Christian Seeking Identity

February/March 2017

Greetings Family & Friends,

This is the time of year that we host second year Charis **Bible College mission** trips. We are working with teams in Machala Ecuador. Costa Rica, in Bogota and Cucuta. Colombia. The teams have been doing exactly what we have been talking about. It does not matter where people are or what they are going through or what they have become involved with, when they run head first into the love of God. their lives are changed! We have seen this prove itself out over and over! God has been using Charis Bible School teams from Colorado and Toronto to restore people's lives. It has been exciting to watch God manifest himself through the students. He has used their hands and their feet to manifest his love and compassion to people caught up in impossible circumstances and situations. We have seen tears of joy stream down people's faces as they experience life changing God encounters. This month's teaching is exactly on this subject. We pray that it will bless you and inspire you.

Spiritual Restoration Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:1 We are ministers of the Spirit, not the letter. How do we restore someone that has become involved in sin without taking a legalistic approach? If sin is no longer an issue with God, do we just ignore the problem and act as though

nothing happened? No! Sin is deadly. We have been forgiven by God, but the god of of this world snares us by the works of our own hands and delights in holding our sins against us and using them to torment us. The fruit that comes from sin is painful. It is destroying lives and God hates that!We have to address sin. but how we approach it is critical! But now we are discharged from the Law and have terminated all intercourse with it, having died to what once restrained and held us captive. So now we serve not under [obedience to] the old code of written regulations, but [under obedience to the promptings] of the spirit in newness [of life]. Romans 7:6 Amplified Bible. Ministers of the Spirit arouse people's awareness

of God and connect them to the source of their deliverance. They don't use the law to manipulate people because that does not effectively deal with the problem. Focussing on sin magnifies sin. For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. And the commandment, which was ordained to life. I found to be unto death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment deceived me, and by it slew me. Romans 7:9-11 We can't call people's sin to their remembrance expecting them to be able to use their will power to overcome their problems. That does not always work! Rom 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.What people really need is to be reminded of is that they have a savior! In 2 Peter 1:3 Peter tells us that God has given us everything that pertains to life and godliness. When someone finds themselves lacking it is because they have taken things into their own hands not understanding the success of the cross. For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. 2 Peter 1:8-9. Peter made it a priority to continually remind people that they have a savior who is ready and willing to help them. Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance. 2 Peter 1:12-13 We are God connectors that make people God aware; Aware of his his power, his love, his direction; his compassion and his dedication to their success. We are here to give people hope in the midst of the circumstances that they find themselves caught up in. We are here to remind them that they have a savior who knows exactly how to help them. We are here to re-channel their thoughts; to bring them to repentance, or according to the Greek word for repentance; [metanoia-change the direction of one's thoughts, gather one's thoughts in God's thoughts.] We are here to redirect the focus of their thoughts!



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