



Saved By God's Grace Newsletter

April 2015 Newsletter

Hi Friends,

Words to live by...I believe so. I was "listening" to a lot of debate about a person baking a cake for a gay couples wedding (or rather refusing to). At first I was simply annoyed by all the talk. We deal with so much on a daily basis (who eats, who gets medical attention, who dies) I thought to make a big deal about baking a cake was so childish. During this I came across this quote attributed to Bishop Fulton Sheen from the Catholic Church. He says, "Tolerance applies only to persons, but never to principles. Intolerance applies only to principles, but never to persons." I certainly do not go around throwing quotes out because many are so not thought out...I believe Bishop Sheen's is well thought out. I believe it is most profound and, if thought out completely, very correct, but difficult to apply. Now I certainly don't think it is appropriate because I simply believe so. I believe it is correct because I believe Jesus has told us and shown us it is so. Jesus is God. As God He sets the standards...the principles. I know Jesus did not ever give into false doctrines or sin, but rather took people to task relative to their false assumptions and always told them they must stop sinning. He also was so patient with people, His creation, which was shown as He dined with sinners, forgave prostitutes, told a criminal he would be with Him in paradise, and forgave the very people who were murdering Him. So I believe Jesus was intolerant to changing principles, but extremely tolerant to people....He did it perfectly. The question is how do you apply the principle of tolerance and intolerance in the same breath...as flawed humans I believe we have a challenge. Let's look at the cake scenario. The gay couple come into the shop and want a Christian baker to bake a cake for them. They have beliefs that a gay union is fine under the set of principles they live under. The Christian believes a gay union is not o.k. under the principles he/she stands by. For my part I could inform them I am Christian and don't believe a gay union is approved of in Scripture. They could leave my shop or ask me to bake a cake. If they ask me to bake a cake I have to really look into the principles we are talking about as to whether baking the cake is compromising my principles or simply being tolerant to the gay individuals. Is it really violating my principles to bake the cake? Here is where many will come up to a tough decision. Is baking a cake really affecting my principals or is it simply that...baking a cake. I am not going to answer that question because I believe it could be different for each individual and it is a personal decision between you and God. Same scenario but it is a Planned Parenthood meeting celebrating being in existence for X amount of years...what about now...has your mind changed...tough isn't it? Truly, I do believe in the Bishop's statement and have to consider each situation I come across as to whether or not I am violating principals which I believe are set forth by the Almighty or am I simply being intolerant to people who have a different view on life...intolerance applies to principles, tolerance applies to people.

Things are still "cranking" here....no matter what I am feeling, His will is of the utmost importance. We continue to be moving at lightning speed on many issues (you can see a lot of the daily happenings on Tammy's blog by clicking [HERE](#)). Our kids at C4KK are now on a holiday break so we have daily tutoring in the upstairs of the mission home. We have invited the community kids, through the school, to also attend, but because of corruption the school has not told the parents about it since they charge for tutoring and don't want kids to attend (ours is free and better quality teachers)...we will be remedying that soon by talking directly to the parents of the students. The secondary kids are also on holiday and I am pleased to say all kids are remaining in the sponsorship program because they literally "made the grade" (straight C or above - one did have a D+, but it was his warning term which enable him to carry on for now). The feeding

program is in full swing and many people are eating healthier than ever before because of you. Our medical outreach is literally touching hundreds who are mostly infected with AIDs or AIDs related diseases as well as cancer and other medical emergencies. It has also been expanded to assisting in setting up a clinic in Luanda (Western Kenya) where two doctors who have been helping us with jigger issues were tossed out because they were giving out services free (subsidized by C4KK) to the kids. They are establishing their own place and will continue to work with us for the hundreds of kids in the area who need medical attention. We are now looking at partnering with another friend here who is both a Kenyan and an American (dual citizenship). She is looking at a water project (major project) and other community activities for kids.

All of these things have one thing in common...to glorify God...and it seems to be working. While many of the people we assist will never see us, they do know the help is only possible because of a God who loves them. They are told this and many have opened their heart up to the Gospel as they see it being lived out (instead of just preached to them...as convoluted as it is preached). We pray that Christ will become the love of their lives as they see His love in action...it really does work my friends.

Five months...and counting down... What is the "countdown" you may ask? It is the timing for us to come back to the States for a visit and some recovery. I won't kid you we need a break. It would take a book (and many have been written) to tell you how being missionaries in a foreign "fourth world" nation takes its toll on you. We look forward to seeing as many of you as we can and explaining what our service is like and how you can get involved. It would also be our privilege to tell you about the One we call Lord and Savior Jesus and how we believe He has spoken to everyone through Scripture. Around the middle of September we will be arriving in the state of Michigan and moving around the east and southeast area states. After Thanksgiving we will be traveling accross the country to Arizona to see our kids and our friends there. To do this we have to get some funds. We have looked at airline prices and for both of us (Tammy says I have to take her and she won't leave me behind...good woman) the round-trip tickets will run around \$4,000 (\$2,000 each). Then we estimate it will be around \$1,000 a month while we are there. The total of that will be around \$10,000 for the six months including the flight. If you have the ability and are moved to assist, you can click [HERE](#) to go to the donation website and help. Select "Missionary Support" and put "Come Home" in allocation drop box...we will allocate those funds to coming back. Thanks in advance for this assistance. Your support is essential to have us continue to do what we are doing, including getting this rest and recuperation time.

I love God. I treasure His Son. I NEED the Holy Spirit. My life is one of a desire to serve Him and the joy I find in life when life is so tough is only found in our Triune God. The love I find there allows me to love Tammy, it allows me to serve those we serve, and it gives me strength to do it again another day even though the situations are beyond most people's comprehension. I tell you this because there is no greater life than to be residing in His will daily...to know Him as my Father. I am no more special than you...this is where He wants you to be. No your life won't be "rosy" (and He never promised us that), but I will assure you the joy in serving the God of the universe will allow you to go through each day with purpose. It will allow you to love more than you ever thought you would be able to love. It will allow you to confidently walk into salvation through and with Jesus. My prayer for you is that He becomes your very reason for life...which affects every other aspect of how you live it. God bless you my friends.

Serving with you only by His grace,

Chuck

Missionary to Kenya

