

Lighthouse Beacon

New Mexico Lighthouses - November 2002

Christ In Us

"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."—John 15: 4, 5

"I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."—John 5:30

This week, as we participated in the Family Life Radio broadcast of the "Turn on the Light Day," we were reminded once more that the foundation upon which a Lighthouse stands is not our good works, but the work of God in and through us by the power of His Holy Spirit. **The power to produce eternal fruit is not us, but Christ in us.** With that in mind, this month we want to review how that principle applies to Prayer, Care and Share. *May your Thanksgiving be filled with His presence!*— KC

Lighthouse Power

Prayer

1) **Christ in us convicts us.** The Holy Spirit convicts us to be grateful that we are a child of God, bought with a price. He reminds us that we must confess our sins and repent of any behavior or attitude which would damage our fellowship with Jesus. He leads us in thanking God for the blessings we receive from Him and for the work He is doing in and through our lives.

2) **Christ in us calls us.** The Holy Spirit calls to us about those we should be praying for, those who are hurting or lost. He places a burden on our hearts for specific people and their needs. He helps us to be the intercessor for those who need God's love in their lives.

3) **Christ in us conforms us.** The Holy

Spirit reminds us to ask God to reveal what He wants, to seek to know His will, to ask that our hearts would desire what He wants. By His power our prayers begin to change from being "me" centered to becoming God centered. As He conforms us to Christ-likeness, our desire will be that God may be glorified as He meets our needs and answers our prayers.

Care

1) **Christ in us convicts us.** The Holy Spirit wants us to care about others the same way Jesus does. He convicts us to respond to those in need.

2) **Christ in us calls us.** The Holy Spirit makes us sensitive to others. He knows where God is at work in the lives of those around us. He calls us through "divine appointments" and by circumstances. He opens the door of opportunity for us to care about others in ways that will produce eternal fruit.

...you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light —Eph. 5:8

3) **Christ in us conforms us.** Jesus led a life of interruptions—people were constantly crying out to Him to stop what He was doing, and to help them in their need. His example reminds us that caring is most effective when it occurs in response to a need, instead of according to our schedule. As the Holy Spirit helps us to grow in Christ, we will respond to the needs of others in a Christ-like manner.

Share

1) **Christ in us convicts us.** Sharing Jesus with the world can be intimidating. But we are commanded to tell others, and the Holy Spirit convicts us of that command. He wants the light of Jesus in us to reach the lost world around us.

2) **Christ in us calls us.** God will arrange circumstances in life which give us unique opportunities to share Jesus. These can range from one-on-one en-

counters to large events. The Holy Spirit will call us to these opportunities. He wants to lead us in a perfect, God honoring and fruit producing response.

3) **Christ in us conforms us.** Evangelism simply means telling others about the good things God has done for you. Part of that telling is done with words. But the most important message is told through our daily lives. Do we live an "abundant life?" Does Jesus shine through us regardless of circumstances? The Holy Spirit's goal is that we will live our lives so surrendered to Christ that we become conformed to His image—we become Christ-like to the world around us. And, as the world sees Jesus in us, they are drawn not to us, but to Him. Then our *telling* conforms to our *living*, and the world will ask about the reason for the hope that is within us.

Mission America's Annual Conference

The Mission America Coalition (80 denominations, 360 ministries) met in Dallas on October 22-25 and there were several wonderful opportunities presented to help Lighthouses grow in number and in quality. LightShine serves on the National Lighthouse Facilitation Council and was able to be make some valuable contacts with churches and communities that are successfully implementing the Lighthouse strategy. Many of their principles and examples will be shared with us in the coming months. There are exciting times ahead for Lighthouses!

"Turn On The Light Day"

Family Life Radio offered a special "**Turn on the Light Day**" broadcast on October 31st that ran from 6:00 AM –6:00 PM. Its goal was to raise the awareness of Christians to be a Light in their neighborhoods, workplaces, and schools. LightShine joined KFLQ 91.5FM to reach New Mexico with this unique broadcasting effort. A special thanks goes to those you were willing to join us with live interviews: Pastor John Torrison, Vista Grande Church; Karl Lee, Lighthouse Facilitator, Celebration Baptist Church; Dr. Don Laing, Lighthouse Facilitator, Eastern Hills Baptist Church; Pastor Ira Shelton, Blake Road Baptist Church; and Mary Amenson, Lighthouse Facilitator, Heights Christian Church. Thank you all for giving of your time to this event, and for being such bright lights to your communities!

"May He bring us to your memory...."

LightShine, like many other ministries since 911, has experienced a very difficult year financially. Please keep us in mind as you plan your year end giving. *Blessings!*

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