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**GRACE FELLOWSHIP
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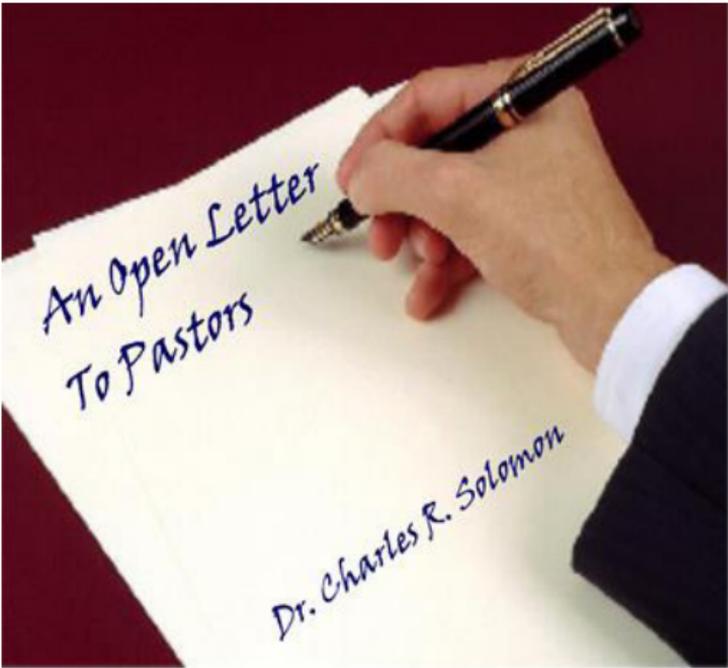
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In 1967, God called me to a ministry to hurting people; part of my preparation was having gone through such emotional conflict myself for the first 35 years of my life with resolution coming through God's sovereign dealing with my life by illuminating Galatians 2:20 in October, 1965. His calling was confirmed through Isaiah 58:10,11, the full time ministry having begun in 1970 under the name of Grace Fellowship International. From the beginning, He honored His call with transformed lives as He renewed their minds; thus, personal revival was the result of teaching His Word in the power of the Spirit in obedience to His calling. Many of these believers had been exposed to contemporary therapy which had not proven to be a cure, but only went as far as care.

It was those who were at the end of themselves who were candidates for personal revival, having gone through brokenness with no other place to turn. Many said, "If this does not work,

there is no hope!" Once their lives were transformed by the Holy Spirit in a few interviews—sometimes as little as one—good percentage of them went on to sharing the message of personal revival or renewal with others. Some were called of God to share the message on a full time basis such that the ministry spread across the nation and around the world. It was first documented in *Handbook to Happiness* (Tynedale), which was my project in lieu of dissertation for my doctorate at the University of Northern Colorado in 1972. Since that time, formal training has been done for professionals and laymen and the contemporary exchanged life movement was launched by the Holy Spirit.

In about the same time frame, Christian psychology came into its own and was embraced as a sort of handmaiden by the church, with seminaries beginning degree programs which were heavily flavored with psychology and/or nouthetic approaches to counseling. As a result, only pastors who were hurting or had experienced emotional conflict themselves were receptive to the Cross-centered and Christ-centered approach to which God had called me. Not too long afterward, seminaries began to grant degrees which were recognized by the state for licensure which have quickly gained popularity in the last two decades. The possibility of payments by insurance companies as a business was more appealing than a ministry of living by faith, even though the results are less than miraculous. Since the Christian establishment is vested in therapy

as opposed to spiritual ministry, it will have to be discovered experientially that psychology is a substitute for the ministry of the Holy Spirit. To date, despite documented results of our ministry with lives transformed by the Spirit as described above, the Christian establishment has yet to be convinced that a tragic detour has been taken in the movement to integrate psychology and the Bible.

After 35 years of ministry and planting missions on six continents, world events have served to focus my vision on the corporate problem in our country and our churches. While the intrapersonal and interpersonal conflicts continue unabated and still are not addressed in the context of the average church because of the referral mentality that is extant, it appears that the cultural, economic and political landscapes are tending to overshadow the individual concerns. Many of the indicators are pointing to the fact that unprecedented suffering can soon be upon us for which we are woefully unprepared as individuals, as a Church and as a country. In times of uncertainty and crises, it is the Church to which the world should be able to turn. However, because of the detour which the Church has elected, we have more in the way of psychological answers to offer which will prove impotent when the chips are down! I am convinced that it will take a major calamity of some kind before the Church wakes up to its responsibility to get off the detour and back into the center of God's will such that it can lead, instead

of following the developments of the world system.

While I have always had a burden for the Church, there has been little receptivity on the part of leadership to make an honest evaluation of the fact that we have traded our birthright for a mess! We have bought into various approaches and emphases in therapy without having done due diligence to evaluate the presuppositions upon which they are based. If such is done, it will be found that it is not supportive of Biblical theology and anthropology; in fact, it is usually contradictory to the methods and goals of Scripture when viewed from the vantage point of Galatians 2:20 and Romans 6.

The approach which God called into existence in 1967 is, in reality, 2000 years old and has been found sufficient all of those centuries as it is today; neither the truth of the Word nor the human heart has changed since the first century. Our steadfast adherence to His calling in ministry and development of materials has resulted in our having materials, methods, and research available when the Church is ready, nay forced, to return to its roots. While it has not been popular to espouse a spiritual approach to ministry rather than therapy and the Christian press has studiously avoided making it known, adverse world conditions will probably be the seed-bed for gaining acceptance for a new approach to help which the Church has heretofore rejected in favor of the hybrid approach known as Christian psychology.

It is my conviction that the time is now upon us as evidenced by the fail-

ure of secular humanism to improve the institutions and society such that we are beginning to reap the results in bankruptcies—personal, business, morally, and spiritually. The repercussions of the chain reactions are having devastating effects in lives which will begin another chain reaction, especially in families where there is already tension and conflict. Added to this is the instability and economic impact of the war and probable negative effects on the infrastructure due to the ripple effects, directly and indirectly, of the Holy War or jihad in which we are engaged.

The fact that it has been termed a Holy War makes it, by definition, a spiritual conflict of worldwide proportions. This being the case, the Church must take the lead and prepare its members, not only in a defensive posture but also to be trained in taking the offensive, using the “weapons of our warfare”—the shield of faith and the Sword of the Spirit. Having our heads in the sand and pretending it is not happening will not prepare our members to survive nor to reach out to the hurting; the Church must be the first line of defense and offense at the same time if the Holy Spirit is to empower the Church and resist the enemy. Since the Church has been “at ease in Zion” for an extended period of time, our soldiers are soft and immature as well as being untrained in the rigors of war.

Our experience over the last 35 years has shown that the Holy Spirit shows up and transforms lives when we are obedient to His commands and preach the message of the Cross which

is the power of God (1 Cor. 1:18). Since this is a proven ministry in the current generation backed by the years of history and testimonies, it does not take a major step of faith to believe that the lives of many across the country could be similarly transformed if our churches would avail themselves of training in the approach. We have found that the basic training can be done in ten days or less which will enable those who enter into the reality of the Cross to share it with others; thus, revival passes from one to the other as the Holy Spirit honors their witness. The process is very much akin to that of personal evangelism and can be taught just as readily so that believers are able to witness to other believers and see their lives transformed—frequently with greater change than at salvation.

Obviously, it would be going against the grain of current trends in church growth industry; but, then, the avenues taken by the Church in recent decades and the therapy to which it has referred have not resulted in Holy Spirit revival which I believe to be the only hope for our country. Doing an “about face” in message and method will not do great good to those whose reputations and identities are an integral part of church growth and psychological integrationism, which are kissing cousins.

Yes, I have heard the arguments (or rationalizations) that there will not be another major awakening in the end times, but I cannot sit idly by and knowingly cease to fulfill God’s calling on my life—first to the individual and now to the Church—while there is

yet a window of opportunity. In doing so, I am seeking those who will dare to depart from the pack and take the message of the Cross to hurting people and churches and see how God will honor our obedience to His command to “disciple all nations”, rather than to be content to evangelize and shift sheep from one pen to another. In an alien environment, our penchant for numbers and buildings could be a thing of the past. A simple distraction, such as even higher gas prices or rationing, would serve to reduce the size of many congregations while making a significant hit on church budgets, personnel, and community image.

Then, when worldly entertainments and diversions are no longer an option and the world begins to look to the Church for answers, what will they be offered? What will we tell the mental health professionals when they turn to the Church for answers rather than receiving referrals from the Church?

Even if the war situation were to clear up immediately, the inroads of secular humanism and Islam can only be reversed by a major work of the Holy Spirit, but this will not be ushered in by a continuation of our man-centered approach to Christian education and ministry. I covet your prayer and your response as you are led of our Lord. Concerted prayer and a dedicated team could be used in the 21st century, just as in the first century, to turn the world upside down. Let's believe that our Lord can still move mountains of inertia, apathy, and despair and replace them with faith, love, and hope in lives that are crying out

for a touch from God whether they realize it or not!

It is our goal to do initial training of key pastors who can, in turn, minister to their people and use the available materials to equip them to help others. Believers who are at a point of need, for whatever reason, are open to the message of the Cross; once their lives are changed (or exchanged!), they can be quickly trained to share the life of freedom in Christ with those in their world. One pastor can mentor another and one church can be used in the ministry of another church as the death/resurrection message becomes a way of ministry.

Will you join hands with us as we trust God to make a major change in our world? There are opportunities to assist with projects on all of our mission fields, as well as other parts of the world. We have a need for many churches to partner with us that the message of the Cross might be proliferated "unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8), after Churches have been transformed in our Jerusalem.

WAR AND PEACE

A war is being fought
Against the Prince of Peace;
Are His Soldiers at the ready,
Or are they fast asleep?
The enemy's being trained
To do His soldiers harm;
Who will sound the trumpet
To serve as the alarm?

Soldiers go into battle
With weapons that are blunt;
The battle that is decisive
Is on another front.
A Holy War was declared
With the 9/11 attack;
Our response was decisive,
Despite a spiritual lack.

The Church must take the lead
If the war is to be won;
God's banner must be raised
Since the Target is His Son.
We have a standing army
Which is sitting in the pew;
Until it's trained and fielded,
It remains a motley crew!

Basic training is essential
If the trumpet we'll obey;
Carnal weapons will not suffice,
Facing a Holy War today.
Strongholds will come down
If spiritual weapons are used;
Absent the Sword of the Spirit,
Our birthright has been abused.

Flesh opposing flesh is futile,
Exposing moral corruption;
Unless we know His filling,
Lives will know disruption.
The battle is the Lord's,
If we abdicate the throne;
He can move in mighty power
When He has filled His own.

Revival is the urgent need
His church to mobilize;
Only as He's enthroned
Will our living stabilize.
Will you enlist for service
In the Army of the King?
Then, Onward Christian Soldiers,
Let Freedom's anthem ring!!!

Charles R. Solomon
July 12, 2002

Of War and Peace

**RESOURCES
AVAILABLE FROM
GRACE FELLOWSHIP
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Books by Dr. Charles Solomon:

Handbook to Happiness
Ins and Out of Rejection
Rejection Syndrome and the Way to Acceptance
Handbook to Happiness & You
Handbook for Christ-Centered Counseling
*From Pastors to Pastors: Testimonies of
Revitalized Ministries*
Discipling the Desperate
Handbook for Soldiers of the Cross
The Dynamic Step in Discipleship
Conquering PTSD
For Me To Live Is Christ
Wheel & Line Tract
Romans Road Tract
Wisdom of (Charles R.) Solomon
3 Volumes of Exchanged Life Poetry
Gems & Jargon

Trilogy:

The Roman Road
Let Us Rise Up and Build...the Church
Completing the Reformation

Books by Dr. John Woodward:

Man as Spirit, Soul, and Body
Blessed Reassurance

Training:

Exchanged Life Conference
Spirituootherapy[™] Workshop
Solomon School of *Spirituootherapy*[™]
Distance Education Certificate
Distance Education Diploma
Online Courses

Media Materials:

Conference CDs and DVDs
Conference Notebook

Book by Dr. Phil Jones:

How To Exchange Your Life For a New One

Book by John Stevens:

Suicide: An Illicit Lover

Books by Dr. Lee Turner:

Grace Discipleship Course
Advanced Grace Discipleship Course

Book by Captain Reginald Wallis:

The New Life



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