

## ngdomWok Ministri

## August 2016 Newsletter

I know I have asked this before but the question keeps coming back to my heart and my mind. The question is directed to me, but if the shoe fits you are welcome to wear it as well......"How badly do you want to be like Jesus?"

To be like Jesus we have to first know what Jesus is like. To know what Jesus is like we must study the text---The Bible---on a committed and regular and serious basis. BAM! I am guilty of not always doing this. I am guilty...period.



I truly do love the Lord and truly do want to know Him and be like him. I need to do better. Do I stand alone in my need for improvement or are there others out there who dearly love Him but just don't seem to find the time for Him?

Before Jesus, to be a disciple really meant something. It meant that you had a passion for the Word. By the time vou were 13 o14 vou probably had most of the Pentateuch---the first five books of the Bible---memorized. You were deeply devoted to knowing God and living for Him. Then, if you went on to "secondary school" you would watch and be watched by the different Rabbi's, and at some point you would approach the Rabbi of your heart's desire and ask him if you could follow him. He would watch you for awhile, and then, if all was well, you would prove yourself learned, intelligent, dedicated, and worthy, and the Rabbi might then let you follow him. You would be with the Rabbi 24-7, listening, watching, following, learning, observing, and copying. THAT is what it meant to be a disciple.

Along came Jesus and He broke the rules. Instead of waiting for young men to approach Him, Jesus called them. Five of his disciples---Peter, Andrew, James, John, and Philip---all came from the same small village. The village was tiny, about 500 total people there who all knew one another. The five were fishermen, so obviously they didn't pursue becoming a disciple after their "elementary school" training was complete. They were content to be Godly fishermen. Jesus did not look for the most learned; he looked for men who would grow into what He wanted them to be. For three years He taught them. They followed Him everywhere, 24-7. They ate with Him, prayed with Him, walked with Him, discussed with Him, listened to Him, learned from Him, and of course loved and admired Him beyond what we can imagine. He took ordinary men, and made them into disciples. And guess what? He is still doing that today. He takes regular, everyday, ordinary men and women and asks them to show the world what He is like through their love.

Am I willing to be with Jesus 24-7? Am I willing to let Him work within my ordinary self and show His love to others? Am I willing to really KNOW Him through the study of His Word and by the power of the Holy Spirit? God please forgive my laxness in the past and help me press forward as a disciple. You?

August 4-16 was a blessed time for us in Uganda. Dan Parks, Larry Andrews, and I were the teachers for Sipi Pastor's Conference Four: SPC4.

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Eleven Ugandan pastors joined us for the week, and all had a blessed time. Dan taught the men from the Book of Titus. I could tell you what he taught because it was a blessing to me as well, but I don't want to: I would rather you go through Titus on your own and truly internalize the Word of God. The men there loved Dan's teaching. Larry taught on what it means to be a man of God and also taught on the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control.

Much wonderful discussion ensued and the men were very thankful for the lessons. I had the blessing of teaching on Creation. I was preapproved by Answers in Genesis to use their materials, and loved being able to give clarity on the Relevance of Genesis, the Six Days of Creation, and the Fossil Record. The men had great ques

tions, and by the grace of God, we were able to answer them.



As of this moment, for the first time in years, I do not have another trip planned. I know, I can't believe it either. Likely I will go in January or February of 2017 with either a medical or construction team, but as of this moment I am uncertain. It is possible that I will go in November 2016 for business reasons, but that too is currently unknown. After much prayer, Pam and I decided not to go on the Papua New Guinea medical trip with Mbuyu Charities and Ken Long. Suffice it to say for now that I have been having back issues, and was advised medically that such a trip with a 14-hour plane ride would be brutal on my back. It is the pits getting old; but reality is my friend.

Please put September 17 on your calendar. KMI is sponsoring "Helping Hands Across The World," at the Powell Butte School. It is an African Cultural Event designed to get more sponsors for the K & K School. There is a chili cook-off, many games for the children, and Coldstone ice cream. The silent auction has dozens of items, and there will be a live auction for a few items as well. Come at 3:00, and bring a friend. Authentic Ugandan coffee will be sold, and a great time of visiting with your neighbors will be the rule.

Thank you once again for your continued love and support. Not a day goes by that I don't think of your love, kindness, and generosity. Things are happening in a great way, and it is thanks to your willingness to serve the Lord that the progress is being made. Blessings in the name of the Lord.

Serving Him,

D.C.