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*...Serving the Body of Christ by Identifying, Teaching, Training,
Empowering, Mobilizing Intercessors ...*

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Dear Believer:

May the very presence of God be your portion, indeed your very meat and drink in places where others would know no comfort.

The city wide prayer meeting in Alice, TX this past Tuesday was awesome. As the pastors gathered along with others to pray they were asking the Lord for specific insight and direction for their city. While waiting upon the Lord, God's presence became so strong that no one wanted to continue to pray. We just sat before Him for much of the time. It was powerful.

Here in Corpus Christi prayer is growing in numbers of people praying, in frequency, and in the presence of God sensed in the meetings. As I am more and more part of various prayer times I am hearing a blending of the cry of people for the heart of God to be manifested in His people. That is a cry which He will surely answer.

Recently, Shammah Prayer Ministries International, Inc. sponsored a meeting, which the Lord had us call South Texas Strategic Level Intercessors Meeting (SO TX SLIM). This was a powerful gathering and a wonderful time of like-minded people sitting down to talk about the things the Lord is doing in South Texas. There were only a few in attendance, but no one went away without being encouraged in faith and direction. We all left knowing that we were on track with what Jesus had called us to do and that He is able to see to it that we complete the work as He works in us. God is so good to us.

Since that meeting, while reading a familiar passage in the Word, the Lord caused me to see something which I had not noted before. The whole section hinges on Luke 17: 1-6. This is a pivot point for most, if not all, the scripture from Chapter 15 through 18. There is not space here to convey all it recounts. Therefore, grant me grace to present it in short form. In 17:1 Jesus is speaking to the disciples, but in 17:5 the apostles are answering by crying for an increase of faith. The response from Christ is a reproof. He basically is saying that they do not need faith for this as even a minute amount will permit great deeds to be done. I believe He is saying, here and from Chapter 15 through all of Chapter 18, that they just need to do what they are told. Jesus is saying that these are not faith things that are impossible for man; they are faithfulness things in the sense of simple expected duty from a servant. Let us in the great days that are before us, cry out to the Lord, not for more faith per se, but for greater steadfastness and heart commitment to follow Mary's instructions to the servants at the wedding in Cana; "Do whatever He tells you." As we do what God has given us to do, faith will follow. As Jesus said in Luke 12:42-43: "And the Lord said, 'Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? 43 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.'"

As we grow in prayer, as we are more able to recognize the hand of God at work, as we experience ever more powerful manifestation of the presence of God, let us truly be found faithful in doing what the Lord has given us to do; Forgiveness, love of others, deference to others, and giving our lives to the Gospel of the Kingdom.

Sincerely,
William W. Lumry, II

PS Thank you for your faithfulness to pray and give as the Spirit of God leads you. Our schedule continues to grow.

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