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Aan Sy Hand...

'n Onbekende jaar lê voor my en wat dit inhou, weet ek nie. Wat daar wag van smart of vreugde is nou nog net bekend by God, my Vader. Daaroor bekommer ek my nie nou nie, maar laat dit in Sy sorg en liefde.

Al sou daar siekte wees of sonskyn, al sou dit voorspoed wees of swaarkry, al sou ek volop vriende hê of in eensaamheid my pad moet loop, vertrou ek op die Here se beloftes en aan Sy Hand gaan ek die toekoms in!

Al sou die son bedags nie skyn of daar geen ster te sien wees in die nag nie, sal ek nie bang wees vir die donker nie, want die Here Self is vir my die lig en die lewe. Al sou die aardse lig dan dowwer word, is daar in Sy nabyheid altyd LIG!

wanderlustscarlett.blogspot.com

EACH STEP I TAKE...

Each step I take
my Saviour goes before me
And with His loving Hand
He leads the way
And with each breath
I whisper
"I adore Thee"
Oh, what joy
to walk with Him each day!

At times I feel
my faith begins to waver
When up ahead
I see a chasm wide
It's then I turn
and look up to my Saviour
I am strong
when He is by my side...

I trust in God
no matter come what may
For Life eternal
is in His Hand
He holds the key
that opens up the way
That will lead me
to the Promised Land!

Each step I take
I know that He will guide me
To higher ground
He ever leads me on
Until some day
the last step will be taken
Each step I take
just leads me closer Home...
- W Elmo Mercer

www.flickr.com

Waarom Swaarkry? Daar is Uitkoms!

My oorlede vader het aan ons kinders iets uit sy eie kinderdae vertel. Hy is gebore in 1896, en dit was die tyd van die opkoms van die Afrikaner met die twee Boererepublieke. Dit was die tyd van Paul Kruger. Terloops, my pa is vernoem na hom. Paul Kruger was Stephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger. Maar my ouma het my pa slegs Stephanus Johannes genoem, en gesê "Paulus" was net 'n bynaam. Ons het my pa net "Fanie" genoem.

Toe die Vryheidsoorlog uitbreek, het die Britse leër Suid-Afrika binnegeval. Al hulle wapentuig, perde, kanonne en alles wat nodig was, het hullle saamgebring. Die Afrikanermans is gevange geneem en na St. Helena verban, en die vroue en kinders is na die konsentrasiekampe geneem waar hullle in haglike toestande moes oorleef. Hulle is sleg behandel, gemartel, het slegte kos gekry en is selfs verkrag.

Op 'n dag was my oupa met die gesin, my ouma en die twee klein seuntjies (my pa en my oom) op pad iewers heen met die perdekar. My oupa het nie gaan oorlog voer nie, want hy het 'n groot en pynvolle abses onder sy regterarm gehad. Hy sou dus nie 'n geweer kon hanteer nie. En daar kom die Tommies!

My oupa het toe gou een van die twee perde uitgespan, opgesaal en weggery. Stadig op 'n galop vanweë die pyn wat hy verduur het. Wat doen die Tommies toe? Hulle teister die vrou met haar twee klein kindertjies. My pa was 6 jaar oud en sy broer 8 jaar. Die soldate neem toe "dooierus" op die perdekar en lê aan op my oupa terwyl hy op 'n stadige galop probeer wegkom! En hulle skiet. Maar dit is mis! En weer en weer, maar dit was mis. Ek reken my gelowige, Gereformeerde ouma het net kon bid. Want sien, ons het afgestam van oom Paul Kruger, 'n Gereformeerde gelowige.

Die Kakies hou aan skiet, maar my oupa verdwyn oor die bult sonder 'n skrapie, met my Ouma met twee klein kindertjies wat getraumatiseer is! Nou die vraag: Hoekom doen God dit dan aan klein, kindertjies en 'n weerlose moeder? Watter innerlike pyn en smarte het hulle deurgemaak, trauma wat hulle nie kon vergeet nie - my pa het dit deurgemaak en onthou, meer as sestig jaar later, tot kort voor sy dood. **Hoekom het dit so gebeur?**

Jan F.E. Cilliers (1865 - 1940) se treffende gedig beskryf die naoorlogse balling se gemoed wanneer hy terugkom na sy land na… NIKS! Die balling kom oor die oseaan vanaf die eiland St. Helena waarheen hy in ballingskap weggevoer is. En wat vind hy?

DIS AL

Dis die blond,
dis die blou:
dis die veld,
dis die lug;
en 'n voël draai bowe
in eensame vlug -
dis al

Dis 'n balling gekom
oor die oseaan,
dis 'n graf in die gras,
dis 'n vallende traan -
dis al

Wat sien hierdie man? Blou lug, wolke, 'n voël wat vlieg, 'n graf in die gras (dalk sy vrou s'n?), en net 'n traan wat op die grond val. En DIS AL!

Beleef jy ook 'n "Dis al" in jou lewe? Het jy self 'n NIKS in jou lewe? 'n Leegte? ALLES verloor? Geen werk, geen kinders, geen vriende, geen familie wat omgee nie. Alles is weg! Jesus sê: *"Kom na My toe, almal wat vermoeid en belas is, en Ek sal julle rus gee"* (Matt. 11:28).

Hoe gebeur dit dat vrouens en kinders weggevoer is na konsentrasiekampe en hewige smart en lyding moes ondergaan? Mans is weggevoer. Plase tot die grond toe afgebrand onder die Engelse se "Verskroeide-aarde" beleid!

Dan was daar ook Jacob Daniël du Toit, beter bekend as Totius (1877 - 1953). Hy het ook die oorlog deurleef. 'n Formidabele mens. 'n Hoogs beskaafde mens. Skrywer, digter, taalkenner en gesogte teoloog in die Gereformeerde Kerk wat meegehelp het om die grootste deel van die Bybel in Afrikaans te vertaal. Hy het ook meegewerk om die PUK (vanouds die PU vir CHO) te stig - vandag die Noordwes Universiteit (NWU). 'n Nederige Godsman.

Die weerlig tref sy dogtertjie en sy val dood in sy arms! Watter pyn! Watter smart! Watter lyding! Dit is heilige grond. Watter trooswoord kon sy eie mense vir hom aanbied? Ek ken sy Kerkgenootskap, want ek het daarin grootgeword. Ek ken ook daardie Kerk se teologie.

Hy verwoord sy innerlike pyn in 'n gedig:

O DIE PYN-GEDAGTE

O Die pyn-gedagte: My kind
is dood! . . .
dit brand soos 'n pyl in my.
Die mense sien daar
niks nie van,
en die Here alleen
die weet wat ek ly.
Die dae kom en die nagte gaan
die skadu's word lank
en weer kort;
die drywerstem van my werk
weerklink,
en ek gaan op my kruisweg
voort.
Maar daar skiet aldeur 'n pyn
in my hart,
so, dat my lewe se glans
verdwyn;
Jou kind is dood
met 'n vreeslike dood!
En ek gryp my bors van die pyn.

O Die bliksemgedagte! . . .
Ja, lieflingskind,
een straal het jou skone liggaam
verskroei,
maar bliksemstrale sonder tal
laat my binneste brand en bloei.
Sy was so teer
soos 'n vlindertjie,
sy't lugtig omheen geswerf;
'n asempie wind
kon haar vlerkies breek
en kyk watter dood
moes sy sterf!

Hoe weinig die kinders
wat so moet sterf,
dis een uit die tienduisend-tal,
en ag, dat dit sy was,
en ek moes sien
dat sy dood in my arms val!

O Die pyn-gedagte: My kind
is dood! . . .
dit brand soos 'n pyl in my;
die mense die sien daar
niks nie van,
en die Here alleen
die weet wat ek ly.

DIE VERLOSSING VAN PYN: DIE UITKOMS

Die vraag "waarom" bly maal in ons gedagtes. Ons wroeg en bly wonder... Hoekom die smart en lyding? Kom die pyn en lyding van God? Kom dit van Satan? Kom dit van die mens self? Kom dit van die sondeval? Wie sal ons blameer? Maar sal ons beter voel as ons vrae teologies kan beantwoord? Sal dit ons verlos, of met bitterheid vul as ons weet? Nee! Blote begrip of kennis is nie genoeg nie. Ons moet <u>self</u> by God uitkom!

Ek sit en skryf hierdie gebeure neer na 'n ellelange gesprek met God om sin te maak van alles. Ek deel in Totius se innerlike pyn met Goddelike medelye, en dit brand ook in my soos 'n brandende pyl. Wat as dit ek was wat so 'n smart moes deurleef? Watter bomenslike smart en lyde!

En skielik, onvoorspelbaar, gaan die elektrisiteit af - sonder waarskuwing. Beurtkrag! En die rekenaar stol. Wie het dit gedoen? En hoekom, want ek is steeds besig met God se werk terwyl ek hierdie artikel skryf! Ek sit in die donker met 'n traan wat oor my wang vloei. Net soos Jan F.E. Cilliers hierbo. Meer vrae as antwoorde. Hierna sou God my telkemale 'n blik gee oor menslike lyde, met smart in my hart. En ek bid… Ek doen intersessie vir mense wat ek somtyds nie eers ken nie, want die Here sê: *"Dra mekaar se laste en vervul so die wet van Christus"* (Gal. 6:2). Die wet van Christus? Ja. **Liefde.** Wil jy God dien in liefde? Vra Hom om jou 'n hart van liefde en medelye te gee sodat jy ander ook kan dien deur jou gebede.

In Heb. 12:13 staan geskryf: *"…en maak reguit paaie vir julle voete, sodat wat kreupel is, nie <u>uit lit</u> raak nie, maar liewer gesond gemaak word."* Hoe baie mense deur al die eeue heen het uit lit geraak! Hoe baie het smart en lyding deurgemaak, en is nog steeds bedroef? Dit hou nie op nie!

Het ons al uitgeklaar: Is dit van God, en hoekom? Maar oorloë kom nie van God nie (Jak. 4:1). Is dit van Satan? Is dit die sondeval? Is dit uit die mens, selfs die gevolg van ons vyande se dade? Lê die fout by my, en moet God my nou straf? En met al hierdie vrae, het ek nog nie by 'n antwoord uitgekom nie! Ek sink al dieper en dieper in die put af! Dit is dán dat God my roep: "Kom, my kind, kom in My troonkamer in, kom lê jou lewe en al jou vrae aan My voete neer. Ek sál jou help!"

KONKLUSIE: WAAR KOM AL DIE RAMPSPOED, PYN EN LYDING VANDAAN? WAT IS DIE OPLOSSING?

Al sou ons alles teologies en intellektueel kon verklaar, bring dit ons nog nie by die oplossing of uitkoms van die probleem van lyding nie. **Daarvoor het ons nodig om self by God uit te kom.** Ons is almal slagoffers van die sondeval. En selfs Satan maak gebruik daarvan om ons in verdrukking en benoudheid en smart te bring. Maar dán is dit nodig dat ons met God praat, dat Hy 'n unieke antwoord of woord van vertroosting vir jou kan gee!

Daarvoor is daar baie Woord wat die Heilige Gees vir ons kan openbaar, sodat ons kan bid en uitkoms kan kry. Sy Woord sê immers onder andere:

Ps. 50:15 - *"…en <u>roep</u> My aan in die dag van benoudheid: Ek sal jou uithelp, en jy moet My eer."*

Jes. 55:6 - *"<u>Soek</u> die HERE terwyl Hy nog te vinde is; roep Hom aan terwyl Hy naby is."*

Jes. 26:20 - *"<u>Kom</u>, My volk, gaan*

Vervolg op p. 3

Waarom Swaarkry? Daar is Uitkoms!

Vervolg van p. 2

in jou binnekamers en sluit jou deur agter jou toe, verberg jou vir 'n klein oomblik, totdat die grimmigheid verbygaan."

En dan die bekende 2 Kron. 7:14 *"As Ek die hemel toesluit, dat daar geen reën is nie, of as Ek die sprinkaan beveel om die land af te eet, of as Ek pes onder My volk stuur, en My volk, oor wie My Naam uitgeroep is, hulle verootmoedig en bid en My aangesig soek en hulle bekeer van hul verkeerde weë, dan sal Ék uit die hemel hoor en hulle sonde vergewe en hulle land genees."*

Die hele Bybel is vol Skrifgedeeltes waar God die mens uitnooi om hom te verootmoedig en God te soek.

Vra die Heilige Gees vir Woord wat Hy tot jou sal bring, en bid dan daardie spesifieke Woord! God Self het gesê: *"Ek sal jou nooit begewe en jou nooit verlaat nie!"* (Heb. 15:5).

Ek het dit gedoen tydens 'n gesondheidskrisis in ons familie, en Hy het fisies met my gepraat en gesê: "Julle sal NIKS oorkom nie!" Kom kry jou antwoorde by God! Lees ook met geloof Psalm 23, glo dit met jou hele hart, en pas dit toe in gebed. Hy sal tot jou hart spreek - woorde van vertroosting en begrip.

Het jý al by die troonkamer van jou Vader uitgekom? Dan kwalifiseer jy om ander te help om ook daar uit te kom. Sy deur staan altyd oop… Hy roep jou! Hoe kan jý ander help? Wat het jy in jou hand?

Ek skryf nog, en daar lui die deurklokkie. Iemand staan voor my met 'n halwe lamsboud en met 'n getuienis van wat my vrou vir haar geestelik beteken het. Dit gryp my hart aan! Wat 'n vertroosting. En dit deur iemand wat self deur beproewing gaan! Ek sê: "Dankie Here, U weet presies wat ek nodig gehad het!" So loop ons ons pad met geloof… En ons bedien troos vir ander vanuit God se troonkamer. Amen.

© Dr JJ Venter

O tla ungwa maungo afe ka 2024?

(What fruit will you bear in 2024?)

DITEMANA

"Ke nna setlhare sa moweine sa nnete; Rre ke molemi wa moweine. Kala nngwe le nngwe e e mo go nna e e sa ungweng leungo, o a e tlosa; mme nngwe le nngwe e e ungwang leungo, o a e tlôkôtla gore e tle e ungwe segolo" (Johane 15:1-2)

"O tshwana le setlhare se se tlhomilweng fa dinokaneng tsa metsi, se se ungwang leungo la sona mo motlheng wa sona, se matlhare a sona a sa swabeng, mme tsotlhe tse o di dirang o di swetsa ka lesego" (Pesalome 1:3).

"Lo tla ba itse ka maungo a bone. A go a tle go fulwe leungo la moweine mo mitlweng, gongwe difeie mo mesitlwaneng? Ka moo, setlhare sengwe le sengwe se se siameng se ungwa maungo a a monate; mme setlhare se se siamang se ungwa maungo a a botlhoko. Setlhare se se siameng ga se ka ke sa ungwa maungo a a botlhoko, le setlhare se se siamang ga se ka ke sa ungwa maungo a a monate. Setlhare sengwe le sengwe se se sa ungweng leungo le le monate se a rengwa, se latlhelwe mo molelong. Ka moo he, lo tla ba itse ka maungo a bone" (Matheo 7:16-20).

"Ga se lona lo intlhaoletseng, ke nna ke itlhaoletseng lona, ke bile ke lo beile gore lo ye lo ungwe leungo, mme leungo la lona le nnele ruri, gore se lo ka se kopang Rara mo leineng la me, a se lo nee, le fa e ka nna eng" (Johane 15:16).

"Mme leungo la Mowa lone ke lorato le boitumelo le kagiso le bopelotelele le bopelontle le molemo le boikanyego 23le bonolo le boitshwaro le bophepa; dilo tse di ntseng jalo, molao ga o ganetsanye natso" (Bagalata 5:22).

DIKAKANYO

Mo Beibeleng Lefoko gantsi le bapisa motho le setlhare sa maungo. Wena o setlhare sa maungo afe? Maungo a a siameng kgotsa a a sa siamang? Maungo a a botlhoko kgotsa maungo a a monate? Gape ga twe setlhare se se sa ungweng maungo se tla ntshiwa mme se latlhelwa mo molelong. Ka nako ya boikhutso re ne ra etela kwa polaseng ya maungo. Koo go ne go na le ditshimo tsa ditlhare tsa diperekisi le ditlhare tsa diapole. E rile fa ke bona setlhare sa diapole se tletse ka maungo ka nagana ka ditemana tsa maungo mo Beibeleng.

Gompieno ke go botsa le wena gore maungo a gago mo bophelong ke maungo a a ntseng jang? Temana e e buang gape ka mefuta ya maungo ke Bagalata 5:22. Lefoko la re maungo a Mowa le bana ba Modimo ke *"... ke lorato le boitumelo le kagiso le bopelotelele le bopelontle le molemo le boikanyego le bonolo le boitshwaro le bophepa"...* A wena mo ngwageng wa 2024 a o tla ungwa maungo a a Mowa kwa ga gago, kwa tirong le gotlhe kwa o tsamayang teng? Mo Johane 15:1-2 Jesu a re: *"Ke nna setlhare sa moweine sa nnete; Rre ke molemi wa moweine. Kala nngwe le nngwe e e mo go nna e e sa ungweng leungo, o a e tlosa; mme nngwe le nngwe e e ungwang leungo, o a e tlokotla gore e tle e ungwe segolo."* A re leke go ungwa maungo a a siameng a a monate ka 2024. Fa o sa ungwe o tlile go o tlile go tlokotliwa kgotsa o ka tlosiwa. Dirisa 2024 go nna setlhare na nnete mo tshimong ya Bophelo.

Johan Zerwick
Sêlê ke 083 458 3837

THAPELO

Ntate wa rona, Molemi wa rona re kopa o re thuse go nna ditlhare tsa maungo tse di ungwang maungo a Mowa. Molemi wa rona re kopa o re thuse gore re ungwe maungo a a monate ka ngwaga wa 2024. Re thuse o re fe monontsha le metsi mme re kgone go nna ditlhare tse di ungwang. Fa go ka na le dikala tse di sa ungweng re kopa o re thuse go di tlosa le fa re itse gore go ka se nne monate fa o di sega. Re tse tsotlhe ka leina le le maatla la Jesu Keresete. AMEN.

When we pray, we get into union with God's view of other people. Prayer allows us to identify ourselves with His interests in others. If my heart is right with God, every human being is my neighbour.
- Oswald Chambers

OUR EMOTIONS ARE POWERFUL...

We all have them. These emotions bring flavour to our lives. But sometimes these emotions get away from us and become like wild horses - untamed and running free!

"Wild horse" emotions, if unbridled, can run roughshod through our souls, lives, and relationships. They have the power to destroy us. Yet these same "wild horse" emotions, if brought under control, can carry us to new levels of success.

Consider feral stallions - ones that have not had any human contact. They can be fiery and reactive. When they are threatened by a rival horse, they will assert their dominance - bucking, sparring, and biting to gain control. They become incredibly dangerous creatures. But introduce a predator to their domain and these strong horses become fearful and flee. Nevertheless, even the wildest of these horses can be tamed. Through patient training, it can grow to be calm and collected, displaying graceful strength and power. The same is true of our emotions.

As a follower of Christ, we must learn to tame our "wild horse" emotions, bringing them under submission to God. To overcome these emotions, we must learn to walk in the Spirit. In his letter to the Galatians, the Apostle Paul states, *"I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish"* (Gal. 5:16-17).

"Wild horse" emotions are what Paul refers to in this passage as "the lust of the flesh." They are the emotions that wage war against what we know we ought to do.

Think about a time that you have been really angry with someone. The kind of anger that has you red-faced, eye-popping, foaming-at-the-mouth, fist-waving, foot-stomping angry. Suddenly, your anger takes control and you lash out with no thought of the repercussions of your decision. That's a "wild horse" emotion.

Each of us has our triggers that cause us to get angry, to worry, to be fearful or feel other strong emotions. There are times that these emotions are good, even godly, if for the right reason. Proverbs 1:7 tells us, *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge…"* The fear of the Lord is a healthy kind of fear. But there is also a spirit of fearfulness that does not come from the Lord. We may fear an economic collapse, relational discord, or for a wayward child. The fear of such things can lead us to a place that is unhealthy spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Therefore, it is important that we examine what the motivation for these emotions is before we react.

This is also why it's so important for us to walk in the Spirit. What is the result when we are fully submitted to the Holy Spirit? We receive the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The Bible tells us that *"Against such [things] there is no law"* (Galatians 5:23).

Walking in the Spirit takes discipline. Discipline is the ability to complete with excellence that which must be done when it must be done.

So, how do we discipline our "wild horse" emotions? James, the brother of Jesus, had a thought on that when he wrote, *"Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body"* (James 3:3). In other words, we make them obey us through discipline.

Being disciplined to live a Christian life will save you a lot of heartache and headache in this life. In the battle for self-control, the enemy is you. The war of the soul is a civil war. God gave us freedom to choose for ourselves whom we will serve. Will we bow down to the altar of "wild horse" emotions that will lead to destruction, or will we instead walk in the Spirit and choose life?

God's Word calls us to discipline ourselves in our appetites, in our passions, in our affections, in our thoughts, in our attitudes, in our moods, in our speech, in our conduct, in our habits, in our companionships, in our amusement, in our purpose, and in our marriage.

In John 8:31, Jesus said, *"If you abide in My Word, you are My disciples indeed."* If you want to be a disciple of Jesus, you must abide in the Word of God. When you do what's in the Word, when you discipline yourself to live by the words of the Bible, and when you abide in the Word of God, then you are living the life of a disciple.

It is not enough to just believe; we also have to do. Jesus said, *"But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?"* (Luke 6:46). It is not enough to call Jesus "Lord." We are His disciples when we <u>do</u> what He asks of us. Until you are doing what Jesus asks of you, you are not disciplined. You're a wild horse doing your own thing, not advancing the Kingdom of God.

To abide in the Lord, we must be consuming the Word of God. Daily consumption leads to great spiritual health. Are you reading the Word daily? Are you building a healthy relationship with God? We need this communion with God in order to tame our "wild horse" emotions.

Paul said, *"I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified"* (1 Corinthians 9:26-27, ESV). There is a call of God on your life because you are God's handiwork. You do not need to run through life aimlessly. He created you in Christ Jesus to do good works, which He prepared in advance for you to do. That means there are specific things out there that will bless the Kingdom of God and fill you with contentment, and they have your name on them.

LET GO OF YOUR "WILD HORSE" EMOTIONS. Let go of the pain in your past. Rather, be filled with the fruit of the Spirit as you abide in Christ's calling over your life. Forgive those who have hurt you. Don't become their prisoner, allowing them to take control of your thoughts and emotions. Rather, bring your emotions under submission to the Holy Spirit and live a life filled with peace and joy.

God wants His children to have the best of things in the worst of times. He wants you to live in peace, even when life is hectic and things aren't going your way.

God can use circumstances to build your faith, to move you into a position where you can be used mightily for the Kingdom. Trust in Him, knowing that He loves you so very much and is working all things together for your good!

https://www.jhm.org/article/2023-7-01
- John Hagee Ministries

Your Trials Are Making You a Sweet Fragrance

My son, My daughter, the current trial you are facing is going to be used to accomplish such a beautiful work in you! No, I did not bring this upon you. The enemy has sought to sift you. But I am always one step ahead of his schemes.

The greater the calamity Satan brings, the greater the glory I get - just to show him how much I turn his activities into My ultimate purposes for My glory!

I am the redeemer God. My servant Paul underwent extraordinary pain and suffering for My Name. Yet, he received a level of revelation that few of my sons or daughters ever get.

Paul actually thanked Me for the suffering because of the fruit that resulted in his life.

You have not suffered to this degree, but you have experienced a great deal of emotional pain in your life. I am using that pain.

You have become a sweet-smelling fragrance to many of My sons and daughters.

Your life allows others to have the courage to move forward in their journey toward Me. You, too, will one day be able to thank Me for the cross.

"Therefore I take pleasure in weaknesses, in injuries, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then am I strong" (2 Cor. 12:10).
- Os Hillman

Maak 2024 ‘n Jaar van Vaste Voorneme

**Maak hierdie jaar 'n paar wyse voornemens.
Dit sal jou help om saam met God op die regte pad te bly.**

VERHOUDING
Bevestig opnuut jou verhouding met God.
Leer my U pad, Here, ek wil wandel in U waarheid; leer my U met toewyding dien.
(Ps. 86:11)

VERLEDE
Kyk terug op die jaar wat verby is en vra God om jou te wys waar jy deur swakheid en sonde verhoed is om geestelik te groei.
Deurgrond my, o God, deurgrond my hart, ondersoek my, sien tog my onrus raak. Kyk of ek nie op die verkeerde pad is nie en lei my op die beproefde pad!
(Ps. 139:23-24)

VERGIFNIS
Bely jou sondes en vra God om jou te vergewe.
Maar as ons ons sondes bely - Hy is getrou en regverdig, Hy vergewe ons ons sondes en reinig ons van alle ongeregtigheid.
(1 Joh. 1:9)

VERSTERK
Vra God om jou te versterk en om vir jou 'n nuwe visie te gee vir die jaar wat voorlê.
Ek weet wat Ek vir julle beplan, sê die Here: voorspoed en nie teëspoed nie; Ek wil vir julle 'n toekoms gee, 'n verwagting!
(Jer. 29:11)

VERNUWE
Vra God om jou te help om jou lewe te sien soos Hy dit sien. Wy jou dan opnuut toe aan Sy plan vir jou lewe.
Julle moenie aan hierdie sondige wêreld gelyk word nie, maar laat God julle verander deur julle denke te vernuwe. Dan sal julle ook kan onderskei wat die wil van God is, wat vir Hom goed en aanneemlik en volmaak is.
(Rom. 12:2)

VOORNEME
Maak 'n vaste voorneme om getrou te wees aan God se wil vir jou lewe. Maak Sy Naam groot in alles wat Hy in gebed aan jou openbaar.
Ek span my in om by die wenstreep te kom, sodat ek die hemelse prys kan behaal waartoe God my geroep het in Christus Jesus.
(Fil. 3:14)

VERSEKERING
Skryf alles neer wat God in gebed aan jou openbaar. Kyk gereeld daarna en onthou dan dit is net deur Sy genade dat jy in Hom kan groei.
Kom ons gaan dan met vrymoedigheid na die genadetroon, sodat ons barmhartigheid en genade kan ontvang en so op die regte tyd gered kan word.
(Heb. 4:16)
- Oorgeneem

Put on Christ

Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.
For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” You shall not bear false witness,” “You shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” Love does no harm to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilment of the law.
And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.
The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.
Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.
BUT PUT ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND MAKE NO PROVISION FOR THE FLESH, TO FULFIL ITS LUSTS **(Rom. 13:8-14).**

Paul emphasizes a high standard of moral conduct, particularly in view of the nearness of the Lord's return, when our salvation will be consummated.
The way to moral excellence is twofold: We must put on the Lord Jesus Christ, submit to His lordship, accept His moral standards, live in constant fellowship with Him, and depend upon His strength. Also, we are to make no provision for the flesh, doing nothing to foster its sensual desires and appetites (Read Galatians 5:16-25).
Many Christians live defeated lives by yielding to the flesh, which seemingly has a will of its own. Recognising the challenge the flesh poses to the Christian lifestyle, the apostle Paul instructed the believer to *“put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfil its lusts”* (verse 14).
In Romans 12, Paul teaches that the Christian lifestyle is possible when Christians present both mind and body to Christ; when Christians recognise that the Christian life is sacrificial; and when Christians recognise that the Christian lifestyle is holy - not worldly - but God-conscious and God-centered. Nothing less is acceptable to God. The Christian's lifestyle is their “reasonable service” to the Lord.
[New Spirit-Filled Life Bible, NKJV, Thomas Nelson Inc. USA, 2002].

“PAPPA, HOU OP!”

‘n Pastoor van 'n plaaslike gemeente het sy assistent opdrag gegee om die Evangelie in 'n ou deel van die stad te gaan verkondig.

Die oomblik toe die eerste man met wie hy gesels, hoor van Jesus, was hy baie ontsteld en het die evangelis gevra om sy huis te verlaat.

'n Ruk later het die pastoor weer vir die jong evangelis gesê om na dieselfde huis te gaan en weer die Evangelie daar te gaan verkondig. Hy het dit gedoen en weer met die man oor Jesus gepraat. Hierdie keer het die man begin skree en vloek en gedreig om hom te slaan as hy dit sou waag om terug te kom.

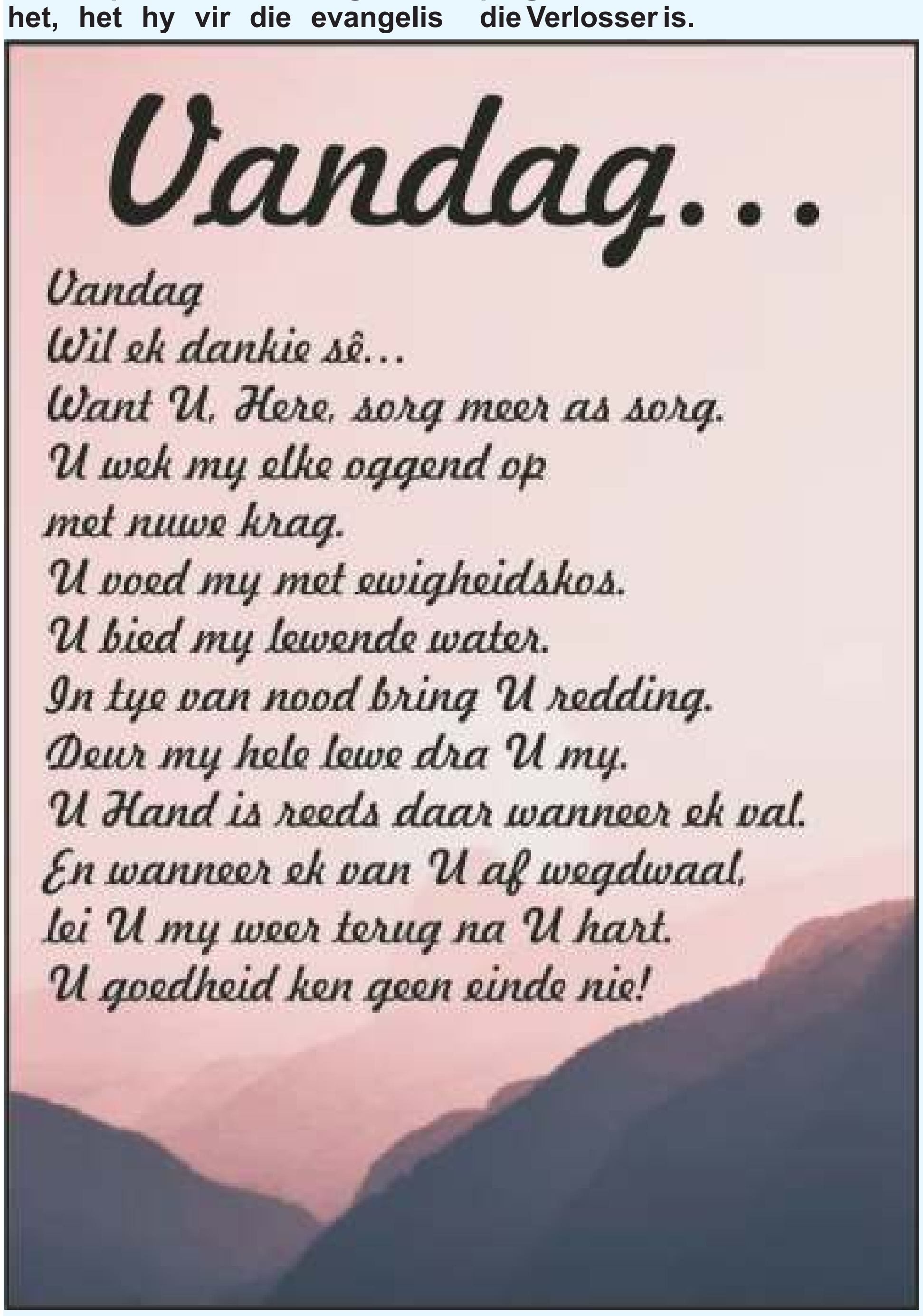
Toe die pastoor hoor wat gebeur het, het hy vir die evangelis gevra om nog 'n laaste keer na dieselfde man te gaan. Die evangelis het eers geweier en gesê dat die man hom beslis sou slaan en miskien selfs sou doodmaak as hy sy gesig weer daar sou wys. Maar die pastoor was vasberade en het hom weer gestuur.

Hy het gegaan en op pad het hy geloop en bid. Die vorige twee kere het hy gebid dat God die harte van die mense met wie hy sou praat, moes oopmaak. Hierdie keer het hy gebid dat die Here hom moes beskerm. Hy het vir sy lewe gevrees!

Toe hy daar kom, het 'n vyfjaaroue dogtertjie by die hek gesit en speel. Hy het haar van die Here vertel, van die skepping en van Jesus Christus wat die Verlosser is.

Na 'n rukkie het die pa agtergekom wat aan die gang was. Hy het met 'n stok by die huis uitgestorm om die evangelis te slaan. Net toe hy hom wou slaan, het die dogtertjie uitgeroep: “Pappa, hou op! Moet hom nie slaan nie. Pa moet luister wat hy sê en van nou af elke Sondag kerk toe gaan.” Die pa het die stok laat val en begin huil. Sy dogtertjie was haar hele lewe deur doofstom en Jesus Christus het haar wonderbaarlik genees! Die evangelis het nie van haar toestand geweet nie. Hy was net gehoorsaam aan die opdrag om die Evangelie aan die verlorenes te verkondig, al sou dit beteken dat hy geslaan en dalk doodgemaak word. Die hele gesin van sewe het tot geloof in Jesus gekom.

www.pioneers.org



With skilful hands
and crafty wit
man forms all kinds of idols
melts silver and gold
pursues his own thoughts
wilfully forsaking the only true
Fountain of Live-giving Water...

Despite God’s flowing springs
and green oases
he dies of thirst
and his childish stubbornness
results in eternal death...

On that Great Judgment Day
he will clearly see
how these human efforts
have all been in vain
How his works have disappeared
like morning mist
Then he will stand in awe
because his sins
had been harvested
and stored away
for God’s just punishment...

O man
hear Jesus plead today
Return to God your Maker
Be reconciled to Him
through the Blood of Jesus Christ!

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Becoming Strong in Spirit

"The child John grew and became spiritually strong. He lived in the desert until the day he appeared to the people of Israel" (Luk. 1:80).

It was said of John the Baptist that he grew and became strong in spirit *"while he was in the desert."* Something about hard and difficult places make us stronger than when we lounge about in cozy beds of ease. We grow when we are challenged.

And notice that this growth is primarily spiritual. The fact is that no growth is complete that leaves out spiritual development.

I often heard Bill McCartney tell his football team, "The spiritual is to the physical as four is to one." By this he meant that a man with his spirit set right by God had far more going for him than a man with nothing but muscles. Take a guy who is physically fit and infuse him with the Holy Spirit and you have a formidable package! That's what John the Baptist was like.

Notice the Scripture goes on to say of John, *"He was in the desert until he appeared publicly to Israel."* Hmmm. I wonder if the Lord sometimes puts us in the desert in order to have us grow and become strong in spirit. It certainly would seem so, looking at John as an example.

A gem is not polished without rubbing, nor are godly men and women made without trials. Think about it. Haven't the greatest strides in your spiritual journey always come during times of significant difficulty and hardship?

"Many men and women owe the grandeur of their lives to their tremendous difficulties." (C.H. Spurgeon).

John was in the desert until his showing forth unto Israel. Might not the same be true of you? This pattern certainly holds true for many of God's champions.

Paul was himself in the desert for three years, and then sidelined in Antioch for fourteen years before the Lord brought him forth into his apostolic ministry. Joseph endured the hostilities of false accusation and unjust imprisonment long before God exalted him in all of Egypt.

Moses tended sheep for forty years before leading the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage and into history. David was faithful in the unseen and uncelebrated duties of ordinary labour, and there secretly slew a lion and a bear, long before God brought him out publicly to slay Goliath, and lead a Nation.

It seems clear enough that God uses the dry and desperate times in the desert to effect a spiritual maturity in our lives, and may preparing us to enter into a particular ministry or assignment. Jesus is our best example of patient growth during unnoticed years of quietness and apparent inactivity. Luke writes of Jesus that He *"grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men"* (Luk. 2:52 NIV).

Mentally, physically, spiritually, and socially - these are four areas of life in which God wants us to experience healthy, balanced growth. Are you growing in these areas? In which one would you say are you the most undeveloped? Might this season of dryness be a gift to you from the Lord to develop that one area?

A lesson from nature will suffice here to make a simple point. Healthy growth requires shade as much as sunshine. A plant needs the dry season, as well as the rain. If this is true of plants; might it also be true of you and me?

Could it be that God is effecting a significant transformation of your life during this season of disconsolate dryness and seeming barrenness?

I think so.

- James Ryle

Lekker Weer vir Taai Mense

Toe ek op 'n wintersmôre, gestewel en gespoor in alles wat warm is, in die bus stad toe sit, lê die kapokkleed swaar en swierig op die boomtakke en grasperke.

"Dis 'n pragtige toneel," sê ek vir die buskondukteur. "Net jammer dat dit so koud is." 'n Skoolseun wat langs my sit, val ewe vrypostig in: "Ja, dit ís koud, meneer, maar dis darem lekker weer vir taai mense!" En aan die toon van sy stem en sy houding was dit duidelik dat hy homself onder een van die weinige taaies reken.

"Lekker weer vir taai mense." Ek het aan die gedagte gesit en herkou. Dit het my bygeval dat ek dit al meermale gehoor het, net in ander woorde.

Daardie geharde geloofsheld, die apostel Paulus, het dieselfde ding gesê: *"Ons roem ook in die verdrukkinge"* (Romeine 5:3), en hy het dit gesê na aanleiding van sy eie ondervinding.

RENS
Consulting (Pty) Ltd.

Sy geloof in Christus het aan hom die oorwinning besorg in meer as een benoude worsteling. Dit het hom só gesterk dat hy selfs in die moeilikste omstandighede kon sê: "Dis lekker weer."

Dít is dan ook wat die geloof in God aan 'n mens doen. Dít is 'n krag wat die karakter staal. Jy sien dit om jou in die lewe van mense wat geloofsoorwinning ken; jy sien dit in ons eie volk se geskiedenis - en op sy beste sien jy die krag van geloof in die kritieke eerste jare van die Christendom.

Jesus het die reuse taak om die wêreld te evangeliseer aan Sy groepie volgelinge opgedra, maar Hy het hulle nie uitgestuur voordat hulle nie onder Sy leiding die vuurproef van geloof en geestelike dissipline deurgegaan het nie. In duidelike taal het Hy hulle opgeroep om Hom te volg. Dit sou vir hulle ontbering meebring. Hulle sou hul kleinlike verwagtinge moes prysgee en groot geloofsondernemings moes aandurf.

Om 'n dissipel van Hom te wees, het dus beteken om geestelik gesterk en toegerus te word vir die stryd wat voorlê. Dis wat geloof en godsdiens vandag nog beteken. Dis nie 'n sentimentele aandoening waaraan uiting gegee kan word wanneer ons so voel nie; dis selfdissipline, 'n lewe van selfverloëning en opoffering, sodat ons as gelowiges geestelik so gehard sal wees dat ons onder die ongunstigste omstandighede die vaandel van Christus hoog sal kan hou.

Daar wag bepaald nie net "lekker weer" vir die Christengelowige nie. Christus het Self gesê: *"In die wêreld sal julle verdrukking hê."*

Mag ons deur ons navolging van Christus só geoefen word in die geloof dat ons ook in staat sal wees om onder die swaarste kastyding tog saam met Paulus te sê: *"Ons roem in die verdrukkinge,"* en saam met die skoolseun: "Dis lekker weer vir taai mense!"
[Uit: 'n Handdruk in die Herfs, Dr. HJ Piek, NG Kerk-Uitgewers, Kaapstad].

NINETY SECONDS TO MIDNIGHT

And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in diverse places. All these are the beginning of sorrows **(Matthew 24:6-8).**

Each year, the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* gives an annual update on the condition of the world according to their reckoning. Most famously, the *Bulletin* is known for its symbolic *Doomsday Clock,* which represents how close our world is to "midnight" or to the end of the world.

On 23 January 2024, the *Bulletin* issued its latest update, declaring, "It is still 90 seconds to midnight." Although the time on this symbolic clock is the same as it was last year, its advancement in 2023 represents a belief by some of the world's brightest minds that the world has never been more dangerous than it is right now, and we have never been as close to the end as we are right now.

In its annual report, the *Bulletin* wrote, "Today, we once again set the Doomsday Clock at 90 seconds to midnight because humanity continues to face an unprecedented level of danger. Our decision should not be taken as a sign that the international security situation has eased. Instead, leaders and citizens around the world should take this statement as a stark warning and respond urgently, as if today were the most dangerous moment in modern history. Because it may well be."

The *Bulletin* has long focused on the dangers of nuclear weapons, which still remain an existential threat to the entire world. Despite the concern, protests, and nuclear arms treaties that have been put in place in years past, the most powerful nations in the world are working feverishly to ramp up their nuclear capabilities.

"China, Russia, and the United States are all spending huge sums to expand or modernise their nuclear arsenals, adding to the ever-present danger of nuclear war through mistake or miscalculation," the *Bulletin* writes. Is the concern over nuclear weapons overblown? When Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, news headlines were suddenly abuzz with the potential for nuclear war. Young people who had never really considered the possibility that world leaders could be foolish enough to actually use nuclear weapons were suddenly confronted with this reality for the first time. It was uncomfortable, but the concern was short-lived, and few people are still talking about it. Yet, recent headlines suggest that the threat is very real and even increasing as the world becomes embroiled in conflict and war.

Indeed, since October of last year, Hamas attacked Israel, Israel attacked Gaza, ISIS attacked Iran, Iran attacked Pakistan, Hezbollah attacked Israel, Israel attacked Hezbollah, and American troops are waging a war with the Houthis from Yemen, even if American President Joe Biden refuses to call it a war. All of this is occurring while the war between Russia and Ukraine rages on, China continues to threaten Taiwan, and North Korea is threatening to attack South Korea. All it would take for nuclear war to break out is for a world leader with nuclear capabilities to become enraged enough, insane enough, hateful enough, or desperate enough to use them.

TRUE AND FALSE PEACE

If something seems strangely familiar about the scenario playing out on the global scene, perhaps you've been reading your Bible. In Matthew 24:6-8, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ warns, *"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in diverse places. All these are the beginning of sorrows."*

There have been *"wars and rumours of wars"* since the days when Jesus ascended into heaven. Yet, these wars and rumours are growing increasingly prevalent and complex in our modern time. According to a document published by the *United Nations* in January 2023, the world is facing "the highest number of violent conflicts since the Second World War" and "a pervasive sense of insecurity." If the world is facing the highest number of conflicts since World War II, could there soon be a third world war?

The fact that there is so much war and conflict in our present time is evidence that the *United Nations* has failed in its mission to bring about lasting peace. What is their solution? "There is only one route to durable peace," claimed UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed. She then went on to suggest that the entire world must embrace sustainable development. "When we fail to meet the development needs of our time, we fail to secure peace for our future," she said. In another report, *The Wall Street Journal* went so far as to call the United Nations "irrelevant."

Noting that the Presidents of Russia, China, and France, and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom didn't even bother to attend the general assembly in September 2023, the *Journal* asks, "In the emerging world order of rogue regimes and multi-polar power centres, what good does the UN do anymore?"

Global organisations, such as the World *Economic Forum, Group of 20, International Monetary Fund,* and the *United Nations* all exist under the guise of making the world more peaceful and prosperous. However, the simple fact is that you cannot have peace in a world that refuses to acknowledge the Prince of Peace. That is why all attempts to bring about peace have failed even to this day. The peace that comes from God is the only legitimate peace, and unless the world turns to God in repentance and follows the teachings of Jesus Christ, true peace will remain elusive. In John 14:27, Jesus said, *"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."*

As the world moves further away from peace, we must move closer to our Saviour. If you have not yet repented of your sins and dedicated your life to God, I urge you to do so now.

Last Trumpet Newsletter
www.lasttrumpetministries.org

I then shall live

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven.
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am His child and I am not afraid.
So, greatly pardoned, I'll forgive my brother;
The law of love I gladly will obey.

I then shall live as one who's learned compassion.
I've been so loved, that I'll risk loving too.
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I'll dare to see another's point of view.
And when relationships demand commitment,
Then I'll be there to care and follow through.

Your Kingdom come around and through and in me;
Your power and glory, let them shine through me.
Your Hallowed Name, O may I bear with honour,
And may Your living Kingdom come in me.
The Bread of Life, O may I share with honour,
And may You feed a hungry world through me.

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A Need for Brokenness

The word brokenness may strike fear in some people, but it's really not a bad word. God doesn't desire to break our spirits, but He wants to break that outer shell, the flesh that prevents Him from being all He wants to be in and through us.

God wants to break off things like pride, rebellion, selfishness and independence.

God wants us to be totally dependent on Him, and suffering seems to bring us to that point.

Sometimes people seem surprised that they must go through a time of trial or suffering. Perhaps they've been faithful to learn and obey the Word, and the trials still come.

Sometimes trials come simply to test and purify our faith. When these trials come your way, embrace them, because they lead to real, true brokenness. God wants us to live by the Spirit, not the flesh, and this is so much easier when we allow Him to remove from our lives any sinful or selfish habit or trait that would keep us from Him.

Do you want to be close to God today? Then embrace brokenness, knowing that it will lead to greater things in your future.

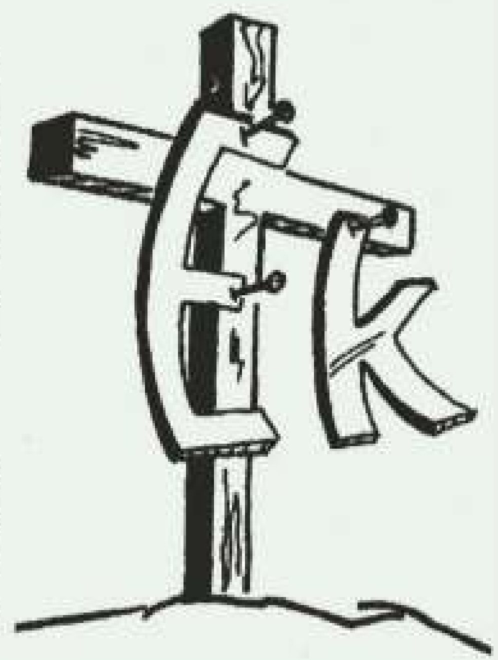
Prayer: Holy Spirit, I realise that sometimes I need brokenness. It may not be comfortable, but I invite You to break off and get rid of anything that's keeping me from You.
- Joyce Meyer

"Daarin verheug julle jul, al word julle nou - as dit nodig is - 'n kort tydjie bedroef onder allerhande beproewinge, sodat die beproefdheid van julle geloof, wat baie kosbaarder is as goud wat vergaan maar deur vuur gelouter word, bevind mag word tot lof en eer en heerlikheid by die openbaring van Jesus Christus" (1 Pet. 1:6-7).

"Toe sê Jesus vir Sy dissipels: As iemand agter My aan wil kom, moet hy homself verloën en sy kruis opneem en My volg. Want elkeen wat sy lewe wil red, sal dit verloor; maar elkeen wat sy lewe om My ontwil verloor, sal dit vind. Want wat baat dit 'n mens as hy die hele wêreld win, maar aan sy siel skade ly? Of wat sal 'n mens gee as losprys vir sy siel? (Matt. 16:24-26).

"Ek is met Christus gekruisig, en ék leef nie meer nie, maar Christus leef in my. En wat ek nou in die vlees lewe, leef ek deur die geloof in die Seun van God wat my liefgehad het en Homself vir my oorgegee het" (Gal. 2:20).

"Want die woord van die kruis is wel dwaasheid vir die wat verlore gaan, maar vir ons wat gered word, is dit die krag van God" (1 Kor 1:18).



Sy Teleurstelling word 'n Seën

('n Ware verhaal vir ons kinders)

In 'n Franse dorp het 'n leerwerker gewoon. Sy van was Braille. Hy het 'n baie mooi seuntjie gehad. Sy naam was Louis.

Eendag moes die outjie 'n skerp els uit sy pappie se werkswinkel gaan haal. Ongelukkig val hy en die els steek in sy een ogie. Die oog het baie seergekry en infeksie het gevolg. Die ander oog is ook aangetas en kort daarna het hy heeltemal blind geword. Hierdie verlies het baie smart, teleurstelling en droefheid vir die hele familie tot gevolg gehad.

'n Blinde klein seuntjie - kan julle dink hoe baie sy ouers gehuil het? Wat sou die toekoms vir hom inhou? Hulle besluit toe om hom na 'n skool vir blindes te stuur.

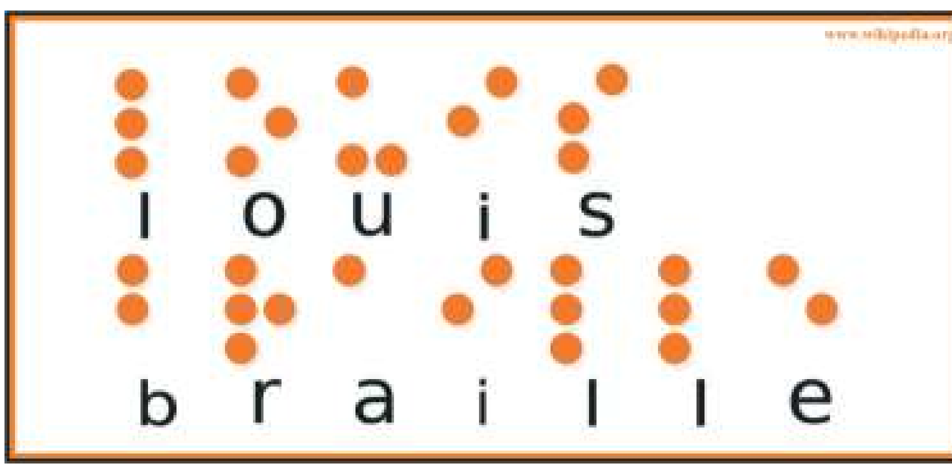
Daar gekom, vind klein Louis dat hulle die letters uit dik papier sny, dit weer op ander papier plak en dan voel die blinde kinders met hul vingertjies watter letters dit is. Dit het egter vreeslik baie tyd gemors en so 'n boek vir blindes kon nooit regtig gedruk word nie.

Louis was 'n baie slim seun met 'n sterk ondernemingsgees en hy het planne begin maak. Hy wou iets beters uitvind.

Eendag lees iemand vir hom 'n stukkie uit 'n koerant van 'n Franse kaptein in die weermag wat vir sekere van sy manskappe geleer het om bevele in die donker te lees. Dit het geskied deur middel van opgehewe dotjies op papier wat hulle met hul vingers kon voel.

Louis het hardop uitgeroep: "Dit kan gedoen word! Dit kan gedoen word! Neem my asseblief dadelik na daardie kaptein toe!" Na 'n gesprek met hierdie kaptein het hy aan die werk gespring. Hy het 'n els gebruik om die dotjies op papier te maak. Nogal dieselfde instrument waarmee hy sy oog beskadig het! Kort daarna het hy homself, asook ander blindes, geleer om te lees.

Jare later het hy ook musieknote in hierdie soort skrif gemaak. (Hy was self 'n goeie orrelis en tjellis.) Mense het egter gesê dat dit onsinnig was. Volgens hulle sou niemand ooit op daardie manier musiek kon leer speel nie. Een aand het een van Louis se musiekstudente egter 'n uitvoering voor 'n groot gehoor gelewer. Die gehoor het oorverdowend hul hande van opgewondenheid geklap. Die musiek was pragtig!



Ongelukkig kon Louis nie self teenwoordig wees nie, want hy was baie siek. Toe 'n vriend vir hom die nuus bring van die geslaagde musiekuitvoering, het hy van blydskap gehuil! Sy groot lewenstaak was afgehandel. 'n Paar dae later het hy gesterf.

Sy "dotjieskrif" is vandag die wêreldbekende Brailleskrif. Selfs die Afrikaanse Bybel is in Brailleskrif te kry. So kan blindes ook selfs die Bybel lees.

Jongmense, wanneer teleurstellings op ons pad kom, hoef ons nie moedeloos te word nie. Ons moet die Here vra wat ons kan doen om hierdie teleurstellings in 'n seën te verander. Die Here sal julle help soos Hy vir Louis gehelp het.

[Kom ons vertel Stories, Mev. J C de Ferrières (Tant Sannie), Evangelie Uitgewers, 1968].

THE WORST CENTURY OF PERSECUTION

You may be surprised to know that more Christians died for Christ in the 20th Century than in all previous 19 centuries combined!

The Christian World Encyclopedia calculated that at least 28 million Christians had been martyred in the 20th Century. The total martyrs since A.D. 33 was calculated at 43 million (i.e. 28 million in the 20th Century vs. 15 million in all the other centuries after Christ!)

The aim of persecution is not to kill Christians as such. There is no victory to the kingdom of darkness when Christians go to Heaven. **The aim of persecution is to intimidate Christians into silence.** If the devil cannot stop us being converted, he at least wants to divert us and distract us so that we are not effective in fulfilling the Great Commission and winning other souls to Christ. **As long as you refuse to be intimidated into silence, persecution fails.** www.frontline.org.za

Lucy

If you met Lucy at church, you would probably think she was somebody's innocent, dear grandmother. She is the kind of woman who will come and give you a huge hug and then introduce herself.

You would never guess that Lucy is an ex-prostitute. When she was in her teens and early twenties, drugs and prostitution dominated her life. Through an older Christian woman who reached out to the prostitutes, Lucy met Jesus and her life was completely transformed.

To this day, almost forty years later, Lucy lives near the same streets where she once worked as a prostitute and consistently opens her home to other young women who are caught in prostitution.

It is common knowledge on the streets that if you need anything, you can come to Lucy's house. She doesn't have a lot, but her home is always open.

Prostitutes, pimps, drug users, dealers, and anyone else who most people avoid - Lucy invites them in. This is her way of loving people who are in desperate need of the hope and love that she found forty years ago.
[Crazy Love, Francis Chan, Pubished by David C Cook, Colorado Springs, USA, 2008].

REDDELOSES ... ?

Verdroogde blare
die mens
sonder
God -
soos fyngetrapte straatstof ...

Leëhande weduwees
geteisterdes
heenkomelose skepsele
vasgestrik deur armoede
en ellend'
kreet hul gebrek ...

MAAR
talle onvrugbare hande
pleeg godsdiensbedrywighede
met afsydige harte
onbetrokke toegeskulp
teen skrynende
nood ...

DAAROM
bly die gevalle
hulpbehoewende mens
weerloos
emosieloos
mensloos
Godloos ...

Word
soos koringare
deur die vyand
afgegerf!

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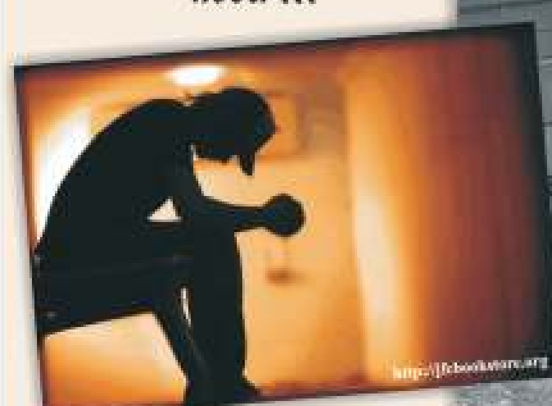

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Sondagoggenddiens 9:30
JOI-Kinderdienste 9:30
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