
Upcoming Events

Two-Day Revival Meeting, Nov 20-21 (Fri-Sat) at Metro

Week of Fasting Dec 25 - 31 at Metro

Weekly Schedule

Thurs, Oct 22nd (Rowlett) Sam & Daisy's residence (7 PM)

Fri, Oct 23rd (Mesquite) Fasting Prayer @ Parsonage (10 AM)

Sat, Oct 24th (Metro) Fasting Prayer @ Metro (3 - 8 PM)

Website Update: Missions Focus

Our church website (www.metrocog.net) has been updated to focus on the vision to support missions work in every state of India by 2010. Click on the "Missions" tab to get a fact sheet for each state of India that includes information on sociological, geographical and spiritual matters as well as our church's effort in a particular state.

We encourage you to print out the fact sheet of each state that you are committed to pray for and keep it as a guide during your prayer time.

Words of Wisdom: A Perspective on Wealth

The French have a story about a millionaire in his palace who spent his days counting his gold. Beside the palace was a poor cobbler who spent his days singing as he repaired people's shoes. The joyful singing irritated the rich man. One day he decided to give some gold coins to the cobbler. At first the cobbler was overjoyed, and he took the coins and hid them. But then he would be worried and go back to check if the coins were still there. Then he would be worried in case someone had seen him, and he would move the coins and hide them in another place. During all this, he ceased to sing. Then one day he realized that he had ceased to sing because of the gold coins. He took them back to the rich man and said, "take back your coins and give me back my songs."

- Gerry Pierse, *Detachment and Freedom*

Prayer for the Nations: Reunion (Africa)*

- Reunion is a small island in the Indian Ocean – east of Madagascar.
- No-one lived here until French settlers discovered the island in the 17th century. Reunion is still closely tied to France - who gives the island financial help and use it as a military base.
- Most people on the island are Catholics, but in reality 90% are involved with a Malabar religion – a mixture of Hinduism and witchcraft. Pray that people's hearts and eyes will be opened to who Jesus is.
- The Creole population, who used to be slaves on the island, are still the 'underclass'. Poorer than Europeans and Asians, they also suffer higher rates of unemployment and alcoholism.

* http://operationworld.24-7prayer.com/country.php?country_id=90

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metro
Church of God



*Celebrating the Presence of God
Demonstrating the Love of God
Communicating the Word of God
Educating the People of God*

October 18, 2009

The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine: as for the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them. (Ps 89:11)

Welcome

“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth... But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven...” (Matthew 6:19-20)

While many of us may not agree with the viewpoints of the famous psychologist Sigmund Freud, there is an interesting story that he likes to tell that I believe has a spiritual application. “A sailor was shipwrecked on one of the South Sea Islands. The sailor was seized by the natives, hoisted to their shoulders, carried to the village, and set on a crude throne. Little by little, the sailor learned that it was their custom once a year to make some man a king for a year, and it so happened that the sailor was chosen to be their king for that year. Wow, it sounded like a great privilege, and the sailor liked the idea until he began to wonder what happened to all the former kings. Soon he learned that every year when the kingship ended, the king was banished to an island, where he would starve to death. The sailor didn’t like that idea, but he was smart and he was king, at least for a year. So, the sailor, who was now the king, put carpenters to work making boats. He put his farmers to work transplanting fruit trees to the island. He had farmers go out to plant crops on the island and masons to build houses. So when his kingship ended, he was banished not to a barren island, but to an island of abundance.”

What an insightful story. All of us are like the sailor-king. “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion...” (Gen 1:26). Without getting into too much of the theological aspects, we have been given a certain degree of dominion. We have been given an opportunity in this world with the authority (our own volition/freewill) to make some decisions regarding our future.

From another perspective, we can see that God has given us privileges that are to be used wisely while living this earthly life. Most of us are familiar with the parable of the talents that Jesus told his disciples. There are various interpretations of what these “talents” represent. Some say that these are literally talents (same word but with a different meaning). Such as a talent in singing, talent in preaching, etc. Others say that the talents are the material wealth or blessings that we have, but one thing is clear, and that is, these talents have been entrusted to us by our Heavenly Father.

The sailor in our story above could have used his one year of kingship to eat, live luxuriously, and just have fun, in fact, he had every right to do so! But, the sailor would have been very shortsighted since he would’ve constrained his view to only that one year of his life, and he would’ve been blind to his future that went beyond the one year of kingship. But being a wise person, he spend his energy and his short one year timeframe to prepare for the future. Since he was king, he used that authority to ensure a secure future.

Let us follow the example of Moses, who “chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.” (Heb 11:25, 26). Like Moses, let us by faith see that God has promised us an eternal future that is beyond our short life here, with a future that is beyond our imagination or comprehension (I Cor 2:9), and let us use the authority, the blessings, the talents we have been entrusted with for His glory and secure an eternal future that transcends whatever the world would have to offer us.

Yours In Lord...Abie

Sermon Notes