...Owning and Celebrating our Identity in Christ and Influencing Others to do the Same!



July 2020

Hello, Friends!

God bless you!

It is not lost on me that today, July 4^{th} – the day that America celebrates her freedom - is the day the Lord had me to dedicate to writing this partner letter. As I asked Him what He wanted me to write, it was not until I began writing that He told me:

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you FREE (John 8:32). That word "know" means to come to know; to recognize; to perceive. There is a truth that God wants you to come to know, recognize, and perceive in a way you have not done so before. Though the truth He has me present through this letter may sound familiar, purpose to hear it with fresh ears. God wants to make you free. Therefore I say unto you, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free," in Jesus' Name.

Let me set the stage by quoting a preacher I heard yesterday. He said, "If you don't have a choice, you're not free." (Selah.)

The Lord has been ministering to me the last few months about the power of choice. The choice He set before me is pretty clear cut: Will you eat from the Tree of Life or the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?

Go with me to the Garden of Eden:

Out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 2:9).

Do you remember what God told Adam? "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2;16-17). Adam had freedom of choice. He could choose to eat of the Tree of Life, where He would forever solidify the heavenly state of communing with God – hearing His thoughts, speaking His Words, receiving His ideas, never having a doubt or worry. Jesus' words in John 5:30 could have been his:

I am able to do nothing from Myself [independently, of My own accord—but only as I am taught by God and as I get His orders]. Even as I hear, I judge [I decide as I am bidden to decide. As the voice comes to Me, so I give a decision], and My judgment is right (just, righteous), because I do not seek *or* consult My Own will [I have no desire to do what is pleasing to Myself, My Own aim, My Own purpose] but only the will *and* pleasure of the Father... (John 5:30, AMPC).



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Or, he could choose to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, where he would subject humanity to Pandora's Box in the form of thoughts, words, feelings, and ideas that come from an influence other than God (e.g., the world, the enemy, and the flesh).

Fast forward with me. Against God's orders, Adam and his wife ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Immediately their eyes were opened to a new consciousness (Gen. 3:7). They experienced a reality that God never designed for them. **They opened themselves to things they were never meant to experience, such as guilt, condemnation, and shame.** In their new state of consciousness, they immediately began implementing self-help tactics (#figleafsuit) and taking measures to hide from God. (Note: Neither strategy was successful.)

God called out to Adam, "Where art thou?" (Gen. 3:9). Adam responded that he was afraid because he was naked and therefore hid.

Then God asked him that all-important question: "Who told thee that thou was naked?" (Gen. 3:11). The implication was, "I didn't. So if I didn't tell you, who have you been listening to?"

(Let it be known that God never asks a question because He does not know the answer. He is omniscient. He is the All-Knowing God. He asks questions to bring us to a place of awareness and truth - a place where we are set free if we will embrace that truth.)

God answered His Own question with a follow-up question: "Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?" (Gen. 3:11). In other words, "Have you gotten your intel from the very place I told you not to?"

Let me ask you: Where are *you* getting *your* intel? With all of the craziness going on in the world, who are you listening to?

Do you find yourself like Adam, hiding from God, feeling somehow inadequate, ill-equipped, or unworthy?

Listen as God asks you the same question He asked Adam centuries ago: "Who told you you were [fill in the blank]?"

Who told you were broke? Who told you you were incapable? Who told you you were insignificant? Who told you were ugly? Who told you you couldn't do it? Who told you weren't smart enough? Who told you you couldn't afford it? Who told you you weren't worthy? Who told you you have to provide for yourself? Who told you you're going to be sick? Who told you you're going to die? Who told you...?

Have you eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? Have you eaten of the tree of social media? Have you eaten of the tree of CNN? Have you eaten of the tree of popular opinion? Have you eaten of the tree of political agendas? Have you eaten of the tree of social activism? Have you eaten of the tree of ...?"



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He sent me your way to tell you this truth:

YOU HAVE A CHOICE!!! You have a choice who to listen to.

This truth may seem somewhat obvious and understated, but let me tell you why it is such a big deal.

I was studying the book of Matthew a few weeks ago. As I read the circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth, I noticed a pattern:

- Joseph, instructed by an angel not to hesitate to take Mary as his wife, **did all that the angel told him to do** (Matt. 1:19-24).
- The wise men **followed the star** to find Jesus (Matt. 2:1-2, 7-9).
- The wise men, warned of God in a dream, **followed His instructions** and went home a different way instead of going back to Herod (Matt. 2:12).
- Joseph, instructed by an angel yet again, **did all the angel said** and took Mary and Jesus under cover of night and escaped to Egypt (Matt. 2:13-14).

In this account of Matthew, it seemed to be a natural thing to recognize God, hear His voice, and do what He said. As I was discussing this observation with a friend, she said, "Things were easier back then. There wasn't a lot to do, and it was easier to hear God." While I agreed with her to a certain extent, I had to raise the point that "Surely it's not God's fault that the world is so noisy now. Surely He did not make it so we would have to work hard to hear Him. It should be as easy for us to hear Him now as it was for them to hear Him then. It's up to us to make the effort to tune the noise out." We must on-purpose decide that God's voice is the loudest voice we hear – even if He speaks at a whisper.

WE HAVE A CHOICE!

Let this truth make you free:

As noisy as this world may be - You don't have to listen to outside influences (i.e., the world, the devil, and the flesh) that instill fear and panic, engender hatred and strife, or entertain helplessness and despair. God wants you to know that **you have permission to choose** not to listen to outside influences. **You have permission to choose** not to give in to the pressure of the world around you. Joseph faced the pressure of losing his reputation as a chaste and upright man. The wise men faced the pressure of not obeying Herod's orders. Yet each chose to listen to God, and God delivered them.

Like Joseph and the wise men, **you have permission to choose** to listen to God's plans and instructions. Know that He will never leave you, He will never lead you wrong, and He will always make a way of escape.



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- Just as the star didn't leave while the wise men were speaking with Herod (Matt. 2:1-2, 7-9), God won't leave you (Is. 42:16).
- Just as He instructed the wise men not to go back to Herod (Matt. 2:12), He will tell you the right way to go (Ps. 32:8).
- Just as He provided a way for Joseph and his family to escape to Egypt (Matt. 2:13-14), He will make a way of escape for you (I Cor. 10:13).

Why is it important for you to know that you have permission to choose? Believe it or not, many people just don't know. For instance, when I was a little girl, I used to say I was mad. My dad told me I wasn't old enough to get mad. Being the obedient child that I was, I didn't get mad. The problem is, Daddy never told me when I was old enough to get mad. Long story short - I was in my late twenties getting beaten (habitually) by my husband and didn't know that I had permission to get mad. When I did get mad, I felt guilty. It took someone actively telling me that it was okay (and even right) to be angry.

So I am here to tell you today: You have permission. You have permission to choose. Another word for permission is "authorization." You have the authority (the license, the right, the go-ahead) to choose. You do not have to succumb to the situation or the ungodly influences around you. You have a choice who to listen to, and you have permission - i.e., authority - to choose.

The choice set the Lord has before me has simply been: Will I eat from the Tree of Life or the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?

He sets that same choice before you today:

Will you partake of the Tree of Life, receiving God's thoughts, words, opinions, feelings, ideas, and instructions? Or will you partake of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, receiving the world's thoughts, words, opinions, feelings, ideas, and instructions?

YOU HAVE A CHOICE! AND YOU HAVE PERMISSION TO CHOOSE!

If you receive this Word, I would like to encourage you to sow on it. Sowing in this context is a spiritual principle where one plants their finances in the Kingdom of God to receive a harvest of what they are believing for.

When sowing a financial seed into a ministry or church, etc., you are not just making a charitable donation. Sowing a financial seed is what one does when one receives the Word that was delivered. It is an action step that both *demonstrates your faith* in the Word that was delivered and *activates the operation* of that Word in your life. It is NOT a form of buying a blessing.



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NEITHER is it a selfish motive of giving to get. Rather, it is a spiritual law – the law of sowing and reaping.

Look with me at Galatians 6:7: Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap (emphasis added). Just as we cannot change the natural law of gravity, we cannot change the spiritual law of sowing and reaping. The next verse (v 8) says: For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

John 6:63 tells us that God's Word is Spirit and It is life. Therefore, the Word that you are responding to is Spirit. When you sow your financial seed, you are sowing to the Spirit, and of the Spirit, you shall reap life everlasting.

What is life everlasting?

Jesus explained in John 17:3, "And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, Whom Thou hast sent." So, when we sow to the Spirit, we reap life everlasting, which consists of an intimate knowledge of God – the Father and Originator of revelation Who wants to reveal every aspect of Himself to us (see James 1:17) – and His Son, Jesus, Who is the Word (John 1:1, 14) and the express Image of His Person (Heb. 1:3).

Hallelujah!!! 🙌 🙌

As you prepare to sow your next seed (sowing outlets are listed at the end of this letter), sow it in faith as demonstration that you believe you receive a harvest of this Word in your life. Be blessed knowing that I am praying for you and speaking PERFECT VISION to you, in Jesus' Name.

Lovin' you with the Love of the Lord,

Katherine

You may sow through the following outlets:

PayPal or Zelle: Godslovesong@outlook.com |*Cash App: \$KIsFree (K Is Free – all one word) *Website: https://www.godslovesongministries.com/giving-partnership

*Ksh welcome!

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