

CHAT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

Last time we talked a little about 3 wordsPerson, Program, and Purpose. And once again, there has been Volumes written about all three as they relate to Christianity. But, like we've done before, we can at least get our Feet wet.

The ' Person' in this case is God Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and, by the way, you and me as well. The idea here is to spend some time getting to know Him better and love Him for who He is and what He has done for each of us. ' Sounds great ' you say, but just how do you put shoe leather on this anyway? The one word answer to this is 'prayer'. God invites us to draw closer to Him, the One who " is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17;27,28). I know, the act of praying can be difficult, because it may seem like a one-way conversation and that your words are just bouncing off the ceiling. But, just the very act of prayer in the first place reveals a certain level of faith and a belief that 'Someone' is listening. And, you can be certain He is. Psalm 65;2 says," Oh You who hear prayer, to You all men come". We are told that the answer to our heartfelt prayer may be that 'still small voice'. I don't know about you, but I would rather see a billboard with instructions to my life up in lights saying " News flash ---Turn left NOW!!". But, of course it doesn't work that way. Sometimes, the answer is that 'Voice', sometimes it's an answer before we've finished praying, and more often than not, it's a resounding quiet. Faith in God's goodness tells us that He is working things out for our benefit, undercover if you will. And God's timing is always perfect. Years ago, an Englishman by the name of George Muller ran an orphanage in the town of Bristol, England and saw to the care of more than 10,000 orphans during his lifetime. He did so without ever asking for money. He would pray in secret and then watch God provide in public. When he died, his journals recorded more than 50,000 documented answers to prayer. That I believe is putting shoe leather to the act of praying.

Admittedly, developing a prayer life takes some work on our part, but work is required to be successful in anything, and getting to know the Creator of the universe better should be at the top of our to-do list. The Bible has left us with a rich legacy of praying men and women. Abraham, Moses, David, Hannah, Joseph, Jeremiah, and of course, Jesus Himself. There are more of course and all had a personal, or vertical relationship with God. You might spend your entire life knowing 'about' God and never reach the point of Knowing Him personally.

You can ride any kind of motorcycle and know about it pretty well. How it handles in the turns, where the 'sweet Spot' is at about 75 mph, and how far you can run before you hit reserve. But you really get to shake hands with that contraption when you have to do a roadside repair (chain, stator, you name it). All I'm saying is that the more you get to know God through prayer, the more you will begin to see Him at work in your life. And the more you see God at work, the more ' Kingdom minded' you will become. Remember the Lord's prayer --- Thy Kingdom come ----? Those aren't just a collection of words. His Kingdom is on the way, and the more time you spend in prayer, the more Investment you will have in God, His Kingdom and your part in all of this. I might add to this that I'm writing this Partially to remind myself that I have a habit of falling flat on my face in this. I would encourage you to spend time cultivating a 'Kingdom Mind' by knowing God better. You won't regret it.

Kingdom – Matthew 6:33 –“ But seek first His Kingdom and His Righteousness; and all these things (things You need) shall be added to you”.

Kingdom – If you're not in contact with Heaven don't be surprised if you're in a mess down here.

Kingdom – Become a Kingdom person, living on a Kingdom Agenda, looking forward to a Kingdom inheritance.

Kingdom – We are Kingdom people living on foreign soil.

Next month, if I don't forget, I'd like to get into the "Program" part of all of this. Until then, God's Blessings to one and all.

Wanted More bikers in Heaven !!

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