



## May 2020 News

# Put On Christ!

**“For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” Galatians 3:27 NASB**

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Our relationship with Christ is a wonderful provision made by God toward we, who are most unworthy of such kind consideration. Our covenant relationship with God offers us so much! First and foremost, forgiveness and cleansing from every unclean thing we have ever thought or done. The huge relief that comes the moment we realize that the burden of our sin has been rolled away, well some say it is a nearly physical experience. There comes a lightness to our souls, a song to our heart. I remember distinctly one such moment in my life where I had gone to God to forgive me of sins and behaviors that I knew were displeasing to Him.

As I felt His love and grace flood my soul, I literally burst out laughing and clapping my hands like a little girl. I skipped, I had not skipped since early childhood, but I skipped all across campus, my heart flooded with spiritual joy. Jesus had taken my brokenness and shame and turned it into...delighted laughter!

Some of the most powerful imagery found in scriptures comes from the idea of ‘exchange.’ Isaiah 61 says, ‘He gave me beauty for ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a spirit of heaviness.’ In the heart of this exchange though, is one clear thing. We must be willing participants. The

exchange comes as we open our hearts, minds and arms to receive such bounty.

How do we do that? Through total surrender. In the act of surrender we voluntarily lay down all those things that trip us up, drying up our joy, stealing our peace. Unhappy relationships, anger from old hurts, injustices that have cost us. These things can plague our hearts and keep us stuck at the altar of disappointment.

There is a moment when we must choose to die to those things, in order to come alive in Him. The ones who make this choice are the freest and happiest people I have ever known. Peace of mind is their daily bread. Their joy is infectious and their hearts have found true contentment at the wellspring of salvation, and in His presence they have discovered fullness of joy.

So, I now decide: I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless, I live. Yet not I, but Christ lives within me. Yes, Lord. I choose to die that You might live in me.

Have Your way, Lord, with me.

WRITTEN BY,  
DEBBIE ECKER



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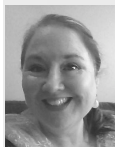
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Look for us:



## On A Personal Note ...



WRITTEN BY,  
DEBBIE ECKER

Quarantined and Quarantina here. I wonder if that is another version of Pricilla and Aquila? lol. We have been busy, at home. doing meetings on Zoom, Skype and Messenger. Praying. I LOVE talking to my 90 year old mother on FaceTime, she is so good at it! What do I miss most? Worshipping, side by side in the House of God with my brothers and sisters! Soon, Lord!

## More On Reaching Families!

This is the time of year when a new school term begins in Thailand.

Preparations are underway through several of our Thai partnership churches to reach more children and families from fatherless homes through our Families Without Fathers (FWF) project this year.

Thank you for helping to reach more children and families like this in 2020!



## Our Apostolic Mandate!



WRITTEN BY  
CHUCK LENHART

In 2020 we are believing for exponential growth through intentional, people purpose filled ministry to see the Kingdom multiply. In Acts chapter 6 the church shifted gears from adding, to multiplication. They had to reset their outreach button by intentionally picking the right leaders to see the next phase of growth take place.

This mandate is always in the forefront of the Apostle's mind, and spirit. The Apostolic spirit is a harvest spirit, getting the job done by bringing the Kingdom of God down where it is not yet activated. Understanding the felt needs of the people and ministering to them from that point; so key to reach people anywhere with the Gospel.

When you intentionally help a poor person out by finding them a job or giving them food; they start to open their ears and hearts up to what you are saying.

I want to encourage you, that your giving, going, and prayers, help activate the Kingdom of God everywhere Firstlight and its associated ministries are working.

Believe with us for greater harvest in everywhere we minister in 2020, and an increase of resources to do all the Lord wants us to do.

"All things are possible to those who believe." (See Mark 9:23)

## Blessed shall you be in your tent!



WRITTEN BY,  
DAN ECKER

I came across an interesting Scripture the other day that spoke to me about where we are right now of being confined to our "tents".

In Deuteronomy 33, Moses is speaking a blessing over the twelve tribes of Israel before he died. Each of these blessings characterize what each tribe was to be known for according to God's intended purpose.

To the people of Issachar; Moses declared that they were to "prosper at home in their tents." (See Deut.33:18c)

Known as the tribe that understood the times, and having the knowledge of knowing what Israel was to do, even in a place of confinement, they were to be BLESSED in their "tents" as are we!

## Prayer Points!

**"I call upon the Lord,  
who is worthy to be  
praised, And I am  
saved from my  
enemies."**

**Psalm 18:3 NASB**

**He will not fail you!**

1. Families Without Fathers (FWF) project plans for the first part of 2020. \*finalizing budgets & costs, total number of children/families to be reached this year.
2. For Thailand: \* powers of darkness broken, \* souls saved in each region, \* for kingdom expansion, new churches planted.
3. For all of Firstlight to be strategically places for increased effectiveness this year.
4. For the Lord's abundant provision, open doors, and lasting fruit in the second quarter 2020.