

WIND OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES Newsletter

**NOVEMBER 2014** 

# WHOSE IMAGE DO YOU SEE?

There is a certain political feeding frenzy that has permeated the last few months leading up to midterm elections. Every major traffic corner has a plethora of signs calling out to passersby to vote for the name that is printed in 800 font so that no one will miss it. This sign also includes a 20 font [R] or [D] or [I] in the lower right hand corner. Be sure to see the name, but of seemingly less importance is the political party ideology to which the name belongs.

In addition, certain individuals who hold office appear to be making effort to dehumanize their opponents by creating propaganda programs that may or may not have anything to do with the person's character or ideology. Example, the Mayor of Houston, TX has subpoenaed manuscripts of six pastor's sermons so that she can see if they are speaking against her and her unbiblical lifestyle, with threat of fines and jail time. I suggest they give her their Bibles with that subject underlined and highlighted.

Such is the volatile atmosphere in which we are now living. But, is this new? Not in the least.

Jesus was teaching in the Temple. A group of disciples of the Pharisees were there to listen, to trap him and report back to their leaders. They wanted to get a copy of his manuscript! Matthew 22:15-21

They began by buttering him up. "Teacher, we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar, or not?"

The imperial tax was Rome's tax upon non-Roman citizens. Roman citizens did not have to pay it.

Jesus could see through their scheme. "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me. Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, which, by the way was forbidden in the

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Temple. It had the image of a pagan on it, something strictly forbidden to be in the temple. What an embarrassment that must have been to the disciple of the Pharisees who pulled a denarius out of his pocket and in the Temple of God, of all places!

Jesus asked, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"

The disciple replied "Caesar's."

Then Jesus said to him, "So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's."

In our western thought we often think of this as paying our taxes to the government and our tithe to the church. It is far from that!

This was not the thought in Jesus' mind and words. What he said has to do with the **image**, not the **coin**.

The image of a ruler on a coin or currency meant that he had control over whatever area in which that coin or currency was used. It represented his person and his power. So, says Jesus, render to Caesar what belongs to him. However.....

*"Give back to God what is God's!"* In other words, what has God's image stamped on it? It has nothing to do with coins, currency, taxes or tithes. It has everything to do with **people.** 

### "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them." Genesis 1:27

God has stamped his image on men and women in his creation. We belong to him and wherever we go we are to represent the One whose image we bear.

In this season of political politicking, voluminous campaign speeches, calls for support of ideological agendas and all of the other efforts at gaining control at whatever level of government, it is important to remember that whatever the character and caliber of the person making the appeals, God has placed his image upon all humans. May we humans honor that image by the way in which we live in this and all seasons. LLE

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#### LISTEN UP, Part II By Audrey Eddings

The Lord instructs us in his Word to *"Be still and know that I am God."* [Psalm 46:10]

In a world of fast-food, texting, e-mail and instant everything, how do we manage to "be still?"

Our minds are constantly being bombarded with a flood of images demanding our time and our attention. How do we eliminate the distractions and bring our minds into a quiet time so as to be able to **listen** and to **hear** God's voice?

Webster's definition of Listening: "to make a conscious effort to hear."

The Amplified Version of the Dictionary states, "hearing involves the **physical act** of hearing with our <u>ears</u>, the **mental activity** of processing the sounds and the understanding what is said in our **minds**. This is followed by the action of **obeying** what was heard in our **lives**.

Wow! Listening is a lot more difficult than it first appears! And that is listening just in the physical realm. What about listening in the spiritual realm?

The way we listen in the spiritual realm happens much the same as in the physical. With rare exception, a baby is born with an inherent ability to hear. Understanding **what** they hear must be learned. As a child, we learn to recognize our parent's voice by being with them and hearing them speak. This continues as we learn to recognize the voices and sounds of those around us—our friends, our spouse and, later, our children. This ability to **hear** comes as we spend time with them and **listening** to them.

Even before the telephone had Caller ID, we recognized a voice if some kind of relationship had been developed with the caller. We have been around them, they have spoken to us, we have listened and the sound of their voice had become familiar to us.

How many phone calls do you get from people who just start speaking and never identify who they are? They know you and just assume you know them.

So it is with God! God knows us. God has been talking to us and assumes that by now we will recognize his voice. No Caller ID is required.

But, we must have some kind of relationship

with him and be listening for him before we can recognize his voice. We must take the time to be with God in order to develop that relationship and the ability to recognize God's voice.

We do that by "being still" before him and focus only on him. When we talk with him we can ask questions like, "God, do you love me?" or, "God, what quality do you like about me?" or "God what do you want me to know about you?" Then, in the quiet time that follows, we "be still" and "listen" for God's answer.

Spending quality time with God is the time in which we learn to recognize God's voice. Scripture reminds us that *"He who belongs to God hears what God says."* [John 8:7]

As persons who believe in Jesus and receive his name, "He has given the right to be called "children of God. born not of natural descent or human wisdom or a husband's will, but of God." [John 1:12, 13]

As children of God, then, we belong to him. As our Heavenly Father, God desires to communicate with us. It is very important then, that we take time to "listen," to "hear with our ears," process the sound of his voice, understand with our minds what God has said and then "do what we have been told by God to do, in our lives!

**Listen Up!** *"Be still and know that I am God!"* [Psalm 46:10]

## **IN MEMORIAM**

Wind of the Spirit Ministries has been blessed through the years by many volunteers who serve in a variety of ways to strengthen the work that the Lord has assigned this ministry to do.

One such volunteer has been Pat Vernon-Cole. For the past several years, Pat has taken the Access bus that provides transportation for persons in need, travelled from her home in Poulsbo [about nine miles away], and helped with the mailing of our monthly *Spirit Breeze* newsletter.

She has often prepared the insert materials at her home and then brought them to the office to be placed in that month's newsletter. She was also available for other areas of service when needed throughout her church.

Her joyful presence and great sense of humor always brought light and laughter to all who worked alongside her. She remained active in this ministry well into her 80s, right up to the time when taken to the hospital.

On October 1, Pat moved into her heavenly home, prepared for her by the Lord she loved. With him we say, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Pat, your WOSM family, loves and misses you. Shalom, dear friend.

WEB-PAGE Wind of the Spirit Web Page address is www.wosm-nw.org

#### **LEADING SOMEONE TO JESUS**

Jesus said to his disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them everything that I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

As we endeavor to follow this command, what basic steps are needed to make a witness for Jesus in order that others may receive him as their Savior and Lord? The following may be helpful when we make a witness for our Lord.

- 1. Briefly share your own personal witness with them. "This is what Jesus means to me." No more than 5 to 8 minutes.
- Help them to understand that God loves them. "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that anyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16
- 3. Help them to understand that we are all sinners. *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* Romans 3:21ff
- 4. Tell them that God provides a way out of our sin life. II Corinthians 5:21-23;

*"The wages of sin is death but the free gift of God is eternal life."* Romans 6:2

5. Let them know that regardless of how good we are, it will not give us eternal life. But, there is a way...

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." Acts 26:30,31;

"If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins." I John 1:9;

*"If you believe in your hearts that God has raised him from the dead, you will be saved."* Romans 10:9

- 6. Pray for release of the Holy Spirit. Ask God to reveal to you how to pray.
- 7. Pray with them. You may want the person to repeat this prayer [or similar prayer] after you. They may also wish to pray through the prayer on their own. "Father God, thank you for loving me and sending your

son Jesus to die for me. Jesus, I invite you to come into my heart. I accept you as my Savior and I accept you as Lord of my life.

"I ask you to forgive my sins and I now name them in my heart. [Give time for this to happen] Thank you for forgiving my sins.

"Jesus, I invite you to baptize me with your Holy Spirit. Thank you for your Holy Spirit and allowing your Spirit to live in me.

"Thank you Lord Jesus for cleansing me of anything that is not in harmony with your will. Thank you for filling me with your love, joy and peace. Thank you for giving me a new life. Amen"

8. Be sure to thank God for what He is doing.

	My Prayer Request Is:
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P. O. Box 75,Silverdale, WA 98383 Phone: 360 692-9813 Email: wosmnw@yahoo.com	
NAME Phone	
Address	
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City State Zip	In addition to my prayer and
Email: (optional)	Spirit Ministries, I wish to
Please return this slip with your next gift. Checks navable to "Wind of the Snirit Ministries" are tax deductible THANK VOUI	e

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P.O. Box 175 Silverdale, WA. 98383 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED





"He gave some to be apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers, to equip God's people for works of service, so that the Body of Christ may be built up ...attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:11





# PLEASE POST AND PRAY FOR THESE EVENTS

OTHER MINISTRY EVENTS ARE IN THE PLANNING STAGES Eddings Email address: woseddings@msn.com

November-December, Larry's continuing cardiac rehabilitation

# **Ministry of our Philippine Healing Team**

- 1. Bishop Rudy Juan, Manila Episcopal Area, and his Cabinet approved Rev. David Sablan to create a Primary Healing Team for the Area. His task is to train Annual Conference Healing Teams from among the District Superintendents.
- 2. December 13 and 14, seven members of the Philippine Healing Team, related to Wind of the Spirit Ministries, will travel to Singapore to conduct a Healing and Wholeness seminar. Each member will be responsible for their own expenses. If you desire to assist in their expenses, please contribute through the Wind of the Spirit office, marked 'Singapore.'
- 3. WE PRAISE GOD FOR THIS MINISTRY TEAM