



## July 2023 News

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Look for us:



## Incorruptible

**“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.” I Peter 1:23 KJV**

The only constant in our physical world is that everything gets old. The new paint job on the house after a few decades will peel away as will the oil treatment on the driveway. New cars eventually find a reason to give up the ghost and be replaced. Crops left unharvested in the fields will decay where they stand. Fruit unpicked from trees will fall and rot not he ground.

One only needs to glance in the mirror as one's age ascends to higher and higher numbers to increasingly be sure that is a stranger staring back. Surely that CAN'T be me?? Ha!

But even as I contemplate the inevitability and increasing fragility of age, I am at the same time lifted by this thought: I am born again by the incorruptible seed, not of perishable seed, but by the LIVING and ENDURING word of God. ( 1 Pet. 1:23) Yes! For the one thing that I can actually feel getting stronger and more sure is my love for God, for His Presence, for His people, and for His purposes.

Oh, my heart and my flesh have been tested, to be sure as I am sure has yours as well. We have come through these last 6 years together, never knowing what each new challenge will bring. Something we barely speak of to one another, but something deeply

felt by all. We are hurting. We are tired. Sometimes we feel as if we are flagging and failing. But, beloved, here is the truth in the center of every storm:

His love never fails, it never fails. It never gives up. It never runs out on me....

Remember this song we all sang over and over again in our churches just a decade ago. Read these words again and sing it to yourself: His love never fails, it never gives up, it never runs out on me.

Perhaps it was a song of preparation and preservation, given to us to hold us tight as we entered into the storms of this present season of testing where we find ourselves.

There dwells within us, by the mercy of God a Divine Grace.. By His love and goodness and according to His promise, the Holy Spirit of Life lives in our very beings. Incorruptible. A faith, a life, a love that will never fade, never die.

His love never fails, it never gives up, it never runs out on me. It is incorruptible.



WRITTEN BY,  
DEBBIE ECKER

## On A Personal Note ...



WRITTEN BY,  
DEBBIE ECKER

Over the 4th of July, Dan and I went out to South Bend Indiana, to visit my Mom, who turned 93 on June 29th. It was a wonderful time. She and I were able to sit quietly together on the couch remembering and singing *[something that we enjoy doing as often as we can]* reflecting on the goodness of God. Mom is aging well at 93. I am so thankful that she and I got to spend some time together. Hoping to get back out again soon!

### Featured Article TEACHING

## Fundamental Shifts



WRITTEN BY,  
DAN ECKER

There are moments in life when an impasse occurs that requires a change in the way you think about and interpret the world around you. Old patterns of thought are replaced by new ones as our experience and knowledge base changes. Our assumptions about how life works requires a new perspective to challenge the underlying assumptions in our current and future realities.

These are often times best described as fundamental shifts. When John the Baptist came preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins: the words "Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand" called for a *radical change of thought* to occur in the collective consciousness of all those who heard it. (See Matt 3:2)

The call to repentance in this context meant to substantially change the basic principles, beliefs, and values in the way they viewed reality. *Change the way you think!* These types of transformative alterations enables us to see things differently. I want to see Jesus rightly!

### Ministry News TOP STORY

## Understanding Kingdom Identity ...



It was good to be back with the folks of the Z Gen Church, in Chonburi, Thailand earlier this year.

Pastors Daniel, Ooy, and their team are bringing this church into a greater understanding of knowing God as Father.

This was one of their annual training and equipping conferences where we discovered that the true nature of our *Kingdom Identity* of who we are in Christ, as sons and daughters of God comes from knowing God as Father, through Christ by the Spirit.

### Ministry News TOP STORY

## We are One in the Spirit ...



There are places in your journey as followers of Christ that holds more relational meaning than others *[for a multiple of reasons]* most of which has very little to do with the place as much as it is the people that you meet a long the way.

The history of the friendship that we share with Joanna Samuel Perkins, her husband Bill, their family, along with Dr. Tony Perkins, Pastor Patty Rose Perkins *[founders of the Dayspring Church Thailand]* is one of them. The story is too long to tell but in Christ, we are Family!

### Featured Item PRAYER

## Prayer Points

**“Set your minds on the things *that are* above, not on the things that are **on** earth.”**

Colossians 3:2 NASB

**Think again!**

1. Pray for our Global Training Platforms in Thailand, & Myanmar this year!
2. For our Care For Kingdom Families Projects: REAP: and the FWF in Thailand, during the 3rd quarter of 2023.
3. Ministry plans to unfold for all of Firstlight to be strategically placed in 2023 and beyond! \*projects, \*people, \*places, \*increased funding!
4. For God to arise in all that we do!