

KINGDOM BUILDERS NEWSLETTER

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A MESSAGE IN A POT

After dinner Kendra and her family always sat together and shared the important things that they experienced either at school, work, or while visiting with family and friends. Little Gary, Kendra's four year old baby brother started first, because he always fell asleep in the middle of the sharing time. "I got to finger paint today!" Little Gary proudly exclaimed. He talked about the colors he used and how the paint felt on his fingers as it dried. And then he announced that the picture he painted was of them. With a big smile he called out his two sister's and three brother's names, and "mama, and daddy". He said, "I told my class I loved my family."

Dad was next. He shared about the assignment he was given at work and how he thinks it will mean getting the promotion he worked so hard for. Kendra was so happy and proud of her dad. She looked into his strong bearded face and then into his warm dark brown eyes and thought how

lucky she was to have a dad. Most of her friends didn't have a father in their lives.

Kendra shared about her science project that had come to an end. Kendra's experiment was to show the results of the growth pattern of two plants started at the same time. Both plants were in similar pots, but they had different degrees of care. One was feed plant food and watered regularly while the other did not receive plant food and the dirt was allowed to dry before the plant was watered. At first they seemed to have the same rate of growth. The plant that was watered regularly was also given plenty of sun light each day, was talked to and soft music was played for it. However, after a while the plant that received no attention began to look sick. Its leaves, no longer green, began to wither. The healthier plant grew at an amazing rate. Its leaves were a beautiful vibrant green. The sickly plant eventually folded over and died.



Kendra's mother and father, sitting next to each other, drew closer together as her dad took his wife lovingly in his arms. Her dad thanked her for sharing and told her the reason they spent time as a family was so they would grow strong together. He said, "You see Kendra just like the plants, people need love and attention too. When children and even adults are ignored, mistreated, and not given the attention needed to grow they become like that pour sickly plant. Joy and hope slowly evaporates from their lives, and if they don't experience the nurturing love and attention like the healthy plant did, they will have difficulty reaching their full potential and many will die of a broken heart."

WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

The song recorded by Tina Turner has the words "What's Love Got To Do With It?" It was a popular song that is still enjoyed today. Knowing the abuse and emotional pain Ms Turner endured, in her relationship with her husband Ike Turner, it is not surprising she would choose to sing this song. However, love has everything to do with it. If her husband

loved her as instructed in 1st Corinthians 13, she would have experienced the love God intended for her.

Jesus said in Matthew 22: 37, 39 NLT: "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. A second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself."

In the month that is dedicated to love it is the ideal time to examine what's love got to do with how we treat others. To examine how we act and react to our friends and family. What our attitude is towards our neighbors and our enemies. The greatest commandment to love brings everything into perspective - Love is more than a feeling it is everything.

LOVE IS A CHOICE

*Love is patient and kind.
Love is not jealous or
boastful or proud or rude.*

*Love does not demand its
own way. Love is not irrita-
ble, and it keeps no record
of when it has been
wronged.*

*It is never glad about in-
justice, but rejoices when-
ever the truth wins out.*

*Love never gives up, never
loses faith, is always hope-
ful, and endures through
every circumstance.*

Love will last forever...



1 Corinthians 13: 4-8 NLT

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Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

Always keep yourselves united in the Holy Spirit, and bind yourselves together with peace.

We are all one body, we have the same spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future. Ephesians 4:2-4 NLT

THE CHRISTIAN DIVORCE RATE

The family that prays together stays together. If this is true than how can the following statistics be true? Divorce rate among specific Christian groups: Non-denominational 34% Baptist 29% Lutherans 21% "Divorce rates among conservative Christians were significantly higher than for other faith groups, and much higher than Atheists and Agnostics experience" Barna Research Group, 1999-Dec-21. Even if the above statistics and statement is untrue, divorce is alive and well among Christians. However, this article is not about divorce in marriage. There is another type of divorce

that takes place among Bible believing Christians. Divorce happens when a person chooses to change churches; when one brother disagrees with another; when a decision is made regarding the direction of the group and opposing camps are formed; when disrespect or offense occurs. The result is total separation as if the other never existed. It seems that there is no love lost. The parties go about their daily lives not having a second thought of the severed relationship.

How can people who say they believe Jesus is Lord and Savior, that say they believe the Bible is the true word of God, who claim to be followers of Jesus take relationships

so lightly? Many Christians either believe they can pretend to love as Christ loves, or they have not fully comprehended and embraced the teachings of Christ.

This is a very important time for Christians. It is a time to soul search, to be truthful with self, and to make a conscious decision to love as Christ loves us. As one body with many members we need each other. If you are an Evangelical, a Lutheran, a Baptist, or a person who chooses no labels, but you read the same Bible and you know and accept Jesus as the savior we have something in common. We are a family that must not choose divorce, but to love instead



Three women whose parents were share croppers. Living in the 60's and hopeful for their future. The middle woman is this writer's mother to the right my aunt.

HIS-STORY

We all have stories we can tell of our experiences, it is "Our Story" For as far back as slavery some stories of great importance have been kept from the history books not to be taught in our schools. Even today the stories of some Americans, who made great contributions to our country, are only taught in special classes or in certain months. The wealth of this knowledge is not part of the main text books.

A country can be changed in

positive ways if the history of all Americans was respected through the act of including the information in text books and allowing everyone to learn of the contributions of all the races of people.

Many people struggle to find purpose in their lives because they do not know their history. People often make harmful assumptions of others because they have no knowledge of that person's history.

Can we benefit by blaming or getting angry with another for not respecting our history? What

good comes from bitterness or anger? Let us each find positive ways to share our history with others while we learn about our own history. Then let us seek to learn the history of others.

The pictures shown on this page is part of my history. On both sides of my family, and as far as I am able to trace my lineage are men and women of great faith. Knowing the stories of my ancestors helps me to NOT give up the faith. **HER-STORY**

AFRICAN AMERICAN FIRST

The following is a role call of great men and women that are an important part of American history:

Constance Baker Motley became the first black woman federal judge, 1966.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Ralph J. Bunche received the prize in 1950 for mediating the Arab - Israeli truce.

First patent holder: Thomas L. Jennings, 1821 for a dry cleaning

process.

Sarah E. Goode, 1885, became the first African American woman to receive a patent for a bed that folded up into a cabinet.

Inventor of the blood bank, Dr Charles Drew.

First black woman to receive a BA degree: Mary Jane Patterson, 1862, Oberlin College.

Oprah Winfrey became the first black woman television host in,

1986.

World cycling champion Marshall W. "Major" Taylor, 1899.

First licensed pilot Bessie Coleman, 1921

First millionaire Madame C. J. Walker, 1910

First African American President of the United States of America Barack Obama, 2009

The above information taken from: infoplease.com



Though she did not become famous, her strong determination to provide for her family made her my inspiration. My grandmother

VOICES FROM PRISON

Still got a positive attitude and look forward to my recovery and when I do get released I'd like to work with you and volunteer some of my time to working with trouble teens if you need me. Debra

I am expected to leave... June 22nd and may need help in finding some place to live for at least 6 months. Also I will probably need help with clothing and job placement anything you can do to help me out I would be

greatly appreciative. Thank you for your time. Amber

I miss your clergy visits sooo much! I had no idea, at the time, how lucky I was to receive them. Thank you for continuing to ask for pen pals. I'm not giving up either. I am humbled by your last "P.S." statement, that my letters and prayers give you courage-when I read your newsletters and personal messages, you inspire and give me courage, and really put things in perspec-

tive. Sort of bring me back around. Elizabeth

The above letters are from special people in my life. I share these letters to encourage the people, receiving our newsletter, that are incarcerated. In addition, I share my letters to those who have never been incarcerated in hopes that more people will choose to show compassion rather than judge. I have many who are hoping beyond hope for pen pals. Please consider being a pen pal. Call Sheila Green at (512)636-1381



We have three generations in families that have been incarcerated. Wholly Committed Ministries is working to break the cycle of emotional, spiritual, and physical imprisonment.

All articles written by Sheila Green unless otherwise stated.

THE WORK AHEAD

Many people in the past have suggested we should narrow our vision. However, we had to be true to the vision God gave us. When I sit and look at all the things Wholly Committed Ministries has accomplished in the last five years I am amazed. Then I am reminded by the Holy Spirit that the Glory is the Lord's and I can not take any credit.

After searching, time after time, for space to hold our outreaches we now have a place, a Life Center, to not only hold outreaches, but to also follow-up with programming and training. It has

been our determination to trust God in all that we do. That means believing God for the provisions and the volunteers. We continue to believe in the unseen.

A great part of what we are compiled to do is to learn how to, and practice working with other organizations through partnerships and collaboration. For those who have never tried to do this it is not an easy undertaking. But we embrace the prayer in John 17:21, "Father let them be as one as we are one...so the world will believe that you sent

me." Move out of the way egos its time for Kingdom work!

We are located in the Hope Lutheran property at 6414 N Hampton Dr., Austin, TX 78723. We call our space the Life Center.

The following are just a few of the things we will be offering: New Beginning workshop, Bible studies, teen and children workshops and tutoring, support groups, adult workshops and tutoring, employment workshops, computer skills training, parenting classes, cooking classes, family events, family movie nights and much more. To God be the glory!



The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song. Psalm 28:7 (A picture for you dear Elizabeth)

UNYIELDING FAITH

What is faith? It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see. Hebrews 11:1 NLT

For five years I have run a race few thought would last as long. The Lord gave me a vision and an assignment. I did not spend time looking at all the reasons why I should ignore God's call. I only knew to obey him. In 2008,

with few volunteers, we touched the lives of over 1000 people. We bought school clothes for 84 children, and toys for over 100 children. I visited children in school, went to court with adults and children, meet with probation and parole officers, stood before a judge and spoke on behalf of one of our ladies, made crafts for a Christmas fundraiser, Directed a drama, Took kids to the park, conducted a four

month teen workshop, a summer children's program, had prayer and Bible study, participated in the Pride program at the Del Valle jail twice a month, and more. We did not have a budget, yet we accomplished all these things through individual donations. We now have a place to meet with the hundreds of lives we touched in 2008. With still few regular contributors and volunteers I have unyielding faith that, through people, God will provide all that is needed.

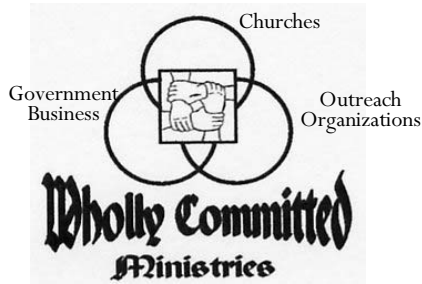
Seeking help from the churches

We recently sent letters to local churches and churches that are known nationally. Our hope is that at least half of the churches will allow us the time to share the work God has us doing and that they will financially support our efforts. We ask that you join us in prayer for hearts to be open to receive us and that they will have faith enough to help us.

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Email: whollycommitted@yahoo.com

Place
Stamp
Here



Evangelist Sheila Green Director
Evangelist Tommy Green Assistant Director
Cynthia Williams Finance Director

2009

**We need your financial support
Volunteer opportunities are
waiting for you!**

We can accomplish great things together!

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WHOLLYCOMMITTED.COM



Walking with people through the challenging times of life

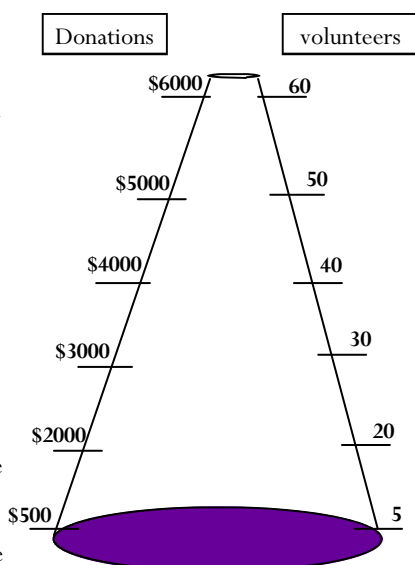
OUR SPRING PLEDGE DRIVE

The goal of Wholly Committed Ministries is to inspire people to find positive solutions to their overwhelming problems and circumstances as we pattern a life of Christ before them. We make ourselves available, daily, to people who are in crisis to share the hope that we have found in a relationship with our Heavenly Father.

Through our Life Center, hurting people will learn to live free from the chains of bitterness, envy and shame. Our services and classes do not cost, and people are welcome to continue with our programs for as long as they desire.

We are committed to helping people reach their desire goals by providing a supportive environment, training, and unconditional love. We want to have a vibrant Christ centered influence in our community.

Monthly Pledges



We need your help for our Spring Pledge Drive to be successful. With your pledge to volunteer and/or your pledge of \$5, \$10, \$50 or more we can reach our goal of \$6000 in donations and 60 volunteers per month. We are an all volunteer organization. All monies received will go to programming, services, and to our monthly expenses.

Please look at our current level of pledges and then look at our goal. We know that all things are possible. We live out the saying, "If it is to be, it is up to me." We hope that you will too. Please pledge today and join us as we reach out into our community.

Our next newsletter will have an update of our Spring Pledge Drive.



Representing Christ on earth, and making a difference around the world!

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