

# The Invitation Newsletter

April-June 2013

## We Walk By Faith, Not By Sight

The Word of God records much about faith from a number of angles. For an example, the Apostle Paul contrasts faith with "works of the law," and says that faith is the only basis for righteousness (Romans 1-4; Galatians 1-4). He uses the example of Abraham to make his point: "Abraham believed God and it was reckoned to him for righteousness" (Genesis 15:6; see also Romans 4:5; Galatians 3:6). This is entirely apart from the law (Romans 3:21), righteousness is the gift of God through faith in Christ and his atoning work. Paul is deeply aware of sin as a force

that pervades everyone everywhere, making us helpless and unable to do good. Humanity is dead in sin but is made alive by faith in the word and work of Jesus through the gospel. Faith, then, is faith in Jesus Christ. Paul uses a staggering number of metaphors to describe the things that this faith in Christ can do. It is by faith that believers are justified (Romans 5:1), reconciled (2 Corinthians 5:18), redeemed (Ephesians 1:7), made alive (2:5), adopted into the family of God (Romans 8:15-16), re-created (2 Corinthians 5:17), transported into a new kingdom (Colossians 1:13), and set free (Galatians 5:1). For

Paul, faith is the basis of salvation. It is also bound up with love; faith and love are so closely related that Paul, in writing about faith, must also write a great deal about Christian love. To say that faith is what saves us is only part of the truth, for faith expresses itself through love: "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is of any avail, but faith working through love" (Galatians 5:6); "If I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:2). Love is the beginning of faith, and at the same time, the ultimate expression of faith. Because of this,

not even Paul can totally separate faith from works. The love Paul speaks of is a fruit of the Spirit, who allows us to live the life of faith. Only by virtue of the indwelling Spirit does faith find expression in love.

In conclusion, Paul in 2Cor. 5:7 makes this statement: "For we walk by faith, not by sight." In other words, instead of ordering their lives on the realities of this world, Christians should evaluate everything they do in light of eternity. The beginning point of faith is believing in God's character — he is who he says he is. The end point is believing in God's promises — he will do what he says he will do.

"Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find."

-Jesus



an outreach of Jerry Liversage Ministries

### Romans 10:13-15

*For Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? NLT*



*This ministry is supported through partners such as you. It is your gifts that keep us going to a lost World. Thanks for your continued support.*

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*As we Respond to God's leading..*we continue to watch how He moves in various areas through this ministry to include special and weekly preaching events, singing, weekly group Bible study meetings, food distributions, weekly broadcast of Responding Recovery Television and our monthly community outreach venues at low income motels. One of these monthly 2013 venues took place on Mother's Day weekend at the Evergreen Royale Motel in Anaheim, CA. This was a special event as we honored all Mother's in the crowd of approx. 250 attendees. We also hi-lighted children who helped us distribute gifts to all Mothers. Along with other resources that were made available to all, we gave away approx. 4 tons of food. However, the pinnacle of the event took place after the activities, singing, and the Gospel message, when approx. 20+ people to include children, received Jesus as their Lord and Savior. This is why we do what we do! **We are so thankful that you make this happen through your giving to this ministry. Thank you!!**

### Our 2nd Annual Fundraiser-July 2013

In July 2012, this ministry partnered with TNT fireworks in a fundraiser event through the sales of fireworks in a TNT firework stand. This stand was located at a business front near 13047 Chapman Ave., in Garden Grove, CA 92868. Beginning July 1 2013, we will again do the same at the exact location.

We are expecting individual partners/ donors. A small percentage also comes from this little fundraising event. Jerry Liversage receives no funds from the television broadcast or even his own authored/published material royalties, which are given back to support this ministry. If your in the area, make your July 4th purchase through Responding Recovery. Thank you. Happy 4th of July!!!