

Life Awakening

teaching the simplicity and practicality of the Gospel for abundant and eternal life.

"...the Gospel, for it is the power of God unto salvation..."

Romans 1:16

Kingdom Seekers Bible Study

Ladies, if you are interested in joining a group of spiritually hungry women, join us on Tuesday mornings 9:30 - 11:30 at City Gate New Holland, 117 E. Main Street, New Holland. We are studying the book of Acts. If you would like to join us, call for more details!

Mission

To train people how to simply and practically join the Gospel for freedom, healing, and victory from the burdens of sin and pain for themselves and others.

Vision

To see believers fulfill the promise of the Gospel for abundant life here on earth, while furthering the expansion of God's Kingdom.

AWAKENED

Newsletter

SABBATH REST FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

BY: ANDREA HOLDER

We all know that in Exodus 20: 9-10, God says: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it, you shall not do any work....". Most devout Jews and Christians take that commandment literally and set aside the Saturday or Sunday respectively as a day off from the daily grind, dedicated to worship, honor, and attention to God. Interestingly, the number "7", in scripture, is understood to refer to completion or perfection. Our lack, our shortcomings, our sin, our missing the mark, our limitation, is remedied or made complete in Christ. The "seventh" or Sabbath day is when we take a break from our strivings and allow him to bring completeness to whatever He has called us to do.

But there is another "Sabbath rest" referred to in scripture, including Hebrews 4: 9-11: "There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his..." This scripture refers to putting one's trust in God's salvation as a Sabbath rest. Entering that Sabbath rest is a one-time event when we accept Jesus Christ as our savior and Lord. But there is also a way in which that rest can be experienced and appropriated anew in different seasons of our Christian walk.

I picture this kind of Sabbath as a space we make in our spirit for God to take care of things. Not the "devotional time" we set aside (also good!) but, rather, designating a "space" in our heart, attitude, and spirit, where we let God take over our affairs. In the same way we make space for God every seventh Sabbath day, we can also set aside a space in our spirit, a Sabbath where we let go of striving to make things happen, and instead allow God to complete and perfect our lives, our ministry, and the purposes to which He has assigned us. We take our hands off the wheel and our feet off the accelerator, and let God work. In this kind of Sabbath rest, we are trusting God, believing in His goodness, and assenting and yielding to His perfect ways.

In American culture we have the season of Thanksgiving followed by the Christmas season. At Thanksgiving we acknowledge and give thanks for how God has seen us through, provided for us, abided with us, and countless other ways he has blessed us. When we take that time of thanks, anytime, it leads to a place of rest, a place where we can abide in the knowledge that God is taking care of all things. The Thanksgiving season then points us to Christmas. After that day of "thanksgiving", we set aside Christmas day to celebrate Jesus Christ, our savior, who made us complete in God. The helpless baby in the manger, like us, had to trust that Father God would take care of bringing to pass all that they together had planned for humanity.

We invite you to let your spirit enjoy the Sabbath rest God has for you, his children, by entrusting to Him, just as baby Jesus did, the completion of whatever He has planned for you this season!



Happy Thanksgiving!

At this time of year, many people are thinking about giving end-of-the-year gifts. If you would like to give, know that it will help to defray the costs of sessions for those who struggle to pay!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Director's Corner

Linda S. Ingham

Let's consider the heart of Saul, later called Paul, this holiday season. Acts 9:1 says, "he was "breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord". The word, "*breathing*" in the Greek has the idea of "*inhaling*", implying that Saul daily woke up living and breathing for opportunities to threaten and participate in the murder of followers of Jesus. He lived for that purpose. Hatred, threats, and violence were his everything!

THEN JESUS STEPPED IN! While blinded by a light brighter than the sun, Jesus invaded Saul's spirit, soul, and body as only He can! Falling to the ground, Saul immediately changed from the inside out! He no longer *inhaled* hatred and violence. Instead he instantaneously "*inhaled*" Jesus. In fact he came to experience the power of the truth that he, like all believers, was "*in Christ*" and "*Christ was in him*"! He even preached, "for in Him we live and move and have our being (exist)" (Acts 17:28). If you read the synopsis of all the atrocities Saul (Paul) experienced, you would agree that the "*inhaling*" of Christ enabled him to endure it all (2 Cor. 11:24-33)! Saul was transformed from the depths of a dark, murderous hatred to the heights of a powerful, abounding, and abiding love!

As we celebrate this holiday season, may we know that we, too, can "*inhale*" Jesus as we *live in and through Him* by claiming His presence in us! After all, Galatians 2:20 says "it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me..."! Like Paul, that "*inhaling*" can "*get us through*" the dark, challenging, heart-wrenching times of life! May you have a heart-warming **Thanksgiving**, a **Merry Christmas**, and a **Happy New Year!**

Life Awakening is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Financial contributions are deductible as charitable gifts for federal income tax purposes.

Ways to give financially: 1) **Check**; 2) **PayPal** via LA website; 3) **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)**, call us to set up

Staff

Miss Linda S. Ingham, *Executive Director*
Mrs. Andrea Holder, *Assistant Director*
Mrs. Chelsea Clark, *Administrative Assistant*

Board of Directors

Mrs. Sue Martin
Mrs. Sharon Hershey (founder)
Miss Linda S. Ingham, *President*
Mrs. Andrea Holder
Mrs. Corinne Denlinger, *Secretary & Treasurer*

Of Counsel

Mr. Bill Gensel, *Coatesville-Gap Simple Church*
Pastor Mark King, *Lord's House of Prayer*
Robert F. Musser, Esquire, *Clymer, Musser & Sarno, PC*
Pastor Art Remington, *United as One, Come Behold Israel*
Keith Yoder, Ed. D., *The Emporia Group*

