

**Beloved friend in CHRIST, I extend warm greetings in the name of our BLESSED LORD JESUS CHRIST. I TRUST THAT IN SPITE OF THE ADVERSITIES & AFFLICTIONS OF LIFE, (Ps. 34:19), you are PRESSING ON & FORGING AHEAD, testifying to the FACT that it is WELL with your SOUL.**

**February picked up where January left off with 19 services, but a much smaller harvest of some 200. It was a difficult month of harvesting souls & more than half were rededications. Resistance & oppression was heavy, but the WORD OF GOD went forth in every service. The WORD OF GOD is a mighty weapon & TRUTH that tears down strongholds (II Cor. 10:4) & barriers to salvation. The most blessed part of the month was doing 7 services in 4 days and still having supernatural strength & divine energy afterwards. I didn't get much sleep because of pain, but GOD ALWAYS ENERGIZES ME. I NEVER have pain when I preach, P.T.L. HE is so good to me & I'm blessed to be serving HIM. ( Nahum 1:7 )**

**Someone recently said to me, "Why did you pick a ministry that doesn't pay?" I said, "GOD called me into this ministry & by being obedient, HE ALWAYS TAKES CARE OF MY NEEDS." (Phil. 4:19) My bank account in HEAVEN has huge deposits of souls, (over 50,000), mountains of PRAISE & WORSHIP, deposits of JOY & FULFILLMENT, having CONTENTMENT with ALL that HE gave me (Heb. 13:5). All good & perfect gifts come from HIM." ( Jas. 1:17 ) I closed the conversation with: "I'm also making deposits in my bank account of memories of all HIS blessings."**

**On two different Sundays, I was blessed to preach at a church. Pastor Bruno Caporrimo & Dr.W. Millsap invited me to give the Word. Pastor Millsap's Sadoc Christian Church has a wonderful spirit of PRAISE & WORSHIP & a powerful anointing. It's always an extra blessing when I preach at a church on a Sunday. Also did a Sunday service at the L.A. Co. Jail & Long Beach Rescue Mission. There was a small number of inmates at the chapel service but most said the Sinners prayer. The services at the L. A. Mission all brought forth a nice little harvest, as did the Fred Jordan Mission. The Union Rescue Mission Services were packed as there was a rainstorm. When I hugged dozens, they were drenched & most sick with**

colds & flu. So many moms & childrenÖtears at your heart.

I've been contacted by two penitentiaries where I haven't ministered before & I'm looking forward to going. Also trying to set up a prison ministry trip to Texas. We'll see how the LORD leads.

Mel Gibson's film "The Passion of the Christ" was released on February 25<sup>th</sup>. This film will bring millions to CHRIST. You will cry when you see the scenes of brutal pain & suffering our LORD went thru for you & me. The Chino women's service is always special as you see hurting & wounded souls come into the Kingdom. It's always so exiting. It really humbles me to see GOD draw souls to the cross (John 6:44).

There is a divine tension that exists between the strength that GOD supplies for our tasks & the strength we gather on our own. WITHOUT the LORD, you labor in vain (John 15:5, Eph. 6:10). The Apostle Paul understood this tension. When he ministered, he did so with a committed heart to the "CALL" that GOD had given him. By day & often by night he taught GOD'S WORD to ALL who would listen. HUMILITY was a cornerstone in Paul's life. It was also one of the reasons he was successful as an Apostle. He did NOT view himself as being self-sufficient, or above anyone! HE knew that without GOD'S GRACE in his life, the gospel message would not be preached. Paul was the LORD'S bondservant, & this was his greatest goal, to serve GOD no matter what the circumstances.

Can you say the same thing? What is YOUR calling? The psalmist wrote, "I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my GOD than dwell in the tents of the wicked" (Ps. 84:10 NIV). Just like this humble servant of God, Paul was not concerned with position or fame. His greatest DESIRE was to SERVE GOD. Greatness rarely makes a person humble. In fact, power, fame, & position in the eyes of man often lead to corruption & pride. (Jas. 4:6, I Peter 5:5).

GODLY humility, however, ALWAYS leads to greatness ñ NOT in the eyes of the world, but certainly in the eyes of GOD. That's what is important.

I believe there is no greater position to hold than that of GOD'S servant. JESUS said HE came to serve, not to reign. (Matt. 20:28). However, because HE HUMBLED HIMSELF in OBEDIENCE to the point of death on the cross, HE is now LIFTED UP & REIGNS at GOD'S right hand (Ps. 110:1, Eph. 1:20). One day we ALSO will REIGN with HIM-- NOT as HIS

equal, but as HIS beloved sons & daughters. (P.T.L. ) If JESUS is not the ONE to whom I am looking for direction & guidance, then there is NO benefit in my sacrifice & service. HUMILITY begins with a CHOICE. We must CHOOSE to SUBMIT to GOD'S LOVE & HIS WILL. It is only when we turn to CHRIST in prayer & submit ourselves to HIS will that we gain the PEACE that comes as a result of true humility. This is where we abandon our human resistance & accept GOD'S GRACE as being sufficient for our lives (II Cor. 12:9). Living a life of humility requires 2 things: HONEST SELF EVALUATION & COURAGE. It is essential to the Christian life in order to grow spiritually. Our journey ONLY begins at the foot of HIS CROSS. This is where we come face to face with the reality of GOD'S UNCONDITIONAL LOVE (John 3:16). In death, JESUS was our suffering SERVANT, but GOD has exalted HIM as our reigning LORD & KING. AMEN.

Until next month, LORD BLESS you & to you who sent a LOVE offering, I PRAISE HIM & THANK YOU.

In His Majesty's Service,

Mel Novak