

The Way

STEPS TO CHRIST

October 2024 Newsletter

Web: www.found.rest

Have you been deceived?



A Strong Delusion!

Consider these statements.

It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

(Matthew 4:4)

By coming to dwell with us, Jesus was to reveal God both to men and to angels. He was the Word of God,— God's thought made audible. (DA 19.2)

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

If you spend a moment pondering these thoughts, what do they mean to you?

The choicest weapons we have are our words. Words express our love towards others. They can bring comfort, hope, joy, and peace. Yet, they can pierce through our very soul and bring such pain and anguish that we may think we cannot bare anymore. Words bring us wonderful news but they can also deliver heartache.

Our beloved family, welcome to the one year anniversary of our newsletter.

If you haven't already picked up on the theme of this months newsletter, I'll spell it out. W O R D S, but more specifically, the Word of God! So why the heading "A Strong Delusion?" Well it's simply this. The devil, satan, uses words that cause a strong delusion, clouding our understanding of God.

It is no secret that our beloved church is in turmoil. Yes, you would be forgiven for concluding this once stronghold of truth and faith has crumbled and fallen. Various speakers have had much to say over the past few months regarding the condition of the church. Some have mounted a spirited defense whilst others have expressed deep concern. But have you stopped to hear the words of God, not only concerning His church but where we are at with our individual thoughts towards Him?

This morning during the early hours I was blessed to spend quiet time with the Lord. I have recently started to again read *The Desire of Ages*. This book is one of the few books that convict's me on a deep level. God really speaks to me through each chapter and personalises so much of it. Chapter 12 (some device's have it as chapter 13) entitled 'The Victory' contains such powerful sentiments. As I stopped and pondered them I sensed God wanting to open up my understanding on what I was reading.

I find it difficult to clearly articulate all my thoughts. I'm a picture person such that when it's comes to words I can get a little lost so please bear with me.

This past year has probably been the most challenging I have had in ministry. True, our organization is relatively young at just 7 years old. It has grown and developed so much, but during this past 12 months God has been refining us individually so that collectively we can be stronger as a team to work in His vineyard.

With that said let's go back to what the Lord was bringing to my mind. The baptism of Jesus marked the beginning of His three and a half year earthly ministry. Immediately after His baptism, the Spirit of God led Him into the wilderness to allow Him to be tested by satan. We pick this story up in Chapter 12 (The Victory) of *The Desire of Ages*.. This chapter is based on Matthew 4:5-11; Mark 1:12, 13; Luke 4:5-13.

"Then the devil taketh Him up into the holy city, and setteth Him on a pinnacle of the temple, and saith unto Him, If Thou be the Son of God, cast Thyself down: for it is written, - {DA 124.1}

“He shall give His angels charge concerning Thee: And in their hands they shall bear Thee up, Lest at any time Thou dash Thy foot against a stone.” – {DA 124.2}

Satan now supposes that he has met Jesus on His own ground. The wily foe himself presents words that proceeded from the mouth of God. He still appears as an angel of light, and he makes it evident that he is acquainted with the Scriptures, and understands the import of what is written. As Jesus before used the word of God to sustain His faith, the tempter now uses it to countenance his deception. He claims that he has been only testing the fidelity of Jesus, and he now commends His steadfastness. As the Saviour has manifested trust in God, Satan urges Him to give still another evidence of His faith. – {DA 124.3}

But again the temptation is prefaced with the insinuation of distrust, “If Thou be the Son of God.” Christ was tempted to answer the “if;” but He refrained from the slightest acceptance of the doubt. He would not imperil His life in order to give evidence to Satan. – {DA 124.4}

The tempter thought to take advantage of Christ’s humanity, and urge Him to presumption..... Not all the power of earth or hell could force Him in the slightest degree to depart from the will of His Father. – {DA 125.1}

The tempter can never compel us to do evil. He cannot control minds unless they are yielded to his control. The will must consent, faith must let go its hold upon Christ, before Satan can exercise his power upon us. But every sinful desire we cherish affords him a foothold. Every point in which we fail of meeting the divine standard is an open door by which he can enter to tempt and destroy us. And every failure or defeat on our part gives occasion for him to reproach Christ. – {DA 125.2}

God had already testified that Jesus was His Son; and now to ask for proof that He was the Son of God would be putting God’s word to the test,—tempting Him. And the same would be true of asking for that which God had not promised. It would manifest distrust, and be really proving, or tempting, Him. We should not present our petitions to God to prove whether He will fulfill His word, but because He will fulfill it; not to prove that He loves us, but because He loves us. – {DA 125.4}

This is where I have been challenged the most. I confess I have been guilty of presenting some of my petitions to God to “prove” whether He will fulfill His word not “because” He will fulfill it! Oh the shame of me! I have not comprehended just how powerful our God truly is. He does not have to prove anything! He will do according to His word because He is God!

Do you see the difference? Did Jesus have to “prove” to satan that He is God’s Son? No, He did not. In fact, Jesus didn’t even enter into a debate with satan. Satan already knows who Jesus is. Instead, the evil one uses words of trickery. Part truths to make it appear that He is saying the right thing but when we study closer we can

see the strong delusions he is trying to cast over our minds. He has been doing this from before his fall from heaven!

Being in public ministry can be hard at times. You are open to public scrutiny. Eyes are on you wondering if what you are doing is really from God. Whilst there are plenty who are supporting there is always some who want constant evidence that God is leading. At times this has been the driving force behind me wanting God to “prove” these projects are from Him. But in God’s merciful and gentle ways He rebukes me and reminds me that He will do it because He is God. It will happen in His perfect timing and His perfect way. I have to lay hold of the power of God and not trust in the arm of flesh which at times I have found myself doing.

Jesus only had a short time in His public ministry - three and a half years. That’s all He needed. When I was speaking with the Lord this morning I realized that if we only have a very short time left to get all projects finished then God will do it. Time is irrelevant. He just needs us to be completely surrendered and submitted to His will, every moment of every day. Then He can work mighty miracles on our behalf. Why? Because He is God! Because He has promised to finish what He has started.

Precious family, I pray that each and everyone of you is found surrendered to His perfect will. These past months we have been training these majestic Clydesdales that God has allowed us to look after. Teddy is home with us now and he is coming along so beautifully. Such a sweet natured and gentle boy. His training is going so well. Soon we will have him in a pair with our precious Starlight. (We still have not fully paid for Teddy - we are still requiring \$7,000 USD. Any assistance you can give will be greatly appreciated.)

Have we ever told you that Starlight is deaf? It wasn’t until after his purchase that we realized he couldn’t hear - anything! It’s been remarkable having him and learning new ways to communicate with him. He’s incredibly intelligent and extremely sensitive with his other senses given he cannot hear. I can’t tell you how blessed we are to have him in our team.

We’re learning more than we ever thought possible. We’re humbled and blessed more than we deserve. Lives are being impacted in big ways just in our neighborhood. We are chomping at the bit to bring these amazing creatures to the world stage via media channels across the globe . . . but we’re patiently waiting on God’s provision and timing.

An Opportunity . . .

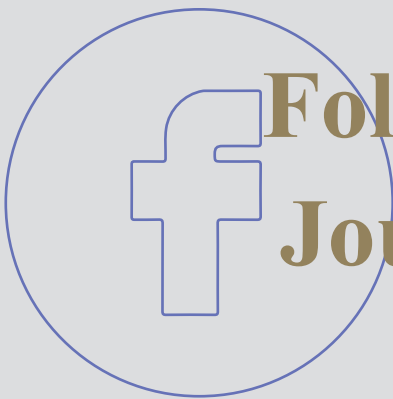
For our USA friends and family, your financial year is drawing to a close. We would love for you to prayerfully consider supporting this worldwide project. Our ministry does have avenues where you can make a tax deductible donation. Any support that you give goes directly into the Lords work - souls for His Kingdom. We greatly appreciate your prayers and financial contributions.

Prayer Needed . . .

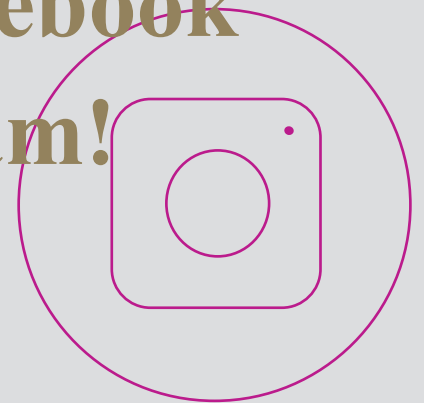
Finally we would like to bring an important prayer request to you. An opportunity has opened for us to film likely one of the most important testimonies we will ever do. It's a story that has already impacted us, and one that we know will shake all who listen. We are planning for it to be filmed on location in southern Africa, with a specific location yet to be determined. This story exposes the lengths that satan is using to keep us from our Savior and eternal life. As always we will film this to the highest of standards. Please pray that the Lord will provide the means necessary, and that all planning will be according to His purpose and for His glory.

Always in His service,

Nicole



**Follow our Clydesdale
Journey on Facebook
and Instagram!**



Clydeascopepark

Teddy is home and has fitted in perfectly! But . . .

Teddy and Starlight have become best of buddies! Check the paddock and they're always together. Horses are a herd animal and heavily rely on inter-herd relationships. It's so rewarding to see them side by side, especially considering we anticipate they will be a team pair. We are praising the Lord for His leading and your support in purchasing Teddy. However . . . we are still short. Please, if you can, we encourage you to prayerfully consider contributing to this important work

Look out for pictures and a formal introduction in our next newsletter!

(For those who are not sure who Teddy is, please checkout the August newsletter.)

Current Needs!



In addition to our need for Teddy, please also consider supporting the following bearing in mind that 100% of your donation goes directly to the need you have chosen to support.

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| <i>1. Camera Focus Control:</i> | <i>\$1,000 USD</i> |
| <i>2. Horse Equipment:</i> | <i>\$5,000 USD</i> |
| <i>3. Horse Food per Month:</i> | <i>\$1,000 USD</i> |
| <i>4. Horse Shelters and Enclosure:</i> | <i>\$45,000 USD</i> |

Details following that you can use to donate!

Please Share!

Be sure to let your family and freinds know about our newsletter.

Log onto our website, www.found.rest and subscribe.

Print this newsletter and share it around! No one should miss out on this exciting news!

Your Opportunity to Support

If you would like to join with us and financially support this outreach initiative, here are the details you will need.

For donations in Australia:

Account Name: Family Media

Bank: Westpac

BSB Code: 034036

Account Number: 555353

For International donations (This Account is in US Dollars):

Account Name: Family Media

Bank: Westpac Banking Corporation

BIC/Swift Code: WPACAU2S

IBAN: 034702255847

BSB Code: 034702

Account Number: 255847

If you would like to donate by cheque, please make it payable to S74 Family Media and post to the address below.

Found Rest

PO Box 377