



SPRING 2011

HIGHER GROUND NEWSLETTER

A Word from the Spiritual Director

By: Ed Plummer

Greetings Family!!

Peace, Grace and mercy be multiplied to you along with every spiritual blessing He has promised in the ONLY name that is above EVERY name Jesus the Christ...the Anointed One!!! Thank You Father for giving Your very best! Thank You for our complete redemption! Thank You for our total salvation! Thank You Lord for absolute deliverance! Thank You for our divine healing! Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!! We are such a blessed people to know our God loves us and withholds no good thing from us! He's awesome and so worthy of our praise and worship!!

Glory to the Most High, the spring weekends are quickly approaching and I am as excited as if it were the very first

one I worked! I pray you feel the same and I know so many do or you wouldn't keep coming back and sacrificing time and time again. I

would like to say we greatly appreciate Stuart Branscum and Erica Kennett for all their hard work in preparing for these upcoming weekends! I know God will honor their sacrifices.

When we go in, not merely hoping, but knowing full well that our God is going to "bring the increase" (1 Cor. 3:6-7), I believe it pleases Him. However, before God brings the increase, there are some other things that you and I must do... you guessed it, someone must plant and someone must water. We, apart from God, will never change a life for the better. V 7 in the above scripture



reference declares "neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God..." So to state the obvious, we are powerless without Him. Yet, He calls us to be His laborers, workers, ministers, servants, hands, feet, and

voice! God has always used men (and women) to fulfill His divine purpose in the earth. But there has always been this deception among many that God does not need man to accomplish His will.-- This little message is not to debate, or prove whether or not God needs man to do His will but rather, God does use us who will do!

James 1:22-25 KJV 22)But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23)For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

24)For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25)But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. - What a powerful proclamation! I know much of the church world does not want to hear this, but the truth of the

matter is we must do the work in order to receive the blessing! I can almost see some eyes rolling already =). No, I am not saying anything about our works bringing salvation or deliverance, I know it is Gods grace! James and Paul however seem to believe that faith is required as our salvation is by grace through faith and faith without works is dead. see Eph 2:8 James 2:24,26, and Heb 11:6.



You will never meet another human being alive who believes in the importance of "knowing God" more than myself! I rarely speak without bringing this point to light. I have always believed, like so many do, that what the church world needs is to "get in the Word" and "get the Word in you". I still stand firm is this belief and will

What a Privilege!!

You have the opportunity to make a difference for the Higher Ground weekends without ever leaving your home. **Join in prayer for the pilgrims and workers**, lifting them before the throne of God, opening the door for Him to do a mighty work in their lives.

Sign up at www.hgexperience.org.

What a privilege to be on our knees holding others up through our prayers!!!



Men's "Experience" #43

Stuart Branscum, Director March 24-27

GREETINGS HIGHER GROUND FAMILY.

AS EVERYONE WHO IS INVOLVED WITH HIGHER GROUND KNOWS, THIS MINISTRY CHANGES LIVES IN AN AWESOME WAY. I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHOSE LIVES WILL BE CHANGED IN HIGHER GROUND WEEKEND #43. THIS IS ALSO A TIME FOR THE WORKERS TO GET REVIVED FROM WATCHING WHAT GOD HAS IN STORE FOR THE PILGRIMS. IT SEEMS ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS PUT OURSELVES BEHIND THE SCENES AND ALLOW GOD TO WORK IN THE FOREFRONT THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND. WE ASK THAT EVERYONE BE IN MUCH PRAYER FOR THE SPRING WEEKEND RETREATS, ESPECIALLY DURING THE

ACTUAL WEEKENDS BECAUSE AS CHRISTIANS, WE KNOW THAT ANYTIME WE DO ANYTHING FOR OUR LORD THAT HAS SUCH A HUGE IMPACT FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD, THE ENEMY WILL ALWAYS TRY TO STEP IN AND DISRUPT OUR EFFORTS. **WE KNOW THE ENEMY'S PLAN** SO LET EACH OF US PUT FORTH THE BEST WE HAVE FOR THIS WEEKEND FOR OUR LORD. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MENTION THAT WE HAVE SEVERAL AVAILABLE SPOTS FOR THE PRAYER VIGIL. PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER DONATING YOUR TIME IN THAT AREA. PSALM 34:15 THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE ON THE RIGHTEOUS AND HIS EARS ARE ATTENTIVE TO THEIR CRY. **JESUS IS LORD**

STUART

Women's "Experience" #44

Erica Kennett, Director

April 14-17

Hello Higher Ground Family!

As Winter comes to an end and we welcome Spring, I am reminded of a few words that describe the spring season. Refresh. Renew. Restore. These words can also describe our lives and our relationship with the Lord.

Psalm 51:10,12

"Create in me a clean heart, O God; And renew a right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me." My prayer is that we would each take a look at the beauty around us in this Spring season and that our lives would reflect new growth like that around us.

As we enter into a time of preparation for Higher Ground

#44, let us meditate on the theme verse for the weekend. James 4:8(ESV) "Draw near to God and he will draw near to you."

I am so thankful for the many that have enthusiastically volunteered to work and serve the Lord at the upcoming Women's Weekend.

If at all possible, please plan to participate in the 72 hour prayer vigil, Andrews Hour and Candlelight. Also, shower the pilgrims with Agape!

Let's remember how all of these things impacted us on our weekend and show that love to those participating in the upcoming weekends. I can't wait to see how the Lord works and demonstrates His life changing power for us all to see!

Blessings, ERICA



Can't make it to the weekend? There is still something you can do.

You can bring a special snack for the pilgrims to enjoy. Remember how you enjoyed the snack table with its wonderful treats?

You can also bring agape items. This is another special treat of

the weekend that we never forget. God uses these things to show his love to the pilgrims in yet another way through the weekend.

Won't you be a part of making the weekend all that God wants it to be?

A Word from the Spiritual Director (cont.)

continue to encourage the Body to do precisely that! ... But THAT is NOT enough! That's right, "knowing" is not enough! We must purpose to be "DOERS" of the word of God! We have gone to church and gone to church and gone to church and have heard, heard, and heard some more and have absolutely "deceived" ourselves. God is showing us that the primary reason HG is so effective is because it is a ministry that "DOES"! The primary reason many churches are drying up is because they DOESN'T! I want to caution our family here and charge everyone of us to purpose to never allow this ministry to simply become about a bunch of glorified speakers, and all we focus on is being entertained rather than edified. The Word is vital to our spiritual development but simply knowing what it says and even being able to quote what it says will not cause us to receive the manifestation of God's power in our pursuits. We like to quote the Word and hear those

who are proficient at delivering it because we like to be "entertained". I don't mean to suggest this is the only reason but if we're honest we will admit there is at least a smidge of truth to it. We are a generation of people who love to hear, we go to church, sit in our pews, look at our ministers with our arms crossed and say to ourselves "bless us if you can"! Most of us have heard such awesome word, we put a lot of expectation on those who we sit under week in and week out. Yet for some mysterious reason, there is little change in our lives. Even if we sit under great anointing week after week there still seems to be little change...why is this?? I believe James is giving us tremendous revelation here...we are only hearing and as a result we are deceiving ourselves!

Eze. 33:30-32 KJV 30) Also, thou son of man, the

children of thy people still are talking against thee by the walls and in the doors of the houses, and speak one to another, every one to his brother, saying, Come, I pray you, and hear what is the word that cometh forth from the Lord. 31) And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness. 32) And lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument; for they hear thy words, but they do them not. -- What a perfect picture of what still goes on today! Ezekiel was obviously a gifted and anointed speaker whom the people loved to come and give attendance to! The scripture even goes on to indicate that he was like a "lovely song, pleasant voice, played well on an instrument... these people were no doubt simply going to church to be entertained and had no intention of actually doing anything they heard!!!

Have you ever tried to encourage someone with a scripture and they tell you

"We must purpose to be "DOERS" of the word of God."

"yea I know that verse" or they may even nod and finish the verse for you indicating they already know that??? Well if we know it, why isn't it working for us?? Because knowing it is not enough, nor is saying it enough. We must DO the word! Again, James says we are "deceiving" ourselves... not the devil is deceiving or someone else is deceiving but we are deceiving ourselves. Deception simply defined is to believe something that is untrue. Many go to church on a regular basis, hear preaching while there and even hear the word during the week and still they remain defeated, broke, busted and disgusted. They are perplexed because things do not seem to be changing. They are deceived because they believe by fulfilling these rituals and going through the motions and hearing enough word to choke even the apostle Paul their lives should be changed.

(Cont.)



Candlelight

BE A BLESSING!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND COME BE A PART OF MAKING THE WEEKENDS EXTRA SPECIAL FOR THE PILGRIMS.

**Men's Candlelight
March 26 7:15pm
First Christian Church
Eureka Springs, AR**

**Women's Candlelight
April 16 7:15pm
First Christian Church
Eureka Springs, AR**

Berryville, AR 72616
P.O. Box 62
Higher Ground



A Word from the Spiritual Director (cont.)

The enemy doesn't care how often you go to church and listen to the word, nor does he care how much of the word you can say or quote. As a matter of fact, he would be very content if all you did was take up all your time hearing. Read the word, study it day in and day out, know it inside and out, front to back and it will profit you nothing if you do not DO it! God's word is precious and the problem with so many is we do not esteem it as such. James said we are like a man who beholds his image in a mirror and as soon as we walk away, we forget what we have seen. I don't mean to keep kicking the same horse here but aren't we guilty? While we sit and hear, we are looking into the mirror, because the word reflects who we really are, and as soon as we walk out of the church building or we lay our bibles down, we forget it and we fail to practice it!

We are blessed in our deeds (doings)! Abraham did not just talk about taking Isaac to the mountain...

he took him, built the altar, laid his son upon it, drew the knife.... David did not show up at the Israeli army camp and simply talk about slaying the giant... he gathered the stones, walked out and stood in the gap, loaded the sling and released it in faith... Noah didn't show up every Sunday to just preach about the end times and talk about the need for an ark... he gathered his sons and according to God's word he DID what God called him to do and as a result, his family was saved... Moses, didn't just write the laws, nor did he just read the laws, Moses was a doer of the word of God!!

Matt 7:21 KJV Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that DOETH the will of my father which is in heaven. God manifested

Himself in the flesh and dwelt among us as a man, Jesus Christ. Jesus said in Jn 8:29b for I DO always those things that please him. Obviously He didn't just sit around and say "I know I have to go to the cross". "I know that I must suffer and bear the sins of the world". And "Hey guys check this out, I have to go to a whipping post and bear all your sicknesses and diseases". NO HE DID NOT JUST SIT AROUND AND TALK TALK TALK -- JESUS WAS A DOER! We are to be like the Master- givers, compassionate, servants and on and on. Here is the take away in case I've failed to make the point.-- We at the HG ministry must remain committed to being doers of the Word and not hearers only! The ONLY people on the planet who will ever see the manifestation of God's power in their lives are the ones who will DO what the word instructs us to DO. Thank you HG family for coming to the mtn time after time and being doers... it works the same way when we're not on the mtn!
Jesus is Lord
Ed