

“the SON-Light eNews”

Pastor Richard James

APRIL 2011

Volume 4 Issue 3

From the Pastor's Heart

A Fresh Demonstration of God's Spirit

Pastor Richard James's December, 2003 Sermon Notes

Note: This was good then, and it is good today!!!

If there does not come a fresh demonstration of the Holy Spirit's signs, wonder miracles — this generation will not stand up and move forward in God's calling. This generation has heard and seen it all, and nothing seems to be impacting. There must be a fresh move of God in His church (amen!). The Apostle Peter talks about that very thing. “This is what was spoken by the Prophet Joel.” It seems to be too good to be true... But it's not!

In today's world, we are enticed by so many things that seem too good to be true, but have proved to be hype. Bigger, better, longer lasting, more powerful... the adjectives are endless. They said that the old stock market blue chip stocks are dead and new high tech stocks are the future. Too good to be true, and it was. Oh yes... remember this one... commercials for fat blocking agents “no fat will go into your body”... then they tell you that the miracle weight cure is killing your body, you feel sicker and sicker. It was too good to be true! And try this one on for size... a miracle cream to rub on your thighs to dissolve cellulite... too good to be true.

What are we to believe? Is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit hype? Is it too good to be true? The Apostle Peter is saying "it's too good NOT to be true". God made the promise. His promises are ALWAYS true. People are coming to Jesus and being filled with the Holy Spirit... it's too good not to be true!

In Acts 2: 14-39, Peter, being filled with the Holy Spirit, quotes Joel 2:28-29 *"And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants, I will pour out My Spirit in those days."* then he goes on to tell us about the Holy Spirit (paraphrased), the Helper... will lead us into all truth... direct and guide your world... fills us with the power of God... convicts of sin, righteousness, judgment... "He, (the Holy Spirit), will glorify Me." Jesus said just wait in Jerusalem and He will come.

Peter cries out – "this is it! It has come!" But more, “This is what Joel spoke about in his prophecy.” Peter didn't get it at the cross, but now he knows "this is it!" This is what Jesus had spoken of when He left. It's too good NOT to be true! I'm experiencing it just like He said. (Read Acts 2:17-18) “It's” not what you think. It's too good not to be true. Peter, again quotes Joel, then Zechariah, Isaiah, the psalmist David. It was written for us to know it when we see it. It's here right now right here in this place. Let's get excited church!

More than ever today, we need an outpouring upon the young and old alike. Boomers – Busters – Builders. Every generation needs a touch from God. My own father's generation influenced, or

touched, mine. I must also make plans for the next generation for the sake of Jesus. Start with me right now, right here in this place.

Changing things can be more work than we want to do, but the fullness of His Spirit will explode in us and through us far beyond our limitations. We make excuses saying we've accepted our responsibility and that we know how it all works... but to our shame, we set limits for ourselves and those seeking knowledge from us. Let us see through the eyes of Christ and have confidence in the Holy Spirit to guide our steps.

Our boundaries must be submitted to God, for He has no boundaries. A free Holy Spirit filling brings new vision. I'm willing to allow God to set my boundaries and abandon my old restrictions. Right now, right here in this place. Let Your Spirit explode my limited view of what You are capable of doing through me and younger men and women, boys and girls. Fill me a-fresh with Your Holy Spirit.

What will we do with "Gen-X", our young people today? Will we "X" them out? They must see the extravagant work of God's grace, the excellent work of His Spirit... extra above and beyond past generations expelling the work of darkness and expounding to their generation the will of God. So be filled with the Holy Spirit. Generation x-er's live at an accelerated pace and when their energy is unleashed under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the passion that rules them will be harnessed by the Holy Spirit and they can turn this city upside down for Christ. It's life changing to say go for it. We will resource you. We will pray for you. We will encourage you. We will help you to see it. We will help you lay hold of it.

Don't slow down... Not now. Commit in your hearts... "I will no longer bow my head before the secular world. I will no longer walk away and truck my head. It will be a world-changer in my world at least. I won't be stamped as a cookie cutter. I will set the tone for the next generation."

Our culture striving for self empowerment through equality. there must be a partnership from one generation to another – saying “go for it.” Nothing gets in the way of the Holy Spirit in us when we open up to Him and His fullness. When we get past 'gender', or 'race', or 'color' and begin to flow together as the Holy Spirit directs, every person will be fully validated by the work of the Holy Spirit, signs, and wonders will follow.

Blessings. Pastor Richard

Your Input is Needed

eNews is *only* as good as the information presented to it.

- Do you have a **Testimony** of your own to share?
- All **Ministry coordinators** are responsible for sending in the information on your Ministry into the eNews. Please see submittal information below.
- “the SON-Light eNews” is our monthly news about our Church. Your editor will do the best possible for both you and our Church, yet the editor is only able to do so with help from you. This is going to be a good year for us and our Church.

Monthly NEWS Information

April 3rd

- ✓ **Communion Sunday**
- ✓ **Deacon's Fund & Food Basket** 1st Sunday of the month. Give a financial gift and/or canned or non perishable food.
- ✓ **Drive-Thru Taco Dinner Tickets go on sale for May 5th dinner:** See information under High School Ministry. Special Prize Drawing.

April 5th

- ✓ **Young @ Heart – Adult** Speaker: Dave & Charlyn Mahrt share testimonies, stories, and whatever God puts on their hearts. Soup & Salad Bar, see times and place below under Young @ Heart.

April 6th

- ✓ **David Ramsey's Financial Peace University,** 7 pm, 13 week course.

April 8th

- ✓ **Junior High "Battle Cry"**@ Arco Arena

April 9th

- ✓ **Junior High "Battle Cry"** @ Arco Arena
- ✓ **High School Air-Soft** Group *must* turn in permissions slips!!!!

April 10th

- ✓ **Junior High "Battle Cry"** @ Arco Arena

April 12th

- ✓ **Young @ Heart – Adults** Potluck followed by worship, prayer, and testimony night, everyone shares the good things God has done.

April 15TH

- ✓ **Women's Movie Nite** Fellowship Hall (Check Bulletin for time and place.)

April 16th

- ✓ **Men's Breakfast.** Time and Place to be announced.

April 17th

- ✓ **High School Fundraiser** Fellowship Hall. (See about event under High School Ministry)

April 19th

- ✓ **Young @ Heart – Adult** Special “**Seder Dinner**” with specially prepared food following the wonderful Jewish Tradition. \$10 per person. (Contact: see below)

April 20th

- ✓ **Deadline for eNews submittals for May issue.** (See below under ‘Your Information is Needed’ & ‘Submittal Information. If you don’t see your event in the eNews this month, it is because it wasn’t turned into eNews.)

April 23rd

- ✓ **“Prepare and Enrich”**
- ✓ **High School Air-Soft** Group’s ***last chance*** to turn in permission slips

April 24th

- ✓ **Easter Sunday** Let’s **fill** the church to celebrate what Jesus has done for us!
- ✓ **Easter Sunrise Service** We have been invited to join Little Country Church at Field of Dreams for an Easter Sunrise Service @ 6 am.

April 26th

- ✓ **Young @ Heart – Adult** Our very own Wayne & Lola Colbert, two precious servants in the house of the Lord will share testimonies and the Word of the Lord.

Each Week:

- ✓ **Sunday Bulletin** submissions to be into the office by **Tuesday**.

Classes

David Ramsey’s Financial Peace University

13 weeks course beginning Wednesday, April 6th, 7 pm.

Do you want to be in control of your money? Have no debts. This class will help give you the ability to control your finances and stop struggling to keep out of debt. The class cost is \$100 for study material you will need, for both individual and/or couple. Sign up in the Welcome Center.

David Hendrickson will be facilitating this class on personal finance. Contact him for more information.

“Prepare and Enrich”

One day only!!! Saturday, April 23rd 9 am Registration. Class begins @10 am – 4 pm. 30 minute lunch break.

Cost is \$175 for the facilitator kit, which includes manual, training, & lifetime testing & scoring services with online testing.

“Welcome to the Family”

This class began February 6th. Sunday, 9 am, Sunday School Wing, rm. B115.

This class is really exciting. It's always amazing to think that you can know so much about the Bible, but when you begin looking at some of the “basics”, you will be amazed as to how much has been forgotten or that had simply never been learned certain truths. Please join each Sunday morning, as the class explores all of the wonderful things the Word has for us. You will be glad you did!!!

Pastor Richard's “Living on the Edge”: A ten-week course held on Wednesday evenings for Men only. r12 True Spirituality with DVDs, and short study guide. Class are approximately one (1) hour long. Dare to experience true spirituality! Sign up at the Welcome Center. Check Bulletin for date, time, place to be announced.

How Important Are Your Relationships?

Wednesday, 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Change your relationships. Change your life in 2011. If you are struggling with a relationship, it's time for a tune-up. Childcare is provided upon request and donation basis for up to age 10.

INSPIRITIONAL MOMENT

THE MAGIC OF THREE DAYS

It was a beautiful spring day and a sense of peace stayed with me as I left the cathedral, on Easter Monday morning. I paused for a moment on top of the steps leading to the avenue; now rowded with people rushing to their jobs.

Sitting in her usual place, inside a small archway, was the old flower lady. At her feet, corsages and boutonniere were parading on a spread-open newspaper. The flower lady was smiling; her wrinkled old face alive with some inner joy. I started down the stairs.

Then, on an impulse, I turned and picked out a flower. As I put it in my lapel I said, "You look happy."

"Why not?" she answered. "Everything is good." She was dressed so shabbily, and seemed so very old, that her reply startled me.

"You've been sitting here for many years now, haven't you? And always smiling. You wear your troubles well."

"You can't reach my age and not have troubles," she replied. "Only, it's like Jesus and Good Friday..." She paused for a moment.

"Yes?" I prompted.

"Well, when Jesus was crucified, on Good Friday that was the worst day for the whole world. When I get troubles, I remember that. Then, I think of what happened only three days later. Easter and our Lord rose from the dead. So, when things go wrong, I've learned to wait three days and, somehow,

everything gets much better."

Her words still follow me whenever I think I have troubles. "Give God a chance to help. Wait three days."

(Author unknown,. Found on corajanee@shasta.com Weekly Message)

Spiritual Well-Fare

Sunday Worship Service: 10 am

- **Communion Sunday:** 1st Sunday of the month
- **Bible Studies: Sunday, 9 am**
"Welcome to the Family", SS Bldg., Rm. B115
"Soul Care", CE Bldg., Rm. C106
"Pillars of Faith", CE Bldg., Rm. 102
- **Deacon's Fund & Food Basket** 1st Sunday of the month. Give a financial gift and/or canned or non perishable food. "If you see a brother in need....."
- **Sunday Evening Prayer** 1st Sunday of the month @ 6 pm in the Sanctuary
- **Church Library** Is open on Sundays: 9:45 am until 10 am. 12 Noon to 12:45 Rm. B 118
Special needs:

Sunday Children Ministries

Nursery Nursery through kindergarten opens Sunday, 9:30 am, SS Bldg. Rm. B101.

Elementary Children 1st grade through 5th grade class: "BIG CITY", CE Bldg. Rm. C108.

Junior High 6th through 9th grade class: "GRAPPLE, CE Bldg. Rm. C104."

High School: 10th through 12th: Bible Study. CE Bldg. Rm. C103.

High School Christian Music Band The leader of the forming band is Dave Hayes. Practice is Sunday after Sunday Services in the Sanctuary.

Our Hebrew Roots

There are seven Jewish holidays or feasts (Lev. 23) that God carefully planned to reveal his plan of salvation. Feasts in Hebrew "moed" means "appointed times" or holy convocations. The feasts aren't just Jewish holidays that we should just find interesting. We can celebrate them – and reap the blessings from doing so – because we Gentiles have been grafted in through God's covenant with Abraham.

So, it's important that we know and understand the significance of the feasts. They exactly typify the timing, sequence and significance of major events in the life of Jesus Christ, When God told Moses "Concerning the feasts of the Lord, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts" (Lev 23:2), he didn't put a time limit on it! These feasts are praise and worship to God the Father

and God the Son. Check it out: the New Testament refers to the feasts, too. Jesus himself celebrated them.

Passover is the first feast which occurs in the spring on the 14th day of the first month, Nisan. God called Moses to lead the enslaved Hebrews out of Egypt to fulfill his covenant with Abraham. The final plague God brought upon the Egyptians would kill the firstborn son in every home. God instructed (Ex 12: 1-11) the Hebrews to choose a year-old lamb without blemish, hold it for 4 days during which time it became dear to the family, sacrifice it and apply the blood to the doorposts of their homes as a visible sign of their faith in the Lord to save their first born. The blood of the innocent, blameless, spotless lamb became their substitute making it possible for the Lord's judgment to 'pass over' them and save their first born.

Passover is the basis for understanding the last supper and communion, and the meaning of Jesus' death which is so much more than the atonement of sins. The Jewish people celebrate Passover still waiting for their Messiah to come. We are so blessed because we can celebrate it waiting for the second coming of our Messiah, Jesus.

(To be continued next month... Author: Patricia Heinsohn)

Other Bible Studies During Month

Young @ Heart – Adult

- *Note the age definition for group!!!!
- Meet on Tuesdays, unless noted under Monthly Calendar Changes
- Potluck: 5:30 PM Service: 6:30 PM
- Speakers each week.

Bible Studies: Intercessory Prayer Wednesday, 6 pm, CE Bldg. Rm. C106

Bible Studies: "How to Wage Spiritual Warfare and Win" Bible Study Wednesday, 7 pm, CE Bldg. Rm. C106

Bible Studies: Lifeline Prayer & Worship 2nd Friday of each month. 7 pm, Fellowship Hall

Bible Studies: Women's Ministries They have begun a new study: *Boundaries*. When to say YES, and when to say, NO! Sign up to purchase the book and/or the study guide. \$20 for both, or \$10 for study book.

- Evening Bible Study
 - Monday: 7:00 pm, Brenda Anderson's home
 - Monday: 7:00 pm, Kathryn Livingston's home
- Morning Bible Study
 - Tuesday: 10:00 am, Pat Heinsohn's home

Drs. Henry Cloud and John Townsend give you biblically based answers to saying Yes and No, and other tough questions to take control of your life. Show how to set healthy boundaries with your parents, spouses, children, friends, coworkers, and even yourself.

Other Ministries in the Church

Men's Ministry

- Breakfast, 3rd Saturday every other month. Next Breakfast is April 16th.

High School Ministry

On April 17th, High School class will hold a bake sale in the Fellowship Hall for the financial support of our local outreach and mission goals. This will be the list of baked goods they will promote for the sale. These are all homemade and are homemade and mostly old fashioned recipes, but all are 5-Star!!!

- Homemade Granola
- Toll House Cookies
- Fudge Nut Brownies
- Ginger Spice Biscotti, (Diabetic Friendly)

On May 5th, the High School Ministry are having a Drive-Thru Taco Dinner @ \$5.00 per dinner. All proceeds will bless the Hi School ministry and outreach. Tickets will be available on Sunday, April 3rd and must be pre-paid... No "credit". There will be a drawing for a special prize when you come to pick up your dinner, so be sure to write your name and phone number clearly on the back of your dinner ticket.

Little Bits of Thought

Love the people who treat you right.
Pray for the ones who don't.
Life is ten percent what you make it,
And ninety percent how to take it!
"Faith is not, believing God can, it is *knowing* that God will."
(Submitted by Marie Sparks)

The Bible on One Page

Have you seen the Bible on One Page? Give the computer a workout for the Lord!
http://www.preceptaustin.org/the_bible_on_one_page-nas.htm

Special Notes

Thank You!

Our High School Ministry and Junior High School Ministry both wish to thank all who worked so hard to make the fundraising event successful last month. And, for all who enjoyed the meal, thank you for your participation, you helped make it a real success.

Ginny Hibbard wishes to thank all for the prayers during her recent surgery.