

John Newlin Ministries, Inc.

- realizing the power of a life in Christ-

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FRIENDS AND RELATIVES WHO REFUSE TO ACCEPT JESUS

That's a big question isn't it. A painful question. A troubling question.

Each of us has a group of people with whom we are involved, some family, some friends, some work associates or just acquaintances. And in that total group we surely each know many that we think may not know, or may know, Jesus – we are just not sure. Some others in our group perhaps clearly do not know Jesus. And perhaps some even adamantly do not want to know Jesus. They may have even asked you not to speak about him again.

(Before I go further, I do want to point out that if you are a born again believer, born of water and the Spirit as Jesus says, filled with and baptized with the Spirit, operating in the gifts of the Spirit, you should be able to discern those in your people group who truly have Jesus as their Lord. The Holy Spirit usually makes that pretty clear. By the way believers talk and act and relate to others, this is usually pretty clear. I have said before that a Spirit filled believer can walk into a crowd, maybe a business gathering or reception, and in little time soon they will be conversing with another believer. It works like that. The spiritual connection is just obvious.)

Well, this whole subject we are raising is one of great pain to many believers. Especially as it pertains to persons close to them, perhaps children or spouses or lifetime friends. Believers want all persons to be in the Kingdom of God with them. Believers want none to be lost.

Of course believers are aware of Jesus' own remarks about how few are those who find the way; in other words, the number getting into the Kingdom is going to be small.

And most believers I hope are aware of the fact that God chose those to be in the Kingdom with him before the beginning of the world. So he knows those he has chosen. He is just waiting for all of them to hear and accept the gospel truth, to have Jesus as their Lord.

I do want to remind all of us that Jesus said no one can come to know him unless the Father draws that person to Jesus. That is why you should always pray for the Father to draw whatever person you are concerned with to a saving knowledge of Jesus.

Keep Your Eyes on Jesus!

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Maybe you have prayed like that many times for a particular person or for many such people. Maybe one or more has told you in no uncertain terms they do not want you to speak of Jesus to them again, and so you have not, hoping to maintain the relationship and someday maybe there will be a breakthrough. Of course you can still pray that God would draw the person to Jesus.

One time years ago in a series of programs I was doing over a period of months, a regular attendee spoke up with great concern and anguish over her son who just would not and had not accepted Jesus. He was now in his fifties, had serious life issues to overcome, and still...no peace for the mother who wanted her son to be in the Kingdom and not lost for eternity. She was distraught.

Another time a few years ago Cathy and I spent a weekend with a friend of mine from childhood. We were at a mountain vacation house he had built. Twice during the time there, in discussion between this friend and me, we eventually came to discuss Jesus. I shared all sorts of insights and truths. But he would not budge. To him Jesus was just a person. He did not have a clue about the truths of the gospel and did not seem open to receiving any insight, even though I did share some great spiritual truths and moments with him. We still pray for God to draw him to Jesus.

We all have to live in this world, maybe survive is a better term, or endure at this point in time. The level of evil is so obvious to any serious believer, as is the huge level of lost and confused and delusional people in society. And we all know and see so many spiritually lost people.

The conclusion of the matter?

- Keep your eyes on Jesus! Always. His guidance directly to me one night on the beach which I have shared with all of you for years. Stay focused. Don't let other issues intrude on that connection.
- For those lost people you would, pray that the Father would draw them to a saving knowledge of Jesus.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to arrange any and all divine encounters he would have you have with anyone and specifically with persons you are praying for. And if such encounters come about, ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and the other person in the discussion.
- Live in the peace the Lord has given believers. Remember, you are not the one who chose the people to be in the Kingdom with God forever. You do your best in getting the truths of the gospel out to others. But then, that is that. Do not throw your life away constantly struggling and worrying about anyone who just will not accept the Lord. God gave you your life. You know Jesus. You have much to do here on earth. Don't let their refusal to accept the Lord steal the joy the Father and Jesus have for you.

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JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

In the beginning Jesus existed, before anything that was known or has ever been known, way before he came to earth in human form. He in scripture was referred to as the “Word” then and still is. He too is God. All things were made through him and nothing was ever made otherwise. This Jesus, this Word, was with God the Father in the very beginning.

In Jesus was life, true life, and this life was and is the light of all humankind. This light shines in the darkness. Even a tiny speck of it illuminates a dark room and exposes all that is within, all that is happening.

The darkness of this world has not and will never overcome the light that is Jesus the Word. Your role, your objective as a human being is first and foremost to realize who this Jesus is and to ask him to be the Lord of your life. He is your hope, your only hope, for a good existence in all eternity.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. – from John 1

WORDS TO PROCLAIM -TO SHOUT OUT

At a wee early hour of the morning a few days ago, God spoke these words to me. Clearly. Whether it was the Lord Jesus or God the Father or the Holy Spirit, I do not know. But it was powerful and I immediately was wide awake and pondering.

JESUS! JESUS! JESUS!

Don't pass us by.

Get in the boat

And take us to the other side.

Words for you to proclaim any moment. The “us” can obviously be replaced by me, or your spouse's name, or whoever. Shout this out loud when you are facing something. Just saying the name Jesus out loud in a room brings peace and spiritual power and presence. Remember the

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disciples in the storm on the sea? Jesus was walking by. They called out and he came and stepped into the boat. Immediately the sea was calm and the boat was on the other side.

He is Jesus you know. Your savior. Your Lord. The one who gave his life for you. Think about the wonder of it all. As a true believer, you know him. And he knows you.

***OUR THANKS AGAIN TO ALL THOSE SUPPORTING THIS
MINISTRY WITH YOUR PRAYERS AND FINANCIAL DONATIONS!***

We do indeed need your support to reach all those around the world with the truths of who Jesus is and that he is coming soon. In recent months donations have decreased, why I do not know. Everyone should of course be encouraged by the huge numbers God has reached through our ministry in many nations. Just two weeks ago our video *Reaching the End of the Book* reached 555,000 in Kenya in four days. Please if you can consider making a gift to support this dramatic evangelistic effort that God is so obviously using in these last days.

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people.

May you live in the blessings of God always.

John

Please email or print and send copies of this newsletter to everyone you know.

Remember, the darkness that is in this world will never overcome the light that is Jesus.

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