

VOICE OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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**SERVING GOD
WITH OUR LIFE**

THE SUPERNATURAL POWER OF A TRANSFORMED MIND
Putting the Will of God on Display
"Revelation's Boundaries"

Norvel Hayes, one of the old faith preachers, said recently in a message, "We can serve God with our heart and not with our lives." That may sound like a simple statement but it isn't at all. The heart is where our feelings and emotions are while our life is the result of the two. Allowing our heart to rule our life can be a lifetime process even for the strongest of Christians. God intended for the merging of our heart's intent and the leading of our life by our heart to be a natural process as simple as blinking or breathing. A good spiritual sermon, a touching song or the tugging of the Holy Spirit can cause us to feel the touch of God and feel the need to go in a certain direction, but fulfilling that desire is what I am speaking of. The giving of one's life to the touch of the heart is what it is all about. Once we make steps in our heart's direction we feel an awesome satisfaction that only God can give. The old expression, "Let go and let God," certainly has lots of merit to it. Isn't it great to go in God's direction?

Pastor George Ferrington

There are two important boundaries that all believers need to know about concerning revelation. First, revelation is for every single believer, not just for some "gifted" minister or special believer. Second, the greater the revelation that a person carries, the greater faith he or she is able to manifest. This second boundary is very important in establishing the "power of God" in ministry. If I believe it's not God's will (desire) to heal everybody, then my revelation limits me every time a person comes to me who is sick. It is imperative that I settle in my heart—it is really God's will to heal people. So, if I shun the revelation that God wants everybody to be healed and whole, I have cut myself off from releasing faith in that area. Pastor Bill Johnson said it this way, "**Revelation enlarges the arena that our faith can function in. Deception shrinks our area of faith.**" He continues by stating, "**If you believe that only the Benny Hinns of the world can pray for the sick and get consistent success, then your faith will operate within the limits of that misconception.**" The truth is, one received revelation of Jesus' word such as Matthew 10 is able to make those words come alive in any believer. Imagine the power of Matthew 10:1 if brought to revelation, "**And Jesus summoned to Him twelve disciples and gave them power and authority over unclean spirits, to drive them out, and to cure all kinds of disease and all kinds of weakness and infirmity.**" There is no doubt that Jesus wants His disciples to expand His kingdom, and He says so in verse 7, "**And as you go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand!**" How do we expand the kingdom? Verse 8 answers that question, "**Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, drive out demons. Freely (without pay) you have received, freely (without charge) give.**" These words tell us as disciples that we are to go out and heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the leper, and cast out devils. Sure we are to expand His kingdom on this earth, but in order to do that we must realize that our lifestyles must be changed. These words of Jesus are trying to make us realize that the lifestyle that He lived and taught is meant to be our lifestyle. It will take the "revelation" of the Word in order for us to be able to change our lifestyle.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Bro. Roger Barton will be presenting a teaching on the Passover this Sunday night, April 20th, at 6:00 in the church auditorium. This will be an indepth study on Bible scriptures and Jewish customs as shared by one that has studied the topic for many years. Come enjoy the blessing!



DEAR CHURCH,

Wow! How awesome our Lord has been in the last few weeks. We have been in Johor Bahru, Malaysia with Catherine and Yeoh. They have been such a blessing to Miss Mary and I. They took turns taking us to all of our services and sometimes they both went. We told them that they were an important part of the ministry our Lord has called us to here

in JB. Many doors were opened for us to go through for ministry this year. We shared the power of God's love and His Word watered with His precious Holy Spirit. Many were touched by the love of God. We saw people set free from bondages, saved, and healed. Praise the Lord!

We preached several services with the Presbyterians at Holy Light Church. They are such a sweet group of people. This is my third year to be with them. All of them, young and old, are so hungry for the Word and the Spirit. They want to eat as much meat as we have time to feed them and for it to be digested with the Water of the Spirit. They never wanted a service to be over and when it was they would follow us to the car. It reminded me of when we first started the prayer group at Christian Fellowship. Gene would teach us for four hours and then we would go to the prayer room for four or more hours. We just could not get enough of the Word and the Spirit. It is so awesome to share what our Father has taught me with others that the Lord puts in my path. Oh how I love Jesus because He first loved me. That love is truly the healing salve that heals the broken heart.

The last week in JB was a very busy one. We had many services and I had personal ministry every night that lasted to 2 AM. By Saturday, your missionary was exhausted. I felt totally drained and we had a service at 3 PM. My flesh did not feel like doing a service. I said, "Lord, I refuse to give in to my flesh because I know it is not about feelings. Take me and use me so that You can be glorified and your children blessed." We left for the service and Miss Mary asked, "What are you going to preach on?" I told her that I did not know, I was empty and trusting the Lord. She replied, "You will be fine." When we got there, they began the praise service. I was worshiping my Father and they sang the song, "The Power of His Love." That is my favorite song and I knew I would be OK. When I stood to go to the pulpit, the anointing fell upon me. I cried off and on while I was preaching and so did everyone else. I preached 45 minutes and was closing when the lady in charge laid a note on my Bible. It said, "Sister Bess, will you please share your heart healing testimony?" I did and His train filled the Temple! Everyone was experiencing the power of His love. Not a dry eye in the place. I truly got the full revelation of when I am weak, then am I strong. All He needs is an empty willing vessel. Glory!!!

Sunday morning, we had 2 services in the Chinese service at Catherine's church. The first one was good but the second one was awesome. The anointing was so strong, I cried again while I preached. The Lord touched many people that day. We left to go to lunch after the service and Catherine received a call. It was a lady from the service who needed to talk to me. I said, "Sure I am about finished with my packing." Catherine told me that she was the fiancée of the young minister who had died on the mission field. The first time we went to Catherine's church was the day he died. He was having lunch after a service and when he stood up from the table, he fell to the floor dead. The pastor said that it was God's will and it was his time to go. I cried that night praying for the fiancée and his family. I remembered how bad I hurt when my first husband got killed and everyone said it was God's will. I thought, how can a God who loves me, kill my husband. The first scripture God made alive to me was John 10:10. The thief comes to kill, steal and destroy.

She arrived at Catherine's house and we sat down to talk. The Lord revealed to me that she was planning to commit suicide. I cried with her and shared with her for 2 hours. She looked up at me with tears flowing from her face, "Sister Bess, this was my last time to go to church. I have already bought the pills to kill myself after church. When you were preaching, I felt the Lord and I knew I had to talk to you. I thought, how can a God Who loves me, kill my future husband while he is doing God's work. We have done nothing wrong. We wanted a blessed marriage. We were doing what the Lord called us to do." I told her, "The thief is the one who came to kill, steal and destroy. He is a liar and wants you to get angry at God. He wants you to kill yourself and then he wins a total victory. Do not let him win. The love of God in your heart can heal you and then be used to help someone else. Do not let him pull you into his ways." She left a different person. I have cried thanking the Lord for saving her life. Our God is an awesome God.

I am now in Australia. We have been here a day. It is beautiful. I will tell you about it later. I love you all very much and I sure miss my church. I will see you in about six weeks. Be blessed abundantly above what you can ask or think.

Your Missionary

Bess Graham

COUNTING LOSS (Continued from Page 3)

that he might be the firstborn among many brethren." As I have said before, we should look to Jesus as the example of how to live our lives. The Father has given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth, in the Father's will. If we will

just discount the flesh and it's desires, and seek to know and serve Him, we will find blessings in our lives that we did not know existed.

When I think about "loss", I think about the scripture in Matthew 16:25-26, "**For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?**" It's time that we look at our value system, for this brief time we are in this earth, and find God's plan for our lives, now and throughout eternity.

Finally, 2008 is a year of opportunity. We are seeing many challenges in our own lives and on a national scale. The world system cannot continue as it currently is going. We who are the enlightened know that God has a plan that is already beginning to affect world events. We also know that He is watching over us and keeping us safe in all our ways. My advise for each of you is to seek God by studying His Word, praying in your secret place, organize your worship and praise such that it honors Him, and live your life as if Jesus is coming today.

May God Richly Bless and Keep You,

Mike Woods

SUBMISSION TO AUTHORITY

I read an interesting article by Pastor Rick Renner this week; I considered putting it in the newsletter, but felt an unction of the Holy Spirit to write this instead.

When Judas betrayed Jesus he called Him Master, which meant esteemed or highly regarded teacher (Mark 14:44, 45). In all the time they had been together, Judas had never accepted Jesus as Lord; if he had called Jesus “Lord” he would have shown his submission to Jesus. If he had submitted to Jesus he would not have betrayed Him.

Judas was more interested in his personal gain (thirty pieces of silver) and his supposed reputation among the Jews. It was all about him and mostly it was a fortress Satan had built in his mind about his perception of his being right, even if it meant being in rebellion against Jesus and His authority.

Judas was determined to see his perceived right plan through, regardless of who it hurt and how many lives he damaged doing it. There is a growing tendency in the universal church to be less formal, less structured, and less respectful; this is because of the rebellion against authority that has swept our nation over the last several decades. This puts those that are not submitting to authority in the same spiritual position as Judas, although their actions are not as serious.

The other eleven disciples called Jesus Lord and Master; in so doing they were submitting to Jesus as their Teacher and as their Lord. **“Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.”** (John 13:13) Jesus did not rebuke them for calling Him Lord. I have a deep appreciation for the way Pentecostals treat their pastors and leaders.

The lack of submission seen in the church today is caused by rebellion; the scripture tells us that rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft. With this comes lack of unity, division and eventually the partial if not total destruction of the ministry of the church if not the demise of the church itself.

The enemy will use any method he can to cause the church to fail at its mission. It is easy for us to see when an outside force is working and we will come together to defeat that work of Satan. It is different when it is a force working internally to cause division. Instead of coming together to work against the force, most churches tend to take sides and cause a division. This is Satan’s primary strategy, divide and conquer.

My brothers and sisters, I encourage all of us to be aware of the work of the enemy. He will use any method he can, and usually the one you least expect, to destroy the ministry of the church. Remember, it is not about us, it is about His ministry and advancing His kingdom.

If you would like to read Rick Renner’s article, it is posted on the church’s web site at www.christianfellowshipwordministries.com under Discussion Board and Rick Renner’s Article.

May the LORD of Truth and Fidelity, the Amen, bless you.

Your servant in submission, Ray Jennings

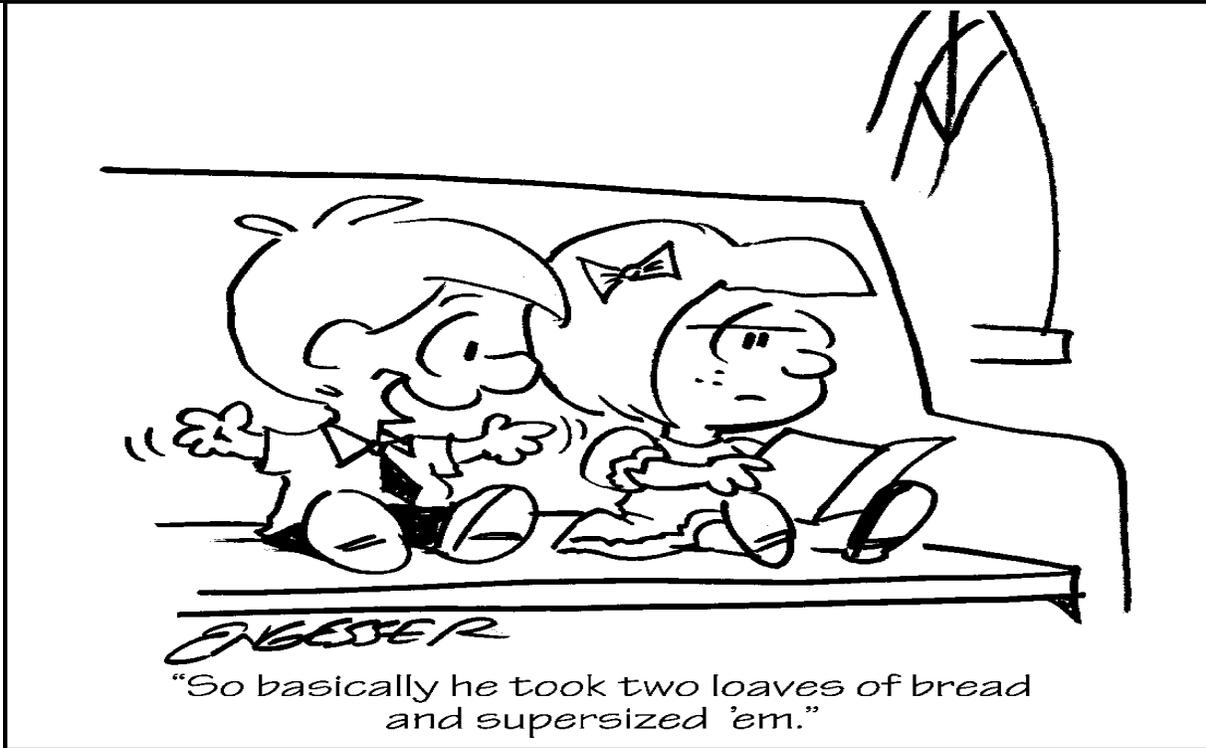
COUNTING LOSS **“But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea, doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord; for whom**

I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but refuse, that I may win Christ. And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith; That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.” (Philippians 3:7-10) Did you notice the use of the word “loss” in that first sentence three times. Paul, the Apostle, who delivered the message of hope to the Gentile world, realized the importance of losing the earthly things in order to gain those things that are eternal. Why would we earthly vessels want to lose the things we hold dear? Could it be because we come to understand that in Christ, loss is eternal gain? As we embark upon each new day, let us gain an understanding of God’s value system, and let it become a vital part of our own financial and physical wealth.

In these verses, we see that Paul is on a journey to find and know Christ in a most intimate way. Not only to see Him in His power, but also in His suffering, death, resurrection and ascension. Ephesians 1:19-20 reminds us, **“And what is the exceeding greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places.”** The same power that raised Christ Jesus from the dead is the same power working in our lives to make us holy, righteous, and Christlike today. Many are discouraged because they think they have to be perfect in order to serve God. They think their little flesh attacks prevent them from being in God’s presence. Rest assured, our Heavenly Father does not expect us to be without sin. His Word tells us that none are perfect, except Jesus. It is His perfection in us that makes us acceptable in the Father’s presence. To live a Christlike life means taking each day as it comes, and using it to find a closer walk with Him, one step at a time.

God’s purpose for each person’s life is this—to make you and I just like Jesus. Romans 8:28-29 tells us, **“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son,**

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**WORSHIP THE
LORD!**