

Making Disciples Aflame for Christ

JUNE 2021

Jesus prayed: "Sanctify them in Truth, Thy Word is Truth." (John 17:17)

RECENTLY, a young boy whose parents teach and model Biblical truth, asked Ray about the ministry of giving. Knowing we have a ministry, he asked Ray if we provide for the needs of the poor. **GREAT QUESTION!**

➡ **Ray's response to this young boy truly revealed the Mission of** ⬅
LightHouse of Hope Ministries! Ray explained to him that God has multiple churches and organizations that provide for the physical needs of the poor. And we thank God for them! But **THE CALLING OF GOD ON THIS MINISTRY IS TO PROVIDE FOR THE ETERNAL, SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF PEOPLE THROUGH THE TEACHING OF THE WORD OF GOD** (Matthew 28:19-20).



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EVERYTHING WE DO IS CENTERED AROUND MAKING DISCIPLES THROUGH THE TEACHING OF THE WORD. Some people the Lord places in our path are in need of hearing the Biblical Gospel and coming to saving faith in Christ. Others that are already believers on God's path of sanctification, need to grow in their Biblical understanding of God and life in Christ as He transforms them from the inside out to a Christlike life of fruitfulness, holiness, godliness and service in the power of the Spirit.

**Every soul needs to hear the Truth about God through the Truth of His Word!
WE TEACH THE SCRIPTURES FOR PEOPLE'S SALVATION AND SANCTIFICATION!**

1 JOHN 2:12-14 REVEALS THREE STAGES OF BORN AGAIN BELIEVERS IN THE BODY OF CHRIST:



1) **LITTLE CHILDREN:** These are believers that know the Father but are spiritual infants/toddlers. They lack discernment because they are weak in the knowledge of Scripture and sound doctrine. They are easily tossed to and fro' by every wind of doctrine and can easily be lured away to false teaching. Of course, this describes a brand-new believer; but it can also describe believers that are not being taught sound doctrine or that are not diligent to read, study and obey the Word every day. Sound doctrine and daily Bible study is imperative for spiritual growth.

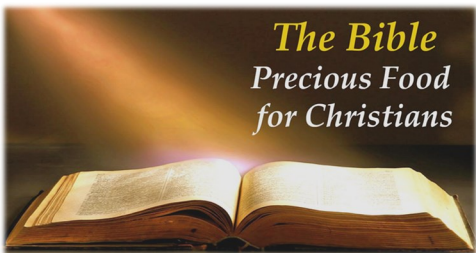


2) **YOUNG MEN:** These are believers that are strong in sound doctrine. They are strong and courageous because they meditate on Scripture day and night and are careful to do according to all that is written in it (Joshua 1:6-9). The Word of God abides in them, and they are not easily deceived by false doctrine/prophets/preachers/teachers. They are strong in the Lord and His Word and therefore able to overcome the deceptive tricks and manipulations of the evil one.



3) **FATHERS:** These are those that "know Him Who has been from the beginning". They not only know the Word of God in sound doctrine, they know, trust, and obey the eternal, infinite God of the Word. These are those that know their God and display strength and take action (Daniel 11:32). Their faith and confidence is in the God of the Word. They have grown steadily in the true knowledge of God, and take great delight in Him. It's like Moses the man of God who had great intimacy with God. (Exodus 33:11).

IN ALL THREE OF THESE STAGES, the knowing of sound doctrine is imperative for growth. The Apostle Peter tells us that every child of God should long for the pure spiritual milk of God's Word like a newborn baby longs for its pure mother's milk so that by the Word they can grow in respect to salvation (1 Peter 2:2-3). Every believer should long for God's Word – and not just on Sunday mornings!





Just a few weeks ago (June 10th) George Barna reported on the “American Worldview Inventory 2021 report” that revealed troubling trends and consistent 30-year declines in Christianity in America. Barna concluded that **“THE UNITED STATES HAS BECOME ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST IMPORTANT MISSION FIELDS IN THE WORLD.”**



According to the report, in the United States:

- ⇒ 46% of adults hold a Biblical view of God (In 1991, 85% held a Biblical view of God.)
- ⇒ 41% believe the Bible is the accurate Word of God (as opposed to 70% in 1991)
- ⇒ 30% believe they will go to heaven because they accept Jesus as their personal Savior (as opposed to 36% in 1991)
- ⇒ Few US adults hold to traditional Christian beliefs.
- ⇒ Interest in reincarnation is growing, especially among Millennials. Even 36% of self-identified “Christians” say they believe in reincarnation.
- ⇒ In 1970, 67% of US adults had high confidence in religion. Today, only 40%.

➤ **BARNA’S CONCLUSION:** “Like never before, I believe we will need to reimagine and increase our efforts to strategically transform this new cultural landscape WITH BIBLICAL TRUTH.”

PRECIOUS FRIENDS, THAT IS WHAT THIS MINISTRY IS DOING! Every soul needs to hear BIBLICAL TRUTH. Every believer needs to learn Biblical Truth, believe it, live it out and proclaim it. **In the early church, the Apostles faithfully taught Scripture because understanding Biblical Truth is the only way to truly know God in Christ for salvation and for sanctification.** When Bibles are accurately interpreted and minds renewed daily in Scripture, the natural outcome is a life that is not only devoted to Christ but Aflame for Christ living for His glory and the building of His kingdom.



THIS MINISTRY IS SIMPLE, YET FAR-REACHING. We don’t have fancy programs or entertaining concerts. We teach God’s Word, and God is bringing people not only locally but around our state and beyond to hear and grow in Biblical Truth.

OVER THESE 20 YEARS OF MINISTRY, we have seen precious people be born from above (saved); we have seen “little children” become “young men”; and we have seen “young men” become “fathers” some of which are now also teaching — and some are preaching!

THANK YOU

YOUR PARTNERSHIP ENABLES US TO CONTINUE MAKING DISCIPLES THAT ARE MATURING IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IN CHRIST!

WE ARE THANKFUL TO GOD FOR EVERY SINGLE MINISTRY PARTNER!

Ministry Partners

EVERY GIFT PLAYS A VITAL ROLE IN THE SALVATION AND SANCTIFICATION OF PRECIOUS SOULS.

**BY GOD’S GRACE AND YOUR PARTNERSHIP,
WE WILL CONTINUE TO REACH & TEACH PRECIOUS SOULS FOR CHRIST!**

We are thankful to report that Ray’s latest quarterly PETSCAN continues to reveal NO CANCER! God continues to sustain and strengthen him as he deals with side effects, but God evidently still has more kingdom work for Ray! Unfortunately, Gwen fell and broke her clavicle four weeks ago. God was merciful to her that not more damage was done. The break was clean and did not require surgery. Gwen is on the mend! Your prayers for her are appreciated. By God’s grace, Tressa is doing just fine! We are thankful to God and thankful for you, your prayers and your support.

May the Lord richly bless you in our God and Savior Jesus Christ,

Ray, Tressa & Gwen

Disciples of Christ, A Flame for Christ Ministries dba LightHouse of Hope



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LightHouse of Hope
Ministries

The Christian Life is Christ in you!

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