

West Valley Church of God
P. O. Box 343
San Fernando, CA 91341

Pastors & Elders

Pastor: Wayne and Patty Mitchell
West Valley Elders
Carlton & Judy Green
Cornell Smith

Quotes by Women

"We have too many high sounding words, and too few actions that correspond with them."

-Abigail Adams
(1744 - 1818)

"The surest test of discipline is its absence."

-Clara Barton
(1821 - 1912)

"If I can stop one heart from breaking I shall not live in vain."

-Emily Dickinson
(1830 - 1886)

"The triumph can't be had without the struggle."

-Wilma Rudolph
(1940 - 1994)

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

-Maya Angelou
(1928 -)

"I attribute my success to this—I never gave or took any excuse."

-Florence Nightingale
(1820 - 1910)

"A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees."

-Amelia Earhart
(1897 - 1937)



~Thanks to Jane Hickok and Susan Thompson for these quotes.

Living Waters

Ge:21:22b: ...God is with thee in all that thou doest...

Isa:60:20:c ...the LORD shall be thine everlasting light...

Editor's Corner

• Submissions for inclusion in "The Vine" are welcome **at any time**. We need your input! Please email to the editor (See right column) - in **10 point type, Arial font**, for easier placement.

Send submissions to:
TheVineEditor@aol.com -
Subject Line: Title of Article. **Time sensitive** submissions due **5th** of month for following month's issue. **News and Inspirational articles welcome any time.**

NOTICE... Many paintings shown in this publication are for sale. Check your old copies. Contact Editor.

The Vine

"I am the Vine, you are the branches: He that abides in me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without me you can do nothing."
John 15:5

September 2018

West Valley Church of God -- "Come worship with us..."
Submissions: TheVineEditor@aol.com

We meet at the Congregational Church of Northridge
9659 Balboa Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91325

Saturday Service 10:30 A.M. - www.westvalleywgc.org

Preconceived Notions

God tells us to "Seek and we will find" – "Ask and it shall be given". What is the most important thing to ask for? First: TRUTH. Second: UNDERSTANDING. Not the truth and understanding of men, or anything on earth, but GOD's truth and understanding. Third: God's Will to be done with what he teaches you. King Solomon asked God for WISDOM, which incorporates both truth and understanding. You can



only be "amazed" at what God teaches you if you remove any preconceived ideas of what you "think" he is teaching you. God says he will amaze you with great and mighty things which you do not already know. That is why we must be as a child; innocent of our own experiences and ideas, and teachable, in order to enter into (and "see") the Kingdom. Without that quality, life just gets in the way, and we cannot see clearly because we are so focused on the world.

Jer:33:3: Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

It is always necessary to pray before reading scripture – asking God to open your mind, and let His mind be in you.

The reason to first ask for TRUTH, is that you do not want your own ideas, or anyone else's, to get in the way of what God will reveal. After that it is necessary to UNDERSTAND what God has revealed. God's

Upcoming Events

- Bible Studies, Letters and other Events...see Weekly Bulletin and Bulletin Board.



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Preconceived Notions (cont.)

purpose in your life in revealing specific things to you is important for you to know. How can you tell whether it is GOD revealing, or whether it is from some other source? It *must* fit into ALL scripture; not just a few verses here and there carefully chosen to fit *your* ideas. I have found that truth is sometimes hidden by being dispersed in bits and pieces throughout scripture, somewhat like a puzzle. But if one piece doesn't fit... you must go back to the "drawing board" as it were, and consider more deeply what the message truly is. Only when ALL the pieces fit, will you be able to see the true picture.

The apostle Paul was well versed in the Jewish scriptures. He often quoted from them, when illustrating a point. Clearly he was able to pull out corresponding pieces of hidden truth, to reveal a fuller understanding of God's message to us. There is an unmistakable duality and correspondence between the old and new testaments, indicating that they actually go together as one. It is man who has separated them, not God.

2Tm:3:16: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

My Father and I Are ONE

What is the "Trinity"? Is there a mention of this in the Bible? God the Father is mentioned. Jesus is mentioned. The Holy Spirit is mentioned. Let's look into this a little more closely.

What is the meaning of the statement by Jesus, "My Father and I are ONE"? The Father is Truth and Life, and is Spirit. He passes these qualities on to his Son

We know that the Father is Spirit. He is Holy. Thus a Holy Spirit. You cannot separate the Father from His integral essence; the Father, being spirit and holy, is one entity. The Father created His Son. All that the Father has is given to the Son: the Son inherited the Father's Spirit. During Jesus's lifetime on

earth, he uses what his Father gave him...namely, his Father's spirit, to do works. This power emanates directly from the Father straight down to the Son. When the Son is resurrected, he sends the Spirit which he has inherited [It is integral within himself], to earth to work in those who follow him.

Joh:14:18: I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.— Get that?: I WILL COME TO YOU -- Jesus is speaking of himself coming to us after his resurrection, and remaining IN us. Through what means? The FATHER, who is holy and spirit, and life -- who is ONE with him. They are all one! And we are one with them. A miracle indeed!

The LORD is that spirit
2Co:3:17: Now the Lord is

FATHER
SPIRIT
Truth
Life
↓
SON
SPIRIT
Truth
Life
Way
↓
MAN

Joh:1:1: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **Joh:1:2:** The same was in the beginning with God.

that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

2Co:3:3: Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God* [The *Father through the Son]; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

2Co:3:18: But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

It is easy to see how we can imagine the "Spirit" as a separate entity... when, in fact, it is simply the essence and being of the Father, passed to the Son, then onto us.

Joh:14:6: Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. How did Jesus get this designation? By being ONE with the Father.

Spirit of Truth... God the Father is Spirit, Truth and Life, Jesus is Truth, the Life, and the Way [to the Father], and returns us to Him.

Spirit of Life... The Father is giver of life. He passes the ability to his Son, who uses that power to resurrect himself.
Joh:10:18: No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This

commandment have I received of my Father.

Joh:14:17: Even the Spirit of truth [speaking of the Father]; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

Joh:15:26: But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

Joh:16:13: Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. [Although the word "he" is used here, scripture elsewhere states that HE {Jesus} IS THAT SPIRIT, so there is not a separate entity involved.] **Eph:2:18: For through him (Jesus) we both (Jews and Gentiles) have access by one Spirit unto the Father.**

That is how Jesus could make the claim to be ONE with the Father... All the Father's attributes (Spirit, Truth, Life) were IN HIM, and since WE ARE IN HIM, they are also IN US [waiting to blossom to fullness]. We are ONE, in ONE spirit, through Christ. Jesus told us that we will have power to do great things. How? Through the power that emanates from the Father, through Jesus the Son, and into us. It's a vertical lineage.

Isa:9:6: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.