## Christian Seeking Identity

## **Keep Focused**

Sept. 2021

Have you ever had an eye exam? The optician, as he is performing his exam says, "Keep your eyes on the light in front of you." Then he begins, with his array of different instruments that are equipped with their own lights, to shine them into your eye from different angles. All the while you are supposed to keep your eye open and looking only at the light in the center. This was the illustration that the Holy Spirit gave me during my quiet time as I found myself focusing on all of



(Photo I took i in St. George, Utah that caused me to focus on the power of God)

the troublesome things going on around me.

It's easy to become distracted with all of the negative news. If we are not careful, our center of attention shifts and everything that is negative becomes the topic of our conversation and we begin to conduct our lives as as though we don't have a savior. This was exactly what happened to the Israelites when they found themselves face to face with the Philistine army being taunted by Goliath! After forty days of listening to his threats, they lost their nerve and became defeated in their own minds. (1 Samuel 17:11,24) David, on the other hand, did not enter into the battle with his eyes on Goliath. He came in rehearsing how big God was. (1 Samuel 17:34-37)

1 Samuel 17:35 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46 This day will the Lord deliver you into my hands...

Think about Peter's water walking incident in Matthew 14:27-31. Peter asked Jesus the question, "If it be thou, bid me to come unto thee on the water." Jesus told Peter to come and Peter stepped out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. You're probably thinking about now, well yes Mickey but Peter started to sink in the water. You are absolutely correct! Peter did start to sink, but it was only when he got his eyes off of Jesus and began focus on the wind and the waves.

Circumstances don't have to derail us! Joseph faced many of them! It seemed like every time he took a step forward, he was faced with another thing that could have been a defeating moment. How did he maintain his positive momentum in the midst of it all? He never saw himself as a victim because he never lost sight of his God given dream that said he was created for greatness!

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Genesis 50:20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

These few examples serve as reminders of God's faithfulness in the midst of adversity. If we look at the circumstances from a spiritual perspective, they simply serve as just another opportunity for God to show himself faithful and to fulfill his Word in our lives.

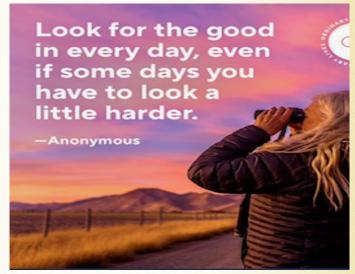
For mine and Suzan's families, we are living this out. This staying focused has become a necessity in the midst of all of the taunting circumstances that we have been faced with in the last year. As I look back, it is interesting to note that God always provides for us what we need at the time when we need it. The Holy Spirit's illustration and words to me have had a profound effect on my ability to handle things in the midst of it all.

1 Cor. 2:12-13 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

We have had opportunity to talk to a lot of people and we know that we are not the only ones being faced with a boat load of adversities. We just want to encourage you to do the same thing that we have had to do. Keep your eye on the light and you will find rest and peace in the midst of the storm!

Suzan and I want to say Thank you for your faithfulness in your prayers and support of our ministry. We thank God for you and pray Gods continued Blessings over you every day of your long and Blessed lives.

God Bless you! Your friends, Mickey & Suzan



(Some days, you may have to squint)

## **Up Coming Schedule**

- > Sept. 26th Zoom meeting with Woodson Ministries
- >Oct. 3rd Preach at Broadnax Baptist
- >Oct. 5th CBC-Argentina Zoom Teach
- >Oct. 7th CBC-Argentina Zoom Teach
- >Oct. 10th Preach at Broadnax Baptist
- >Oct. 29th thru Nov. 2nd Grace & Faith Comference in Lithuania
- >Nov.14th & 21st Preach at Broadnax Baptist
- > Dec. 5th & 12th Preach at Broadnax Baptist