

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING



October 1, 2014 - Vol. 16

Is it God's job to follow you, or is it your job to follow him?
Your job and mine is to follow Christ wherever he leads us.

If then it is your job to follow God, why are you so far behind? Is your cross too heavy, are you unwilling to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Christ? We are reminded in Matthew chapter 10 verse 38, that anyone who does not take up his cross, deny himself, and follow Christ, is not worthy of Him. Many of us begin to follow Christ, but fall along the way, some get up and keep going, but some just give up trying to get up. Many have stopped following God, because they were deceived. The desires of their hearts were leading them to believe that God was leading them, and when the result is disastrous they lose faith and stop following God. Don't blame God when you lean to your own understanding, when you allow the desires of your heart to deceive you. Learn to listen to God so that you can hear him when he speaks to you. Ask God for the discernment to know his voice from the voices that will lead you astray. We cannot follow God if we are not listening to him. God has already spoken, he has already shown us the way. He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, those who follow me will never walk alone or in the dark." Haven't you heard? Tell your feet I going where God is leading me, I am going in God's strength, I am going and you cannot stop me, I am going and I won't turn back, I am going to be a follower of Christ from this day forward. Lord, when we make a decision to follow you, allow nothing to stand in our way.

Are you a true disciple? There should be enough evidence to convict us if we are accused of being God's disciples.

I went home last weekend to officially meet my new minister Fr. Albert Cutie` who has replaced Fr. Robert Deshaise who retired last month. In his Homily, Fr. Albert stressed the importance of discipleship and asked the most thought provoking question. "If you were accused of being a disciple, would there be enough evidence to convict you?" I feel compelled to repeat this as often as I could, and to as many people as I could, because many of us are not taking discipleship as seriously as we should. Many of us complain and make excuses, when called upon to do God's work. Many of us are disciples when it pleases us. But, does God need sometimes disciples, or committed disciples? Our main purpose on this earth is to serve, to serve God and others. If we understand this, why then, are we part-time disciples? Are we doing enough to claim discipleship? Would there be enough evidence to convict us, should we be accused of being God's disciples? My brothers and sisters in Christ, God needs committed disciples. God needs people like you and me who would take our roles seriously. God needs people who are willing, and not ashamed of him, and if we are accused of being disciples of God, there should be enough evidence to convict us.

A LOOK INSIDE

- ⇒ What have we ever accomplished in our own strength?
- ⇒ Are you up on the mountain or down in the valley?
- ⇒ What is required of you to run the race for God?
- ⇒ Do you know where to find God when you need him?
- ⇒ Featured Adult's Song
- ⇒ Inspirational quotes
- ⇒ Our Spotlight is on you
- ⇒ Children's Corner
- ⇒ Bible Quiz
- ⇒ Featured Children's song

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

What have we ever accomplished in our own strength? Nothing!
We need to give God more credit.

I can do nothing on my own, but I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. We will not be prosperous until we understand that all that we have, all that we are, we owe it to the glory of God. Everything good that we have received is a gift from God. He already predestined it for us, but when good falls in our laps, when we begin to flourish, we forget that it was the hand of the Lord that did this, and we get puffed up and proud. But know that we can never accomplish anything in our own strength, without God's master plan our houses would be in ruins. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me, and I am glad that I know how to call upon him and could say in advance, thank you, Lord, and know that he will enable me. So, I will never boast in myself, I

will not be proud, and whenever I find myself being arrogant, proud and puffed up, I will stop and ask myself this question, "Lord, what can I do without your aid?" I will boast instead of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest with me, so that I may have endurance and patience. So, my brothers and sisters in Christ, I want to encourage you to be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might, for he promised that his grace is sufficient for us. He promised that he will give power to the weak and to those who have no might he will increase their strength. We can never accomplish anything in our own strength, we need to give God more credit for all that he has done and continue to do for us, for without his goodness and mercy nothing would be possible. Thank you, Lord!



How would you rate God?

Are you down in the valley or up on the mountain top? Wherever you are, God is there!

Do you believe that the same God who would cause you to dwell in the valley would also cause you to dwell on the mountain top? It was proven in 1 Kings chapter 20, that our God is God of the mountain and God of the valley." Many of us have at some point wondered, if God was the same God of the valley and of the mountain, because of where we have been. Many of us are now dwelling on the mountain top because we advanced through God's grace from deep down in the valley of shame, despair, want, need, desperation, rejection, loss, loneliness, evil desires, idolism, weakness and so much more. When you find yourself in the valley, instead of going into a state of panic, learn to be still, listen to what God is trying to say to you, use your time in the valley to examine yourself, try to determine if you are in the valley because of something that you have

done, of if this is God's test for you. For many of us, our times spent in the valley were beneficial for us, because we learned to trust God, we came to rely on him, to become closer to him, and to allow God to take full control. My brothers and sisters in Christ, your valley will become deeper, if your faith in God grows weaker, your journey through valley will seem longer, if you fail to find comfort in prayer and praise, your walk through the valley will become more painful, if you are not waking with God, and it will make the mountain look higher than it is. God is the God of the valley and of the mountain, he could take you from one to the other in a split second, but unless we learn to walk confidently through the valley, trusting in God, we will never make it to the mountain top. The valley is a good place, for whether you are down in the valley or up on the mountain top, God is there.



God is with you in the valley or on the mountain top.

Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)
Questions or comments? Email us at: jewellyngreerministries@yahoo.com

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

What does it require of you to run the race for God? Are you up to the challenge?

To run the race for God is not an easy task. When you are running the race for God, it is a tough challenge. It is a race which requires discipline, courage, strength, persistence and faith. When you are training for a race, you have to eat right, exercise and abstain from behaviors that will weaken you, so too when you are running the race for God, you must discipline yourself and bring your body under subjection; you should be careful of what you partake of, you must daily feed your mind with the word of God to sustain you, and rebuke anything that will cause you to go off course and lose the race. When you are running the race for God be careful of the company you keep. We are reminded in Colossian chapter 2 and verse 18, "Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you. Such a person also goes into great detail about what they have seen; they are puffed up with idle notions by their unspir-

itual minds." We are encouraged in Philippians chapter 3 and verse 14, to run the race, fight the good fight, press on toward the goal, to win the prize for which God has called us heavenward, but, you must keep the faith! St. Paul said in 2 Timothy chapter 4 and verse 7, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." How many of us would be able to say this? We begin the race but become tired, we lack self-discipline, we fail to bring our bodies into subjection, we want to hang out with the wrong crowd, we lose our focus on God and because of all this will not finish the race. As Christians running the race for God, we have to press on toward the goal, we have to learn to dismantle our stumbling blocks, we need to fight a good fight and keep the faith, continually looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. Only then, will we finish the race set before us, and win the imperishable crown of Christ.

God promised to never leave us, but yet, it seems like he is never there when we need him. Is he there or we don't know how to find him?

Do you know where to find God when you need him? Many of us become worrisome and afraid when troubled times come, and instead of calling out to God, reaching out to him, allow panic to cause them to become disoriented. My brothers and sisters in Christ, disoriented Christians get lost easily. In all things God promised to be with us, but if we lose focus, if we allow our situations to overwhelm us, we will become disoriented Christians; bewildered, confused, unsettled, baffled and so much more. This brings me back to the question, how do we find God when we need him? We find God in troubled times through humility, through acceptance of God as our comforter, and through confessions that we are unable to help ourselves and that we will depend on God alone. James chapter 5 and verse 13 says, "Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise." But are you able to sing songs of praise or pray in the midst of trouble? God is in the midst of our most difficult situations, but yet, it seems like he is never around when we need him. Why? Because many times the answers we are looking for are in the problems you and I will face, but until you grow in God's grace, you and I would never be able to find the answers or God in the midst of our most difficult situations. We are encouraged to call upon God in times of distress, to pray in the Spirit, sing songs of praise that will lift us up; for if we reach out to God in these times through song and prayers, he will never be too busy to hear our hearts' cry, know that God is passing by at exactly the same moment that you need him, all you need to do is to reach out and touch the Lord as he goes by. God promised that if we call on him that he will answer us in the day of trouble, that he will deliver us, and in turn we will honor him. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. Allow your troubles to drive you to God not away from God.

Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)

Questions or comments? Email us at: jewellyngreerministries@yahoo.com

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

Songs have a way of lifting me up when I am feeling down. Here is one of my favorites as our featured adult song:

It's Wonderful To Be A Christian

Written by: John W. Peterson

Life has purpose now it never had before, there is meaning to each day and even more; for a joy and peace I can't explain is mine, since I found new life in Christ, my Lord divine.

Chorus

Oh, it is wonderful to be a Christian; Oh, it is wonderful to be God's child! Oh, it is wonderful to have your sins forgiven; Oh it is wonderful to be redeemed, justified, forever reconciled!

I can go directly to the Lord in prayer, He has told me I may boldly enter there, and He listens as His promises I plead, I find mercy there and grace for ev'ry need.

And the hope of heaven's glories thrills me so, where I'll live with Christ forevermore, I know. That is why the things of earth I let go, for 've eternal riches, better far than gold.



Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)
Questions or comments? Email us at: jewellyngreerministries@yahoo.com

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES FROM THE DESK OF JEWELLYN GREER

It takes a Spirit-filled individual to appreciate God's creativity in others.

It's your job to follow God, it's not God's job to follow you; He will direct you.

Allow your troubles to drive you to God not away from God.

We will never accomplish anything in our own strength, we must give God more credit.

It may seem like God is not there when you need him, but, he promised to never leave you alone.

When we are running the race for God, we must run with perseverance, we should surround ourselves with like-minded people of faith to keep us on-track.

Lord, I do not want to tell others that I am a Christian, let me show them by allowing them to see you through me.

If we lose our focus on God, and allow our situations to overwhelm us, we will become disoriented Christians.

As we run the race for God, we have to press on toward the goal, we have to learn to dismantle our stumbling blocks.

Many of us are engage in Spiritual Warfare and do not even know it. If you are not aware of the forces you are fighting against, how then can you win the battle?

Let us call on God in all sincerity to renew our minds, to help us to focus on what is good, what is sound, and what is holy.



Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)
Questions or comments? Email us at: jewellyngreerministries@yahoo.com

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

Our spotlight is on you. Are you unknowingly engaged in Spiritual Warfare? Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand.

Do not be deceive, from the time you gave your life to Christ, you are daily engaged in Spiritual Warfare. Scripture reminds us, “For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man; but I see another law within my own members, warring against the law of my mind, and leading me captive to the law of sin that is within my own members. We are our greatest opponents in this war. Have you ever felt like you were on a roller coaster, wanting to get off but cannot? That’s how we are when we are engaged in Spiritual Warfare. The flesh is in a constant battle with our minds. We know what we should do but we do not. How do we get off this roller coaster to serve God faithfully? “Greater is he that is in you that he that is in the world.” The world and all his fleshly desires will hold you captive as long as you try to fight this war in your own strength, as long as you fail to acknowledge, that greater is he that is in you that he that is in the world. We cannot do this in our own strength, so, we have to call on God in all sincerity to renew our minds, to help us to focus on what is good, what is sound, and what is holy. Let us ask God to create in us clean hearts to serve him. God has instilled in us the ability to know right from wrong, but, many of us are engage in Spiritual Warfare and do not even know it. If you are not aware of the forces you are fighting against, how then can you win the battle? Scripture reminds us, that no king goes to war before sitting down and figuring out how many men he will need to win the war, so too, we must recognize what we are up against and devise a strategy against the forces against us. Spiritual Warfare causes us to go forward or backward and could put us in a constant roller-coaster state, but help is on the way. We are going to be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might, we will put on the whole armor of God, so that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Help us, Lord to stand!

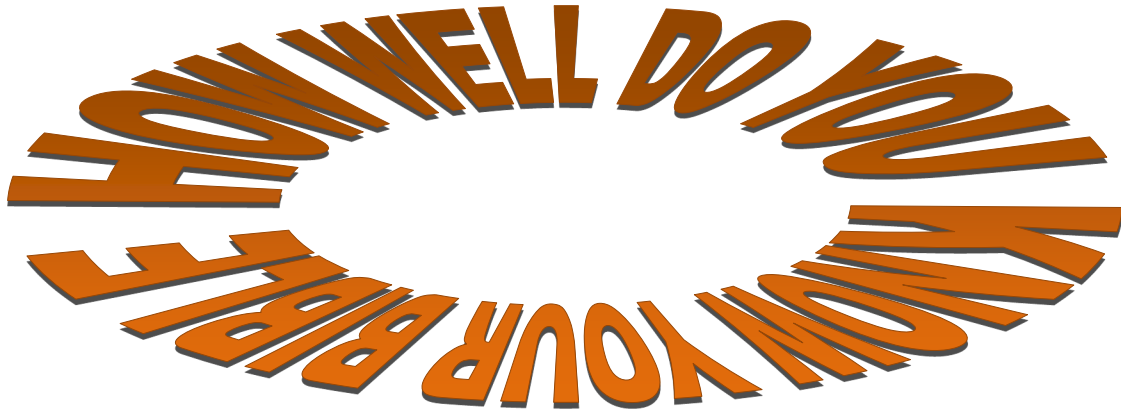
Children’s Corner: It’s prayer time! Do you teach your children how to pray? Here are a few of my childhood favorites.

Father, lead me day by day, ever in Thy loving way, may my life be pure and true, show me what I ought to do. May I do the good I know, be Thy loving child below, then at last go home to Thee, ever more Thy child to be. Amen!

Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord, my soul to keep, if I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord, my soul to take in heaven above. Amen!

Father I thank thee for the night, where I’ll rest from all mischief, and in you I’ll delight. Comfort me, protect me, watch over me, and correct me, for anything wrong I have done. Amen!

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING



Match the correct answers to the questions

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
Jacob sent his family across this river before wrestling with an angel.	Lebanon
This king threatened to cut a child in half. Who was he?	Figs
How many times did Naaman wash himself in the waters of the river Jordan?	Moses
Cedars are renown in the Bible as coming from this place.	Jordan
This child was hidden at the edge of a river to avoid being killed. What was his name?	Good
God caused this river to stand in a heap. Which river was this?	Jabbok
Isaiah the prophet healed Hezekiah's boil by applying a poultice of what?	Solomon
Jesus tells us that good trees bear this kind of fruit? What kind?	7



Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)
Questions or comments? Email us at: jewellyngreerministries@yahoo.com

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

Childhood songs that we have learned have been passed on for generations. Let's keep it going. If you have a song that you would like to share, email it. Here is one of my favorites as our featured children's song:

JUST WHEN I NEED HIM Written By Rev. William Poole

Just when I need Him, Jesus is near, Just when I falter, just when I fear, ready to help me, ready to cheer,
just when I need Him most.

Chorus

Just when I need Him most, just when I need Him most; Jesus is near to comfort and cheer, just when I
need Him most.

Just when I need Him, Jesus is true, never forsaking all the way through; giving for burdens pleasures anew,
just when I need Him most.

Just when I need Him, Jesus is strong, bearing my burdens all the day long; for all my sorrow giving a song.
just when I need Him most.

Just when I need Him, He is my all, answering when upon Him I call; tenderly watching lest I should fall, just
when I need Him most.

