
Upcoming Events

PYCD Picnic on April 24th (Saturday) at Mesquite Paschall Park (10 AM)

PYCD memory verse list for Levels 3 and up and Bible Quiz info is available on the PYCD website at www.pycd.org

Weekly Schedule

Fri, Apr 16th (Rowlett) Fasting Prayer @ Sabu & Bindhu's res. (10 AM)

Fri, Apr 16th (Metro) Impact Meeting @ Metro (7 PM)

Sat, Apr 17th (Metro) Fasting Prayer @ Metro (3 - 8 PM)
Session 1: 3:00 - 5:30 PM
Session 2: 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Prayer for the Nations: Brazil (Latin America)*

- Brazil is a giant country in South America - 50% of South America is Brazilian.
- Brazil had massive money problems in the '80s leaving loads of people in poverty and the country in debt. Things have got better in the '90s but many problems remain: corruption, lack of hospitals and schools and the on-going destruction of the rainforest.
- A small minority of the rich in Brazil live very well and have their hands on most of the money. But while the rich are very rich the 20 million live in absolute poverty in the dirty and overcrowded favelas (slums) in Brazil's cities.
- There is a real spiritual hunger in Brazil and loads of people are becoming Christians.
- As Christians have prayed their intercession has been breaking the power of spiritism, particularly in Goias state.
- The number of missionaries being sent out by Brazil is growing rapidly. Nearly 5,000 Brazilian missionaries are working in Europe, USA and South America.
- There is so much injustice in much of Brazilian society, against the poor, underprivileged children and the tribal Brazilian Indian peoples. Pray for God's justice to be restored.
- There are more Catholics in Brazil than anywhere else, but the majority of Brazilians are involved with spiritism too. Loads of people claim to be Christian but would visit a spiritist doctor or medium for healing or advice!
- Over 50% of Brazilians are under 18. Pray that the church can communicate God's truth to this generation and effectively disciple them. Pray for the growing movement to plant new churches that are relevant to youth.
- The native Amerindians have been exploited, murdered and oppressed throughout their history, sometimes even by the church. Pray that Christians can reach these people in a way that is sensitive, without robbing them of their cultural identity.
- Pray that the mission movement in Brazil continues to grow and that those sent out from Brazil are well supported, protected and encouraged at home and overseas.

* http://operationworld.24-7prayer.com/country.php?country_id=2

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of God



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

April 11, 2010

"O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms." (Ps 95:1,2)

Welcome

Burning your Bridges

"And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return." Heb 11:15

Some of you may have heard the expression "Don't burn your bridges behind you". This expression means leaving your available options open, maintain past relationships, or you may need to use a means or path again that you used previously. A good example is if someone is getting ready to leave a job, it is not a good idea for that person to tell their old boss that he/she sucks, since that person may need to come back and work in the same job again with the same boss. If the person offends their old boss, then they have burned a relationship "bridge" and may not be able to cross this "bridge" again at a later date.

Looking at the scripture from Heb 11:15, it talks about Abraham leaving the land of Ur for a new land. Abraham does the opposite of taking the advice for "not burning your bridges". We can infer from the verse that Abraham somehow burned the metaphorical "bridge" that took him from Ur to the new land where God told him to go. The scriptures are not very explicit on how Abraham burned this bridge, but it states "if they had called to mind the country from which they had come out...", so somehow Abraham mentally burned the bridge by not looking back to Ur once he left.

Abraham had no idea what the future held for him in the land where God told him to go, but he went by faith, trusting in God and looking to God without looking back. Abraham and his descendants (Isaac, Jacob) had opportunities to return to Ur, but they mentally burned that past bridge and never crossed it again.

For some of us reading this article, the Spirit of the Lord may have told or inspired you to take a new direction in life or take a new path with regards to some spiritual aspect or possibly a new step with regards to doing something for the glory of God. We have the inspiration, but we keep our options open. God told us to do something, but we are afraid that if we do what the Lord tells us, it may fail, therefore we keep other venues open.

God may tell a person to come out and do his work, but that person may keep his old job or try to do God's work part-time or decide to follow a different career or educational path. God may tell another person through His word to give up a relationship to an unbeliever, but they think that the other person will become a believer later and doesn't want to end it. God may tell someone to leave their nominal religious background to worship Him in spirit and in truth, but that person thinks they can continue worshipping God where they are at. These are just a few examples on how the Lord may be calling a person to take a new decision and step out.

When the Lord asks us to step out, many times we have to do it by faith like Abraham, not knowing what this step will entail but trusting in a God who will be with us every step of the way...but, we have to take the initial step! There are times when we need to burn our bridges behind so that we will not go back. For the person who was told by God to give up their relationship with an unbeliever, that person needs to burn that bridge and end the relationship permanently (no turning back). For the person called out to do God's work, he may have to quit that old job or educational path he was planning. For the person asked to leave her nominal religious background, she may have to leave her old church for the new one.

There is a battle tactic that some generals used during wartime. When they go into battle and cross a bridge to enter enemy territory, they burn the bridges behind them so that the soldiers will not try to retreat back if the going gets tough. The soldiers are now forced to go forward and fight the enemy or be defeated. It seems like a harsh action, but burn your bridges...if this is what it takes to follow God.

Heb 10:38 states "Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw (turns) back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him." God wants us to live by faith, trusting in Him. He doesn't want us to turn back but go forward...not alone, but with Him always at our side. What more do we need, if God is with us?

Sermon Notes