



Volume 4 Number 1

A Newsletter of WIN - USA Ladies



### Daisy Barilla

A couple of weeks ago, a headline in a leading daily newspaper in British Columbia, stated "Stop Distributing Bibles." The news report further revealed that a group of atheists requested the local school district "to stop distributing religious materials – including biblical texts supplied by the Gideons – to students in public schools. The distribution of Bibles to students with parental consent was an annual practice in this local district."

Over the past decades, US legislation was passed banning schools from allowing Bible reading and prayer in their classes. There was also news of various incidents all over the world, which curtailed the freedom of people to profess their faith in Jesus Christ. But the challenges in the Christian world and what most Christian believers face today were the same as what the disciples encountered during their time. Jesus Christ too, suffered persecution during His earthly ministry. Yet this did not hinder Him to fulfill His mission. Jesus wants us to follow His example amidst all these trials. The truth is, before He ascended to heaven,

Jesus commanded His disciples to "make disciples of all the nations, teaching them to observe all His commandments." (Matt 28:18-20). To fulfill them and be His living witness, He promised that He will empower us through the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8 states "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth."

In the Book of Acts, Luke tells the story of what Jesus continued to do through the Holy Spirit. Of the four gospel writers, Luke is the only one who continues to tell the story of the next generation. The story of Jesus does not end with Jesus. It continued in the life of the "120 believers" (Acts 1:15) and now it continues in us. Jesus is fully aware of the limitations and weaknesses of His believers. He understands that on our own we cannot fulfill His command to be His witnesses. So, in order for us to continue His divine mission, He equips us with the POWER DUO - the Power of the Holy Spirit and the Power of His Word.

The Power of the Holy Spirit is received when God anoints every believer to witness for Christ (Acts 1:8a). Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to His followers and from that day forward, all believers had the Holy Spirit living and dwelling inside them. The moment we trusted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour, we became indwelt by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 3:16) and He sealed us for the day of redemption (Eph. 4:30).

The Holy Spirit is the source of our power to witness and to live our Christian life. His transforming power recounted in Acts 2

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## GO AND TELL

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transformed the fearful disciples to preachers who boldly proclaimed Jesus and His resurrection. This resulted in the salvation of 3,000 souls. We can also be effective witnesses of our Lord when we rely on His power and allow Him to direct us according to His plan. Nothing can be accomplished without the Holy Spirit for “not by might, nor by power, but by the power of the Holy Spirit, says the Lord of host.” (Zech. 4:6)

The second power given to us is the Power of His Word. God equips every believer with His Word to prepare him for ministry. 2 Tim. 3:16-17 says that “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” The meditation and study of His Word should be an indispensable part of our training. God’s Word is the ultimate authority of our faith. Let us learn the gospel by heart for “it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes” (Rom 1:16).

Likewise, we must submit to God’s molding, pruning, discipline and allow Him to develop His character in us. We must not assume that the moment God calls us, we are ready for the task. We should welcome challenges and persevere during testing and trials so our faith will mature and develop (James 1:3-4). Let us always be ready to share our life testimony in Christ supported by Scriptures. For the “Word of the Lord will not return void and will accomplish the purpose for which it was sent” (Isaiah 55:11).

During my early Christian life, I became passionate in sharing Jesus Christ to my fellow workmates. There was this particular guy who oftentimes argued in a philosophical way but in the end, he accepted the Bible that I gave him. After a couple of years, we both were transferred to different workplaces. Several years passed and then one day,

while I was in my office, this guy gave me a surprise visit, and he was holding onto a Bible. He said “This is the Bible you gave me and this is my first Bible. Now, I am a Pastor in a Christian church in Pasig City, Metro Manila and I am currently enrolled in Bible School.” That’s the Power of God’s Word!

God uses people who are Faithful, Humble, Available and Teachable to serve in His ministry. It is His ministry, not ours. We were just privileged to be His instrument to accomplish His divine plan.

God gives us the Power of the Holy Spirit and the Power of His Word because He understands that in our Christian walk, we would be facing spiritual battles. So God ordains our mission field to be our Spiritual Battle ground. In Ephesians 6:12, the apostle Paul reminds us that “our struggle is not against flesh and blood and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” It is God’s will “for all to come to repentance, not wishing anyone to perish” (2 Peter 3:9 NASB). Thus, every Christian believer has a duty to share to others or to pass on the complete gospel message of Christ: “That we are sinners who deserved death and hell but God’s unconditional love saved us through Christ Jesus death on the cross, so that we can have eternal life and go to heaven instead of hell.” (Shared by Pastor Ron de Villa during his Oct 5/2014 sermon.)

Our mission is not to be confined to one specific place or group of people. Our church, Word Christian Community Church is gearing towards this mission as preparation for its initial multicultural church service is underway. Everyone should be involved in this mission activity, if not physically, then through our spiritual prayers.

God specifically identifies our mission field (Acts 1:8b). Our “Jerusalem and Judea” are our family, loved ones, relatives, friends, co-workers, and

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## GO AND TELL

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neighbors. Our “Samaria” are the people whom we do not like to see or be acquainted with – maybe those who have hurt us in the past, people whom we harbor bitterness and simply our enemies whom we do not like to be with. Our “ends of the earth” are those people we do not know, strangers you will encounter in the bus, sky train or those you meet in the mall or elsewhere. They are also our church neighbors in Agnes Street.

Jesus’ final instruction to His disciples and to us Christian believers was “You shall be My witness to these people.” Have we been witnessing?

God will hold us accountable for not sharing the gospel to all the people we have had the opportunity to share with. The paraphrase of Ezekiel 33:6-9 states “If I gave you instructions to warn those who will perish and you did not do it – when they die you will be found guilty. But if you have warned them to turn from their ways but they did not do it – when they die, you will be free.”

When I was preparing this sermon, I remembered my friend – a Canadian, who is a grandmother of 3 kids. She was an acquaintance for almost 8 years. Last December, I gave her a Christmas gift – a one-year devotional book. She told me – that was the best gift she received during the season. She is encouraged to read it daily and likewise shared it with her group of friends. By the way, she belongs to a religion where I previously came from.

We often talk and our usual topic is our grandchildren. I shared to her my faith but I never shared the gospel of Christ. When I read through Ezekiel 33, she came to my mind. I called her a couple of days ago and we decided to meet. Before I went to her place, I prayed to the Holy Spirit to give me the power to witness to her. That day, she was suffering from rheumatoid arthritis and her medication did not seem to be helping her because

she was in terrible pain. I asked her if I can pray for her and she agreed. Before I prayed, I shared the story of the woman in Mark 5:25-34, who was suffering from a blood issue for twelve years and was healed by Jesus because of her faith. I shared to her the gospel and led her to pray the sinner’s prayer. I left her place praising God. My heart rejoiced because my friend accepted Jesus as her Lord and Saviour. But more than anything else, I rejoiced because I am a child of God and privileged to be His witness.

We are here in this church today because at one point in our life someone obeyed Jesus’ final instruction. Someone shared to us the message of our Lord Jesus. Someone shared the truth of salvation and then we were set free. For others, Christian team work in witnessing came to them over a period of time. One prayed for you, another shared the Word and another person invited you to church. Someone preached the gospel and the Power of the Holy Spirit and the Power of His Word set you free.

It is now our turn to go to our Mission field and be a witness for Christ. The green light is on – we must **GO and TELL** the good news about our Lord Jesus. **Not to go is not an option.**

*(Sermon preached by Sis Daisy Barilla at Word Christian Community Church in New Westminster, British Columbia on April 10, 2016.)*



*Daisy is an elder with Word Christian Community Church, New Westminster, BC, Canada and Prayer Ministry Head for all WCCC British Columbia.*



quiet talk  
BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM

## The Object of Our Faith

Nickie Paulate

### Matthew 17:20

“ . . . Truly I tell you, if you have **faith** as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, “move from here to there,” and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”

We used to place our faith in so many things; on people, on ourselves, on material things, our finances, our jobs, our skills. These are what gave direction and purpose to our life.

In the life of a Christian the word **FAITH** is so important that the Bible mentions it over three hundred times. The Jews understood when Jesus said mountains will “move from here to there.” He was referring to difficulties in life. Faith removes all kinds of mountains/difficulties such as fear, anxiety, disappointment, sickness, temptations, guilt, loneliness, and depression. When we accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of our life, we entrusted our life to Him. We only have to look to God in prayer by faith knowing He will move these mountains according to His will.

Jesus spoke about “little faith” when He spoke to the crowd about being anxious. Later He spoke about the “great faith” of the centurion when he asked Jesus to heal his servant, in contrast to our verse about “faith as small as a mustard seed.”

How can we have the faith Jesus is talking about? The heart of faith lies in the object of our faith. “By grace we have been saved by faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God . . .” (Eph. 2:8).

The object of our faith is God who sent His only Son Jesus Christ to save us from eternal death. When we love someone, we believe and trust that person. With faith, God is that someone. It all boils down to knowing, believing, communing, loving God and meditating on His character. How can we love, believe and trust a person if do not have an ongoing relationship with that person?

The writer of Hebrews teaches us, “. . . without faith it is impossible to please Him. For whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.” (Heb. 11:6) How do we integrate faith in all aspects of our life? Faith in God is expressed in the way we live, our beliefs and values, our goals, our relationships and how we react in the midst of change.

James F. Cobble, the author of *Faith and Crisis* states, “It is not enough to have faith, knowledge, self-control, or other expressions of Christian life. In order to remain effective servants of Christ, these qualities must be increasing and continually practiced (2 Pet. 1:5-8).”<sup>5</sup> For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge;<sup>6</sup> and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness;<sup>7</sup> and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.<sup>8</sup> For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

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## The Object of Our Faith

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According to Cobble, faith is expressed in at least the following ways:

**1. Belief** – belief in God's Word and His promises. Belief in God does not solely mean a mental knowledge of God. It includes total submission of our life to God's Word expressed in total obedience to His teachings.

**2. Obedience** – brings meaning to our faith in Christ. We do not only know and believe in the Gospel but it embodies our life. Our life is an expression of a changed life, a life in obedience to the instructions written in God's Word. Obedience should be our highest priority above all else.

**3. Trust** – "Trust in God is to replace trust in one's self." We no longer rely on our strength and our wisdom. We rely solely on God's strength and wisdom through the power of the Holy Spirit. "When we trust God it means that our confidence must be in him." David trusted and depended on God so much that he is called a man after God's own heart. He had a God centered perspective in life.

**4. Faithfulness** – we are to be found faithful to God and to His Word. ". . . it is an ongoing, dynamic relationship with the Son of God." Jesus invites us to draw near to Him and spend time learning from Him. David sought God earnestly, "My soul thirsts for you, my flesh yearns for You, in a dry and weary land," (Psalm 63:1)

**5. Hope** – is a looking forward that all will be okay because we have placed our trust in God. Everything will fall into place because our future is in His hands (Jeremiah 29:11-14).

Faith in God is the source of our power as children of God. God gave us this power to live a victorious life. Human power has no meaning in a Christian's

life because it will only bring us to destruction and will drive us away from a loving relationship with God.

When you plant flowers and shrubs in your garden, do you just leave them alone and hope they will not wither away and die? Definitely not! You water them, nourish them with plant food, and care for them. That is so much like our faith, we do not just know about faith, we nourish it with God's Word and apply His Word to our lives. Faith lives and breathes God's Word.

When the seed from a mustard tree falls into the ground its seeds germinates at once. It produces so many trees in the land. So it is with our faith, it will influence many people we encounter. Sometimes we know our faith has encouraged someone to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior and sometimes we do not know how many have been touched by our faith. "We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other." (2 Thessalonians 1:3). Thank God for the power of faith!

Therefore, we will press on to maturity "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." (Heb. 12:2)

Something to think about:

How is your faith maturing nowadays?  
How many mountains have you moved lately?  
Has your faith touched someone this week?

*Nickie is the wife of Babes Paulate, USA Regional Director and International Benevolence Director.*





# Fire In My Bones

*But if I say I'll never mention the LORD or speak in his name, his word burns in my heart like a fire. It's like a fire in my bones! I am worn out trying to hold it in! I can't do it! Jeremiah 20:9*

During our leadership retreat early at the start of the year, our ladies ministry leaders did a Spiritual Growth Assessment. When we took an honest look at our own spiritual development, we discovered that many of us did not do well in the area of witnessing to the world around us.

While we realize that becoming a good disciple of Christ centers on His work inside of us and not our good works for Him, we needed to learn to be sensitive to His leading and act in obedience. We formulated an intentional plan for our own spiritual growth. In the area of witnessing, our goal was to improve in sharing our faith with non-believers, making our faith known to our neighbors/co-workers and maintaining relationships with non-believers in order to share our testimony.

Political correctness has made it more and more difficult to share our faith because "religion ought to be a private thing." But one thing we know, the good news must be shared. As true believers, we cannot remain silent about the gospel.

I admit that witnessing is not one of my strengths. I am blessed that we have ladies in our team who are always on fire in sharing the gospel. I pray that their testimonies will inspire us.

**Sis. Rose Soriano** is an unstoppable witness for Christ. Last year she had a medical emergency and had to call 911. Would you believe that inside the ambulance, she was able to lead one of the paramedics to the Lord? At the ER, the nurse prayed the sinner's prayer after her. Then when she was moved to a regular room, another health worker accepted the Lord. As I write this, she is on a mission trip to the Philippines.

**Sis. Virgie Sajor** is a retired substitute teacher at Los Angeles Unified School District. Witnessing and giving out tracks is her lifestyle. Despite being rebuked for talking about Jesus at LAUSD, she continued to be witness for Christ. **Sis. Nena Latoja** works at the Legal Dept. at LA Care. The Lord used her in helping to start a bible study at her office. The company even allowed them to use their conference room, a sign of God's favor!



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*Tess is the wife of Reverend Chito Cordero, International Missions Director and Senior Pastor of WIN-Los Angeles, California. Their daughters are Sandra and Joanna.*

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## **Fire In My Bones**

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### *Rose Soriano*

God healed me completely from breast cancer, "the worst cancer I have ever seen," according to my surgeon. I made a vow to the Lord: "Heal me completely, Lord, and I will witness Your love to people around me." I did not have to undergo chemotherapy nor radiation. I did not suffer pain and my fear was replaced by the peace of God. After being completely healed came a desire to share the gospel through the power of my testimony so that I could fulfill my vow. Most people I shared with ended up accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

I met Nan, a middle-aged Caucasian lady at a Laundromat. I started the conversation with asking, "Do you know Jesus?" She replied, "I pray to God." "God healed me from cancer," I shared.

Nan had a need; she had no place to go. She was staying in a hotel but could no longer afford it. She asked if she can sleep at my house for one just one night. She was just waiting for her friend's call back. At first I said that I don't have room but after she prayed the sinner's prayer with me, I decided to take her to my house.

Her one night turned to a nearly two-month stay at my place. During that time, I also had two other sisters staying at my place because they needed help. The four of us would pray together. Soon, Nan was no longer making the sign of the cross. Surely she was observing us too. As Christians, we are epistles of God for others to read our lives.

Today, Nan is a Christian. God gave her a job. She now attends my Saturday prayer fellowship and testifies how good God is. She declares that she now belongs to God's family and enjoys every moment of our prayer fellowship. Now, she shares Jesus too. Praise the Lord!

It was a risk taking in a total stranger. I would not recommend evangelizing that way. My daughter was against it, and others too. However, I believe a testimony made by faith and in Jesus' Name, is powerful. When I share I think of the Holy Spirit helping me, thanking the Father in Jesus Name! Thank You, Jesus!

I continue to pray for those who prayed the sinner's prayer with me, and for all those who allowed me to pray for them. Lots of them! And God will pursue all of them. He has done it with me; He will do it with all of them. Thank You, Jesus! More souls for Your touch Lord, in Jesus Name.

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### *Virgie Sajor*

Today while in the bus I was able to give out gospel tracts to my seatmate, a black lady wearing an earplug. I thank God she was receptive and I said to her, "See you in heaven!" She was kind of amazed so I said to her, "Yes, I'm going there, that's why I'm inviting you!"



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## Fire In My Bones

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Getting off the bus, three persons accepted the tracts but I had to give the Spanish version for the elderly lady. Walking towards the Goodwill Store, I met two gentlemen working for Time Warner waiting at the entrance. I said, "Hi guys, can I give you something to read?" They gladly accepted. After about fifty steps, I looked back and saw them reading. I prayed, "Thank you, Lord! Please save them." All the way, my heart was filled with joy because I know I was planting a seed.

This is my normal everyday life outside the four corners of my apartment. This is the ministry that God enabled me to do ever since I got saved. I can honestly say God has blessed my spirit and my soul. Gospel tract sharing can heal many problems the enemy puts in our way. Its anti-depressant properties heal me from anxiety and self-pity that lurk within my beloved self. Victory, Halleluyah!

Some tips/ice breakers I use in handing out gospel tracks:

- "Hi, can I give you something to read?"
- "I have something for you here, since I notice you are fond of reading."
- "I have something for you. You know, this is my business. Would you accept one?"

Every encounter gets a different response but as we engage, the Holy Spirit gives us the boldness. May I tell you this: Jesus Christ is a dividing factor. Don't be discouraged if some will reject you. We get a big smile from our Abba in heaven when we obey His mandate.



### *Nena Latoja*

When I started working under the General Counsel and the legal team of a public health care agency, I joined their weekly bible study and intercessory prayer. However, this was short-lived because the Personnel Officer disallowed our weekly time with God.

But praise God, we were able to start a bible study a couple of years later when our company moved to the Gas Company Tower (GCT) in Downtown Los Angeles. One day, I stumbled upon a copy of the Gas Company Employee Newsletter learned that the GCT employees held a weekly bible study. I asked to join as a non-Gas Company employee and I was able to invite four to five regular attendees from my company. For ten years, my group and I enjoyed our weekly bible study and prayer time. I was blessed to see many answered prayers and wonderful testimonies of changed lives.

A year before the term of our building lease at GCT expired, our executives decided to move our company to another building in Downtown LA. Fearful that when we relocate we might end up without a bible study and intercessory prayer group, we took the matter to God in prayer. For about a year, we prayed, interceded and begged God to grant our petition to pave the way.

God did not disappoint us. He is ever faithful and true. We were allowed to use a conference room for our weekly bible study! It's been more than four years now since we started our first meeting at our current location and God still continues to perform what HE is best at...changing hearts and changing lives. God is awesome in this place!!!



Our job is to sow the seed of faith. God's job is to make it grow. And it doesn't just grow in a linear fashion. It grows exponentially through time and eternity. The dream God has given you will probably take longer and be harder to accomplish than you imagine, but that's because God wants to do much bigger and better things than you can imagine. And the seeds of faith you plant will often reap a harvest where you least expect it.

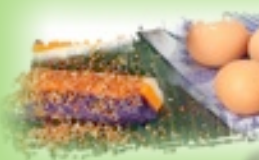
Mark Batterson, *Sowing Faith*  
In Touch Magazine, March/April 2016

## NATIONAL LADIES ADVISORY TEAM

Nickie Paulate  
Tess Cordero  
Rosemarie Jose  
Ana Miciano



**This is a very easy recipe. Enjoy making this with your kids. Bring to a potluck and it will be a favorite!**



*sapin-sapin*  
God's love made delicious.

### 5 Layer Bar

#### **Ingredients:**

1/2 cup butter (1 stick)  
1 1/2 cup graham cracker crumbs  
1 cup chocolate chips  
1 cup butterscotch or peanut butter chips  
1 cup coconut  
1 cup nuts  
Sweetened Condensed Milk

#### **Procedure:**

1. Melt butter in a 13 x 9 inch pan.

2. Sprinkle graham cracker crumbs over melted butter.
3. Layer graham cracker crumbs with chocolate chips, then another layer of butterscotch chips or peanut butter chips, then another layer of nuts, and a layer of coconuts.
4. Drizzle with Sweetened Condensed Milk.
5. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 - 25 minutes until coconut is golden brown.