

WIND OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES Newsletter

August 2019

YOU ARE A LETTER FROM CHRIST!

"You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone. You show that **you are a letter from Christ,** the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts." (2 Corinthians 3:2-3)

A letter conveys a message from the writer. If you have ever applied for a job, scholarship or internship, then you are familiar with a letter of recommendation. Those who would bring us into a working relationship want to know the characteristics others see in us. It is one way of verifying that we are a legitimate candidate for the position.

The one who writes the letter of recommendation will endeavor to be precise in the way they describe the person being recommended. It cannot be a simple overview without specific points. A letter of recommendation, by definition, is an endorsement or nomination of sorts. The one who writes the letter must believe in the person whom they endorse.

This is an accurate analogy for those who follow Christ. As God works in us to make us into the image of Jesus, our characteristics become more and more like His. Those characteristics or "fruit" that become a part of us are the very things that verify that we belong to Christ and are the candidates he endorses to do the work we are called to do.

Other people will be looking for a recommendation to ensure we are the right candidate for whatever working relationship we will have with them. It is not only true as we work with one another within the Body of Christ, but as we serve in the world; and maybe *especially* in the world.

Whether those outside the church know it or not, they are looking for people with the same characteristics as Jesus: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. These are the hallmark traits of the followers of Jesus. They are specific traits, not just a generalization of Christian character.

When people see only a generalization, it easily translates into a stereotype. Our brains are wired to

categorize everyone and everything as a way of making sense of our world and all of the information that floods over us. "Stereotypes are categories that have gone too far, says John Bargh, Ph.D., of New York University" (Psychology Today).

Generalizations happen when we do not have a "working relationship" with someone. A working relationship requires that we really get to know the other person with whom we work, and the work may not be at a place of employment or even in a volunteer position. It is anywhere people start getting to know one another. It is especially important to get to know people who are different from ourselves and those with whom we normally associate.

We are letters from Christ to the world and the world is looking for people who are real and easy to relate to, just as Jesus was and is, and our lives are to point to Christ. How do I get to know others if I hide the fact that I am imperfect? Or how do I get to know people if I do not spend time with them for fear that it will be awkward or time-consuming or I just don't want to because I have preconceived ideas about them?

God has sent his Holy Spirit into our hearts to imprint His character within us. And through that relationship, we will be able to courageously and lovingly open ourselves to those who need to know Jesus, if we are willing to lay down our pride, misconceptions and fear of being transparent.

"He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant—not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life." (2 Cor. 3:6)

All of us human beings have far more in common than we even imagine and getting to know someone and share your life with them is the only way to allow them to read the letter Christ has written on your heart for them.

"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for

Wind of the Spirit Ministries

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them and was raised again. So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view... All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors..."

(2 Cor. 3:14-16, 18-20)

-Tracy

PHILIPPINES MISSION



This is a picture of our last mission in the Philippines in 2018. We will be returning in March of 2020 to conduct three medical missions followed by public healing services in the evenings. Bishop Rudy Juan is also requesting that Wind of the Spirit conduct a Conference on the Holy Spirit for the pastors and church leaders in his area.

Our first fundraising event is September 7th with a Filipino dinner, auction and live music. A large team from Wind of the Spirit, and the youth group led by Pastor John and Jennifer Weston from Silverdale UMC, are going on this mission and we are excited about the doors the Lord has opened.

Please be in prayer for this mission. We ask that you prayerfully consider contributing financially. May the Lord bless you for your prayers and gifts that further His Kingdom!

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

Results of Annual Meeting of Board and Council

Our Board and Council confirmed with a unanimous vote that we are to bring three to four Kenyan Pastors here for intensive training rather than send a team to Kenya. The reason we know it is from God is that we were all in agreement! Jesus prayed that the Father would make us one with Him and one with each other. We were all of one mind with the Lord.

When the Kenyan Pastors come here, they will be free of work and family obligations and be able to fully focus on their training with other Pastors they have worked with before. Their training will be more in-depth with three training sessions: The Healing Academy, Prayer Seminar and Motivational Gifts Seminar.

Some of our workshops, which give hands-on experience, are at times difficult to translate into another culture. In this setting we will have more time to thoroughly explain and demonstrate so that the Pastors will have a clearer understanding and be able to facilitate the workshops in their own culture. The hands-on experience is a vital part of this ministry. It puts hands and feet on the knowledge gained.

Pray for this exciting opportunity to help these Pastors return to Kenya as an equipped team to teach other Pastors in Western Kenya!



FROM INDIA

As we look back over the years of Wind of the Spirit Ministries we realize that this is a ministry that was rooted in the Charismatic movement of the 60's and 70's. God was doing a new thing as He released His Spirit into mainline denominations all over the world. It was an exciting time to be alive and for many it brought them into a living faith in a resurrected and living God!

My own parents Bill and Judy who preceded Audrey and Larry at Silverdale UMC were specifically sent to the church because the Bishop thought that with a doctorate from Basil Switzerland under Karl Barth, my father would know what to do with people who spoke in tongues. It was to be an appointment that brought life and vitality to my parent's faith, as well as to our family, as the church shaped my parents. Experience augmented education and it was a win/win for everyone. My parents experienced the power of the Holy Spirit and the church received some good teaching to keep their Spiritual vitality grounded.

For Charismatics there was a sense that Jesus was the answer for everything and that all we had to do was give the Holy Spirit room and He would do the rest. In this space, the brokenness of people and the healing power of God collided. Thorny issues arose of people who couldn't find the victory in their lives.

(FROM INDIA cont'd)

These issues were brought to the Holy Spirit for answers and people received revelation on how to minister to a variety of hurts and confusions. Out of this process came the teachings on inner healing (or healing of memories) as well as workshops like "Yet a Child" that help people break free of their past and find space for their new redeemed person to thrive as Jesus intended. Both the sense of certainty that Jesus is Healer and the attitude that does not accept failure sadly seems to be lacking in this day and age. We have begun to accept failure and disappointment with ease.

I feel that we as the Body of Christ need to use our listening ears again to hear the solutions that God has for His people. Many are the world's woes and many are the needs of this hour. How can I be a part of this? Psalms 81:8 says,

"Hear me, my people, and I will warn youif you would only listen to me Israel!"

Verse 13-16

"If my people would only listen to me, if Israel would only follow my ways, how quickly I would subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes!

Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, and their punishment would last forever.

But you would be fed with the finest of wheat; with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."

Those are some big promises! Our enemies to be placed under us and we are to be given the finest of wheat and honey from the rock. It's time to listen.

One of the big needs of this hour is a solution for Alzheimer's. It is devastating lives all around us. We could wait for science to figure this one out or we could apply our skill and experience over these past 50 years and ask God for His help. Faith and science are not in conflict and we do not have to choose one over the other but we also are listening people who listen to a speaking God. Maybe we need to tackle something smaller first? As I was praying over Alzheimer's the Lord gave me 2 scriptures. My first question was, "Is it reversible?" I received Psalms 56:9 Then my enemies will retreat on the day I cry for help. By this I will know that God is on my side.

The second question was, "Should I listen alone or ask others to listen with me? The Lord gave me Psalms 85 where it talks about His people and Your people and has the word us 5 times. So I am asking you to take time and listen and let us know what you heard. Also let us know how clear it was and how confident you are that it was God speaking to you. Let the office know what you heard.

We are at a time when we need to add to our knowledge perseverance. The body needs to use their gifts for the greater good.

Wind of the Spirit Ministries
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Checks payable to "Wind of the Spirit Ministries" are tax deductible. THANK YOU!

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AUGUST 2019

MINISTRY CALENDAR

"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." Ephesians 4:11,12



PLEASE POST AND PRAY FOR THESE EVENTS

OTHER MINISTRY EVENTS ARE IN THE PLANNING STAGES Martello's email address: martello52000@yahoo.com

August 6-10	Healing Academy, Silverdale, Washington
September 7	Philippines Mission Fundraiser Dinner/Auction Silverdale, Washington
October	Motivational Gifts Seminar, Silverdale, Washington
November	Planning for Kenyan Pastor's Training to take place in February 2020 in Silverdale, Washington and the Philippines Mission in March 2020.