

We have discussed in the last three articles this all important subject on Fulfilling Our Purpose and hopefully we have presented Biblical truth which will motivate each of us to obey these truths and come into a deeper relationship with our Father. I will continue with this subject and my prayer is that each of us will determine to be obedient to the purpose for which we were created.

Fulfilling Our Purpose requires obedience to the commands of the Lord. In John 2: 1-12 we have a prime example of obedience. It is the story of the first miracle Jesus performed at the wedding of Cana. When the wine ran out, Jesus' mother went to Him and said, "they have no more wine." His response was, "dear woman that is not our problem; my time has not yet come." His mother told the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it." As we read through these familiar verses we understand the necessity of obedience. The servants did just exactly what He told them to do and the result of their obedience produced the revelation of His Glory and the disciples truly believed in Him. It was stated that they saved the best until now. Obedience is the essential quality to receiving from the Lord. A rebellious spirit will never produce the atmosphere to receive true blessing from Him. We may sacrifice, suffer or go through dark places in our life but none of that will produce the miraculous moving of God like full obedience.

Paul standing before Agrippa as recorded in Acts 26: 12-19; (NLT) 12) "One day I was on such a mission to Damascus, armed with the authority and commission of the leading priest. 13) About noon, Your Majesty, as I was on the road, a light from heaven brighter than the sun shone down on me and my companions. 14) We all fell down, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is useless for you to fight against my will. 15) Who are you Lord? I asked. And the Lord replied, I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting. 16) Now get to your feet! For I have appeared to you to appoint you as my servant and witness. Tell people that you have seen me, and tell them what I will show you in the future. 17) And I will rescue you from both your own people and the Gentiles. Yes I am sending you to the Gentiles

18) to open their eyes, so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and be given a place among God's people, who are set apart by faith in me. 19. And so, King Agrippa, I obeyed that vision from heaven." It was obedience that brought the message of salvation to us Gentiles and thanks to Paul for his total submission to Christ.

Not only are we to obey, but with obedience we are called for the purpose to minister to others and share what the Lord has done in our lives. Ministry is demonstrating God's love to others by meeting their needs and healing their hurts in the name of Jesus. We must never forget that every one of us who say we are servants of the Lord have the obligation to reach out to others in love and compassion. We are in the people business and never forget that. Wherever we go we should constantly be looking for someone to share this wonderful message of hope. Faithfulness is too often defined by church attendance, and that is necessary, but genuine faithfulness is demonstrated by serving others. Jesus emphasized the spirit of ministry when he went into the temple and was given the scroll of Isaiah, found the place where it was written, and began to read; (Isaiah 61: 1; Luke 4: 18) "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised." The moving of the Spirit in our worship services is a wonderful thing, but we must never relegate the Spirit's operation just to a worship service alone. He must be allowed to move upon us wherever we are and in whatever circumstance we find ourselves. Sometimes the greatest ministry in our life may be in a restaurant, place of business, hospital, work environment, school or our own home.

If we are going to Fulfill Our Purpose to minister to this hurting world, then let's look for every opportunity afforded to us regardless of where we may be. This generation needs children of God who are passionate about ministering to them. It is not hard to find the poor, the brokenhearted, the captives, the blind and the bruised. Reach out to them and you will find the joy of the Lord strengthening you as you Fulfill your Purpose. Nothing in this world can compare to the joy of ministering and leading someone to victory in Jesus.

After we Fulfill Our Purpose of ministering to others we also have the obligation to make disciples of them. We may minister to numbers of people and lead them to Jesus but we must never leave them alone to figure out their Purpose. We must disciple them and help them to become grounded in true Biblical principles so they can lead others to Christ. Acts 26: 18 gives us the formula to follow - "To open their eyes, and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me." As we concentrate upon Finishing the Great Commission may we be intentional with our witnessing to the lost by looking for every opportunity afforded us to share Jesus. The coming of the Lord is at hand and my prayer is, "Lord may the Church of God in West Virginia fulfill our purpose by becoming a truly Pentecostal Church that will turn our communities upside-down with the gospel message.

Newly Ordained Bishop Ricky Shrewsberry

Pastoral Appointment James Justus Iaeger Church of God



Look for details enclosed.

Connecting

Young Ministers Wives and Lady Ministers

(Under the age of 50)

November 2, 2019

9:30-3:00 pm Church of God State Office

Please contact the State Office to Register.

Mountaineer Gospel Gathering Senior Adult Day 2019

Talent Entries

| Male Vocal Solo | Timothy Akers | Welch | ıst |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----|
| Male Vocal Solo | Rodney England | Mid State | 2nd |
| Female Vocal Solo | Yvonne Pack | Mt. View | ıst |
| Female Vocal Solo | Mae Steele | New Covenant | 2nd |
| Small Vocal Ensemble | Jubilee | Princeton | ıst |
| Small Vocal Ensemble | Faith Harmony | Richwood | 2nd |
| Church Choir | Jubilee Choir | Beckley | ıst |
| Solo Keyboard | Teresa Adams | Beckley | ıst |
| Solo Non Keyboard | Berkley Shrewsberry | Beckley | ıst |
| Poetry | Betty Shrader | Cumberland Rd 1st | |
| Short Story | Rhonda Falk | Mt. View | ıst |
| Crochet/Knit/Weave | Betty Shrader | Cumberland Rd 1st | |
| Handcraft | Terry Farley | Beckley | ıst |
| Handcraft | Gloria Conrad | Mid State | 2nd |
| Needlework | Fran Matthews | One Life | ıst |
| Photography | Greg Whitlow | Princeton | ıst |
| Quilting | Shirley Sexton | Beckley | ıst |
| Quilting | Margaret Levitt | Princeton | 2nd |
| Woodwork | Wally Post | Mid State | ıst |
| Woodwork | Eugene Lambert | Princeton | 2nd |
| Candy | Wayne James | Mid State | ıst |
| Candy | Mary Basham | Mt. View | 2nd |
| Cake | Linda Bowles | Beckley | ıst |
| Cake | Connie Akers | Welch | 2nd |
| Pie | Teresa Bowles | Beckley | ıst |
| Pie | Thelma Allen | Beckley | 2nd |
| Cookies/Pastry | Paula York | Cumberland Rd 1st | |
| Cookies/Pastry | Beatrice England | FWC | 2nd |
| Bread | Thelma Allen | Beckley | ıst |
| Jam | Connie Akers | Welch | ıst |
| Jam | Joe Akers | New Beginnings 2nd | |
| Salsa | Connie Akers | Welch | ıst |

Junior Talent

It's time to start planning for Jr. Talent.

Look for details in next month's newsletter. Competition Manuals are available at <u>cogyouthstore.org</u> - Click on Junior Talent Competition Manual 2020

Mountaineer Ministries Prayer Requests:

Family who lost a loved one, Health, My son, For our Church, Drug problem in community, Spiritual and Physical Health, Unsaved family, Blood Issues, The Lost, Revival, My Pastor, Our Leaders, Our Troops, Grandchildren, New Job for my daughter, Pregnancy, Church finances to increase

Mountaineer Ministries Praise Reports:

Blessing our Church, His blessings, Gods Love, Mercy, and Grace, His Tender Loving Care, Blessed with new people coming to Church, Healing me, For being good to me, Successful Heart Surgery, Saving my Daughter, Good report on recent tests, Touching wife's Kidneys, Strength and Courage to go on

Psalm 118:28-29

Thou art my God, and I will praise thee: thou art my God, I will exalt thee.

O give thanks unto the Lord: for he is Good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Mark Your Calendar

November 2, 2019 Connecting Young Ministers Wives and Lady Ministers

November 26-29, 2019 Office Closed Thanksgiving Holiday

December 6, 2019 Minister and Spouse Christmas Dinner

December 19 - January 6, 2020 Office Closed Christmas Holiday

February 3-4, 2020 Prayer Conference

April 24-25, 2020 Women's Conference