

## **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 – December 11, 2016***

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*“In days to come the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.’” Isaiah 2:2-3 (NIV)*

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It seems as though we are living in a more fractured and divided nation and world, than ever before in history! We are suspicious of our neighbor, anxious about the unknown, and fearful of the unfamiliar. Yet as followers of Jesus, we share in a profound and radical hope. We long for the day when the nations shall stream together, not to increase division or conflict, but to unite together in the peace and unity that only God can give.

When we come into the House of God, regardless of our nationality, wealth, power, or privilege, each of us is invited to come with a shared posture: we sit as disciples/students at the feet of our Master and Teacher (Jesus the Christ). As the prophet Isaiah reminds us, we come into the House of God *“that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”*

Our identity as humble listeners and learners unites us as the people of God. In God’s Kingdom there is no room for the abusive claims of power or the elevation of self at the expense of another. Likewise, there is no need to constantly fight for your own right to be heard or your place in line. We are loved and cherished equally by the Lord, and to anyone who wants to know Him He says, *“Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”* (Matthew 11:29)

December 11, 2016

When we learn to follow Jesus as His humble servants and attentive disciples, we are showing in the present moment the hope that we share for the world yet to come. We take on the character and nature of that coming Kingdom and live as signposts pointing to a future hope. Thus, in a world that often feels dark, broken, and divided; the Lord is inviting us afresh to be beacons of light that fill our families, neighborhoods, and workplaces with hope, goodness, and truth.

Especially during this Advent and Season and the days beyond, let’s make certain to sit at the feet of Jesus, learn to walk in His ways, and shine His light for the world to see!

**Prayer of reflection you might pray this week:** “Dear God, I pray that I will have a new, God-given communication that will help me relate to the people in my life in a more positive way. I pray that I uplift others and that people feel good in my presence. I pray that I am a light of Your love, and that I am strong enough in You that I seek not to change others to my point of view but to bless them where they are.

**I pray for the gift of Divine understanding, and I seek to understand and demonstrate that understanding in my day-to-day interactions with others as a positive influence in their lives. I pray that I have the power to forgive, to release seeming wrongs of the past, and to walk forward into a new day of positive, church, family and all other relationships in my life. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus, Amen!”**

*“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