



Lighthouse Beacon

New Mexico Lighthouses of Prayer - March 2002

Feeling Dim?

There are times when Lighthouses can feel a little dim, wondering if they are having any impact. In 2 Timothy 4:3-5 Paul gave this advice to a young man who was becoming a light in his world: *“For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to right teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever they want to hear. They will reject the truth and follow strange myths. But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don’t be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at bringing others to Christ. Complete the ministry God has given you.”* This counsel is so appropriate for today’s Lighthouses. Let us continue striving forward together, for in due time the harvest will be completed.

If your light is a little low, perhaps these stories and words of encouragement from other Lighthouses will refresh you as you continue serving Him. And let’s remember one other in prayer, asking our Father to help each Lighthouse shine brighter for Him!

Resisting the Light

“My neighbors say they are Christian but never go to church and show no Christian fruit. I have tried to earn the right to share Jesus with them by mowing their lawn [and] edging their lawn when I do mine. We gave them the JESUS movie, we sang to them at Christmas and gave them cookies, we have given gifts to their children and we have prayed. Where do we go from here? I believe she thinks we are some kind of religious fanatics. I also believe she does not see herself as a sinner and therefore has no need of a savior. Is there any way to help people have a fear of God? We need help!”

Response from Dr. Paul Cedar, Chairman of the Mission America Coalition:

I encourage you to not grow “weary in well doing.” I believe you should continue focusing your ministry on “prayer” and “care.” Remember that it is only the



Holy Spirit that can convict of sin and “open the eyes” of those who have been blinded by our enemy. Keep on keeping on—our Lord will honor your prayers.

A Light Gets Through!

“A lady from church wanted to start a lighthouse in her neighborhood. We did not know this would become a new church! Four of us started meeting in her home and reaching out to neighbors through prayer-walks and acts of kindness. Soon her house was full!

We then moved to a larger meeting place and packed that out. We are now meeting in a boxing club and have seen over 100 in our Sunday services! It all started with the desire of one woman to be a light in her neighborhood!”

My Light Needs Recharged!

“I committed to being a Lighthouse over a year ago, but I feel bad that I really

Do Not Grow Weary In Doing Well....

haven’t done much since then. I feel like this is something God wants me to do, but I don’t know how to get started again and I don’t know if I want to get started if I’m just going to fail again. Can you help?”

Naomi Frizzell, Mission America Media & Communications Coordinator responds:

Be encouraged! What you’re feeling is something we all feel at one time or another – not only about being a Lighthouse – but about any area of our life that requires being in it “for the long haul.”

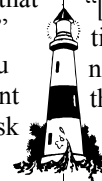
Begin with prayer. Confess that you haven’t been faithful to the commitment you made to be a Lighthouse. Then, ask God to help you be faithful to that commitment, ask what He would have you to do as a Lighthouse and for whom He would have you pray. Pray also that God would give you a desire to share your faith. Pray for our Lord to open the door, pray for the person you’re going to share

with and then pray for yourself, that you’ll be bold and take the opportunities God gives you to share your faith.

Expect God to do great things, but don’t be discouraged when you don’t see something happen right away. Many Lighthouses report that they have prayed for years before they’ve seen any outward fruit from their prayers.

Another Light Shines Through!

“[We] started [a] Lighthouse in our particular neighborhood by talking to our neighbors, putting Christmas cards in their mailboxes and offering help. God made many opportunities to reach out and help them and show them God’s grace. It’s been wonderful. I’ve seen a real unity in the neighborhood, there are people smiling, people asking for advice. I’m also seeing a unity in the community churches, we’re starting to pray, share and care as a group.”—Aberdeen, WA



So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and steady, always enthusiastic about the Lord’s work, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless. 1 Corinthians 15:58 (NLT)

Resources

Evangelism Toolbox – www.evangelismtoolbox.com - a great list of tools and resources to help you effectively share the Gospel in many different settings.

Remembrance Project

Have you spoken to your church leadership about using the “Fallen But Not Forgotten” evangelism brochures this Easter? They only cost 16¢ each (\$8 + shipping for a package of 50), and everyone, Christian or not, seems to really will be mailing them, some will be giving them away at Easter sermons, and with the ongoing interest in the 911 tragedy, they can be used all year long.



Call LightShine at 293-0743 or go to www.911recovery.com for more information. Let’s join together to deliver the message of Jesus to homes throughout New Mexico this Easter!

“Let your light shine so that others may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven.” Matt 5:16