



# Kingdom Wok Ministries Int.

## November 2016 Newsletter

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When I was about 10 years old I remember walking home from playing with friends late one afternoon. I had already finished delivering the 52 newspapers on my paper route, and it was time to end the day. Across the street from our house was a mountain of mill-end board pieces that our neighbor had purchased for firewood. It was clear that a huge dump truck had backed up to their carport, raised the bed, released the tailgate latch, and dumped the massive amount of wood to the ground. From the looks of the two-peaked pile, there may very well have been two truck-loads. That is what I thought when I saw it. I was glad we heated with oil and not wood. Giving it no more thought I went into the house just in time for supper.

I couldn't tell you what we had for supper that night. I couldn't tell you what was on T.V., and I couldn't tell you the conversation around the table as we ate.



I can tell you the conversation between my Dad and me after supper though. He asked me how my day at school was, did my paper route go O.K., and was my bicycle still in good working order. I told him that all was fine except that I was going to need to buy a new tire for my bike. He barely let the word "bike" escape from my lips before telling me that he had some good news for me. My 10-year-old mind immediately jumped to the conclusion that Dad was going to offer to buy me a new bike tire, maybe even replace both of them, and perhaps even buy a headlight for my bike.

Wow!!! This was going to be just heavenly. "So....what is the good news?" I asked in great anticipation.

Without saying a word Dad took me to the front door, opened it up and took me outside. Pointing across the street to the massive pile of wood he said, "I talked to Mr. Mooney this afternoon, and he wants to hire someone to stack his firewood. You are always looking for ways to make a few bucks, so I told him you would do it. He is expecting you to come over tonight, negotiate a price, and begin work."

It took me over a week to stack the wood. Every night after school I would deliver my newspapers, and then go stack wood. At first all I could view was a massive sea of wood. I decided to make a game out of it, and each day I would see if I could stack more than I did the day before. I remember putting the last piece of wood onto the pile; it gave me great satisfaction knowing that I had stuck with it and accomplished what seemed to be a monumental task. I remember my immature 10-year-old mind thinking that if I could do a job like that, I could do anything. I got paid, and put new two tires on my bike. (I got the light for Christmas.)

Last June I started swimming on a regular basis. At first it was all experimentation with breathing, kicking, coasting, and seeing how far I could swim. Quickly it became clear that I was very out of shape, and that in order to build my wind capacity I needed to discipline myself into a "do-able" but challenging routine, and I needed to stick with it. I decided to swim at least four days per week, and over time I would build up my strength and endurance. I started out swimming 1/8 of a mile, and I was beat. After awhile I decided to see if I could swim 1/4 mile, and I could. I swam 1/4 for a while and then moved up to 3/8. The progress over time went to 1/2 mile, 1 Km., 3/4 mile, and finally 1 mile. I decided that 1-mile was enough, as it took me an hour to swim it and I had other things to do. So, for the month of October & so far in November,

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I have been swimming 1 mile, four times per week. So what? Yes, I feel better and am getting healthier, and both my strength and endurance are up. That is a good thing, and I am glad to work at it each time I go. I have been faithfully reporting to my KMI Board Chairman to let him know that I am getting fit so I can be healthy for what we do.

Have you ever known something to be true, lived by it, stood by it, and stayed by it, only to find out later that your basic premise was wrong? More in-depth study showed you that perhaps your thinking was off---not because you were insincere, not because you were lying, not because you were being deceptive---and that you need to reevaluate your position on a certain issue?

At KMI we constantly and consistently challenge ourselves to hold only to the Truth of God's word. It is our most sincere desire to seek and do only the will of our heavenly Father, as we serve His Son Jesus Christ, under the direction of the Holy Spirit. We give anyone permission to take us to task if there is an apparent way we are not following the teachings of the Holy Bible. We WANT to be held accountable in all we think, say, and do as we move forward in serving Him who has saved us into eternity.



I was WRONG. It's not a big deal, but it needed to be fixed. I didn't mean to lie, mislead, or in any way tell an untruth; my data was deceptive and it is my own fault for not checking it out sooner. I have been swimming 1 mile since October, but not really. This morning I took a tape measure down to the pool and measured it. As it turns out the pool is shorter than I thought it was. Instead of needing to swim 34 laps for a mile I need to swim 44 laps. That is a difference of 10 laps: I was WAY off the mark!!! The exact measurements have been made, and the corrections have been calculated, and as of today I can honestly say I am now swimming 1 mile each time I go to the pool. As I finished the 44<sup>th</sup> lap this morning I remembered once again stacking that firewood as a young boy, and I thanked God for teaching me patience, discipline, and perseverance as a youth, and I thanked Dad for setting me up!

*In case you haven't made the jump to light speed, this is NOT about firewood or swimming. It is about sticking with the Lord. It is about running the good race and finishing strong. It is about making sure of scriptural information when making belief decisions. It is about always seeking the Truth, admitting when we are wrong, and moving forward in life. It is about following the Savior all the time, even in the midst of the mundane. It is about repenting of our mistakes, and making them right.*

Have a VERY BLESSED THANKSGIVING with your friends and family. May the Lord be the center of your Thankfulness. Serving Him,

D.C.