



The Pursuit of Excellence



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Maintain A Clear Conscience!

I have been teaching much on the work of the Holy Spirit within the lives of believers in Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit has been sent to do a work in us and upon us. He desires to manifest Himself as the revealer of truth, a source of power, and the one who helps us to speak.

There has been much emphasis on the power of God in the Full-Gospel or Pentecostal circles, and I certainly do not want to diminish that truth. However, one of the greatest benefits as believers under the New Covenant is our ability to be led by the Spirit of God.

The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth (John 14:16, 17). He will guide you into all truth and show you things to come (John 16:13). He will teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance (John 14:26). He will reveal to you the deep things of God (1 Corinthians 2:9-14).

The sons of God are led by the Spirit of God.

Romans 8:14 says, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." The Heavenly Father leads His children by His Spirit. He does so by the inward witness.

Romans 8:16 says, "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God." When someone receives Jesus as his Lord and Savior he has the witness in himself. (1 John 5:10-12). He knows that He is saved because the Spirit of Truth bears witness with his spirit that the Word of God is true and that his obedience to the Word has brought salvation to him.

This knowing goes beyond mental reasoning. It is an assurance in the heart or spirit of man. This same knowing is the most common way that the Lord leads us as Christians.

In Acts 27:10, Paul perceived that a voyage would

be with hurt and much damage. He did not say that he heard a voice or had a vision. He just knew on the inside.

But, the centurion believed the owner of the ship more than Paul and so they set sail. Paul was forced to go with them because he was a prisoner. The result was that they encountered a severe storm and the ship was destroyed.

In the midst of this disaster, Paul told them that they should have listened to him (Acts 27:21). He was confident in the Holy Spirit leading him by this inward witness. Why was he so confident?

Acts 24:16 gives us some insight into why Paul possessed such confidence. It says, "And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men." Paul did what was necessary to have a clear conscience.

Your conscience also bears witness.

Paul, in Romans 9:1, declares, "...my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost." Then, in Romans 2:15, he says, "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves; which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another."

Your conscience can be a great guide in conduct and course of life if it is pure. Paul asserts in Titus 1:15, 16 that "Unto the pure all things are pure, but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable and disobedient, and unto every good work, reprobate."

Unbelief, disobedience, disloyalty, and rebellion defile the conscience. The conscience becomes seared. First Timothy 4:2 states, "...having their conscience seared with a hot iron."

Something that is seared or cauterized loses its sensitivity. The surface may become hard and inflexible. We are told not to harden our hearts through unbelief, deceitfulness of sin, and disobedience (Hebrews 4:7-18).

First Timothy 1:5 says, "Now the end of the



Brad's Itinerary:

AFCM Meetings

Helena, MT - March 3
Billings, MT - March 4

New Beginnings Faith Church
Sioux Falls, SD - March 12

AFCM Meetings
Sioux Falls - March 13
Des Moines - March 14
Auburn - March 15

Faith in Christ Fellowship
Cherokee, IA - March 16

Xtreme Life Training Center
Willmar, MN - March 17-21

Word of Faith Family Church
Great Falls, MT - March 23

AFCM Meeting
Moorhead, MN - March 25

Restoration Christian Center
Park Rapids, MN - March 30

Xtreme Passion Youth Rallies
Willmar, MN - March 29
Great Falls, MT - April 5

Word of Faith Family Church
Great Falls, MT - April 6

Word of Faith Family Church
Lander, WY - April 13

AFCM Men's Conference
Paynesville, MN - April 18-20

Xtreme Life Training Center
Willmar, MN - April 22-25

AFCM Meeting
Wausau, WI - April 26

Freedom by the Word Church
Wausau, WI - April 26-27

commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned." We must maintain a good or clear conscience.

If your conscience becomes impure and insensitive, it makes it very difficult to determine the leading of the Spirit. You cannot fully trust that inward intuition. It becomes hard to distinguish what is of the Lord and what is the flesh and/or human reasoning. On the contrary, a pure conscience bears witness with the Holy Spirit.

In order to maintain a good conscience, you must be quick to comply with the witness of the Spirit. If there is a witness on the inside that you need to spend more time reading the Word of God, yet you continually ignore it, you are hardening your heart. If you find it easy to gossip and criticize because you have often done so, then your conscience is seared. Just because you can

do or say something that may be wrong and not feel guilty about it, does not mean that it is alright for you to be that way. It more likely means that you have seared your conscience.

Be quick to obey the inward witness and quick to repent when you may choose to go against that leading. If you can learn to follow the witness of the Spirit and stay sensitive to Him, He will lead you into truth and away from evil.

You will not always need the power of God to deliver you from difficult circumstances because, by listening to Him, you will avoid many problems. He will direct your steps away from trouble and towards blessings.

One of the greatest benefits is our ability to be led by the Spirit - cherish and protect it!

by Brad Brede



Upcoming Special Events:

Xtreme Passion Youth Rallies

We have youth rallies scheduled for Willmar, Minnesota on Saturday, March 29 and Great Falls, Montana on Saturday, April 5.

Please make plans to attend these special events for teenagers and bring others with you! You may contact our office for details.

AFCM Regional Men's Conference

The AFCM Regional Men's Conference with Jim Kaseman is once again set for April 18-20, 2008 at Lake Koronis Assembly Grounds near Paynesville, Minnesota.

Brochures and registration forms are available through our office or website. It is going to be another great time of fellowship and ministry just for men!

AFCM Overnighter

There will be an AFCM Overnighter with Jim and Kathleen Kaseman hosted by Word of Faith Family Church in Great Falls, Montana. The dates are Thursday and Friday, May 8-9, 2008.

All ministers and AFCM members need to make a special effort to attend this meeting.

Word of Faith Family Church Celebration

Most of you should know by now that we have started a church in Great Falls, Montana and recently moved into a different facility.

We are planning a special celebration on Sunday evening, May 11, 2008. There will be a time of fellowship and snacks beginning at 5:30 p.m. followed by a service with Jim and Kathleen Kaseman at 6:30 p.m.

We are asking area pastors and their congregations to join with us as we celebrate the establishment of this new church in Montana.

Xtreme Passion Youth Camp

We are looking forward to another great youth camp at Lake Koronis Assembly Grounds near Paynesville, Minnesota. The dates are July 7-11, 2008. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend - and bring lots of teenagers! It is a life-changing experience! Brochures and application forms are available.

Xtreme Life Training Center

Our next term begins September 8, 2008 in Willmar, Minnesota. We are already busy preparing and ready to receive applications. The 2008-09 catalogs are available with all the updated information. Request yours today!

We remind you that our program is designed to minister to "all" adults 18-30 years of age. If you or someone you know wants to be thoroughly equipped to succeed in life, then Xtreme Life Training Center is the place to be. Make plans to attend and send others our way.

New Construction

We are also planning a new construction project scheduled to begin in the spring of 2008. We will be building another new facility. This is a much needed building designed to handle our storage and maintenance needs.

Please agree with us in faith as we undertake this new endeavor. You may also give towards the completion of this project.

Rev. Bradley and Patricia Brede hold ordination credentials with the Association of Faith Churches and Ministers. Brad Brede Ministries was established after twenty years of successful pastoral ministry.

Brad and Patty have faithfully served as AFCM Regional Directors since 1988. They travel extensively promoting the vision of AFCM, encouraging and equipping pastors, and strengthening churches.

Brad and Patty have established several youth camps beginning in 1994. They founded Xtreme Passion in 2005 and Xtreme Life Training Center in 2007 - ministries devoted to helping teenagers and young adults pursue the purposes of God.

You may become a ministry partner by joining our Par Excellence Club. Please, contact us for details.

The Pursuit of Excellence is published as a ministry of Brad Brede Ministries. Your prayers and financial support are greatly appreciated. If you have been blessed by this issue of The Pursuit of Excellence or desire prayer, we would like to hear from you.

If you desire additional information about Brad Brede Ministries or to receive a list of powerful teaching materials from Rev. Brede, please contact our ministry office.

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In Memory

A generous donation was given to Brad Brede Ministries by Earl and Verle Brede in memory of Kirby Bomstad who died Tuesday, January 22, 2008.

He will be missed by family and friends. We all hope to see him again someday.