

Shadrach Youth Ministry

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A Word from Pastor Schultze...

THE DEVIL WANTS YOU DOWN

"And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the ark of the LORD until the eventide, he and the elders of Israel, and put dust upon their heads." — Joshua 7:6

The devil liked this picture. It is one thing to fail, but it is a greater sin, once we fail, for us not get back up again—quickly. So there is the sin of not getting back up. The longer we delay, the greater the sin. Shadrachers, God does not want dust on our heads, but under our feet.

Once we are down, it does not take long to get so spiritually disorientated that we start talking nonsense—and we lose our perspective.. When your eyes are on the dust instead of heaven, what else can you expect? So, this made Joshua say:

"Alas, O Lord GOD, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? Would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side of Jordan!" (v. 7)

Negative, negative, negative! That's all people can think of when they are in the dust. Was Joshua serious or was he kidding when he said : *It would have been better for us not to have crossed Jordan?* Well friend, he was neither kidding nor to be taken seriously. He was just plain blind. God had a cure for this blindness. You find it in verse 10, *"And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face?"* And that is what Joshua did—he obeyed God and got up! Do likewise, if your face is in the dust. Every moment is a sacred gift of God, don't use any of them to make the devil happy.

So how long does it take for a man to get off his face and back on his feet? Four seconds! Don't spent more time on it than that. There is work for you to do.

Witnessing Report by Joanna Paulus

On the way to my grandpa's funeral in CA, I was surprised by the opportunity I had for witnessing. Our first plane was a small one, three seats wide, and by the time we had sat down, the five people in our family as well as two others had all played musical chairs. This left me sitting across the aisle from a rather talkative man, for the first fifteen minutes anyway—the rest of the time he slept (It was an early morning flight). I don't remember exactly how he started the conversation, but eventually it got to him commenting something about our being dressed differently than most people—and that he liked that. He then asked if we were Mormons. I said no, just Christians. I suppose I could have made more of a distinction from Mormonism and Christianity, but I didn't think of it then. I asked him if he was a Christian, and he said something along the lines of, "That Jesus stuff might be right, but I'm just not sure." So, praying for God to help, I asked if I could ask him a few questions, and of course he said yes. I have read *The Way of the Master*, by Ray Comfort several times, but I hadn't gotten into a conversation yet. It was surprisingly easier than I expected—I think partly because he had started the conversation and was so talkative. At the end, I gave him some tracts by Ray Comfort, and he said something similar to what he had said earlier (he wasn't sure what was the right religion), but maybe it got him thinking. I

praise God for giving me this opportunity and helping me to be bold enough to say something.

Upcoming Events:

April 3-5, 2009 Spring Weekend in Fayetteville, West Virginia

June 7-13, 2009 Summer Retreat

Assignments:

✂ *Veteran Youth*

3rd Trimester—May 16, 2009

- Practical Book Report (from Booklist)
- Servanthood and Witnessing Reports
- Memorize: Psalm 103:17-22
- Memorize a 3+ stanza hymn

✂ *1st Year Shadrach Youth*

3rd Trimester—May 16, 2009

- Practical Book Report
- Servanthood and Witnessing Reports
- Memorize: Psalm 103:17-22
- Shadrach Manual Report #3: Fruitfulness

Reports By Luke Johnson

Service: About a month ago, I was able to help my pastor build an admin storage building at our church. I really enjoyed working with him, and I was able to learn some new things at the same time. Praise God for opportunities to be blessing.

Witnessing: I was headed home from Livingston when I saw a guy broke down on the road. I stopped to see if I could be of any help. It seemed that he had a broken radiator hose, so I offered to give him a ride home. Although it was only a few miles, I still had enough time to share the gospel with him. I pray that the Lord will get a hold of his heart, and that he will see his need for a Savior.

Book:

Rescue The Captors

This book is about Russell Stendal, a Colombian jungle pilot who was kidnapped and held in a guerilla camp for nearly five months. While he was there, he wrote this book and some of the guerillas would read each page as he finished it. Because of this book, and his boldness to witness, he became almost popular among all the guerilla camps. He began to have such an impact on many of the guerillas that he became dangerous to them, and the leaders were becoming anxious to get rid of him. They eventually let him go for a ransom.

He also tells in his book about many amazing flight stories. He was chased by a Colombian air force fighter jet, and nearly shot down, he crashed into a chicken coop and managed to go through it and keep flying. There are many more stories like this. The Lord was protecting him through all this.

He is now flying for Voice of the Martyrs. I would highly recommend this book to anyone. It has really encouraged me because the Lord has called me to be a bush pilot.

What Is a Prayer Burden?

“You yourselves, as living stones, are being built into a spiritual house for a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” (1 Peter 2:5 ESV)

I like the way Wesley Duewel describes burdens as “the Holy Spirit applying spiritual pressure upon your heart.” If you have been faithful in prayer and obedience, the Lord will likely start trusting you to carry burdens. Following our some ideas I’ve gleaned from experience and Wesley Duewel.

“I have discovered that there is only one way to end persecution of Christians—stop talking about Jesus.”
—Bro. Andrew

Things to remember about prayer burdens:

- 1) A burden is a concern *on the heart of God* for which He wants you to share in intercession.
- 2) Feels like a weight upon your spirit.
- 3) May be hard to pinpoint exactly—it takes time to learn how to discern what they’re about.
- 4) Can feel like a huge attack from the enemy (remember Satan makes you feel like an overall, total failure—God convicts you with specifics and tells you how to remedy them). A burden can make you feel irritable, distraught or discouraged.
- 5) They are personal—if you share it with others, they will likely not receive the burden from the Lord as you have (Neh. 2:2-3).
- 6) A prayer burden can last for days, weeks or months with growing intensity. You may lose desire to sleep in order to spend more time in prayer (Ps. 42:3).
- 7) It’s okay to focus most of your prayer time on praying for the burden—that is the petition on God’s behalf for your right now.
- 8) Keep praying until God lifts the burden.
- 9) A burden is a privilege—rejoice in the midst of it! You are slaying dragons out of the Kingdom!
- 10) You will feel the burden deeply in your innermost being and emotions.

Cautions:

- 1) A prayer burden is not your own mind working over time—this is only your own worry, imagination and anxiety in action.
- 2) Don’t seek for burdens. Remember, they are a gift from God.
- 3) Don’t limit God in only giving you burdens about people and situations you already know about. He can reach the other side of the world.
- 4) Burdens are not a result of emotional or psychological manipulation by others. Just because you’ve heard a moving presentation about a need somewhere that stirs your emotions, doesn’t mean you’re carrying a burden—it just means that you care.
- 5) If the Lord moves you to pray your burden in public, do it, but don’t think that the key to getting your burden removed is by sharing it with as many people as possible. The Lord gave it to YOU to pray through.

For more on burdens and how to pray through them, I would recommend reading Mighty Prevailing Prayer by Wesley Duewel and the chapter 22 in A Voice in the Wilderness. —Karin

Your reports were GREAT this last Trimester! I can sense a lot of growth. Praise the Lord!

Pastor Nicky's Phone-In

Dear Shadrachers,

On Friday 13th at 9PM, I'll be hosting a phone-in. Sometimes prayer partners are hard to keep going, so this is your chance to have some group interaction between retreats. We'll talk a little, pray for one another and I'll share a devotional thought. Dial in on (712)432-0080, Participant Access Code: 795227#, I'll look forward to speaking to you then.

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