They are a flatterer. The dictionary defines to flatter as follows:

**Lavish insincere praise and compliments upon (someone), especially to further one's own interests. To give an unrealistically favorable impression of. To make (someone) feel honored and pleased.**

This type of person, or action, seeks not the best for the person he/she is talking to, or about, but uses language and actions that will help them get what they want from that person or situation. They are self-serving at heart and will only do, or say, what is necessary to meet their own desire. I am sure you have met someone who has overrated themselves in front of others to get honor or praise. You may think to yourself how unrealistic and sad that is for a person to do that. Well a flatterer will overrate someone else for the same self-serving purposes. Having and maintaining an honest and realistic self-portrait of yourself will help you to detect flattery when it is being heaped upon you.

Flattery can also be defined as saying to someone's face what you would not say behind their back. It is the opposite of gossip which is saying to someone else what you would not say to the person directly.

King David and his son, King Solomon, must have encountered at least one person like this in their lives to write these warnings for us to take heed of.

*"They speak falsehood to one another; With **flattering** lips and with a double heart they speak."* (Psalm 12:2)

*A lying tongue hates those it crushes, and a **flattering** mouth works ruin.* (Proverb 26:28)

*"May the LORD cut off all **flattering** lips, the tongue that speaks great things."* (Psalm 12:3)

The Apostle Paul put it like this:

*For such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and **flattering** speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting.* (Romans 16:18)

Not much good comes from someone who practices flattery. It does not speak well of them and it does no good for the person who is being flattered. It is better to have someone who will speak the truth to you in love for your benefit and not their own, even though they will benefit indirectly from any positive changes that are

made. Even though we may risk fellowship for a while with that person, I know from personal experience that we will gain a better friend and fellowship in the end. Better to lose a friend through truthfulness than to gain one by deceit. Solomon put it like this:

*“Better is open rebuke  
Than love that is concealed.  
Faithful are the wounds of a friend,  
But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.”*  
(Proverbs 27:5-6)

And,  
*“Oil and perfume make the heart glad,  
So a man’s counsel is sweet to his friend.”*  
**(Proverbs 27:9)**

In 2 Samuel 12:1-12 the Prophet Nathan openly and honestly rebuked King David for his sin with Bathsheba and the killing of her husband. Here is a common man speaking boldly to the king of Israel, someone who could have had his head cut off with a word, he rightly honored the position David held, but held the truth in even higher regard. Jonathan was a true friend who saved young David from the evil hand of Saul and Nathan saved King David from the evil hand of sin. David was blessed with some good friends in his life.

David responded in a positive manner to this truthful rebuke and was forgiven. Nathan did not know how the king would respond and we do not know how others will respond either. Our duty is to stand for the truth regardless of the response we may get from others. God may call us to speak to someone and we should never shy away from it.

I want to offer a warning here. Let us never become the type of person who only looks for the faults in others without recognizing their positives. If one or the other always sticks out, then our discernment may need some spiritual adjusting. I have found over the years that acknowledging someone’s positive accomplishments and growth first will help them accept that, although they have overcome many things there is still things that need to be done in our character development as Christians. It will also help in their motivation to tackle the next goal.

I pray that the Lord will give us the wisdom and discernment to be a true friend to others. That He will enable us to hear the truth about ourselves and respond in a willing and godly manner. Lord let us cherish the truth and those who speak like You do. Thank You Jesus for being our friend and may we live up to the example You have left us. Let’s cherish our true friends, Amen.

*In His Service  
Pastor Pete*

## **The Real Reason for Christmas**

It’s that time of year again. December has come with all the hustle and bustle and commercialism. But what is the real meaning of Christmas? Is it the gifts under the tree, the lights in the windows, the cards in the mail, Turkey

dinner with family and friends, snow in the yard, stockings hanging in the living room and shouts of “Merry Christmas” to those who pass us in the streets? Is this really Christmas?

For many people Christmas is a time of sorrow. They don't have the extra money to buy presents for their children, family and friends. Many are saddened at Christmas when they think of their loved ones who will not be able to come home for various reasons. I too am one of these.

Yet, Christmas can be a season of great joy. It's a time of God showing His great love for us. Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. God sent His only begotten Son into the world to be born to save sinners (1 Timothy 1:5). His birth brought great joy to the world. Shepherds, wise men and angels all shared in the excitement knowing this was no ordinary baby. The prophets had told of His coming hundreds of years before (Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9:6).

*“So, Joseph also went up from the town of Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you; You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly hosts appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Lets go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” So, they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.” Luke 2:4-19*

Why did He come? Why did God send His Son to this sinful and cruel world? He sent His Son Jesus to bring salvation, love and hope to all of us. Without Jesus, we would all die in our sins. Jesus was born so that one day the price could be paid for the things that we have done wrong. The bible says that all have sinned and fallen short of God's glory (Romans 3:23). We are all born with a sin nature and do things that do not please God. Through the fall of Adam, we have all inherited that sin nature (Romans 5:12). We need to have that removed. The only way is through Jesus. Jesus was born so He could die on the cross for ALL our sins.

So, look at Christmas in a new way this year. This is the time to invite Jesus into your heart. You will have a “Merry Christmas”. Christmas can be a time of restoration, healing and renewed strength. May God bless you and fill you with His love, joy and peace in knowing that truly “*Jesus* is the Reason for the Season”

*In His Love and Service,*

*Brother Gabriel*

Ex-lifer who Jesus set free

## How would you like to bless and encourage someone?

We would love to receive your testimony of how God has impacted your life in the past or present. God does things in our lives not only to bless us, but to be an inspiration to others who may be facing some of the same circumstances you have. Please keep your testimony to one page or less. We look forward to seeing and sharing God working in your life. 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. 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.

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? Send us your praise reports! 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.

#### November - December 2017 Prayer List

Robert G.....Asking for prayer for Richard D's., daughter's safety and that they be able to write him more. Also pray for Linda L. that God comforts her as she battles cancer and she stays surrounded by family & Christian family during this trying time.

Nikolaus O .....Pray that the Lord blesses my mother, Elizabeth J with strength, courage, and His protection. Remember He is near to those with broken hearts and contrite spirits. I also pray for thanksgiving for my brother in Christ, Roger C. I pray he is well, in great spirits and want to thank him for his kind, compassionate words. Stay strong and may God Bless.

Leonard S .....Going for Governors Pardon on Dec 10, 2017 for innocents in all. Praying for favor on my Lawyer and myself in Jesus Christ of Nazareth name. Amen, Luke 1:37

Jason M.....Prayer for him and his family as he endures the challenges of accusations for charges he is states he is innocent of.

- Hazel C.....Prayers for health to improve as she is suffering from diabetes. Prayer for Kryshawn and son to be safe and well in their return to Houston, Texas.
- Tony M.....Prayer as doctors change his medications to find which meds were poisoning his system and causing kidney damage. **Praise Report: They found the doctors over prescribed a deadly medication which he is no longer taking. He is doing much better. Kidney damage is slowly resolving itself.**
- Bobby C .....Prayers for the courts to drop enhancement in his case so he can be released. Prayer to keep himself and family safe and pull the family together and get brother home from Hawaii.
- Brett W .....He found his son dead last month, please pray for him and his family.
- Linda G. ....She is suffering several critical health issues and we request prayer for her healing.
- Richard D .....Three family members have taken their own life. Pray for the surviving family's healing. Please keep him in pray as he transitions to a facility. Also for Richard to be strong, kind and humble as he moves to a new living environment.
- John D. ....Prayer for my Uncle Denny to take care of himself, eat right and get his diabetes under control. Also that I will be able to visit him this January.
- 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. **PRAISE REPORT: Connie is no longer suffering with cancer. The Lord called her home on July 27<sup>th</sup>. I knew Connie since 8<sup>th</sup> grade and we spent the last 6 months together. What a love story. I will be forever grateful and blessed. Thank you, Heavenly Father.**
- Donald A.....Last month we received a letter from Donald with a lot of prayer requests. Evidently God has touched his heart to see the needs of others in a special way. These requests included prayers for health issues, family issues, marriage issues, and most importantly their relationship with God. He also has requested for many of the Christians who are behind the prison walls and the different protestant chapels, their leadership and their congregations. Pray for those who are captive in false religions and/or following false Christ's. In a time like our country, and the world, is currently facing we need prayer more than ever. We cannot pray away God's prophetic plan but we can pray for His people and share the gospel with the lost. *Thank you, Donald, for a sensitive heart.* Please pray for these requests knowing that God knows the specifics of each situation and what is necessary.
- Patty B.....Prayer that a heart procedure she will have done on Sept. the 14<sup>th</sup> will resolve long time issues and that she will no longer suffer from past afflictions. **PRAISE REPORT: She is back home and doing great!**

Gen Prayer .....That God would bring together Christian Marriages in unity.

Jason M.....Prayer for healing of his family and removal of the strife going on between them. Also pray for a positive resolution to serious legal challenges.

Rachel C.....She has undergone several surgeries on her eye, with the doctor trying to restore her vision. Please pray for her healing and/or a better doctor who will make it right.

Scott F. ....Pray for doctors to come up with a resolution to alleviate disabling pain he is experiencing.

Theresa C .....Asking for healing prayer. She was admitted to the Hospital with what they think was a stroke, but have not been able to confirm the cause.

Linda G .....Prayer for her and her son Robert, and she struggles with life challenging health issues. May the Lord open His arms to bring her to Him gently.

Dave G .....Continued prayer for deliverance through the appeal and to be reunified with my children. They are all grown now. Please pray for their salvation.

T.J. W.....Prayer for him and his wife Julie as they deal with challenges on their home infested with Bats and water damage.

Tony M.....Pray for him that his health will improve as he deals with heart and pacemaker issues.

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

Kenny J. ....Pray for my Aunt Eulene she has cancer in her shoulder bone and lupus.

Kenny J. ....**PRAISE REPORT: My son Jeffrey is doing great, clean and sober for 14 months and living with me.**

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

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.

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 for 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.

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