

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17

Mother's Day Edition

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Women Empowering Women

"This goes out to all the Ladies in TCF"

The strongest actions for a woman is to love
herself,
Be herself,

And shine among those who
Never believed she could.

Be the woman who overcomes obstacles
By tackling them in faith
Instead of tip-toeing around them in fear.

FAITH OVER FEAR!

We wish you a happy, healthy, safe and
blessed Mother's Day!

Things Momma Said While Raising Me?

- "Don't make me come over there."
- "Because I said so."
- "If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all."
- "If you don't stop crying, I will give you something to cry for."
- "Don't make me turn this car around!"
- "Don't forget to say please and thank you."
- "Eat your veggies and you'll grow up to be big and strong!"
- "One day you will thank me."
- "Do you want a little cheese with that whine?"
- "I am the parent and you are the kid."
- "Let's try to not eat off the floor."
- "Close the door and quit letting all my air out."
- "If all your friends jumped off a bridge, would you?"
- "I am going to count to three and then you better be in your bed."
- "God gave you a brain, use it."
- "I love you."



Daniel part 2 BY PASTOR MIKE HERNANDEZ, CHURCH OF THE HARVEST

Last month, we examined Daniel's beginning and how he had amazing parents that prepared him for his life in captivity. This month, we are going to look at his life and the keys to his longevity as an influencer in a foreign land. Daniel is truly one the great men of the Bible and we can learn so much from his life!

We don't know the exact year of Daniel's birth, but we know that he was taken into captivity in the year 605 BC. This was the year King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon attacked Jerusalem and took the princes into captivity. Most scholars believe that Daniel was a teenager when we was taken captive so we will say he was about 15 years old and guess his birth year to be around 620 BC.

What is so amazing about Daniel is that even though he was a foreigner, he served four different kings and two different nations. King Belshazzar became king of Babylon in 554 BC. King Darius the Mede conquered Babylon in 539 BC. Cyrus is king of Persia and is also given credit for conquering Babylon as the Medes were part of the Persian Empire. Daniel served all four of these kings.

How does a foreigner not only survive four different reigns, but becomes an influencer in these regimes? Not only did Daniel have to learn a different culture and customs, he had to serve a king that worshipped other gods. It is amazing that Daniel walked this out. As we examine his most famous story, Daniel and the Lion's Den, we will examine three keys to his ability to stay relevant for so long.

Then this Daniel became distinguished above all the other high officials and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him. And the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. – Daniel 6:3

King Darius is the king who planned to put Daniel over the whole kingdom. The year is around 539/538 BC so if Daniel was born around 620 BC, he would be a little over 80 years old. Daniel was still going strong at 80! And he distinguished himself above the other high officials. Of course, this didn't make him popular with the other officials.

Then the high officials and the satraps sought to find a ground for complaint against Daniel with regard to the kingdom, but they could find no ground for complaint or any fault, because he was faithful, and no error or fault was found in him. – Daniel 6:4

This is the first key to Daniel's ability to be an influencer – he was faithful! He did his job flawlessly and he didn't make any mistakes. He was thorough, he never took any shortcuts. I'm guessing he worked long hours and acted in wisdom in all his decisions. He was so good at what he did that they could not find any error in him. The whole group of officials went on a search to find grounds against Daniel and could not find anything to accuse him. That is mind boggling! These are powerful men who probably lied, cheated and killed to get to their positions of power and yet couldn't find a way to take down Daniel.

Daniel part 2 Cont. BY PASTOR MIKE HERNANDEZ, CHURCH OF THE HARVEST

They knew that the only way they were going to trap Daniel was to make him choose between breaking the law of the Medes and Persians and breaking the law of his God. They knew Daniel would not break the law of his God so they approached King Darius and suggested a new law be put in place that for the next 30 days, anybody who prays to any god or man besides King Darius be put to death. King Darius signed the decree (Daniel 6:5-9).

When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously. – Daniel 6:10

This leads us to the second key to Daniel's success...he was a man who connected with God every day. Prayer was part of his daily routine. He prayed three times a day and gave thanks to God. He faced Jerusalem, which I believe was Daniel trying to connect to his heritage. We do not need to face Jerusalem today, but for Daniel, that was important.

For us to be successful, we need to connect with God daily. Prayer and reading the Scriptures is the main way we can connect with God every day. Daniel didn't have the Bible to read so he just prayed. For us, we have the benefit of Scriptures (if you need a Bible, please reach out to GROW Ministries and they will do everything in their power to get a Bible into your hands). Connecting to God every day gives us the best chance for success.

Back to the story, the group of officials found Daniel praying to his God and turned him in to be put to death. At this point, King Darius knew he was tricked into signing the law and did everything in his power to save Daniel. However, the law of the Medes and Persians could not be changed.

Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. The king declared to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!" – Daniel 6:16.

This brings us to our final key. Daniel lived in submission to human authority. Daniel didn't try to save his life. He believed that if the price for not breaking God's law was death, then it is better to die than to break God's law. Daniel walked in submission to the governing law. I believe this humble attitude brought him great favor with those in authority. Remember, the governing laws of those days were the laws of the Babylonians, Medes and Persians. They were not the law of Israel. Daniel found a way to submit without compromising God's law. This is something we need to learn as well.

Daniel has so much to teach us. Three keys for his success were being faithful, staying connected to God, and living under authority. If we will walk in these three keys, we will also find success wherever God takes us.

Remove the Leaven BY BEVERLY BROWN, GMI VOLUNTEER WRITER

There are so many valuable lessons in the Bible. Here is an example.

The Israelites were slaves in Egypt. The Lord planned on bringing them out to a better land—a better life.

Moses was to be their deliverer. Pharaoh did not want to let the Israelites leave. Because of Pharaoh's hardened heart, the Lord sent many plagues even the last plague which was that the first born of everyone and everything would die.

Still Pharaoh would not listen.

The Lord did not plan on any of the first born of the Israelites to die. He told them exactly what they needed to do. This is when the Passover was instituted.

Several guidelines were to be followed. One was they were not to eat any leavened bread for seven days. They were even to remove any leaven from their households on the first day, thus removing the temptation to eat it.

Here is my point in telling you all of this: In the kindness and wisdom of the Lord, He knew that if there was any leaven in the household, the temptation to make and eat leavened bread would be great—almost impossible to resist. That is why he told them to remove the leaven from their homes on the first day.

We need to do the same thing. If there is something in our life that tempts us to do wrong, we need to remove it.

It could be anything from removing something we know we should not eat to any number of other things that might cause you to do wrong.

Your temptation might be in something you can't really get rid of, like a television. If this is the case, you will need to have the self-control to turn the channel—or turn it off.

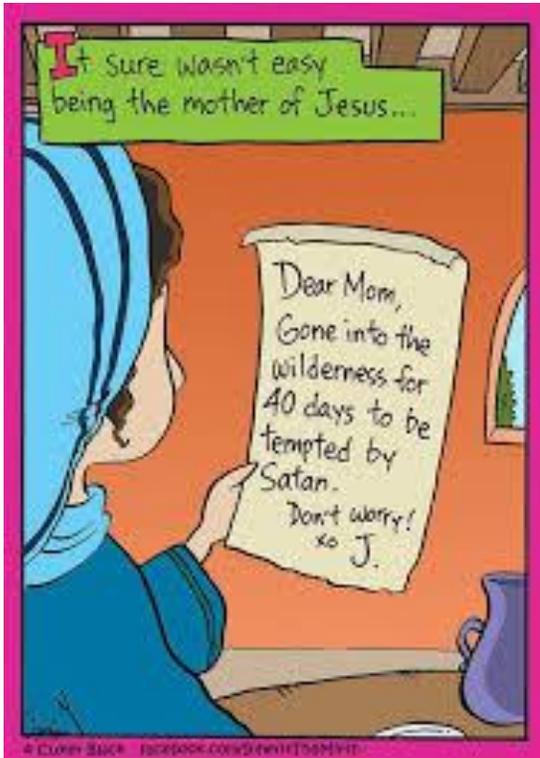
If there is a person with whom you are tempted to do things you should not, avoid that person. If you cannot completely avoid the person, limit your interaction with them. This might mean not going to lunch or dinner or talking to them needlessly. It may mean building new relationships.

Maybe you feel it is something that has too big a hold on you. Get counseling if you need to or perhaps an accountability partner. Remember, the Bible says in Philippians 4:13 that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you.

There is an old song that says, "Sin will take you farther than you want to go, slowly but wholly taking control." This is so true. No one ever plans on becoming ensnared in a harmful habit, relationship, or lifestyle.

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Things that make you go Hmmmmmm and Giggle...



Daughter: Mom, what is it like to have the greatest daughter in the world?
 Mom: I don't know dear, you'd have to ask Grandma.

Mothers with teenagers know why animals eat their young.

A: I have the perfect son.

B: Does he smoke?

A: No, he doesn't.

B: Does he drink whiskey?

A: No, he doesn't.

B: Does he ever come home late?

A: No, he doesn't.

B: I guess you really do have the perfect son. How old is he?

A: He will be six months old next Wednesday.

Mother to son: I'm warning you. If you fall out of that tree and break both your legs, don't come running to me!

Elephant: Why do mother kangaroos hate rainy days?

Hippo: I give up.

Elephant: Because their kids have to play inside!

Q: Why did the baby strawberry cry?

A: Because his mom was in a jam!



A Letter from Mom BY TARI CANNON, GMI GUEST WRITER

(A Mother's Day letter from us to you)

Hello Son,



I was sitting here reminiscing about you. My mind was pondering about where you are, what you are doing and who you have become. I remember my dreams for your future. Watching you grow, laughing at the little quirks that were you. Son, this is not what I desired for you, for us. I sit and think about you; your smile, how it lights up my heart. When I would see you and get the hug that only you give. I miss you son.

But in my times of missing you, I wonder about the man you have become. I know the environment you are now in, hinders your movement and the activities you can participate in. I get it, but you chose the man you are. How's your heart? The part that makes you totally unique, the part you, yourself may have forgotten about. Simply because of where you are, your environment...that does not define you. Whatever happened to your dreams? Son, is your vision dead? So today, I want to remind you of who you ARE. Don't just read the words, LISTEN to your heart.

Remember the ideas you had? You were so bright in ways that only you could see things differently, but it made sense to you. You were adventurous, running head on to tackle anything. You were full of laughter, full of hope, you were full of LIFE. As you grew, you began to change. You were not so open to talk, you smiled and joked but the life was not in the laughter. You became hidden from me. I don't know what or when it happened, but my son became hurt and angry. I honestly don't know if I was the cause of the pain you hid. I saw you struggling. I saw you fighting to make a place for the pain to be pushed down. I saw it and I couldn't do a thing about it.

So here and now, I apologize. I apologize for the times I didn't listen. When I was too busy with my life to pay attention to yours, forgive me. I apologize for the words; the words I spoke in anger; the words I spoke with the intention to hurt. Forgive me for the words I spoke to you because of the frustration I felt, because I thought "I was the momma", and I should have known. I should have seen, I should have done more, forgive me. I apologize for everything I was responsible for that helped push you away. For the times I walked away because of the unseen pain you caused me and I would not share. For every mistake I made because you were my first child and I didn't know better. Please forgive me.

But this Mother's Day, I want to give you a gift. My gift is how I see you in my dreams, in my heart. I see a strong man. I see a man that can handle adverse situations. I see a man striving to repair the broken bridges of the past. I see a man that's starting to be honest about the effects of his actions. Yes, there are those you think have not forgiven you, but don't focus on them. Focus on your heart because you can't truly forgive others if you haven't forgiven yourself. The only person to teach us how to forgive is the One that forgave the most, Jesus Christ. Learn of Him. He is the Repairer of the Breach. He is the Giver of Hope.

I love you, Mom

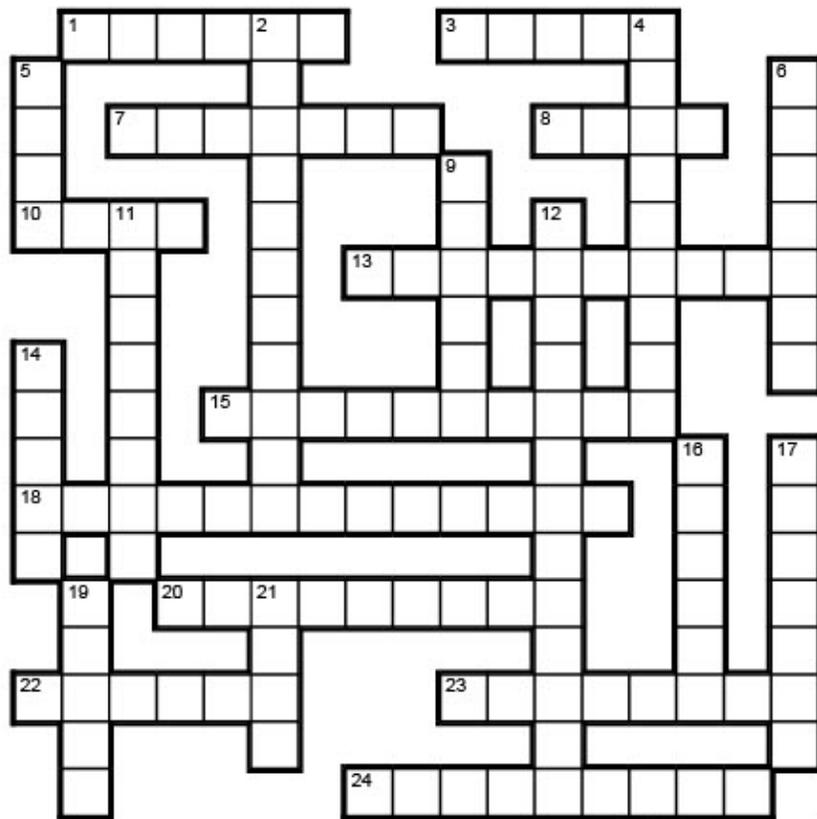
THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Across

- 1 Not to be put under a bushel. (6)
- 3 Let yours shine before men! (5)
- 7 Moth and rust will do this to your earthly store. (7)
- 8 If you do this, you will find. (4)
- 10 These should not be done in view of men. (4)
- 13 The eight sayings by Christ at the beginning of his sermon. (10)
- 15 They sound trumpets in the streets when they are being charitable. (10)
- 18 The peacemakers will be called this. (8,2,3)
- 20 They were with Jesus when he gave the sermon. (9)
- 22 You can't serve God and this. (6)
- 23 Fellow believers. (8)
- 24 The earth is this to God. (9)

Down

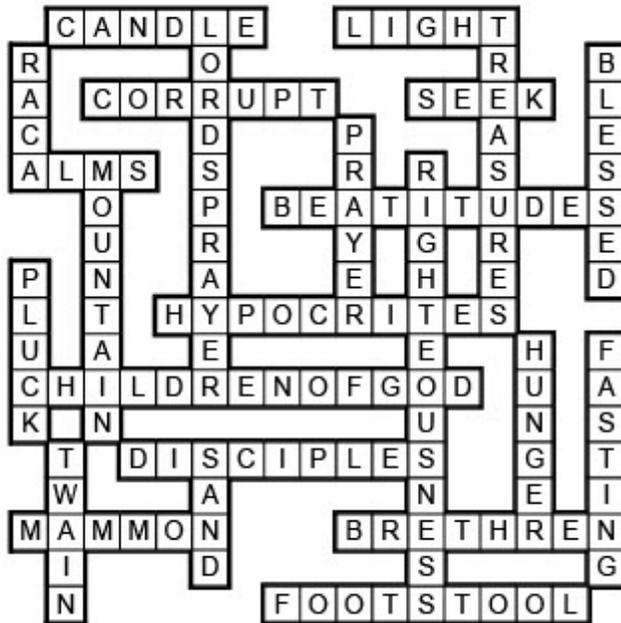
- 2 Jesus gave this as example of how to communicate with God. (5,6)



BiblePuzzles.org.uk

- 4 Don't lay these upon the earth. (9)
- 5 Whoever says this to his brother shall be in danger of the council. (4)
- 6 Those who are given happiness and good fortune. (7)
- 9 When engaging in this, you should enter into your closet and shut the door. (6)
- 11 Where the sermon was given. (8)
- 12 You should search for this first, before worrying about food and clothing. (13)
- 14 What you should do to your eye if it offends. (5)
- 16 They which do this shall be filled. (6)
- 17 The hypocrites disfigured their faces while doing this. (7)
- 19 If you are forced to go a mile with someone, this is how far you should go. (5)
- 21 The foolish man built his house on this. (4)

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT - SOLUTION



Across: 1 Candle, 3 Light, 7 Corrupt, 8 Seek, 10 Alms, 13 Beatitudes, 15 Hypocrites, 18 Children of God, 20 Disciples, 22 Mammon, 23 Brethren, 24 Footstool.

Down: 2 Lord's prayer, 4 Treasures, 5 Raca, 6 Blessed, 9 Prayer, 11 Mountain, 12 Righteousness, 14 Pluck, 16 Hunger, 17 Fasting, 19 Twain, 21 Sand.

From all the Staff and Volunteers at Growth Ministries, we want to wish all the Mothers at Topeka Correctional Facility a very Happy Mother's Day. We pray that your motherly love radiates no matter where you are.



From the Yard! Below is an Inspirational devotional from one of your Brothers still incarcerated.

Be Not of This World by Brian B. - El Dorado

Jesus tells us to be in the world but not of the world throughout John 17. The entire chapter reads like an oxymoron of impossibility. How can we be an ambassador for Him when we live in a world that is vastly becoming more and more corrupt and inflicted with immorality? The answer is found in one of the more well known verses in the bible...

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God."(Romans12:2)

The adage is true: What we consume determines our performance. This applies not only to our physical bodies but more importantly is what we feed our minds. A popular Christian writer shares two spiritual laws that support this and are spiritually necessary for us to implement in our Christian walk.

(1)**Law of Cognition.** What we think about produces what we feel which has much to do with how we act. (Proverbs 23:7) Our behaviors dictate how we effectively treat and interact with others. Renewing our minds begins with self-reflections because in the world there is no awareness of sin, only immunity. To overcome we must know who we are in Christ. This defines who we are.

(2)**Law of Exposure.** Think about how you are connecting with the world around you. Whatever you look at with your eyes, touch with your hands, taste with your mouth, smell with your nose, and listen to with your ears, shapes who we are profoundly (1John 2:15-17) It's not surprising that crime and cruelty, lust and greed, is on the rise. We should not become like the world, succumbing to the evil influences that lures us away from God. We must be aware of how we are using our five senses on a moment-to-moment basis in service to God. (Romans 12:1)

If you are incarcerated, like myself, then based on these two laws, it is also not surprising, you are sitting in a prison. But Jesus says, **"...be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33b)**

To overcome, and to be in the world and not be of the world, is to infuse your life with Gods perspective... His Word! This changes your trajectory, purpose and meaning in glorifying Him.

His Grace is sufficient! Praises to Him,

BL

BRIAN LINDBERG

Words to Grow By

LINDA LEWIS, GMI DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

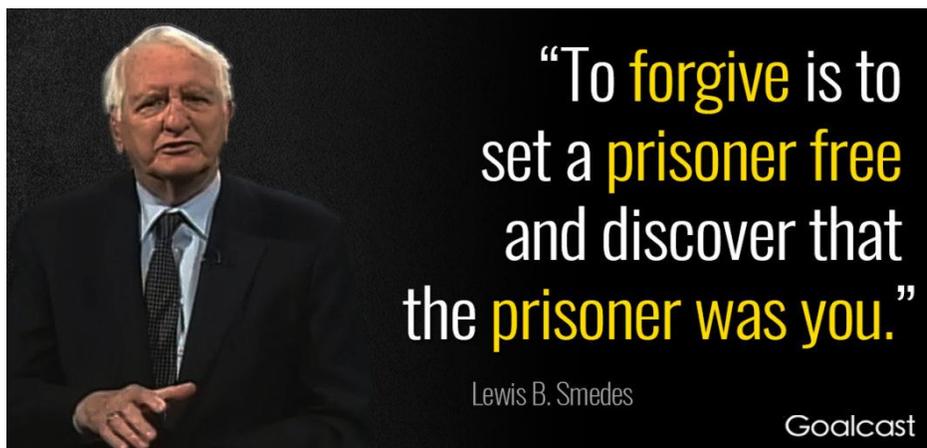
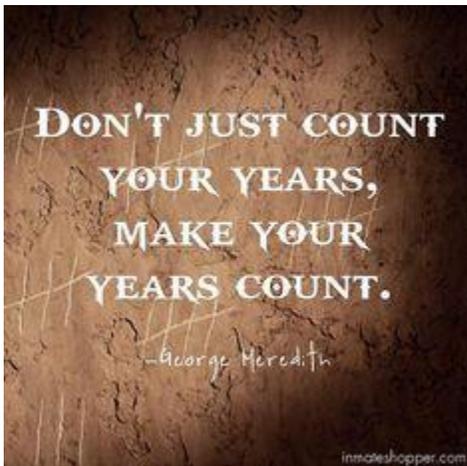
Faith Over Fear

During this stressful time in our lives, it's important that we hold on to our faith...**Faith Over Fear!**

It's important to remember that fear does not come from God and is simply **F**alse **E**vidence **A**ppearing **R**ead. Instead we must remember that God is alive and well and He's yet large and in charge. He reminds us of this in *Isaiah 41:13*; For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, DO NOT FEAR, I will help you. This means that God's got us no matter what because He's not a man that he should lie.

So my brothers and sisters, we urge you to look to the hills from which cometh your help and to walk on by faith...**Faith Over Fear!** *Psalms 121*

Words Worth Quoting



Closing Words LONNIE JOHNSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GROWTH MINISTRIES INC

Shhhhhh.... Listen!

The Coronavirus has people in a frenzy. Many in the Christian community have declared that God has brought on this disease as a form of punishment for mankind's sins. Many Christians are paralyzed by fear. As soon as the virus took a strong hold people forgot God was in control and gave all power to the virus saying this was the end times. Then there are those who don't know God who are saying things like "if there was a God how could He allow innocent people to die at the hands of this disease?"

My goal is not to attempt all those questions but to remind you to focus on God and listen to what He (not everyone else) is saying to you. God is still in control. He didn't wake up one morning or come out of the restroom and suddenly realize a virus was running rampant on the earth. He knows everything that has, everything that is, and everything that will happen. Mankind has always been in control of our decisions and has always had to endure the consequences of our actions and decisions since Adam and Eve.

God loves us. He wants what's best for us. He designed us to succeed. All he wants is our obedience and to be in a covenant relationship with us. Despite what is going on, we can still have that. Regardless of how many people are affected, **you** can walk in peace with this.

Take this time to listen to what God is saying to **you**. Don't allow the media, nay-sayers, scared Christians, and those jumping to unfounded prophetic conclusions, to cloud your mind. Since life has slowed down, we have time to pray, read, and meditate. Listen to your heart. God has not given us a spirit of fear...2 Timothy 1:7.

Be encouraged by this Word from the Lord: **2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NLT)**

16 That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. 17 For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! 18 So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

Write Us



We would love to hear from you. If you have a testimony, a prayer request or a question about your walk with the Lord, send us a letter. We would love to pray or rejoice with you. Maybe you are a writer and you have a spiritual word of encouragement for the readers of our newsletter. We would love to review your article to see if we can use it in our newsletter. We also like to share poems from you more artistic sisters and brothers.

What must I do to be saved?

If you've never accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior, or if you've turned away from Him for a life of unrighteousness, then take a moment and say this prayer:

“Lord, I confess that I am a sinner and ask for your forgiveness. I believe that your son Jesus died on the cross for my sins and was resurrected with all power. I invite Jesus to be the Lord of my life and your Holy Spirit to come into my heart to guide me for the rest of my days. Amen.”



Romans 10:9 says that if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

If this is you, please write Growth Ministries and we will gladly help you start your new life in Christ.

Growth Ministries, Inc., Attn: Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 4375, Olathe, KS 66063

A blue ribbon-style banner with the text '*SPECIAL BONUS*' in white, bold, uppercase letters.

Book of Testimonies

We want to share a special section with you this month highlighting testimonies from some of our volunteers. We hope this will help encourage you in your faith.

God is a Deliverer! - By: Marilyn Chappell

God can deliver whatever has a stronghold over you and your family.

As I grew up, I watched my father drink alcohol by himself and most times with his friends. As I grew older, I didn't realize that he had an alcohol problem. What I thought was recreational, and something he could control, I later learned was a disease that he could not control, better yet it controlled him.

How did I learn about alcoholism being a disease? I married a man who had the same stronghold over his life that my father did. After our first year of marriage, I had the opportunity to take a job in Georgia, and my husband supported the move agreeing that it would be easy for him to find a job in his line of work as he is an electrician. We did not expect this one decision to be a decision that would change the trajectory of our lives forever. The plans that we had for moving to Georgia was totally different from what God had planned for us. God's purpose prevailed.

We lived in Georgia for one year and during that whole time, my husband could not find a job. You can imagine the stress level we had during this time as we were not only paying a mortgage in Missouri (rented out our home), but we were renting out the house we lived in Georgia. During that time was too much unproductive time for my husband as he already was battling with an addiction. It was also too much time for me to continue to engage in drinking just to communicate as that became our past time.

As the days went on, I could tell that my husband was becoming unhappy, irritated, and discouraged, which would lead him to drink more, I found myself beginning to spend more time encouraging him that he would find a job, saying keep trying. As the drinking became heavier, I found myself speaking life into him reminding him that he is a great father, husband, and man, and that he was better than what he was doing to himself. After 3 DUI's he was pulled over and was taken to jail. The worst day became one of our best days in our marriage and for our family. It didn't take long for God to show us that His purpose for sending us to Georgia was to draw us closer to Him.

While my husband was in jail (2 months), he and I became closer to God. We would study the Word of God, over the phone, together as well as on our own. God pruned, cleaned, & delivered us from alcohol. God sent us back to Missouri, gave my husband vision, and now, we own our own business. Today we are 11 years sober. The generational curse has been broken!

God is a Deliverer. If God can do it for us, He can do it for you.

Pain - By: Nate Satterlee

One fun thing about testimonies is that you may notice that God does not act or respond in the way we would often expect him to, nor at the exact time when we would expect. My wife was afflicted for years with an auto-immune disease that, while not life-threatening, left her in a constant state of pain in her muscles throughout her entire body. Some muscles hurt more than others, sometimes the pain was manageable, and other times it flared up to the point that she was unable to focus on anything she needed to do.

Over the years she learned to live with it as best she could, but we were always petitioning to the Lord for healing. We believe that physical health is a promise of the Gospel, so we never quit pursuing it. She ramped up her tenacity during her pregnancy with our fourth child. This pregnancy had more challenges and complications than any other we had ever had, and most times she was on bed rest, in constant pain from the disease and the pregnancy at the same time.

She was also feeling consistent guilt for her inability to be present with her children and family in a way she believed was needed and feared perhaps she never would be. Yet, every day she lifted her fears up to the Lord, believing for her healing, and every week she would join with our pastors in prayer for that healing. She gave birth to a healthy baby girl (who has been the most joyful child we have had yet), and a few weeks later, she got what she was looking for.

At church one morning, she heard in her spirit, a clear word from the Lord. "You are healed." Her spirit rejoiced greatly in this, but there was a problem. The pain was still there. As far as she could tell, she was not healed. A new challenge. Her unchanging circumstance was trying to build doubt in her. Did she actually hear from God? She struggled with this for a couple days. She chose to believe the word she received, but she did not want to believe quietly.

In the face of fear and doubt, she decided to live her life as if the pain in her body was no longer there. She would declare her healing to those around her and would not allow herself to be handicapped by the pain. She made difficult choices in the following weeks to do activities with her children, though her body felt that she couldn't handle it. She did chores that were needed in the house though her mind told her she was not motivated.

After a couple weeks of this, she realized her pain level had never flared up to an intensity that she could not handle. She recounted some things she had been through which, in the past, had always triggered those flare-ups. She was so grateful for this breakthrough that she combined her belief in God's Word with thankfulness for His grace for her to walk this out. A couple weeks after that, she realized there was no pain at all.

God's timing for this miracle was not what we would have wanted. We would have preferred her health to come before she had to go through that last pregnancy. The way the healing came also was not what we would have expected. We tend to think the healing will come with the word. But it is also true that every word of God in our lives will be tested. The deceiver comes, as he has from the beginning, to ask us "Did God really say that?" And often times, what we give our faith to is the reality we will live in. My wife is better equipped now, to carry the Word of God in faith, through any circumstance, than she has ever been her entire life, and that faith would not have grown in her had she received her healing in the way we originally wanted.

It starts with a thought...GOD says, "Go!!!" - By: Anthony J. Butler

It started with a thought. The thoughts multiplied and manifested into faith. Faith, the evidence of things not seen was present in my words and actions "before" things began to manifest. As I reflect, I was born to speak, write, and inspire. In August of 2013, I decided to step out by faith and use my God given gifts to uplift! With the support of my wife, I decided to start The VIP (Violence "I" Prevent) Movement, LLC. We were experiencing rejection on the regular. Multiple bill collectors were blowing up our phones...BUT GOD!!! When we first started the company, only one school was willing to contract our services. I had to substitute teach just to keep food on the table and our utilities on...BUT GOD knows the end from the beginning. He didn't call you or me this far to leave us! So, I kept the faith. More schools and organizations started saying yes and word began to spread that our company made a difference!

To date, we have served more than 380 schools, organizations, churches, and businesses. It started with a thought. The thoughts multiplied and manifested into faith. Our biblically based services effectively address the core underlying reasons for violence. We educate, equip, and empower individuals to take personal responsibility for the violence they can prevent. We offer innovative presentations, motivational speaking, solution based consulting, creative writing workshops, creative assemblies, and more!

When God says go, don't lose hope! Don't allow fear, doubt, offense, hurt, violence, distractions, rejection, negative people, haters, and YOU to stop your dream from becoming a reality! Pursue and capture your dreams one thought at a time, one decision at a time, and one committed action at a time. Don't give up on your dreams!

God Says Go!

God says go.

So that means when I step on the scene right,

I got my green light from the One who gave me life. God says, "go."

So, your man made obstacles can't hold His plans, His purpose, stop His hands from blessing so when you say "no," I laugh and get stronger from this lesson and grow.

God says go.

Why am I waiting for your validation? So, no more hesitating trying to please haters who by their very nature are into hating!

They are trying their best to get me to stay stuck and start debating with the divine plan that was handed to me right in the middle of my doubt and pain.

So, I will stand tall, answering the call from my Lord who charged me to rise from those who try to keep me low...God says, go!"

God is saying to go!

Why are we waiting?

Move - By: Minister Terrance Saunders

After all the noise, in a still small voice, I heard God speak to me. He again said, MOVE... I've got a plan for you, trust me.

I was destined for greatness. I just didn't realize it. God had a purpose for my life, but I didn't understand the call. I remember crying in my wife's lap, being frustrated, because I couldn't explain exactly what was going on inside.

Society, and my job at the time, always told me I wasn't qualified, but God was telling me different. The problem was, I wasn't moving as God had instructed. He was telling me to leave my comfort zone. I wasn't acting in faith. I wanted to see the entire process before I moved. Well, that's not how God operates.

Now watch this - David's people/his family, and society looked at him as only a sheep herder. They overlooked him because of his current position.

You see, my position at that time, had many look at me like, he is just a toilet cleaner, one who folds towels and cleans up behind people, a janitor. Because of my position at that time, they couldn't see me running anything other than mop water. AND maybe I started to believe it myself - BUT GOD!

Many will say or tell you you're not qualified due to your present state or position. David's OWN DAD didn't even see his true potential or understand his son's purpose. In his eyes, he was just an errand boy. But in God's eyes he was a mighty warrior, a leader for the people...HIS chosen king. Remember, because we serve a great God, He can reposition you when others can't see or think less of you!

David knew he was different. He was made for more than grunt work. I knew I was destined for something greater.

I QUIT a great paying job to do as God instructed. God not only gave me MY OWN BUSINESS but has allowed me to help others be successful in this avenue. Not only has he multiplied, but he has sustained me in what is present hardship to others.

God has truly blessed my hand(s). There's definitely no famine in the land because of my faithfulness to Him. And even when things don't look right, I settle my spirit and trust HIM. My experiences and relationship with God have given me a crazy hope for what He'll do for me!

What's your purpose? What did He call you to be? Will you listen? **WILL YOU MOVE?**