

## **Shiloh Alessenger** August 2021 DISCERNING & STEWARDING OPPORTUNITIES

## "So don't be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is," Ephesians5:17

This 2021 has indeed been swifter than swift, flashing by at the speed of lightening or so it seems when we look at the fact of now it is August! We have this window of time to live on this side of eternity. You blink and its gone, & we must add, this is not a dress rehearsal. Considering all of this, We have been sensing THE URGENCY. We strongly have pondered discerning the opportunities that present themselves to us, seizing those opportunities that come our way that HE desires, & stewarding those opportunities with a hearts passion to bring Glory to Jesus. We could look at interruptions, and added situations to our lives as interferences. We could get all overwhelmed, go negative, murmur, complain, & even choose to check out, pass the buck, & not participate. We also have the privilege of looking at these interruptions & the added situations that appear suddenly as opportunities to HALLOW HIS NAME & be conformed more to HIS image. Everyday opportunities will present themselves while we are going about our already mapped out, and seemingly full routines of life. We will not see the opportunities, before us, that will have Eternal impact, if we are not being led by Holy Spirit & truly desire to fulfill our Destiny for The Lord Jesus. While thinking about this message, the urgency of time, & then the interruptions of life along our journey, We must look to The Life of Jesus. HE is our Model, if We are indeed truly Followers of Jesus. HE gave us such a blueprint to follow through THE WORD OF GOD. HIS ACTIONS are on display as HE was so fixed upon HIS MAJOR IMPERATIVE at hand. HE never murmured and complained when people or situations suddenly presented themselves along HIS Path to getting to The Cross. HE knew which to pause for & which to participate in because HE only did what THE Father said. HE never was overwhelmed with the suddenly. HE knew when to answer an individual and when to not open HIS mouth. JESUS indeed stewarded HIS life carefully and with great excellence. You may be thinking ... Yes, and HE IS JESUS, I am not ... but yet JESUS laid aside HIS Deity to become one of us, and being fully dependent on Holy Spirit. Peter tells us in Second Peter chapter 1 that we have HIS Divine Nature within us if we have truly been born again of HIS SPIRIT. We love to read the Gospels and study HIS life and how HE responded, Oh what an example. HE knew which opportunities HE was to participate in. HE was never flustered by time, but yet was so precisely on time, getting to The Cross and drawing HIS last breath at the exact time the spotless lambs were presented in The Temple by The Priest for the sins of humanity. HE could not be late in drawing HIS last breath and dying on THE CROSS for us, for HE would become our Spotless Lamb for the remission of our sins once and for all. HE did not miss the significance and the weightiness of the time factor nor the added interruptions of opportunities that happened along HIS way. HE was perfectly poised & full of wisdom for every situation. HE is the most selfless individual we will ever know. HE gave HIS life for us, & endured extreme agony & pain in doing so. We can not even comprehend the brutality that HE suffered so we may have life and join HIM on this amazing journey for all of Eternity. After truly experiencing HIM & responding to HIM with gratitude, repentance, & a lifestyle, (not a one time event) then everyday meetings with HIM through prayer & study of HIS WORD, gives us a vivid knowing that our lives belong to HIM, & not our own. We should consult HIM at the beginning of the day, inquiring of HIM along the way, & leaning unto HIM for wisdom & discernment as we cooperate with Him in our sanctification process along the travel toward seeing HIS FACE. Ephesians 5 :15-19 TPT states, " So be very careful how you live, not being like those with no understanding, but live honorably with true wisdom, for we are living in evil times. Take full advantage of every day as you spend your life for HIS purposes. Do not live foolishly for then you will have discernment to fully understand God's will. Do not get drunk with wine, which is rebellion, instead be filled continually with The Holy Spirit. And your hearts will overflow with a joyful song to The Lord. Keep speaking to each other with words of Scripture, singing The Psalms with Praises & spontaneous songs given by The Spirit! Always give thanks to Father God for every person HE brings into your life in The Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ." There will indeed be interruptions along our days, so it is wise to ask HIM how to navigate the abrupt that are thrust in our path. It maybe we are to participate, and maybe not... Yet we will have no knowing unless an inquiry is made and we have purposed in our hearts to be led by HIS SPIRIT for HIS Glory. We find when we do not know what to do in a given situation, we pause... we pray... we do not advance until HE directs us. Living a life of utter dependence upon HIM not just for our personal needs to be met, but so much more....Living our lives truly desiring to please HIM, being conformed to HIS image, & being impactful as carriers of HIS Glory in a dark world. Some times those sudden circum stances and people are allowed by HIM to help us to see HIS heart more clearly & yes to nurture HIS Fruit of HIS Spirit within us. We can react impulsively & out of emotion, or we can stop, ask, & allow HIM to instruct us. It can be a fine line in our responses. Sometimes our emotions can lead us astray & if not careful we can be the stumbling block for someone else in their spiritual maturation. Then again, Sometimes we may be the answer God desires to use that will make an eternal impact. We do not know unless we inquire & desire to be so precisely in plumb with HIM. The beauty of all of this is our relationship with HIM. Oh that We, The Body of Christ ask for discernment, wisdom, & the Multiplied Grace to steward every situation & circumstance that presents itself along our path like never before.

## Shiloh Graduate

Hello, my name is Garrett Fuselier. I am thirty-eight years old and hail from the river bottoms of Kinder, Louisiana. I am most proud of being a father to my two beautiful daughters, Elle (13) and Kierra (11). As I child I was what you consider a good boy. I primarily dedicated my time to baseball, hunting, and fishing. I am the youngest of five children, being the only boy born to a hard-working mother and a God -fearing pastor father. My drug use started at around thirteen years old with marijuana and by age eighteen I had already spent time in a juvenile detention for having used essentially every drug and turned into a totally rebellious young man. However, even through all of my rebellion my dad continued to teach me the ways of the Lord, laying the foundation that preserved me in the many tumultuous years to come. Like Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up your children in the ways of the Lord; for when they grow old, they will not depart from it. Through my early 20s, it seemed I had turned a corner and begun to build a decent life. I had made for myself a career as an electrician and had a nice home, vehicles, wife, and two children. On the surface all seemed well, but my addiction was not only still there but growing. At this point I had graduated past just using and into selling drugs, and things had become precarious. See, this "American Dream" I was living was built upon the sand and not on the rock. (Matthew 7:24) By thirty years old, I had lost everything I had worked for, went through a contentious divorce, and lost all rights to my children. In-



stead of turning to the Lord, I blamed him and everyone else for the consequences of my poor choices and turned to the world instead. For the next seven years of my life, I became a slave to my sins and the consequence therein, which was utter torment and death. "For the wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:20-23.) I was out of control, totally consumed by the lifestyle fueled by methamphetamine abuse and gambling, identified as a drug dealer with a felonious criminal record, hopelessly and aimlessly wandering through life on a crash course with hell itself. In 2018 I was arrested for the last time and was looking down the barrel of a twelve-year prison sentence. This was my breaking point, and it was in this low place that I finally gave in and reached out to Shiloh Ministries, and through a series of miracles I was court ordered and arrived on the property on December 6th, 2019. When I got to Shiloh, I knew it was time to come back to the Father as His prodigal, so I hit the ground running and boy, was He waiting. I quickly accepted Him back into my life and began to build a relationship through prayer, Bible study, and worship. Soon, the gifts that had been placed in me began to produce fruit as I became more obedient. I started to see the "plans to give me a hope and a future" spoken of in Jeremiah 29:11. Taking God seriously by obeying His word and the calling on my life, I graduated on December 11, 2020, and haven't looked back. I accepted a leadership position as Maintenance Director at Shiloh and over the last several months He has restored seven years of disconnected relationships with my family, delivered me from the bondage of sin, and put me in a place of influence both at Shiloh and my home Church, Faith Worship Center in Singer, LA. Words cannot describe the goodness God has shown me and I am just so grateful for Pastor Rocky and Sister Debbie for obeying God's calling on their lives as well as my family for never giving up on me despite my ignorance. I give God all the glory for the new creation he has made in me! Owing Him my life, I now have the honor and privilege to be the Lord's hands and feet and perform the work of the cross by serving others!

## **Contact Us At:**

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We love you and are thankful for your love and financial support of The Lord's Ministry at Shiloh. Blessings multiplied

back to you! Rocky & Debbie



Rocky & Debbie Fondren Founders & Sr. Leaders