

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 – September 11, 2016

“In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.” Psalm 22:4-5 (NIV)

One of the most helpful things we can do as Christians is to remember that we aren’t the first people to ever live. I know, it’s stating the obvious, but at times we forget this! We think our lives have finally presented God with a challenge that is too great for Him to solve. We think we know a grief that is deeper than He can possibly heal. We think we have a longing in our hearts that He is incapable of filling.

When we take time to remember the hopes and dreams, the longings and fears of those who have gone before us, we also encounter in bold and beautiful ways, God’s faithfulness to His children.

At times, this may be an ancient remembrance, recalling God’s goodness to His people Israel, preserving and protecting them in the midst of great trial and struggle. In fact, this is one of the great benefits of reading the Bible. It’s taking the time to learn our family history, to see how God has acted throughout history and how He kept His promises then and will continue to keep them now and forever.

At other times, it may be important to remember the more recent history of God’s faithfulness in your own life. When in your life have you had to trust in God for healing and hope? When have you been in despair and had the grace of God fill and renew you in a mighty way? The best remedy for current trials is a continual remembrance of God’s faithfulness in your life.

“Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.” (Psalm 22:30-31)

September 11, 2016

While Psalm 22 begins with a remembrance of God’s faithfulness in the past, it ends with a bold challenge to look to the future. The reason you and I know about God’s love and goodness in previous generations is because they couldn’t keep the news to themselves! When God met them in their time of great need, they proclaimed His love and goodness from the rooftops. They wrote songs and poems. They told these stories to their children as they went to bed. In every way, they looked to future generations and said to them, “This is our God! Never forget how He loves you and cares for you!”

If you have encountered the love of God shown in Jesus, you stand in a long line of men, women, and children who have been renewed and restored by His goodness and faithfulness. Yet we must also look to the future, going out of our way to tell the story of God’s goodness in our lives. Live in such a way that when future generations need to be reminded that God loves them and will never abandon them, they can look to your life and be encouraged!

Words from the Master during your time of reflection this week: “I am the God of All Time and all That Is! Seek Me not only in morning quietness but consistently throughout the day. Do not let unexpected problems distract you from My Presence. Instead, talk with Me about everything, and watch confidently to see what I will do. Adversity need not interrupt your communion with Me. Make Me your Refuge by pouring out your heart to Me, trusting in Me at all times.” (Psalm 105:3; Psalm 55:17; Psalm 32:6; Psalm 62:8)

“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