



Shiloh Messenger

October 2013

Fourth Quarter Inventory With An Accurate Appraisal

Psalm 139:23-24

It seems so abrupt to be in the last quarter of this year, nonetheless it has been consistent with still a 24 hour system and a day in and day out progression of 273 days that have been spent thus far. Where does time go is often a question that is asked by many who find themselves to be a witness to the fact that life indeed goes by in such an extraordinarily swift rate. (James 4:14)

Every Year about this time, when summer says so-long, farewell and arrivederci, when Autumn comes out, over takes the other seasons and makes itself known by its transitioning in the air, that there becomes a pondering inclination for us at Shiloh to take an inventory on how we have done life at this point in this present year. If we wait until the New Year to give this question attention on how we are doing, and perhaps the modifications that may prove to be necessary, aren't we a little behind schedule to create a meaningful and significant ending to this particular year? Therefore the last quarter seems right, like a worthy spot to be for inventory taking regarding Spiritual Growth Assessments and how we are doing in our relationship with The Lord JESUS and lining up to HIS Word to therefore indeed be finishing with an Eternal Mindset of Knowing HIM, Loving HIM, and enjoying HIS Presence.

In evaluating how well we are doing we can never trust our own opinions, or even the views of others as a whole, as this in itself would be misleading, for some things may be unnoticeable, having tiptoed in, or seemingly insignificant and unimportant, or perhaps placed on the back burner and honestly overlooked and forgotten by us. We must go to the One that nothing is hidden from, nothing skipped over, not one single aspect of our lives missed and a right account is assured by HIM, for HE is TRUTH and a JUST JUDGE whom prioritizes with excellence, integrity, holiness, love and faithfulness. HE is the only One that can and will give to us an undiluted report as HIS Guidance is the key to an accurate appraisal (Psalm 139:23-24) (Jeremiah 33:3).

The Lord God speaks in many ways to us as HIS Sons and HIS Daughters, but the primary ways is by HIS HOLY SPIRIT speaking with that still quiet voice from within us and then by way of HIS WRITTEN WORD, also within HIS Written Word the book of Proverbs is provided for us that is loud in decibels and intensity as a powerful guide. Oswald Chambers an early twentieth century Evangelist who is best known as the Author of the devotional, My Utmost for HIS Highest has been quoted saying this of two of the Poetic Books of The Bible, "Psalms teaches us how to pray but Proverbs teaches us how we are to live."

In Proverbs 22:11, The Word of God instructs us that if You love a pure heart and your careful with your speech, making sure it to be gracious, then JESUS, HIMSELF who is KING of The Universe will be your friend. Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:8, "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." For us to have a flourishing ending we must have KING JESUS as our Friend, HE must be our Focal Point, and it is crucial for us to be carefully discerning with our words as they are truly containers of power. We must be making sure they are full of grace, blessing and not cursing, decreeing life, and being salty around others causing them to be thirsty as well for The Lord and therefore It is of the utmost that we call upon The Holy Spirit of God to purify us as we invite HIM to lead us into a ravenous desire of hungering and thirsting after righteousness.

If this is our heart cry, and we are making ourselves cooperative with HIM, then we cannot but help to end up with growth IN HIM. Our Spiritual journeys as an Apprentice of Christ began the moment we admitted personal sin, and placed our trust in Christ as Savior and Lord, and from that point until death or the return of Christ our life's call is to grow in Christ likeness, but without question God does the revealing, the renewing, the empowering, and the recreating, but still yet, it is our part as HIS Apprentice to do the yielding, submitting, inquiring, seeking, and obeying. CS Lewis, one of the twentieth century's most influential and brilliant Novelist, Christian Writers, and Apologist is quoted saying, "God does not want something from us, HE simply wants us." If Romans 12:1-2 is our life style, we do stay on course, for HE shows us step by step HIS PERFECT WILL for our lives.

The fourth quarter is a great evaluation spot, however every day is just a really good day to invite HIM to show us things and basically to say, "Tell me Lord, how did I do life today through YOUR eyes, Are YOU truly my focal point, and do I have eternity in mind, have I loved YOU with all of my heart, soul, mind, and strength, and also Lord, have I loved my neighbor as myself, Is my heart pure and has my speech been gracious Sir?" (Psalm 139:23-24)

Students Testimony

My name is Javier Alvarado I'm 23 years old, and was born and raised in Dallas, TX. My mother left my father at a real young age leaving him with me and my younger sister. At that point we lost everything and moved into a garage behind my grandmother's house and during this time my older sister came and helped my father raise me and my younger sister. She became like a mother to me and I thank God for her. I grew up with a lot of un-forgiveness and held a grudge for our circumstances, and eventually it became normal. My father brought us up in a catholic church that I attended regularly. When I reached high school, I was already doing cocaine and smoking weed. I was hanging out with the kids who stayed in trouble and didn't give a second thought to anything. During my freshman year I got busted smoking at school, was drug tested and got sent to an alternative program for 3 months. My attitude was terrible! I was constantly getting into fights and began using heroin and Xanax. I ended up staying in the program for 6 months, got back to high school my sophomore year and got into more trouble, doing more heroin and skipping school. I stopped caring about everything. Tried church again, but ran in to some bad guys, they pulled a gun on me, got into a fight with them, and the police got involved and I was told by the church that I was not welcomed. It was because of my rebellion. I got in to more conflicts with people, so I kept an assault rifle under my bed. My father saw my addiction problem and later found the gun. He was always in fear, because he knew that I didn't know what I was doing. I left home and went to stay with a friend. My addiction got worse after high school. I was working to feed my habit, later lost my job and started stealing from my family, breaking into houses, robbing stores, doing whatever I had to do to get high. I tried rehabs, but got arrested while driving on heroin with people that I was in the rehab with. I got charged with 5 felonies and later got out on bail. I really didn't know what to do, my family finally had enough, and suggested I try Shiloh Ministries. Taking inventory of my 8 year addiction and my life, I was just tired and drained, my body was deteriorating, so I came to Shiloh. I thank God for the opportunity He gave me to come here. I am so grateful for Pastor Rocky and Sister Debbie and what they are doing in their obedience to God. They are helping men like me with addictions and giving us a place to encounter God's presence. God has restored my life and my relationship with my family. My life verse is psalm 119: 11, "Your word I have hidden in my heart that I might not sin against you." I plan to take what I have learned to help others that are lost.



Prayer Needs: Need these items for our meal preparations: **Hamburger meat, pork & chicken.** Blessings & Thanks!

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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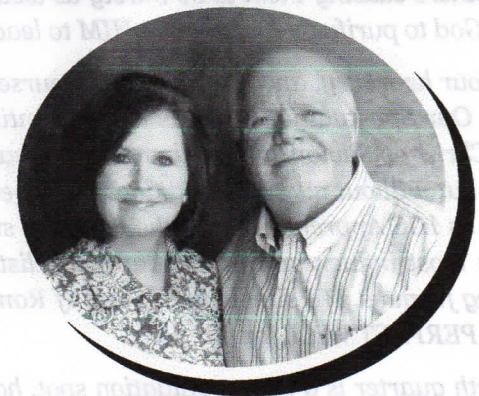
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