

1-6-2011

Faithful Supporters, Family, and Friends,

As always, Janice and I let God know how happy we are with your faithfulness in your prayers and giving. I am asking that you do a serious study of what I have written in this paper.

Constantly ask God to confirm or dismiss this teaching.

This week when I was studying “Jesus’ Public Prayers”, I was led through a series of scriptures and came to **Luke 11:1**.

I always read a paragraph or two so God has a chance to let me know what He wants me to understand. I was struck by the fact that when the disciples ask Jesus to teach them to pray, Luke shares only the first part of Jesus’ teaching ending with; **“and lead us not into temptation.”** Luke didn’t include the ending that other writers do. Maybe Luke got caught up in Jesus’ next teaching like I did.

Please study: **Luke 11:1-4** vs. 2 – We know who you are – **you are God**. . . We want what you have – **Your Kingdom**. . . vs. 3 – Take care of us – **daily bread**. . . vs. 4 We want bread, but our biggest problem is sin – **Please forgive us – help us forgive others – keep us away from temptation**. . .

Continue your study in: **Luke 11:5-11**. What struck me was the fact that the friend who was being asked for help had every right to tell the asker to go away, but because the person who needed help was asking with **boldness**, his friend got up and give him as much as was needed.

Vs. 9 **“So I say to you, ask and it will be given to you.”** because of the story Jesus told, I assume that He wants us to ask **boldly**.

Before I make a **bold request**, I want to suggest a few more scriptures for you to study.

2 Corinthians 8:1-7: vs. 1 learn about the Grace that God gave to the Macedonian churches. . . vs. 2 – 4 most severe trial – overflowing joy – extreme poverty – rich generosity – beyond their ability – entirely on their own they pleaded with us – privilege of sharing in **this service to the saints**. In vs. 5 – “. . . **they gave themselves first unto the Lord and then to us in keeping with God’s will**.

Read vs. 6 & 7 carefully and realize that the main part of this teaching is: “. . . **see that you also excel in this grace of giving**.

Ed-itorial 1: We experience the **Grace of God** in so many areas of our lives, the lives of our family, and our friends. I am afraid that we rarely discuss that the **“act of giving”** is God allowing us to live out His Grace as we give to others in need.

Ed-itorial 2: My assessment of what is going on these days is that Missionaries and Churches are being very careful about money and offerings. I think Satan is pleased with our holding back and being careful, and I am equally sure that God is not pleased with us trying to protect His money.

Everything I read in the scriptures is because we have freely received and should give freely. I cannot find any teaching in scripture about being careful with God's money. The scriptures I read recommend that we act boldly and we are challenged by God to test Him in matters of "giving and blessings." I think that is why the story about asking with boldness hit me between the eyes.

In 2011, I am asking you, my supporters, my family, and my friends to help me give \$20.00 to 1000 people in extreme need. Each time I go to Nigeria, I would like to leave envelopes with \$20.00 worth of Naira for people who have serious needs. My commitment to you is that this will not find its way into any program, but will be given directly to the needy. I cannot record everything they will use it for, but I want this to be about them and the Grace of God. I will try to get a first name to put on a list and send to all of you.

This requires trusting God, trusting Ed Nichols, and trusting the Christians in Nigeria.

First: Commit your involvement to God. He is our source of the Grace needed to accomplish this task.

Second: Make your personal commitment.

Third: Share this with your Sunday school class, small group, mission team, and elders.

If you take an offering, please mark it "Gift of Grace" and send it to:

ACM Int. / Nigeria Kim Setzer 7082 N 1000th Street Paris, IL 61944

Because of Jesus,

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