First Baptist Church of West College Hill – From the Pastor's Desk Page 1 April 3, 2016

EXPERIENCING the POWER of "ONE ACCORD"

"...they lifted up their voice to God with one accord...And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all." Acts 4:24, 31-33 (KJV)



This Week's Thought - April 3, 2016

"The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, He enables me to go on the heights." Habakkuk 3:19 (NIV)

Given we have already 'sprung forward' our clocks an hour for daylight savings time. We officially started the Spring Season on the calendar back on March 20th, and now turning the calendar into a new month of April. The Holy Spirit has given me a prophetic word to speak into your spirit, to get you to see the signs around you, in order to move from where you are (mentally, emotionally, physically, financially, relationally, and/or spiritually), and get you to 'spring forward' and turn the calendar into the new/next season of your life.

God is your enabler for there is nothing you cannot do that He has destined you to accomplish! It is His eternal enablement that carries you forward. The next phase of your character growth may be painful. The development of your business or ministry to the next level could be daunting. The skills you need as a parent are scary, and it seems impossible to balance work, home, and hobbies, **But God** is bigger than your frailties, your fears, and even your family. He will enable you if you let Him, so do not carry this burden of becoming better alone.

Your Savior is your enabler of bigger and better things. In your own strength you will remain frustrated, frazzled, and stuck. There is no amount of self-discipline that by itself can accomplish God's results. It is through the empowering of the Holy Spirit that you are able to endure and execute the will of the Lord (Isaiah 63:11). As a child of God, you can offload your fatigue to your heavenly Father and rest in Him. You can outsource your anxieties to the One who can enable you to execute eternity's agenda. His grace qualifies you to carry out this life's assignment. You have been crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20) and sealed by His spirit (Ephesians 4:30).

First Baptist Church of West College Hill – From the Pastor's Desk Page 2 April 3, 2016

You are a valued member of Christ's community. Others have traveled this road of trust and did much more than survive. They thrived because the Lord enabled them with His wisdom and grace. This season of life may be hard for now. It is difficult because you are not sure how to navigate everything that needs to be done, and some things need to be left undone. Allow the Sovereign Lord to enable your action or inaction. Seek His power before you traverse this next path of trust. Pray for His eternal enablement, for He is your strength as you embark on the next steps.

Part of accepting God's enablement is admitting areas of weakness. No amount of prayer can transform you into something God never intended you to be. This is important to accept. He will not enable what doesn't contain the raw skills or gifts to develop. If you are good with numbers, then allow Him to grow you in this area of data analysis. If not, then free yourself by allowing another to enjoy the responsibility of drawing financial conclusions and estimates. Stop striving to be someone you are not. Know your limitations and humble yourself by confessing them to others; asking for some proper guidance, instruction, mentoring and maybe even sponsorship from them.

To get to the next level, both professionally and personally, probably means giving up some responsibility for the sake of progress. You could handle this role up till now, but others more skilled are available to step in and do a better job. Successful people understand this natural transition of responsibilities. Allow God to enable you with this different level of leadership and/or responsibility. Change and transition expose weaknesses and strengths. Use this time of vulnerability, and let God enable your leadership development. He is exposing your professional and personal profile in a fresh way, as would a photo developer in a darkroom. This dark time is illuminating the Lord's best for you. God's enablement may mean letting go of the good, and focusing on what you do best. Cooperate with the Holy Spirit; He strengthens what He enables. God's enablement gives you the resources and the wisdom to carry out His plan. Look to the Lord often for His eternal enablement. His enablement strengthens and lasts forever.

<u>Prayer of reflection this week</u>: "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me besides quiet waters, He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name' sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me." (Psalm 23:1-4)

"And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time." Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King