

## Shiloh Messenger

August 2014

## No More Sidelines

"These were His instructions to them: "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask Him to send more workers into His fields," Luke 10:2.

Shiloh at this present time is full of students who desire for God to move in their lives. They are experiencing The Sweet Holy Spirit as HE so gently loves on them individually and corporately. These men are hungry and intense for the Word of God and for signs, miracles and wonders following The Word. The Holy Spirit is purging them and purifying them as they are yielding to HIM and allowing HIM to reveal to them The Father's Heart and Wisdom and Revelation to know Jesus and posture themselves to be Apprentices of Jesus. Hunger for God and intimacy with HIM at Shiloh has increased over the last few months with these students desiring to be taught of Him and used by HIM. The Word of God has always been a priority here and continues to be, but yet as The Holy Spirit is leading us this season we find not only The Word being taught with strong emphasis but also catapulting these students into assignments that put a demand on what has and is being taught. There is increasing ministry application getting these men prepared for the great soul harvest that The Lord has invited them to be a part of.

Incorporated in the classroom setting is The Word being expounded on with addition of times of Ministry within the classroom that involve preparations to give Sermons on the various Books of The Bible that have been studied. The book of Job most lately has been challenging and intense but brings such wisdom for us all who will glean what The Holy Spirit is saying to us through this Old Testament Book. The Students were required to pray and ask Holy Spirit to reveal to them personally a Title for their Sermon, a supporting scripture from Job and then a New Testament Scripture to support this particular passage in The Old Testament. These students had to outline their sermon with principles that are relevant to us in our relationship with God today. Book reports that are required monthly has now become less challenging for these students. So now we are challenging them to prepare a Sermon to give orally in order to challenge their audience to get off the sidelines of life and win souls (Matt. 28:18-20).

There are also pop quiz on The Bible at various times, and lots of scripture memorization that they have to recite orally. Some of these scripture memorizations can be lengthy with eight verses at times, and not only do these students have to recite but to be ready afterward to explain what this passage means and how we are to apply this to our growing relationship In Christ. There are also times of praying for one another, and laying hands on the sick within the classroom and believing for these recoveries. The men are encouraged to seek the Holy Spirit and then wait and listen to what HE is saying and then step out in faith to deliver what HE has impressed upon their hearts. We are observing more and more these men yielding and making themselves available for the Holy Spirit to demonstrate the Love of God.

We as leadership at Shiloh believe there must be training involved. Jesus said make Disciples, not make decisions alone. These men are being taught The Word of God and putting into practice literally what The Bible teaches us as Apprentices of Jesus. We are believing that these men are not to wait until after they graduate from Shiloh to actively engage in Ministry Gifting's, but to do so now in a safe environment. We never really learn until there is application of teaching. We waste valuable precious time that belongs to The Lord if we wait until after these men graduate Shiloh. Some may say are you serious, isn't there a risk involved with classroom order? In which we must reply, There is order indeed established but freedom for these men to grow and develop at the same time., and as we as leadership cry out to God to cause us to lead like Jesus, well quite frankly HE trained Those first Disciples, HE gave them assignments and told them to do ministry, HE did not wait for a period of time, they followed HIM and it was ministry day in and day out. If we are not making disciples and sending people out then we are missing what Jesus commissioned us to do (Read Luke 10:1-20).

Inspiration without application moves you for a short time with a good feeling; however Inspiration and application coupled together changes and challenges us to indeed live out truly being an apprentice of HIS. Jesus turned the world upside down with the first Disciples, as HE mentored them and catapulted them out into where the people were who needed to know that there is hope, and there is a remedy. There has been far too much sitting on the sidelines in The Body of Christ, we are not utilizing what has been given to minister to others. We cannot squander what was given by The Master to bring multiplication of souls into the Kingdom of God (Matt. 25:14-30, parable about the talents & abilities). Most Christians have never even given a testimony of God's Goodness toward them, let alone leading another individual to Christ for salvation. It is time for The Body of Christ to be actively engaged in serving in the Love of Christ, with the laying on of hands for the sick and giving words of encouragement to those whom desperately need hope.

Recently we saw a quote from Hudson Taylor who truly was a Disciple of Christ back in the 1800's. Hudson Taylor literally gave his life for The Gospel so that others might know his JESUS. We can surely learn by his example, as he is quoted saying, "I use to ask God to help me, and then I asked if I might help Him, I finally ended up by asking HIM to do HIS work through me."

## **Graduates Testimony**

Hello, my name is Kenneth Stepp a walking miracle of the goodness and love of God. My life was on a path of destruction early in life starting at the age of 5 yrs. old I was exposed to pornography and sexual activity. By the time I was 14 yrs. old I was huffing gasoline, drinking alcohol, using drugs and was sexually molested. This is how life started for me. Since then through 2013 I've been through 5 mental health units, 3 drug and alcohol rehabs and 6 other discipleship programs before I came to Shiloh. My Father was a raging alcoholic and abusive to my Mom and my Mother's second marriage the man was also abusive to her, so I really never experienced love in life by my Mother or by the Dad's I had. After being born again in 2003 I brought a lot of baggage into my new life with Christ, all I know is that I had a lot of pain. I realized in 2004 God had a calling on my life and was actively pursuing that call by 2006. I was a wavering Christian. Did good for months at a time, then ultimately would fall back into the snare of the enemy through addiction. Through this behavior I've experienced homelessness and broken relationships in family, friendships and ministry. God's great Mercy brought me to Shiloh, I was a prodigal son that needed to know the true love of God. I've always known God has loved me, problem was I didn't love myself. Through the transformational work of the Holy Spirit I'm learning how to love God,

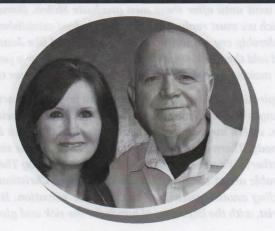


others and myself. It's the love of Jesus Christ that changes people. I have never experienced God's love and acceptance like I have here at Shiloh. I want to personally thank Pastor Rocky, Sister Debbie, the staff and all who support Shiloh. You have shown me the love of God through your actions (prayers. fellowship, food, shelter and clothing). You have shown me how to be a believer and 1 John 3:18 is fulfilled "My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and truth." I will be forever grateful. I also would like to continue to encourage all who support Shiloh that you are sowing into good ground and helping men like me find their God given destiny and their identity through the love of Jesus Christ. God has opened a door for me to come back on staff at Shiloh. I consider it a great honor to be a part of seeing the Kingdom of God established in this fallen world.

We want to thank everyone who financially partners with us in this Supernatural Ministry. It is because of special people like you, men have the opportunity to encounter the "Presence of God." Since the year 2000, we have been participating with the Lord in seeing men restored back to Him, so their destiny can be fulfilled. We are thrilled to hear from our graduates testifying about their experiences of advancing the Kingdom of God in their families, the market places and foreign countries where many are serving as missionaries. We would also like to invite others to help us financially in this ministry of reconciliation for restoration. Please consider Shiloh Ministries as good ground for your financial seed. We would also like to ask Pastor's for the opportunity for the students to come & share with their congregation. We invite everyone to come and take a tour of the Shiloh Campus, if you are in the Liberty area (located 45 miles east of downtown Houston). We would be glad to meet you and show you what extraordinary things the Lord is doing at Shiloh. Thanks again, for co-laboring with us and prayerfully considering financially supporting The Lord's Ministry at Shiloh.

(Shiloh Ministries is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 charitable organization. All financial gifts are tax deductible at the end of the year.)

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