



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 2014

Issue 0014

"He grew up among us like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground."
(Isaiah 53:2)

The coming of Jesus was like a tender plant in the midst of a parched ground. Parched ground offers little hope of survival; it is dry and too hardened to allow most plants to penetrate its crust. Yet Jesus was prophesied as a tender plant that would break through the hostile soil and overcome the dry and lifeless environment in order to bring life.

When Jesus was born, His people were hardened to God's word. There is no written record of God's having spoken to His people for over four hundred years. The religious leaders of Jesus' day had studied and memorized Scriptures, but the words were lifeless to them. So hostile had they become to the truth that when God's Son came to them, they killed them. Nevertheless, despite the enmity of the people, Jesus brought life to all who believed in Him.

Jesus is capable of bringing life to any person, society, or culture no matter how hardened they have become to the gospel. Even the most calloused sinner will discover that Jesus knows how to penetrate the heart and bring life to where there was only bitterness. The work of Jesus in a person's life may seem fragile at first; but like the mustard seed, it will eventually grow into something strong.

As you pray for someone you care about, don't be discouraged that the person has not responded to Jesus. Just as a tender plant finds a way to grow in a hard and unreceptive environment, so the love of Jesus has the ability to emerge in the life that seems completely unresponsive.

The above was taken from the devotional "Experiencing God Day by Day" by Henry and Richard Blackaby, pg. 355.

I could not get this out of my mind once I compared what is going on in our world today in relation to what it must have been like 2000 years ago when Jesus came. Not only is most of the world hardened against God and its mind seared against the gospel message, it has done its best to distort the truth into entertainment and fantasy that is all too often taken as truth itself. Even the birth and death of Jesus has been turned into celebrations that have little to do with the events themselves.

My prayer for all Christians is that we would seek to find that tender shoot of Christ within ourselves and nurture it to maturity as our only source of life. Maybe, just maybe, we would find ourselves celebrating and giving the only gift that matters, the gospel message that is able to save a soul and change a life forever. It is the only real gift that keeps on giving.

In His service,
Pastor Pete

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BE A BARNABAS (Acts 4:36)

“Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When God restores His captive people, Let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.” Psalm 53:6

All through out the Old Testament the saints of old are seeking after that day when Zion would send the Savior. In 1 Peter 1:10-12 it is mentioned how they longed for this revelation to come, even the angels were anticipating His coming.

“She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21

He is not only the Savior of the world, but also the One who saves us from our sin. If you go back to read the whole chapter of Psalm 53, you will find a destitute description of man stuck in his sin. Yet in contrast, the name Jesus was given to Him, because He saves us from our sin. Once Jesus comes into our lives, we no longer are powerless against sin. Thank God that we now have the power to resist sin!

“For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,” Colossians 1:13

Continue to stay focused this time of year as the traditions of men are set up against the truth revealed to us in the Word of God. We know why all this celebration was started, yet society has branded this time of year to celebrate something completely empty. Why do you think so many get depressed and suicide rates are higher this time of the year? Is it not because they do not know the Savior and refuse to focus on His birth, crucifixion and resurrection? *“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33*

Once again, I say, stay focused on Him who has overcome the world and be of good cheer, you have been transferred into His kingdom. You are now living for something far more glorious than what the world can give you. You are living for His glory!

Be blessed in Him,

Brother Daniel Rodney

God has expanded our ministry over the past year so I felt compelled to share something I wrote for last year's December issue of the newsletter. We received such a great response from this story and I wanted to let it bless those who have not read it before. I hope you enjoy it.

Merry Christmas or Mary's Christmas!

Greetings to my family and friends,

What is the first thing that pops into your mind when you hear someone say, Merry Christmas? What fond memories do you have, or expect to create during this holiday season?

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Can you recollect ringing a doorbell and being welcomed into a warm home that was filled with joy? Or do you think about the knock on the inn's door that creaked open just enough to say, Sorry there's no room for you here?

Does the smell of fresh baked cookies, pies, and honey-baked ham stir up and tantalize your senses? Or do you imagine the smell of sheep, goats, and oxen standing close by?

Do you remember ornate decorations and brightly flashing lights covering the inside and outside of your house, and the homes around you? Or do you envision the cold bare walls of a dimly lit livestock shelter.

Are you reminded of excited children in their pajamas, all tucked into warm beds. Or do you recall a newborn baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying on cold stalks of straw.

There is quite a contrast between Merry Christmas and Mary's Christmas, isn't there?

It seems like every year the store shelves become stocked with Christmas decorations earlier and earlier. Advertisers start hammering away at your senses before our summer clothing gets put up for the winter. It has become a relentless attack on your pocketbook, time, energy, and most importantly, your focus on what the celebration is all about.

"Hark the herald angels sing..." What were they singing about again? Oh yeah, something about a newborn king. Wasn't He born on Black Friday, no no, I think it was Cyber-Monday? "Si - lent night, Ho - ly night...all is calm, all is..." Yeah, who are you trying to kid? Those have to be two different nights, Right? When was the last time you had even one of those?

I'm trying to imagine God watching all this from heaven. Here we are frantically buying, wrapping, and stuffing gifts under a decorated tree. All the while we're forgetting that the greatest "free" gift was unwrapped, and hung on a tree. We buy things to make people happy, God purchased people to make them whole. We buy things and go into debt; God paid the debt so we could be free. I wonder if Jesus is still saying, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

I think things need to change. We don't have to throw the baby out with the bathwater, but maybe it's time to drain the tub and see if the baby is still there! Let's take a little effort this year to set aside all the rhetoric that is the Christmas of today, and reflect on Mary's Christmas. A Christmas far removed from what we know or celebrate. Let's begin to celebrate the birth of our Savior, not once a year in stress and chaos, but everyday of the year in solemn reverence for the greatest gift only God could give.

One last thought.

On this Christmas I can't help but think about those who have, for whatever reason, found themselves locked up in prisons and jails for many years. Yes, they may have broken the law

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and are receiving the penalty for their sin against society and God. And yes, part of the penalty is being separated from family, friends, and the freedoms they had so lightly regarded. But the paradox of the situation just might be that they are in a better place than most of us are at this Christmas.

Before you color me crazy, or think that I have lost my mind, let me explain. You see, those who have spent many years in these places have lived without all the glitter, glamour, and gluttony of Christmas as it's celebrated today. The first couple of years were hard as the memories lingered from past Christmas' spent at home with family and friends. Then the memories began fading away. Christmas cards and letters became less frequent. Phone calls were harder to make, and sometimes not even accepted. Christmas as they knew it no longer existed.

These men and women are far removed from the world's idea of Christmas. The truth is that they may be closer to Mary's Christmas than some of us have ever been. There are no decorations hanging around, no laughter or joy filling their bare cells or dorms. The air isn't swimming with the smell of fresh baked goods, nor are their tables overflowing with delicious food. No, they are like Mary and Joseph, alone, far from home, family, and friends.

Their blessing is this. They are not alone; they have their Savior there with them. Everything that has hidden the meaning of Christmas from the world has been removed from their lives. The bathwater has been drained and baby Jesus is there! They have the best gift of all, One that fits perfectly into their hearts. A gift that can't be lost, but One that came to save the lost. A gift that won't be returned, but will one day return.

As you celebrate Christmas this year please take a few moments to pray for the men and women in jails and prisons. Pray for their families too. Thank God that He has spared you this cup in your life. Lastly, trust and believe this; that they are praying for you, that you have a Mary Christmas this year. How do I know this? I was there my friend.

God bless you all this year with the bare-bones reality of what Christmas is about.

Your friend and brother in Christ,

Pastor Pete

In His service

Have a Mary Christmas

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Our Prayer Requests for God's Children

Calvary Church, Santa Ana

Kevin S..... Is in Wasco, pray for his safety and salvation.

Kathy..... Please pray for my sister Patty that she will receive salvation.

Bobby C..... He needs prayer for his addiction issues.

David & Jeannie M.

Missionaries

to Kenya Back on leave pray for housing. Son to attend Moody Bible College, needs prayer. It is hard to leave Africa after 25 years. Pray for Jeannie's mom who is now in hospice care.

ANSWERED PRAYER, SHE IS DOING MUCH BETTER NOW. FOUND HOUSING IN OREGON

Chet..... Has throat cancer and will be undergoing treatments. Still recovering, but not singing in the choir yet.

Ralph..... Recovering from a coma.

ANSWERED PRAYER, DOING MUCH BETTER, OUT OF HOSPITAL.

Pat M..... Had serious back surgery and is doing great back at church. (Praise report) Almost back to normal.

Chip C..... Needs prayer for a back injury will be seeing a doctor soon.

HE IS FULLY RECOVERED

Joanna..... Went through 12 hour surgery for cancer and needs prayer for recovery. **WENT HOME TO BE WITH THE LORD AT THE FIRST OF THE MONTH. PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES HEALING.**

Pat P. Having a heart valve replaced. Please pray for her and her family.

90% RECOVERED BACK IN CLASS.

Trent B..... Just completed OCS and started Ranger School.

Bill B. In hospice care, pray for him and his wife and two adult children.

Liberty Church, Moreno Valley

Baby Mary She is just about six months old and has severe heart problems and needs a transplant.

The Church..... Pray that God would continue meeting their financial needs in the coming year. Also the church is starting a recovery ministry to help those individuals who deal with addiction issues in their lives and the lives of their loved ones. Pray that our youth would have a greater impact on their peers.

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Harvest Valley Church, Santa Ynez

Congregation..... Pray that God will continue to bless and provide for their needs as they have reached out to so many. They are a real small church that has sent in thousands of life changing Bibles to men in prison. (I personally experienced God working through these gifts.)

Mary & Bill..... Pray that Mary would continue to be the blessing she is to so many people and that God would bless her according to her sacrifice. Pray for health and good times for her and her family.

California

Victor A. Pray that God would open opportunities for him to begin teaching and preaching again. Pray as he leads a recovery ministry in the church.

Faye A. That God would bless and guide her in her musical ministry work.

John B..... Needs prayer for favor with the court system and be vindicated for wrongful conviction.

Steve L..... Praying for wisdom and guidance in fulfilling the ministry God has given him. Looking for another home for sober living.

Eddie S. Pray for continued reconciliation with family members. Needs a good job.

Joanne R. Pray that God would replace her grief and sorrow with the peace and joy that surpasses all understanding. That God would bless her in all she does.

Christine B..... Pray for her as she is fighting cancer, since insurance changes, she is having problems getting coverage for her treatments.

Daniel R..... That his boss would be saved by faith in Jesus and the business would flourish. Praying for a home church to fellowship in. For the salvation of his Dad and brothers. Have more patience with the lost that curse God and Jesus. Keep his eyes fixed on the cross daily.

Tom C..... That God would bless him with a more fruitful job so he could be a blessing to others.

Pete C. Prayer for God's will in his life as he steps into the next phase of his life.

John Parish..... In Needles, California needs prayer for his health. That he would contact his friend Winifred W. soon.

Florida

Scott F Pray for resolution to his health issues and the safety of his children who are serving in the armed forces.

Minnesota

TJ & Julie W..... Pray for God's wisdom in conducting the marriage classes. That they would survive another winter in Minnesota.

North Carolina

David's family ... Please pray for them as they grieve the loss of their son and pray that God will fill the tremendous void in their lives that is left from his passing on. Pray that God would bring joy back into their lives soon.

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North Dakota

Tyler Please pray for Tyler as he seeks direction for his career aspirations. That he would continue doing well in college and in his relationship with the Lord.

Washington State

Stephanie We are praying that the Lord will convict and correct her. She is traveling down the wrong path and has a lot of people who care for her.

Todd S. Pray that God will bring the right lady into his life to be his soul mate. Prayer for his new art business.

Wes & Ashley B. Prayer for strength as they work on becoming a new family. Wisdom is raising the children.

Wisconsin

Rick & Beth This Christian couple need your prayers desperately as they face unthinkable circumstances in their lives.

Mona & Willie ... Pray for Willie as he gets ready to be with the Lord, and Mona as she deals with this loss.

Guatemala.

Benjamin A..... Praying to get Spanish Bibles for prisoners in Guatemala. Pray for the new, larger sanctuary being built around the old one since there isn't enough room for all who are coming to the services.

Kenya

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

Ministries

The Lord's Mountain

Movers Pray for continued direction from God in where He wants the ministry to go and do. Also, for His guidance in obtaining the 501(c) 3 status for tax purposes.

ANSWERED PRAYER: WE HAVE BEEN GRANTED OUR FEDERAL TAX EXEMPT STATUS!

Acts

Foundation..... Praying for continued support for their prison ministry AS THEY SEND Bibles into the prisons.

Lost and Found

By Jesus Pray that the Lord would bless and increase their ministry. Pray for God to meet their financial needs this coming year.

Saving Grace

Homes..... God is bringing opportunities for expansion. Pray for His wisdom and discernment in every decision they face. Pray for their patience in God's timing.

Brothers in Chino

Facility A..... That God would continue to honor and direct their efforts in putting His church in order. Prayer for the chaplain, New Facility Captain, Prayer Team, Brown Card Volunteers, all chapel programs.

PARTIALLY ANSWERED: COMPLETED GUIDELINES AND ESTABLISHED SOUND LEADERSHIP

Tom H. He wants prayer for greater understanding and knowledge in the word of God. That God will also guide him as he shares God's word with others. Ex-wife (DeeDee is fighting cancer), Daughter (Megan) is having a baby girl soon, and his son (Joshua) is in fire fighters school.

PARTIALLY ANSWERED: DEEDEE IS CANCER FREE! TOM HAS A NEW GRANDBABY GIRL!

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Larry K. Pray that he will be guided by the Holy Spirit as he helps to lead the church back under the will of God.

Bob G. Pray that God continues to restore family and friends back into his life.

Brothers in Tehachapi

Gabriel S. God's will for his family. Pray for his wife who has a cancerous lump in her breast. His sister and her husband need employment and housing. His older brother who has liver disease. Pray for his son who is facing serious legal issues. Pray for his upcoming board date, Dec. 19th.

Kenny J. Praying that the door for communication with his children will be opened up. Also that his son Jeff will be delivered from his addiction issues. Kenny needs a place to live upon his release.

PARTIALLY ANSWERED: HAS A PLACE TO GO UPON RELEASE.

Tim P. Pray for salvation in his family, and restoration with all his family members.

Wallie R. Pray that God will continue to guide him towards a release date.

Brothers in Chowchilla

Johnny L. God would prepare him to get out and further the Lord's kingdom. Pray that God would open his eyes to the truth about His word.

Trinity W. Pray for his family's ministry and the men's home they desire to open in God's will.

Brothers in Desert View

The Fellowship... Pray that the Christian brothers would continue to grow closer to each other and God.

David P. Pray that God will continue to guide him as he shares God's word and help him to be a good example to all the men and staff there.

Greg F. Sheila (his wife) needs prayer for her health and finances. That he and his wife can work some things out between them. That God will continue to use him. For his finances. Finances for Stephen to go to school (Ministry \$2500) Justin's camp fees (\$1000). Son Joshua who is in prison in Arizona and will be getting out in 2017, needs smooth transition. Pray for "The Cure" ministry, that God would have His way with it.

Matthew R. Deepen his relationship with God. Pray for his cousin Johnny and the brothers in Tehachapi. Prayer for Yang's father.

Yeng Y. Pray for his sister who is dealing with cancer, his father's health, and his family's salvation.

ANSWERED PRAYER: YENG'S SISTER IS CANCER FREE AND HIS FATHER IS DOING A LOT BETTER, THANKS FOR YOUR PRAYERS!

Jonathan J. Needs pray for God's will on his court appeal. Also is requesting prayer for his family, friends, and his brother (Sonhai Hackett). Also pray for Cruz to have God in his life. Please pray for God's calling on his life to be apparent.

Brothers in Mule Creek

Sebastian M. Pray that God will continue to grow him in the confidence of the faith that God has given him. Please pray for his son who is in prison in Arizona (their relationship and his salvation), also his three kids (their salvation), and finally for wisdom in dealing with children. Also pray for his patience as he deal with new cell-mate.

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Mike F. Pray that the Holy Spirit would fill him with hope for the present and the future. Let him know that God loves him and wants him to enjoy life as it is.

Brothers in R.J. Donovan

Gabriel..... Pray for chapel services to run smoother and for the Kairos Program.

Robert Mc..... Pray for healing for Rudy, Betsy and Maria (Valley Fever, Carpal Tunnel).

James For the program on the yard to change for the better.

Matlock..... Pray for a closer relationship with his son.

Joe S. 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 For his health to improve and to get instruments on this yard.

Tom S. Pray to give him time with his wife.

Brothers in Corcoran

David G. Please pray for God's protection and provision for his kids; Emily, Natalie, and James, and their mom, Eileen. For their salvation, spiritual and physical needs. Pray for his ministry – that it would be fruitful, and that God would be glorified. Please pray for ex-wife's health, well-being and salvation.

Chains for Christ

Ministries Is a powerful ministry God is using to bring the truth to those who are seeking it. Please pray that God will create a seeking heart in many men that they may know and live out God's truth.