

# Christian Seeking Identity

April - May 2019

Greetings Family & Friends,

We trust that you and your families are doing great and enjoying the colorful changes that spring brings. We are looking forward to attending my oldest grandsons' graduation from University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill on Mother's Day.

The months of March and April have been very busy for us as we have hosted three CBC Schools in two countries-CBC Atlanta in Barranquilla, Colombia and CBC Wash DC & CBC Baltimore in Machala, Ecuador. Their ministry was powerful. As I reflect back on their ministry in the different settings where they encountered questions and situations that were challenging, I was blessed because they took time to listen both to the hearts of the people involved and to the Holy Spirit. This led to them being able to effectively minister love and understanding to everyone that they encountered. It made me think of Suzan's teaching for this newsletter as she shares on the subject of how to "Fight the Good Fight". We trust that it will bless and inspire you.

God Bless you!  
Your friends,  
Mickey & Suzan

## Fight the Good Fight

Jesus said that there would come a time when Christians would be hated by all men because of His name's sake. Christians in different parts of the world have suffered persecution for years, but now it is knocking on our own doorstep and it is frightening to say the least.

Our faith is on the line and unless we do something, we could lose it all!

The enemy is ruthless. He comes to kill, steal and destroy and he has no scruples that govern his fight! He fights dirty and he does not care who he uses in the process. His goal is to rile us up so he can steal our peace and provoke us to anger because if we respond to the world's actions in anger, the testimony of God will be lost!

**James 1:19-20** *wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath oman worketh not the righteousness of God.*

The goal is not to be right, but to preserve the goodness of God!

Jesus did not tell us that we would have to compromise everything we believe. But he did present us with a different plan of attack. Jesus said in the midst of the persecution, I am going to give you an opportunity to minister the goodness of God to the world.

**Luke 21:12-15** *AMPLIFIED* *But previous to all this, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, turning you over to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be led away before kings and governors for My name's sake. This will be a time (an opportunity) for you to bear testimony. Resolve and settle it in your minds not to meditate and prepare beforehand how you are to make your defense and how you will answer. For I [Myself] will give you a mouth and such utterance and wisdom that all of your foes combined will be unable to stand against or refute.*

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Think for a minute about the story in Acts where Peter and John healed a lame man and preached the Gospel. The priests were angry but they were impressed with their boldness and had to agree that Peter and John had been with Jesus and a notable miracle had been done. When the priests threatened them and ordered them never to speak or preach in the name of Jesus again, they simply answered we are going to have to obey God rather than men.

**Acts 4:21** *So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all men glorified God for that which was done.*

Our marching orders are different. We are told not to fight the offenders with the same an eye for an eye mudslinging game that the world is fighting with. Jesus admonishes us **not** to overcome evil with evil, but to overcome evil with good; to love our enemies and to do good to those who despitely use us(*Matt.5:44*). Proverbs says a soft answer turns away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger!(*Prov.15:1*) Nothing can be accomplished without building relationships. What is it that people are really looking for? Perhaps it is time to sit back and find out why people believe what they believe and find a way to talk to them without provoking them to anger.

Back in the 70's and 80's I was very politically active. I marched, I rallied, I took a vigorous stand against the same people that we are facing today. We succeeded in passing legislation that kept them at bay. Trouble is, passing legislation did not change the hearts of those people. They just sat back and waited for a better opportunity meanwhile gaining in numbers and strength. What will it take to change the hearts of those people?

I found out we are not here to present people with the rules and regulations of our religion! That turns people off! We are here to be a living testimony of the goodness of God because getting a revelation of the goodness of God is what makes serving God irresistibly attractive! Romans 2:4

## CBC Atlanta Ministering in Barranquilla, Colombia



( Team after Sunday Morning Service) (Team Ministering in Outdoor Service)

## CBC WashDC & CBC Baltimore Ministering in Machala, Ecuador



The Team ministered to children in a special needs school as well as in a Children's Foundation place for abused and molested children.



The Team prayed for people in the Outdoor meeting as well as other church meetings with power and authority. The people received healing, salvation and everything that they asked from God.



The Team did a week long VBS (Vacation Bible School) with 30-35 children. Teaching them through messages, drama and crafts. The Team also did street evangelism in the park giving Free Hugs to all and ministering the Love of God to everyone.