

# Closer To Him Ministries

Gary and Pat Huenke

Spring 2011 News-

*"Come close to God and He will come close to you". -James 4:8 Amplified*

## Newsletter Changes

Pat and I trust that you will continue to read, be encouraged and informed by our newsletters each quarter. If you want to receive our quarterly newsletters, go ahead and send us your mail and we'll be glad to send them to you each quarter. We trust the Lord will keep you "moving forward" as we continue to discern these interesting times in which we were living. [closerthim@comcast.net](mailto:closerthim@comcast.net)

**Isaiah 43:1-3 NLT**—But now, O Israel, the LORD who created you says: "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. When you go through deep waters and great trouble, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown! When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.



Pat and I were privileged and blessed to teach a Baptism Class as Pastors Chris and Rocky baptized ten (10) people in water! Thank you my Lord! It was in February in Eastern Oregon (cold with snow) so we used an outdoor hot tub for the baptisms. A man in the church, his wife, and three children were recently saved and wanted to be immersed in water to obey the scriptures. Remember the Word of God in **Acts 2:38** which says, "Repent and be baptized". A clean conscience before God is needed to serve him wholly. **1 Peter 3:21 TM**—The waters of baptism do that for you, not by washing away dirt from your skin but by presenting you through Jesus' resurrection before God with a clear con-

Matthew 4:19—Jesus said, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men".

*"When the fishers aren't fishin'—they're fighting"!*

*-Pat Huenke*

### Quotable Quotes

*"A calm hour with God is worth a whole lifetime with man". -R. M. McCheyne*

*"When we have nothing, we can trust the Lord for everything". -J.B. Stoney*

*"There is no such thing in Scripture as the forgiveness of sin. God has condemned sin, not forgiven it—an immensely important distinction". -Charles Mackintosh*

*"Morality may keep you out of jail, but it takes the blood of Jesus Christ to keep you out of hell". -C. Spurgeon*

## THE FORGOTTEN FRUIT -a word from Gary

Most everyone is anxious for summer to break forth, especially here in the Northwest where spring has forgotten us; temperatures are still in the 30's at night and jackets are necessary. The blossoms are on the fruit trees now, so if the Lord tarries we will soon enjoy a great fruit harvest of cherries, peaches, strawberries, blueberries, and huckleberries. Jesus spoke about spiritual fruit in **John 15:5** - 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.

Everybody desires more "fruit" in their lives; I'm referring to the fruit of the Holy Spirit found in **Gal 5:22-23** ....love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. The Amplified Bible gives a wonderful explanation of how this fruit is developed in our lives: **But the fruit of the [Holy] Spirit [the work which His presence within accomplishes]**. Only Holy Spirit can produce fruit in our lives but we must first learn to "abide" in His presence as He is the Vine and we are grafted into the true vine which is Christ Jesus. I have a good friend whose main emphasis in ministry is "abiding"; allowing the Lord to speak to us as we are quiet in His presence; as we remain in Him, dwelling and living in Him, and allowing Holy Spirit to work out what the Lord has worked into our lives.

**Just as humility is the hidden virtue of Christianity, self-control is the forgotten fruit of the Spirit!**

Self-control means moderation, self-restraint, and continence (control of our mind, will, and emotions). We all have some self-control but, **not enough!** There is little teaching on self-control, the forgotten fruit which is a key to our integrity with the Lord and others in the Body. **Romans 8:8** exhorts us that those living the life in the flesh cannot please or satisfy God or be acceptable to HIM.



We must have more self-control in restraining our tongue! **James 3** tells us our tongue is an unruly evil that can only be tamed by the Lord. **Psalms 34:13 AMP** – Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. I pray that as we would surrender our mouths to the Lord He can speak through us; words of comfort to the hurting and sick, words of joy to those who have none, and words of life to those who are lost, without Christ in their lives, without hope! Remember you have the Spirit of God living inside and your words have life in them!

Another needed area of self-control is concerning our appetites. The Lord desires more restraint, continence, and self-control in the areas of food, clothing, spending, transportation, housing, and the everyday lusts of the flesh (**1 John 2:15-17**) that sometimes overwhelm us. Lord, birth the word "moderation" in our hearts and minds!

How can we increase self-control in our lives? Firstly, by abiding more and more with Christ. Prayer, bible study, being in His presence, increasing our worship time; spending more time with HIM, the giver of life. But there is something else we can do; **learn how to say "NO"!** We must learn how to say NO to ourselves and YES to Jesus! Our culture doesn't know how to do this; compromise is rampant because many think the word "NO" is offensive. Remember, **"NO IS A COMPLETE SENTENCE"!** Teach us Lord to say "NO"!

I pray Holy Spirit will show you that **self-control** is indeed a necessary and **last-days fruit** that we desperately need. Holy Spirit, give us **holy fruit that remains!**



## Gary and Pat's Ministry Schedule

April 3rd—Valley River Assembly—Eugene, OR  
April 10th—Family Worship Center—North Bend, OR  
April 17th—Central Coast Assembly—Newport, OR  
April 20th—Teen Challenge—Portland, OR  
April 22nd and 24th—New Beginnings—Aberdeen, WA  
May 1st—Carlton Assembly of God—Carlton, OR  
May 6th and 8th—Sherwood New Life—Sherwood, OR  
May 15th—Matanuska Assembly—Palmer, AK  
May 18th—Family Christian Center—Palmer, AK  
May 22nd—25th—Hilltop Assembly—Houston, AK  
May 29th—June 1st—Talkeetna Assembly—Talkeetna, AK  
June 2nd and 3rd—River of Life—Trapper Creek, AK  
June 5th—Kenai New Life—Kenai, AK  
June 24th—26th—Hoopa Assembly—Hoopa, CA

**Psalms 46:10 AMPLIFIED—**  
Let be and be still, and know (recognize and understand) that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations! I will be exalted in the earth!

Are you always busy? Are you rushing from one project, one job to the next never taking time to “smell the roses”? The Lord is speaking to us even now—slow down; you’re moving too fast. Let the Holy Spirit lead and guide you into all truth; let Him lead you by the still waters. The Shepard is asking you to rest in His presence where there’s fullness of joy!

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