

July 2019 Newsletter

“From Heaven’s Heart”

You Don’t Have to Carry This Anymore!

Our worry can’t change the world, only God can. Luke 12:25 says, “Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life?” Jesus, in all His gentleness and kindness, His extravagant mercy and care, wants to take the burdens from our hands and says, “You don’t have to carry this anymore.”

“The word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

What does it mean when the Word, God’s Word became flesh and lives among us? Not lived but lives. I believe what the Bible says. He (Jesus Christ) lives with us and empowers us to live because He lives in all Christians in Spirit. If I did not believe this, then it would be totally up to me to deal with all the messes that surround me/us daily...yes daily. But I do believe when the Bible says, Jesus loves me and cares about me and cares for me and wants to take the burdens that life brings my way from my hands to His. And He says, “You don’t have to carry this anymore.” On May 8, 2019, Ronnie called to let me know the results of his recent check up. The last one said, “Cancer Free”. This one said, “There are some spots on one of your lungs and we need to do more test.”

The next morning, Ronnie dropped by the office and shared what was ahead of him...more test. That evening after choir, I shared with the choir members what was ahead of him. (Ronnie had asked me to share this.)

Then I asked Ronnie to come up front. Every choir member placed his or her hands on Ronnie and we prayed together for God to heal him. We also thanked God for good doctors and treatments that He often uses in the treatment process. But it is God who always heals. It is God who always heals. It is God who wants us to hand our burdens over to Him (Cancer is a burden) and let Him carry them.

God is with us. God is with Ronnie. God will heal Ronnie. Death itself cannot steal life away from believers. Ronnie is a believer.

Before we left the choir room, Ronnie shared his personal testimony of his faith. He said something like this, “I know where I’m going when I die and I’m not afraid of dying but I’m not ready unless God is ready for me. I want to live.” What a testimony. I want to live. God made us that way.

Ronnie and I talked some more on Thursday morning. We talked about “This Thing” God puts inside of all of us that gives us the determination and fight and the will to live. That something He puts inside of all believers is the Holy Spirit. The Word became flesh. Jesus, whose Father had the power to raise His dead Son from the grave certainly has the power to heal us and He certainly has the power to carry our burdens.

But God can also use you and me to help others carry their burdens. We can pray for them and with them. We can be with them during their test, surgeries, and recoveries. We can take them meals, mow their grass, call to see if we can do something and drive them to a doctor’s appointment. We can help carry their burden also. And please hear this. When we help others, God blesses us. You know this because you are helping carry the burdens of others daily. I know it because I see it. Thank you.

Would you pray with me! Lord, you are the one who knows my heart best, and you are the source of the truth I need in every circumstance. Your voice is always full of love. What do you want to say to me today? I will listen. Amen

When we help carry a burden of another person, worry and stress is reduced. When we realize what ever we are worried and stressed about, we can hand it over to God, worry and stress is reduced.

God created the world. Created means it didn’t exist before. Something came into being that hadn’t been before. You may not have peace in your heart right now because of worry and stress. God says, “I can create peace and hope in your heart today. I can create something that’s not there. Just hand it over to me and see what only I can do.”

The Word is more than just lines on a page. The Word, (Jesus), He is the narrator of our lives. He is the beginning and the end and the middle of the story. He is still creating, still coming into the ordinary moments, still speaking to every heart willing to listen. Are you willing to listen? Jesus has something to say specifically and especially to you and for you. He wants to reveal His truth to you. Will you let Him?

May you experience the love and the presence and the peace and the power of Christ in your life at this very moment?

With a whole lot of love for you,

Pastor Steve

PS Hand it over to God right now.
PSS Help carry another persons burden today.

PSS When we help carry another persons load, we forget about our own because God has taken our load on His back.