

SPIRIT & TRUTH E-NEWSLETTER

“Lord, I Thank You for the Pain”

Excerpt from Pastor Barnaby's message on Sunday, August 16, 2009

Scripture Texts: 53:3-10, Hebrews 11:25, Psalms 51:17

Christ suffered for us on the cross. Christ suffered. In His suffering, we find our salvation. We find our hope. We find our healing. We find our peace. Not one of us likes to suffer or wants to suffer but it is through suffering that we grow. Jesus loves us and because He loves us, He will keep pushing us to perfection in Him even when we are ready to give up on ourselves. Our Savior does not want us to fail and He will do whatever it takes to keep us close to Him in this life so that we can be with Him for eternity.

We must remember some key truths in order to stay focused on the prize of this life – heaven.

1. If God gives us pain, there's a blessing in it for us. Jesus “took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows”. Although sometimes our troubles seem unbearable, we can make it through Christ who strengthens us.
2. There is a blessing and a victory on the other side of our trials. Remember Job. Because he was faithful to God, the devil wanted to test him to see if he could shake his faith and God let him. Through Job's losses of wealth, family and health, he “never charged God foolishly” and in the end, God restored double to Job what the devil had destroyed.
3. If God can't get our attention and keep our attention by blessing us, then He will afflict us to draw us to Him. It is in our affliction that we will remember our blessings and remember where our blessings come from.
4. We will never be free from the “cycle” of blessing-affliction-blessing until we fulfill our purpose in Christ. God doesn't accept mediocre. He will not let us be satisfied with just getting by; therefore, He will continue to work with us until we reach our full potential in Christ.

Isaiah 53:3-10 (KJV)

Key Verses

³ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴ Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

⁸ By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken.

⁹ He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.



Calling all saints...Spirit & Truth wants YOU to join our choir on **Thursday, October 1, 2009 at 6:00 pm** at the Edward Jones Dome for General Conference. If you are willing to support your church in this awesome opportunity to worship and “stir up the gift”, please sign up in the church lobby as soon as possible.

Weekly Events

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6:30 pm
Tuesday Morning Prayer: 5:00 am
Thursday Bible Study: 7:30 pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 11:00 am

Bible History Course:
Tuesdays at 5:00 pm & 7:30 pm @ the church



FOCUS THIS WEEK: COMMITMENT

“Hungry for What Could Be”

Scripture Text: Matthew 15:22-28

Excerpt from Pastor Barnaby’s message on Sunday, August 30, 2009

We need to get grievously vexed with the devil. We need to take a stand for the deliverance that we desire in our lives and in the lives of our family and friends and commit to not moving until we see God move on the situation. We have to pray. We have to fast. We cannot grow slack in our determination because the devil will not rest until he destroys us and those that we love. Nobody is going to fix our mess until we get tired of our mess and try to start fixing it ourselves!

I HAVE A TESTIMONY!!

“I am truly blessed! God has been so good to me. In a few months I will be 80 years old and I can still care of myself and do what I love best – working with the children in Children’s Church!”

Sis. Dorothy Colbert

“Oh how God has changed my life! At one time in my life, while I was on my Journey to Christ, I was a marijuana dealer and user. My lifestyle escalated and I become a heroin dealer and user. One day, I got my hands on some pure uncut heroin (I had at least 30 lbs.). Back then the street value could have been a couple of \$100,000. Well, not knowing how pure it was, I snorted an enormous amount and that caused me to overdose. Somehow, in all that, God was on my side because he brought me back to this life. God saved my life and that caused me to say no to drugs completely.

Bro. James Claiborne



Overcome by the word of your testimony (Rev 12:11)! Share what the Lord has done for you...you may change somebody’s life!

BIRTHDAYS

- Fay Hellmann – 9/2
- Chance Miller – 9/2
- Mike Williams – 9/4
- Michael Agwu – 9/9
- Amos Gibson – 9/16
- Darlene Williams – 9/18
- Tina Shoals – 9/21
- Jane Strode – 9/23
- Debbie Vanlandingham – 9/26
- James Korang – 9/28

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Jarrod & Darlene Williams – 9/9

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Anthony Smith
- LaVern Watson
- Mike McIntyre
- Rothman Harris
- Timothy Burks is in Iraq

UPCOMING EVENTS

85th Annual UPCI General Conference

Edward Jones Dome
September 30 - October 4, 2009

You may register for a One Service Pass for \$15 per person.

Full registration (for all services and sessions) is \$50 per person.
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND