



Spear Ministries Inc. Newsletter  
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## IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

by Dayna Montroy Critz

We can all agree, our lives are busier than ever before. Wake up before the sun, get self and kids ready for the day. "What to have for dinner?" runs through my head around 4:00pm as I busily drop children off at one function and pick another up. Falling into bed at days end with a sigh of relief that another day is over and we kept all our balls juggled up in the air once again.

In a world and life such as this, I find myself wondering, how we plan to "win the world" to a gospel we scarcely have time for. How can we share the love of the Father when we never even have time to notice the people around us as we rush from here to there? So sweetly, the spirit of God nudged me, "I see you....."

### **TRI-CITY OUTPOURING**

**June 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> 7 PM**

Meetings start Friday night with a special Youth Emphasis with Caleb & Melissa of the Patricia King Ministries and will be held at the CV Word of Life, 590 W. Rd. 1

North, Chino Valley.

Think about that, he sees you. Here I am with a family of five, a three day a week job, a worship team of about 15 people, and I don't have time to look up and see anyone but me. The God of the universe, the one who spoke a word and worlds were formed, light was and mankind was fashioned. The

one who placed each star in its place, told the seas when to roll and where to stop.....He sees me.

As I think about this, I am reminded of the story of the prodigal son. His father went out every day and looked afar off to see if he could catch a glimpse of his son. All he wanted was to be with him. I think so much of the time we strive to do the things the Lord has called us to, which is right, however, we strive out of duty and not relationship.

The Father wants you. He desires intimacy and sincerity with his children. I can't help but wonder, what if we slowed down just enough to crawl up in Abba's lap and be with him? What if we just let him infuse us with his love and his life? As a mom, it thrills me when my teenager, who could be engaging in countless number of stimulating activities, just wants to sit with me and talk. About nothing, about everything. Sometimes, just leaning into me, with my arm around her, saying nothing at all. Intimate relationship.

I believe in these last days the church is going to be required to wake up. There is much to do and many lives hang in the balance. I challenge you to go back to the beginning, the very first block of your foundation in salvation. Relationship. Ask the Father to reveal to you in a way that only He can, His immense love for you. When He drops it as revelation into your spirit - everything takes on new life. Those things we know we should do, like love the unlovely or share the gospel with the lady on the cereal isle at the grocery store, they seem different somehow. The pride of life as well as our need to be accepted and loved by those around us seems to fade. I read Psalm 139 as a teenager to find self worth, I read it now as a thirty something woman to ground me and pull me back. Slow down and reconnect, everything we need is from him. I pray this will be your reality: Without love from my Father and to my Father.....I am nothing at all.

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## **LOOKING ON WORTHLESS THINGS**

Pastor Ronda Ehlert

*Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word. Ps. 119:37.*

Last month in our newsletter I wrote an article with the main idea of focusing our attention away from the circumstances, and hurtful events in our life. Things that if given much attention to could make us bitter, give us offense, and cause us to stagnate in our walk with Christ. It amazes me how much of what we "look at" or focus on can determine our destiny.

For the last 5 weeks several parents and I teamed together to talk to

students in our youth group about dating, relationships, purity, commitment, etc. We called it “Love is in the Air.” It was more of discussion type setting, and most of the conversation could be traced back to what we set our eyes upon.

I’m sure that most would agree that our culture today has become more visual than previous generations. Pictures, Movies, Computers, not to mention video Ipod’s, portable DVD players, cell phones that have can capture video and pictures. We are all becoming victims of a saturation of man - made worldly stimulated quickly by video. It’s what seems to hold our attention.

Estimates for the length of human attention span are range from 3 to 5 minutes per year of age in young children, to a maximum of around 20 minutes in adults. However, the average movie lasts approximately two hours, and most adults can follow the plot with only minimal lapses of attention. A study a year ago in October, founded that our attention span is much shorter now than it was years ago. Stating that it is because of the instant gratification made possible by modern technology such as movies, television, internet browsing.

Studies have shown that by the time a child graduates from high school they will have watched over 19,000 hours over television, witnessing 200,000 sexual acts and over 1 million acts of violence. This doesn’t include internet browsing where viewing pornography is as easy as a “point and click.” Teens can receive porn over their phone and pass it on.

So what do we do in a world so saturated with “worthless things?” Many Christians, and even more Christian teens, have decided that this is just a part of culture, and because I love the Lord these things won’t harm me. We are quickly becoming de-sensitized. We watch willingly excusing the worthless, because it’s a “good plot”. Putting up with gay/lesbian lifestyle in every sitcom, or movie, or feeling justified to go to what the world puts a Rated - R warning on, because it won the best movie of the year! After all - what is the alternative?

This is overwhelming. It’s a battle and they are winning. (Believe me - those were my thoughts as I was teaching these teens. Worthless things are everywhere!). That is very true. Not one of us, or our children, stand a chance without the Lord. Not one of these teens could ever win this battle to stay on the path of righteousness without the Spirit of God inside of them. I have found, more and more, how important He should be in our active walk everyday. Having Him so alive in us makes us aware of what we put our eyes on.

I warned the teens that there are going to be times when they are going to have to get up and walk out of a movie, or tell their friends that they don’t want to see that picture of porn on their phone. The choice will be theirs to

take a stand for righteousness and holiness.

This life truly is all about choices. "Look not on worthless things." However, when this world splashes mud on your mind and your focus is on the worthless, we have an incredible way to be cleansed. We can be washed by the Blood of Jesus. There are times when we need to sit and be cleansed by His Blood. It's only by His Blood, that we can be washed from the worthless, and filled with His worthiness to worship.

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## "WHAT'S UP?"

Pastor Don Tjiema

Those words have penetrated our English language. Many folks answer with words like: "The Sun," "The price of gas," etc. If we look closely at this short but powerful question, isn't this exactly what the church is asking about the climate of our country. Isn't the world asking the church the same? Right now with unemployment and recession at an all time high the world is searching for hope, and the church has it in the gospel of Christ!

Paul wrote in Romans 8:18-21, 35, 37

*"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?... NO, in ALL these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."*

The world is waiting with eager expectation for the children of God to stand UP and declare the gospel message of hope in Christ Jesus and to release them from the bondage of decay. By speaking the truth in love each of us has the ability to release an eternal hope into the hearts of others. By remaining silent, we release an eternal condemnation. What if I suffer hardship or persecution for doing so, think of what creation will suffer for eternity, just because the church was too embarrassed to stand UP and proclaim freedom to the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners!

Today's political climate is full of unrest and the church is being held

prisoner to the fear of speaking UP! God does not give us a Spirit of fear!

Second Corinthians 10:3-5 tells us that the battle is waged with spiritual power and that the church has the ability through the Spirit to demolish arguments, strongholds and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and that we must take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. Church, it is time for us to STAND UP in battle and save lives for eternity!

Is our nation or the next generation worth the investment of intercession for truth? Look at the Romans verse again: *"The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed."* What's UP? Hopefully the church to the task of revealing God's truth to a world that is becoming darkened in its understanding of God daily. The battle is mighty, but God is mighty to save! Amen.

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## **OPEN OUR EYES LORD**

Norma Montroy

Did you ever wonder what was going on in the unseen dimension of life? Ever wish that you could see the true picture? Just reading through the books of Kings once again, I am reminded that there is a very real spiritual dimension that is working in our everyday lives.

Remember the passage of Elisha and his servant being surrounded with enemy soldiers? The panic of the servant, but the calmness of Elisha, simply saying, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." Then Elisha prayed "Open his eyes Lord that he may see." When the Lord opened his eyes he saw that the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around them! Wow.

To really believe the impossible we must first see the invisible, but how do we see into this realm? I am amazed at the simple perception of some children. I have had my own children and some at the church tell me of encounters with angels, and sadly to say, demons. I have wondered how they can be so perceptive, when most of us adults have a hard time seeing into another dimension. I believe it is because they are simply open to the spiritual realm. In addition to being open, it says "Elisha prayed".

Prayer is really the key to seeing in to the unseen spiritual realm, and is the key to discerning the antics of the enemy. If you notice Elisha did not ask for just another miracle, he asked that his servant's eyes would be open. Praying will open our eyes to discern spiritual things from God's perspective rather than our own.

In this day and age, we as believers need to pray: "Open our eyes Lord so

that we can discern the enemies antics and put them to a halt! Open our eyes Lord, that we may see Jesus, high and lifted up, above all power and principalities.” And by the way, He has seated us right with him. Hallelujah!!!!

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## EXTRA CREDIT?

Sally Bates

I am horrible at math! No matter how hard I work at it, the concept of anything beyond simple mathematics escapes me. I was making a failing grade in Algebra II my sophomore year in high school, but passed because I turned in a lot of "extra credit" assignments.

Any of you readers make up grades by turning in extra credit? I wonder how many of us carry a little "holdover" mentally where that's concerned. What I mean is . . . how many of us are trying to earn extra credits in life when we feel we're failing to live up to our own expectations as well as those of others?

I began to wonder this morning how many of us don't have a grasp on Grace because we're still trying to earn extra credits?

Grace is simply unmerited favor. Unmerited!! Favor!! But everything that comes to us from God produces something in our lives. Grace produces divine empowerment. It is the God given ability to do something that you don't have the ability to do without Him.

It is by Grace you are saved. Romans 11:6 reads *"But if it is by grace, it is no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace."*  
Ephesians 2:1-10

*"And you did he make alive, when ye were dead through your trespasses and sins, wherein ye once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the powers of the air, of the spirit that now worketh in the sons of disobedience; among whom we also all once lived in the lust of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest:—but God, being rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace have ye been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us to sit with him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus: that in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus: for by grace have ye been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the*

*gift of God; not of works, that no man should glory. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God afore prepared that we should walk in them."*

You can't earn extra credits to get you into the Kingdom of God!! You don't get a passing grade into heaven because you did good work and did extra credit. Your salvation is secured only in the knowledge of Christ crucified, buried and raised from the dead for your salvation. ONLY.

However, our salvation, by faith, should begin to produce good works and good Godly fruit. If I transplant a peach tree into my yard, that tree didn't have a thing to do with putting itself there. But when I water, fertilize and care for it, sooner or later it will bear fruit. That's it's job - that's what it was created to do! It requires my care and a kindly spring without late frost, but it can and will bear fruit. Just like we do if we stay connected to the Word, the Lord, and in fellowship. Amen

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## NO ONE KNOWS

Linda Humes

*But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.  
Mark 13:32 (KJV)*

I drive between the small town I live in and Phoenix, AZ every week. Although the trips can make me very weary, usually it is quite uneventful and often gives me time of insight and inspiration.

5 o'clock came, end of day, and I started packing my car, ready to head back up the mountain toward home. I was about to place a box of files in the back seat of my car, but for a flash of a second I saw them flying around in the sky. I've learned to trust these flashes, and with a smile I said, "Okay Lord" and put them securely in the trunk, wedged tight.

Traffic through the city was lighter than usual, for that I was grateful. I had my glass of Iced Tea (to keep me awake) and my Christian Music (to keep me singing and bouncing), I was on a mission to get back to the family. The main highway has been under construction for years and always poses a challenge for impatient drivers. I set my speed with my cruise control and tried not to let anything distract me.

About an hour and a half into my trip I was in the heavy climbing area, where the road winds back and forth. Trucks are to follow the signs that are posted in that area and remain in the right lane only; at least that's what I thought.

The road curved to the left ahead of me and as I cleared the curve there was a semi-truck over half way into the left lane, directly in front of me, attempting to pass a slower truck in the right lane. I hit my brakes and held the steering wheel as firmly as I could. The brakes hopped, skipped and sang. I went from 70 mph to 33 mph in . . . well . . . I was a little too preoccupied to notice, but I can tell you it was very few seconds. It was the closest I have come to hitting anything; inches. I don't think the semi-truck ever saw me.



As soon as I was safely back in the lane of travel I heard the words, “No one knows the day or the hour.” It quickened my spirit and pulled at my heart. Only the hand of God kept me from hitting that truck – it wasn't my day, it wasn't my hour.

“Yes, Lord.” Was I ready? The faces of my family ran through my mind – I had almost left them behind that day. What would have happened to them? Had I finished the call that God had place before me? WAS I READY?? God, nudge me. Never let me tarry on items you've called me to complete.

**Camp is this week for CV  
Teens – keep them in prayer!**

Give me the strength and Wisdom to complete every task – leave nothing unfinished. Teach me what is most important in Your eyes, that all will be complete.

Are you ready?

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**WHERE DO YOU NEED GOD THE MOST?**

Bruce Montroy

If you were transported to a foreign land, if all of a sudden you were standing in the middle of a village in the jungles of Asia, how urgently would you need the Lord? Let's say you find yourself in downtown Paris. Would there be less urgency to your call for divine assistance? Now you are in the middle of the Sahara Desert. I think I can even hear your cries from here!

Back at home now, settled in your comfortable recliner, with the kitchen around the corner, stocked full of your favorite goodies and the relief station just down the hall – now how urgently do you need the Lord? There should be no difference no matter where we are, right? However, our surroundings seem to tell our mind that our need is less or greater.

Does it matter where you are as to the need for every cell in your body to

enjoy the flow of blood? Our need for oxygen is as great in the backyard as it is in outer space, but imagine the panic if our space suit developed a leak!

I remember praying with great earnestness for family members that were going through dangerous times. The Word says: “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (Jm. 5:16 KJV). Did I need the Lord more in those difficult times or did it just seem that way? Can we pray “fervently” aside from a crisis? “Apparent need” triggers fervency. The reality is: our need is EVERY MOMENT!

What do you suppose heaven will be like? Imagine the continual presence of the Lord, surrounded with His glory at all times – whether we’re in front of the Throne or on the back side of the Universe on special assignment. Now consider Acts 17:28a: “For in him we live and move and exist...” (NLT).

To be Spirit-filled is to be Spirit-minded – aware of God’s presence in us and with us at all times. True worship is being aware of His omnipresence and enjoying Him 24/7. We don’t need more of Him at certain times – we need to be more aware of Yahweh at all times!

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A great big thank you for your support. What a blessing to have friends who encourage and stand with us in this ministry! And what a blessing the Tri-City Outpourings have been. God is doing great things! Love and blessings!

Bruce & Norma Montroy

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