

Pushing Back the Darkness! Part 4: "For all the John, Rachel and John Jr's of Our World!"

John, Rachel and John, Jr. Story – This is the darkness we're fighting – **The reason we do what we do!**

"From the first words of John to this moment with Me, the kingdom of heaven advances by forcible entry and the ones whose minds are made up to advance it take their objectives by force..." Mt 11.12

It's *no longer* enough to let our lights shine; we must push back, hold back and rend open the darkness for the people of our world!

So far... Pushed back on all separators; racial, social, economic and ICK, to live in supernatural unity!

"You are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus; for as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put Him on and in Him *there cannot be* divisions of race, religion, culture, color, philosophy, economic, educational, social or gender discriminations, for you are all one in Christ Jesus!" Gal 3.26-28

There **CAN NOT BE** any discrimination in the church...

Pushed back the curtain to see our shared DNA and bloodline in Christ to live in supernatural love and acceptance! "The whole earth was overspread of the sons of Noah!" Gen 9.19 "Being justified by his blood, we are saved from wrath... when we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son... and made whole by his life." Rom 5.9,10 "adopted children by Jesus Christ... in whom we have redemption through his blood..." Eph 1.5-7

That's enough of Jesus love to open the doors wide for the floods of people looking for help in this dark world!

So... Came to the point of readiness, preparedness, creativeness and constructiveness to make a space and prepare a place requiring supernatural giving and building! Leaders, congregation ready... Only the "place" not prepared! Had a respite during the summer! Summer's over and jumped from 600's to over 900 Wednesday! Makes us pretty much done! Offer no effective shelter/future!

Jesus, the Great bishop and Shepherd of our souls looking for safe, clean, equipped "pens" to place beloved lambs for care, nurture, and protection!

Our hearts response... "This is the thing the Lord has said, 'take an offering unto the Lord from whoever is of a willing heart... *and all the people left...* and they came back, every one whose heart stirred him up and whose spirit was willing and they brought the Lord's offering for the work of the tabernacle of the congregation..." Exodus 35.4,21

"And they received all the offering which they had brought for the work of the service of the sanctuary, to make it, and the people brought free will offerings every morning... and the workers worked... and they said to Moses, 'the people have brought more than enough for the work the Lord has commanded,' and Moses said, '*Let no one work any more for the offering of the sanctuary* and the people were restrained from bringing any more..." Exodus 36.3,21

Final Observations... Lousy pitch man... No emotional appeal, no pledge cards, no special offering...! Not trying to raise money for a building... but the bar on our faith! **We know God's will is for us to prepare, to grow, to continue to help the lost/broken/stagnant... Gave you time to go and ask and then bring the offering to give and build supernaturally...**

Right after service... "You only need 99 more people because we are giving 1%!" Higher than I was thinking...

"My wife asked me how we were going to do that? I don't know but God will work it out!" Four hours later Ann asks me, "What is the Lord saying to you about our part?" "More than we can do, something He has to work out, something we have to work for!" Shift in thinking/one presentation!

Asides... **Exodus 35/36** clearly establish *separate* giving for buildings! Our building offerings cannot be a redesignation of our tithe... Not only breaks your covenant! Tithe is not ours to designate! "The tithe *is the Lord's* and it is holy to Him!" **Lev 27** "You tithe... and you should, but don't think it replaces the weightier matters..." **Mt23.23**

One Weighty Matter... The tithe is one of the "least" issues of our faith! **Lk 15.10** But it is an institution of the Lord! Utilized to fill a storehouse, **Mal 3.10**, support the ministry, **1Cor 9.3-14** Holy to God (qodesh) and cursed for human consumption (cherem) by its assignment! **Lev 27.28-30**

The law of the tithe exists where people are not living in the Spirit! We give freely because God's kingdom is our kingdom and our kingdom is His kingdom!

Important to talk about this, because we aren't there yet! During the summer our tithes dropped \$90,000 And it makes no sense at all... Attendance was lower with all the vacations... But all of our people were still here! 30% of our congregation would have had to lose their incomes for it to be justified... MUST MOVE BEYOND THE STRUGGLE TO GET TO THE SUPERNATURAL!

So, right after... "You only need 99 more people because we are giving 1%!" Higher than I was thinking... (6800) Ann asks, "What is the Lord saying to you about our part?" "My heart has changed since I spoke this morning..." "It has to be more than we can do, something He has to work out, something we have to work for!" "**I will not give offerings unto the Lord that cost me nothing!**" **2Sam 24.24** **IT MUST BE SUPERNATURAL!**

SUPERNATURAL... ***That God's Kingdom is my kingdom and my kingdom is now His Kingdom!*** "You seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all the needful things will be added to you!" **Mt 6.33** "See that you walk worthy of God who called you to His Kingdom and glory!" **1Th 2.12**

That I was born, placed and engaged for this time of my life! "If you hold back, God will surely work from another direction, but who knows whether or not you are here in this place for a time such as this?" **Esther 4.14** As David, to serve his generation by the will of God before he died... **Acts 13.36** As the men of Issachar who understood their times and knew what to do! **1Chron 12.32**

Open the way to all the John and Rachel's and John Jr's... Let the "children" come unto Me for of such is the kingdom of God... and whoever doesn't come in as a "child" will not enter in!" **L18.16,17** "You must remember that those who are not born again will not see the kingdom of God!" **John 3.3-5** "So, look where I am looking and see what I am seeing and work where I am working for the fields are ripe for harvest!" **John 4.34-38**