Monday, 17 August 2015

Ephesians 3:20-21 [1]

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

This is another trust issue: Do I really believe that the Lord can and will do abundantly far more than I can ask or imagine? Do I dream, imagine, ask for what I need in order to advance the Kingdom, and which will be for God's glory? Or do I doubt the power and willingness of the Lord? Sometimes that doubt gets masked in fancy Christianese or minimized as being not significant enough for the Lord's attention. But am I really unwilling to accept that He is in control of **ALL** things and can accomplish **ALL** things?

Tuesday, 18 August 2015

Ephesians 3:20-21 [2]

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Another part of the trust issue is recognizing where and how the power is applied. Yes, the source is Christ Jesus, but He is working through me, using me to accomplish incredible things for the Kingdom. I can't just sit back and wait for God to fix something I think needs His attention, He directs and empowers me to move. I need to prayerfully be seeking His guidance and capabilities to address the situation He has placed before me. I need to trust "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13 (KJV) as another of those truth claims that must govern my life.

Wednesday, 19 August 2015 Ephesians 3:20-21 [3] Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Lastly I need to constantly remind myself that it is not I but Christ Jesus working through me. I need to give Him the glory and acknowledge Him to all who witness and are involved in any way. This can be a real challenge for me. My tendency is to adopt an "Aw, shucks, it wasn't all that much" sort of obsequiousness. Instead, I need to shout, "God is good, all the time" triumphantly.

Thursday, 20 August 2015 Ephesians 4:1-3

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

This trust-and-obey style of living enters into every aspect of my life. I must never forget that I am an Ambassador of the Kingdom, first, foremost and always. Every encounter that I have in my Personal Mission Field (**need link**) and that PMF is where I live out my life, is an encounter for Christ. There no time-outs.

Friday, 21 August 2015 Ephesians 4:1-3

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Humility, gentleness, patience, and love! Anybody want to hear my very humble address describing how I achieved an exceptional degree of gentleness, moderated by the patient application of love for my fellowman? It is a very modest statement, considering my extreme success in these areas.

Unfortunately--In my dreams. That's where the problem begins as I review my attitude regarding the display of this Godly demeanor. The Holy Spirit needs to continue the transformation.

Saturday, 22 August 2015

Ephesians 4:1-3

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

I understand fairly well what Paul meant about maintaining the unity of the Spirit, but eagerly? Eagerly is something else. That may mean that I have to exhibit humility or gentleness or patience or sacrificial love. Heaven forbid! No, Heaven directs that my precious ego be subservient to all others; that a primary goal is to maintain the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. Never mind the cost to my pride.

Lord's Day, 23 August 2015

Psalm 119:20

Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.

Not only my eyes, but all my energies must be directed towards You and Your Kingdom. I can spend my time and efforts in the trivial and the worldly, or I can seek an ever advancing vision of my role in the Kingdom. Grant me the latter, Lord, that I may live in Your presence evermore.

## **VOICES TOGETHER**

Daily Meditations from the Psalms



August 17-23, 2015

Voices Together is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Psalms as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

It is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ.

These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

Pastor John Nunnikhoven The Church at Prison, Inc. PO Box 8318 Essex Junction, VT 05452