

Please Release Me

The day of my daughters wedding had finally arrived. It was exciting making sure everything was just right for her special day. It seems like time has gone by too fast. Yesterday she was just a baby and now she is twenty-five and preparing to start her own family. I met her at the main entrance of the church to walk her down the aisle; my heart ached as I looked at her, she was so beautiful. I felt as though I was losing her.

Then the wedding march started to play and we began to walk down the aisle. The Pastor asked, "Who gives this woman to be wed to this man?" And I replied, "Her mother and I." As I gave her hand in marriage, the reality of what Christ was saying to the disciples became so very clear, Mark 16:15, "And he said unto them, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Christ heart must have ached as he told them this, knowing the trials and tribulations that lay ahead for them, but loving them so much to release them to their ministry for Christ.

In releasing my daughter from my wife and I, to be joined with her husband was adding to my family, as I gained a son. The same is true, as Christ sent the disciples into the world to preach and teach, that salvation had come unto man. When we release one another to follow what God has planned for our lives, it adds to the most important thing, the Kingdom of Christ.

The Bible says in John 3:17, "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." For the Christian, we all have a ministry to do. Jesus did not call us to live a Christian life just to escape hell. God has promised us life with a purpose. The purposes of letting the Lord incwell our lives to teach others and to minister to all, bringing them to Christ.

Christ is our very life; he lives in and through us. Every one of us long for something more out of life. Even though many try to appear self-sufficient and appear to be in need of nothing, they usually lose the things that are most important to them, love, money, time or life itself. God's gift to a dying world is the giver of life himself, Jesus Christ.

You cannot change what happened yesterday, but you can learn from those sins and mistakes when you take them to our Lord and Savior. Then apply what you have learned in hope of a better tomorrow and a closer walk with Christ. Use each day as an opportunity to trust God and his promises.

There are many Christians that need to be serving God, but don't know how. As a Christian, when you are serving, using your God-given talents to help others, you are ministering and fulfilling the great commission. We honor Jesus and the Father as we serve. Jesus said in John 5:23, "That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him."

Jesus came as a servant to do his fathers' will, he said in John 6:38, "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. Is God calling you today to serve? In Matthew 4:19, "Jesus saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." God's work is often done by ordinary people, which do God's extraordinary work.

As for the lost, those who do not know Christ, you must first recognize that you are in need of a Savior because you cannot save yourself. When you accept Christ as your Savior you are set free, released from the penalty and the bondage of sin that burdens your life. When we confess our sins and repent before God, he forgives our past. When you believe this, God said in Hebrews 10:17, "And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more."

In Christ we have redemption through the blood that Jesus shed on the cross for all eternity. In other words you are forgiven! There simply is no other way but Jesus. The Bible tells us in Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Jesus said in John 5:24, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." And in John 13:20, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me."

The Bible also tells us in Romans 10:9-10, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

It's not enough to just know the facts of salvation; you must also know the Savior. It is my prayer today that if you are lost, you will come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ before it is everlasting too late. And to my fellow Christians, if you are out of fellowship with our Lord and Savior, I pray that you would resolve that today and start serving him.

God has a wonderful plan for your life. So read your Bible and pray everyday. He loves you; he paid the price for all sins. He was crucified on the Cross-of Calvary and rose from the dead for you, and he's coming again. May God Bless and keep you.

Inspired by my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to him I give all Glory and Praise.

By: G.L.F.

Ephesians 2:8-9