

**The Invitation Newsletter**-an outreach of Jerry Liversage Ministries, Inc.

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April - June 2016

We want to welcome you to this quarterly newsletter concerning this ministry. We thank you in advance for your interest and prayer as we continue to walk in this journey. As you may recall, Jerry and Holly moved to the Inland Empire in December 2015. For various family reasons, they sensed a need to move even though the ministry continued in Orange County. Many changes have occurred since their move but one thing is sure; God remains so faithful. As the timeless old hymn of the church states: "*Great is Thy faithfulness.. Great is Thy faithfulness.. Morning by morning new mercies I see.. All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.. Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me.*"

**From Jerry – "Trusting in What is NOT Seen."**

I have recently been challenged by a familiar story from Genesis 22:1-13. It is the story of Abraham and God's promise concerning Isaac. The greatest test in the life of **Abraham** (God tested him) came after he received the promised seed following a long wait. The test was very real: he was to give Isaac back to God. As a test it was designed to prove faith. And for it to be a real test it had to defy logic; it had to be something Abraham wanted to resist. God had earlier said to send Ishmael away (21:12-13), and now He told Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. Abraham had willingly sent Ishmael away, but he would not want to kill Isaac, would he? It is one thing to claim to trust God's word when waiting for something; it is quite another thing to trust and respond to His word after it is received. This was a test of how much Abraham would respond to God's word. Would he cling to the boy now that he had him, or would he still obey and return him to the Lord? In other words how far would Abraham go in dependency upon God? Did he really believe that God would still keep His word and raise the seed of promise? In verse 8 and 14 we see "God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering" (v. 8); and "Jehovah-jireh" (v.14), which means, "The Lord will see to it," that is, "The Lord will provide." As he climbed Mount Moriah with his son, Abraham was confident that God, Jehovah-jireh, would meet every need.

On what could Abraham depend? He certainly could not depend on his feelings, for there must have been terrible pain within as he contemplated slaying his son on the altar. He loved his only son, but he also loved his God and wanted to obey Him. Nor could Abraham depend on other people. Sarah was at home, and the two servants who accompanied him were back at the camp. We thank God for friends and family members who can help us carry our burdens, but there are some trials in life that we must face alone. **It is only then that we can see what our Father really can do for, in and through us!** It always boils down to one goal in this life; the revelation of His abiding presence to include a manifestation of His love for others through Jesus Christ. In times of testing, it is easy to think only about *our* needs and *our* burdens; instead, we should be focusing on bringing glory to Jesus Christ. We find ourselves asking "*How* can I get out of this?" instead of "*What* can I get out of this that will honor the Lord?" We sometimes waste our sufferings by neglecting or ignoring opportunities to reveal Jesus Christ to others who are watching us go through the furnace.

*Where* does the Lord provide our needs? In the place of His assignment. I am so thankful for His promises and the fact that I can be assigned in Christ. Abraham was at the right place at the right time and God actually became his need. We have no right to expect the provision of God if we are not in the will of God. God's will is for our life to be in Him.

*When* does God meet our needs? Just when we have the need and not a minute before. When you bring your requests to the throne of grace, God answers with mercy and grace "in time of need" (Heb 4:16). Sometimes it looks like God waits until the last minute to send help, but that is only from our human point of view. God is never late.

*Why* does God provide our every need? For the great glory of His name! "Hallowed be Thy name" is the first petition in the Lord's Prayer (Matt 6:9-13), and it governs all the other requests. Our greatest need is Him!



The ministry God is doing at Huntington/Westminster apartments in Orange County continues. Even though we have moved to the Inland Empire, we have sensed the need to continue with the great folks at this wonderful facility. God has allowed the opportunity for spreading Jesus to this community and as a result, we continue to be available through preaching at a monthly Sunday service and other assistance through each week. Also, so many of the folks who are residing at this senior facility take an active part of ministry as they reach out to others. We are thankful for people like Shirley, Don, Mary, Jim, and Betty who give of themselves for the purpose of being available to be used of God to so many who are being influenced by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



*Would you please consider being in prayer with us? As we made a prayerful decision to move back to the Inland Empire, we still believe in the urgency of the message while there is still time. We are not interested in a "business as usual" state of mind. We remain thrilled as we watch the powerful work of the Holy Spirit in individual lives and watching them grow in the Word of God. This is what gives us purpose knowing that we are part of something supernatural, which defies human reasoning. Thank you*

### **Jerry's New Ministry Additions**

Jerry will soon begin teaching one class with the Association of Christian Alcohol and Drug Counselors Institute College (ACADCI) in July. As he is preparing for his class, Jerry is excited to Biblically equip students as they begin an educational endeavor, which will also give them a California State credential as a Certified Drug Alcohol Addiction Counselor. However, Jerry believes a life in Christ is what equips an individual for life's journey with God and is the sole answer that we as counselors have to give to anyone who is searching for truth and freedom from man's opinion of wholeness.

ACADCI and College is an educational provider for the Breining Institute and for California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals (CCAPP). ACADCI offers Dual Certificates that qualify in Faith-Based Substance Abuse and Addiction Counselor Competencies as well as Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) TAP 21 Counselor Competencies. ACADCI is also an Education Provider (#705) for National Association for Addiction Professionals, NAADAC.

The Responding Recovery television broadcast, which is through Time Warner Cable station in Costa Mesa, CA continues to go forward with the message of hope. This message gives the REAL REASON behind true Biblical recovery. It highlights the fact of every human being in the need for recovery from sins snare and grasp into a victorious relationship with Jesus Christ. Its focus is on the purpose of God manifesting Himself in the person of Doctor Jesus who comes to perform internal surgery to a broken heart of humanity.



Responding 12 step Recovery group meetings continue in various locations of California to include 3 other States such as Tennessee, Nevada and Oregon. We encourage all group meetings to register with us but in reality, we just do not know how many groups are out there. Our published workbook material is available through local Christian book stores, Amazon Books along with Barnes and Noble. As people purchase our material, and hopefully decide to begin a group meeting, they have a requested choice to register but the follow through is up to the individual. Along with the workbook, we published a DVD companion teaching series for the group as well as for the facilitator. See the web for details.

