

Death/Life

Have you ever had a verse used over and over in your life? 2 Corinthians 4:12 is one of those verses for me, "So then death worketh in us, but life in you." Sometimes I wish I could ignore that truth. Especially when I have to make a choice that "costs" me something! Check it out, that whole chapter is about a price to be paid so that others can know the Lord.

Today as I sat down to have some quiet moments with the Lord, "out of the blue" it came to mind with the thought, "Every time you die to yourself you give someone else life!"

I thought about it and then went on with my regular reading, which was in a different part of the Bible.

Sure enough, later that day I was faced with a choice (at that moment I knew it was no coincidence), it was clear what I had to do. Isn't God good? And to make it even better, it occurred to me, "Today is Good Friday, the day He chose death to give me life!" The light bulb came on.

All Things Worth Together for Good!

We should have known that something was wrong when we walked through the door of our son's home at almost midnight. It had been a LONG trip back from Costa Rica with a 3 a.m. start, an overbooked flight, and a rerouting that took hours longer...now here we were at our destination FINALLY. But things were not in their usual order; books and papers were scattered all over, drying. A strong odor of mildew

hung in the air. The aluminum shed that held our belongings was crushed by a fallen tree. The violent storm had left its



watermarks everywhere. This was what was left of our keepsakes and pictures from our children's childhood!



Who would of thought that it would result in much thanksgiving! As we pawed through everything we found ourselves reading precious stories and letters our children wrote growing up, looking at pictures we had forgotten that we took, and being reminded of things that

God did for us as a family. We came away encouraged and awed by His faithfulness. I couldn't resist sharing one picture with you. It's not just a cute picture of a dad (Steve) with his firstborn son (Aaron), it's a picture of how we all should trust our loving Heavenly Father.

"Two" Things Needful

Actually Jesus had said, "One thing you lack... (or one thing is needful). But as the dust has settled since we left Kenya in January, and we've had a chance to step back to examine our direction, we find two things rising to the surface. It was difficult to close the Drop-in Center. As Steve would put it, we thrived on the organized chaos of 24/7 ministry to street kids, but we sensed He was opening up another way that would be more effective. Out of that pain of letting go there would be wider fruitfulness. Now we are more prepared to define that "way."

Our hope is that this will not only inform you, but also challenge you to participate.



“There is a flame of a burning bush in everything that is a work of God...” Think about it. Put differently, Paul said, “...God has worked effectively in me to the save the Gentile just as He worked effectively in Peter to save the Jews.” Nehemiah said, “...the plans God had put on my heart for...So my God gave me the idea...”

He is working in us and working in you to bring about His plans.

One of the most frequently asked questions since we've been home is, “What kind of fruit do you see in the boy's lives?”

Needful Thing Number One: PRAYER

If we are going to see lasting fruit there has to be prayer. We've been challenged by a biography of J.O. Fraser. He says, “The walls of Jericho fell down ‘by faith’ but not faith only was necessary; the wall fell down after it had been compassed about for seven days. Seven days' patience was required...and diligent compassing of the city every day too-which seems to typify encompassing the situation by regular, systematic prayer.”

Fraser did pray and he had a small group of people back home pray, and as they persisted in prayer God showed them amazing things. The Lisu people had been in bondage to demons for centuries. Demons were more real to them than God. (Much like our boys here in Africa.) The result was one of the most tremendous sweeping revivals and missionary sending movements in China in the 1900s.

As we look out over the sea of faces of those still on the street the question is, “Who is God going to use



to pray for them by name, so that they might be free? Right now we have 12 boys

recently off the street in the rehabilitation process, many of them struggling with severe trauma and bondage issues.

If this is speaking to you and you want to take this on as a ministry, please send us an email. We are putting together a ministry prayer team. It's not about numbers, just those that feel led.

Needful Thing Number Two: PLACE

We see the need for a different type of center, a place set apart from our other campus where the healing process can begin. A place to give them the tools they need through counseling and group sessions to make better choices. We want to clearly present Christ as the answer instead of a new place to stay and a school as the answer. Unfortunately, when we take some boys to our Agape Home they see the bed, regular meals, and school as the answer instead of the hard work of dealing with their problems and issues through Christ. Our goal is to equip these boys to go back to their villages and families as peace makers sent by the Prince of Peace. Please pray for the place and the development of the program.

Itinerary

We leave for Kenya on June 16. For those who still want to connect with us, we will be in southern California and Arizona May 7-13, Oregon May 24-31, Modesto/Central Valley in between, and a special dinner on May 14 in Modesto (please contact Nancy Rogers 209-545-3920 if interested in the dinner).

We love all of you and are enjoying connecting with you. Thanks for all your support, love, and concern.

Steve and Dianne Warn

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