

Supporting Pastors by Ministering to Christians in Need of Guidance and Deliverance



APF Newsletter—Vol. 2, No. 2

February 2, 2008

Dear APF Supporters,

Greetings to All:

This newsletter is written with joy, and I hope that it brings joy to you as well. God has been about a mighty work and I'm glad to be able to share about some of it with you today. Thank you all for generous donations! The giving has been a wonderful blessing in December and January, and has the year off to a great start. We are very thankful.

Praises:

In less than two weeks, Angela's due date will be upon us. We are excited...and hope that we have "everything ready" for the baby. Thank you for praying for her. Some days are better for her than others, but Angela has been handling being pregnant very well.

A second praise is that I have been able to meet with area pastors since the beginning of January. I've met two or three a week, and most of them have been very receptive and supportive. It is encouraging to know that I am building a network of pastors for counsel and to be a reference for them.

Another praise is that I've been able to lend a hand to a number of families in the last month, and they have reported, "Things are much better." One family was in need of peace, as children were being rebellious and disrespectful. Knowing how children can be, as my children can be disrespectful and need discipline (often it seems ☺), I have to be very careful to assume that problems are due to demonic roots. For this family, after an hour or so of counseling, it was very clear that a traumatic experience was the cause. A relative accused in public their child of being rebellious and defiant, when the child clearly was not. The relative had spoken curses over the child. The family addressed the curses as well as some ancestral issues with occultism, and left feeling much more peaceful. They have reported that they are doing much better. This is not isolated, as others I have helped have reported doing better. What joy that brings! Thank you for the prayers for the work of this ministry.

Lastly, the date for the open house has been set for April 17, 2008 at the Yellow Creek Mennonite Church house. It will be a cookie and hot drink snack time with a presentation. It will start at 6:00pm. I'm glad that we could get the open house scheduled, and can begin advertising.

Some Thoughts to Consider:

Last month, I mentioned that I had been reading the book *Satan a Defeated Foe*. I have concurrently been reading, or actually studying, *War on the Saints* by Jesse Penn-Lewis. The book is a classic, written in 1910. The full text addition is so loaded with information that it must be read very slowly and contemplated with great focus.

One thing of note from this book stands out, and it is being seen in some recent cases. On page 43, she notes that the Church will reach its "high water mark" when believers deal with demonization head on take up the battle against the powers of darkness. She also says that when the church does this, the powers of darkness will become even more hostile and their attacks will be very strong

and overt.

The basis for this is that when the Lord Jesus was active in ministry, the demons became very evident. In some cases, the people He freed had demons that were hidden. The person seemed to have nothing wrong, but when Jesus came near, suddenly the demon cried out in horror (Mark 1:24)! So as the believers engage the powers of darkness in the Name of Jesus Christ, she says the powers of darkness will be afraid and will expose themselves.

In a few of my cases right now, and have experienced in past cases, as the person works at dealing with personal and family issues, the troubles seem to get worse! Often people will say, "What's the point? Why continue?" I have to respond, "You are taking away what the demons held and they don't like it. They are going to fight to keep it." If the person keeps at it standing in the victory of Calvary, the demons have let go. Sometimes things actually get worse before they get better. The man in Mark 1 surely had a better life after the demon was out, but had to deal with the embarrassment of having it cast out...in public!

In some cases, a person can really stir up the beehive when he or she begins to address issues that involve the demonic. It can affect the whole extended family if the root of the problem is in ancestral occult practices. The demons are connected through the spiritual ties of the family, and will try to cause problems within the family to stop that one person from seeking help. The demons simply don't want to lose their home, and make the family problems increase. Again, as we appropriate the victory of Christ on the Cross and deal with demonization, the enemy becomes more active.

I must encourage all to be willing to deal with personal and ancestral issues that may allow demons to afflict a person. Even if it causes the problems to increase, the freedom that is in the Lord Jesus Christ is very much worth the struggle. He desires us to live an abundant life, and it can happen through freedom and deliverance from evil spirits. To quote Penn-Lewis again, "...the manifestation of the power of God invariably meant aggressive dealing with the satanic hosts." It is by the power of the Living God that we engage the evil spirits, so even though we may have to "go through the valley of the shadow of death," He will lead us through (Psalm 23).

Prayer Concerns:

First, please continue to pray for Angela, as the due date approaches. We need wisdom to know when it is time to go to the hospital!

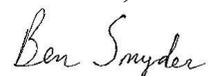
Second, please pray for the planning and development of the open house. I also ask that you help spread the word about the open house.

Third, pray for those who are helping to work on the office. It is coming along! Please continue to pray in general for the growth and work of the ministry.

Final Thoughts:

Thank you for living for Jesus Christ by helping others. Remember that when you support *A Pastor's Friend*, you are helping people in need, not us. Confidentiality keeps me from sharing all of the good that I see, but your support has helped many people's lives. You are blessing many with your support. Thank you!

In Christ,



Ben Snyder