Justapreacher Ministries

Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. - 2 Timothy 4:2

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We have already been traveling quite a bit this summer. We have been in Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, Louisiana, and of course, Florida. Next week, Jim will fly to Michigan, to work with some church leaders in Ray, Michigan. The day after he returns we will be heading up the east coast of the United States, stopping in Virginia and New Hampshire. Please pray for us as we go, that God will use us and that we will be a blessing to all we encounter. Please check the speaking schedule on the website to see if Jim will be speaking in your area!

God's Perseverance

Perseverance.. Not a word we like to hear. The English Standard Version uses the word "steadfastness". Either way, it gives us a picture of continuing on when the conditions around us are tempting us to guit. If you were to ask people if persevering is hard or easy, they would almost always say "hard". But look closely at what Paul says here in 2 Thessalonians 3:4-5. He prays that God would direct their hearts toward God's love and CHRIST'S STEADFAST-NESS. Did you catch that? Perseverance might not need to be so hard after all. Especially if Jesus is the One empowering our perseverance. Actually, the Bible has been showing us that it is God who finishes His work in our hearts and lives if we have truly received His Spirit. (Philippians

ll Thessalonians 3:4-5

1:6). Look also at Paul's teaching in 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24. According to these verses, who is it that sanctifies us completely, and keeps us blameless at Jesus' coming? The beginning of verse 24 says that it is God, NOT us, and verse 25 says that the One who called us is faithful and HE WILL DO IT!

Stop trying to do what God said was His job! We have been "rededicating ourselves" over and over all these years. We have promised God that "we will do better", and then we fail again and again. Do you believe God's Word? Then begin to trust that the God who justified you by His power through your faith, will also sanctify and glorify you as you trust Him to.

It has taken me a long time

to learn this truth. Many of us have grown up under preaching that has put the emphasis on OUR efforts and OUR hard work. But the Scriptures teach that our focus should be on God's work in our lives by faith. You trusted Him to save you when you turned from your efforts to save yourself, and trusted only in His effort. Now continue in that same way of living! Turn from your efforts to improve as a Christian and daily trust His Spirit within you to conform you into His image. (Philippians 2:13)

Perseverance doesn't seem as scary to me anymore. I know Jesus is working on me in this area, and I am actually seeing changes in my life that I didn't make! Spiritual growth is beginning to be fun!

Recent Blessings

Jim's recent trip to Panama was exciting and fruitful for the Kingdom. God allowed him to preach in a Panamanian prison which housed 18-22 year olds. The Lord blessed, and sixteen young men gave their lives to Christ. These men were warned that it was a very serious, life-changing commitment, and they still declared openly in front of fellow prisoners that they were following Jesus.

Becky and the kids were part of an exciting mission trip to Ohio in June. God impacted not only the people of Cleveland, but also the youth on the mission team. Seven baptisms happened on June 9 as a result of decisions made on the trip! We are

praising Jesus!

Since several people have shown an interest, we are praying about possibly having another Bible Cruise next year. If you are interested, please let us know.

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Thank you for keeping the ministry in your prayers!

to those of you who have contributed to

Thank you!

Justapreacher Ministries

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