

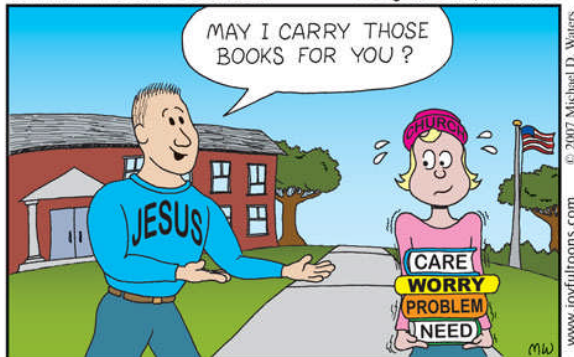


From the Pastor's Desk

Years and seasons come with unique challenges. The moment you overcome a problem it seems like there is another one on the way. Sometimes you may feel like giving up, but I must encourage you to hold on to the promises of God. The Lord has a way that will enable you to succeed if you remain focused on doing the will of God. In this letter I am sharing with you a very important topic. Probably, you may already be aware of it, but I must remind you of it. I would like to tell you of a word that can literally change your life forever. The word is “believe” and the importance of believing in your beliefs... The key words here are “YOUR BELIEFS” for someone else’s beliefs concerning you do not count as much. In reality, what matters the most are the things you truly believe. The things you believe are the things you act upon. Mental thoughts that are not manifested are worthless; religion is full of it.

CARRY YOUR BOOKS?

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



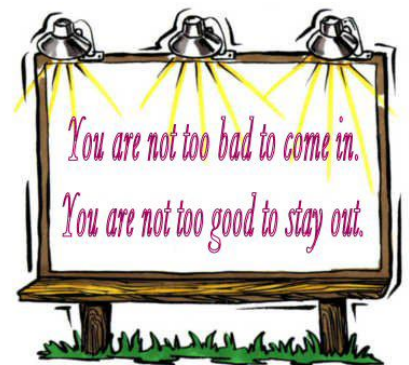
Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.
-1 PETER 5:7 KJV

In this world we live in there are two groups of people, and I thank God that age, education, gender or race has nothing to do with it. A common factor among both groups is that individuals are ruled by their own will; thus, creating division by choices made. Today children at an early age show their will by persistently doing the things they wish to do, and at that age it seems like fear is not part of them. They loudly express their wants and desires. In a similar way, adults also act the same way; expressing their wants and desires through noticeable acts, body language, and everyday use of vocabulary. Can you separate people by their behavior or by the way they react to a circumstance?

We can say that the world, people in general, fall into two groups: the first one is made up of people who are in and the second of those who are out. Another way to see this is people who are part of the church and those who are part of the world; those that are part of God and those who are not. And both kingdoms have their own dominion and rules. The church belongs to the Living God, and the World belongs to the prince of the air, known through the ages of time as satan. Why is it so important to point out these two groups? Why create separation? Friend, if you read your Bible carefully you will soon discover that since the beginning of time separation came to exist in the human race. Initially, this happened when Adam failed to obey God. And since then the element of separation has been among us.



A good question to ask is: are you teaming with God? It is vital for you to know which side you are on. Are you on the side of God or are you living a life that borders on the fence, and not quite in the inside where it should be? The truth you must come to acknowledge is that there are two teams and two teams alone. There is no gray zone or middle area. The enemy of man, the devil, continually seeks to spread lies aimed to deceive the people. In his craftiness he offers unrealistic opportunities that are not true. A lie that he promotes is that you have plenty of time, but in reality only God knows our length of time on Earth. Some may not have a lifetime to make the important decision to live for God.



I have a special request for you. Please read the Bible text from the Book of John 1:1-12 and spend quality time seeking to grasp its meaning. Ask God to allow you to grasp the meaning of it. The Word of God is not a plain book filled with mere history.

The truth is that the Word of God is a lighthouse that is powerful and full of energy. Today, begin seeking to know God by knowing his Word. Let your faith and trust in God be developed in such a way that nothing that life may bring you could weigh you down. I pray that as you read this passage the reality of God’s Spirit be upon you in this very hour.

John 1:1-12 (NLT)

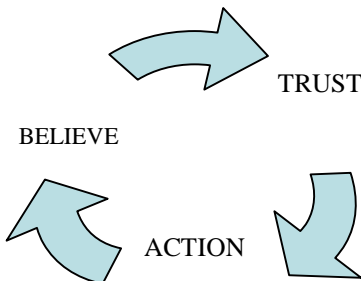
1. In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.
2. He existed in the beginning with God.
3. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him.
4. The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.
5. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.
6. God sent a man, John the Baptist,
7. to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony.
8. John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light.
9. The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.
10. He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him.
11. He came to his own people, and even they rejected him.
12. But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

The above scriptures from the Book of John have an abundant amount of information. In this letter I would like to highlight verse 12. The key words here are believe and acceptance. You see, your acceptance to the message of the gospel, which is about salvation, requires for you to believe in the redemptive plan of God. Friend, your beliefs will set you apart and make you a son or a daughter of the Living God. The plan of God is to set you free by giving you everlasting life when you put your trust in God and willingly accept the sacrifice of Jesus for "all" your sins.

Friend, the gift of salvation is free and the timing is sooner than what you may think. The Bible says that today is the day for salvation. Now is the time to be part of the family of God.

Deuteronomy 30:19 NLT

"Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live!"



I Peter 1:5 NLT

"And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see."

It is God's intention and desire that everyone may come to the knowledge of Jesus Christ and to receive all the benefits that are available to those who trust and believe. Living a life guided by trust and genuine beliefs brings actions that are noticeable; thus, bringing glory to our Heavenly Father. In other words, the GREATER ONE in you will compel you to do deeds that are honorable and right bringing to you peace and joy. Today, make a decision to worship God by believing his Word. Become a believer who believes the Word of God in spite of what the circumstances look like. Now is the time to get rid-of any religious attire that you may have and begin to increase your faith by feeding your spirit with the Word of God, which enables you to believe in a greater measure and can put you on top of your circumstances. Live and abide in godly principles. Do it for the sake of your life, your family that watches you and hears every word that comes out of your mouth, as well as new friends that you may be meeting in the near future. *"Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take (Proverbs 3:6)."*

Become a BELIEVER who believes The Word of God!



In God's Love,

Rey Maldonado, Pastor
Innermost-Fire Ministries