

A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels: Proverbs 1:5

Often times I write about prayer. How important it is in our connection to the Light. How, through prayer, we are strengthened and can overcome the beatings that life gives us. There is something else that sustains us as well...learning.

Knowledge is power. I am sure you have heard that before. When it comes to being a Christian, learning is more than power, it is salvation. Without the knowledge of Christ, his teachings, his death on the cross and resurrection, we are nothing.

In my personal journey, I am always seeking to learn more. Through attending church and, more recently, in a small group study, I am increasingly amazed at how much I really don't know. In doing scripture study, guided by others, I have re-discovered things I had forgotten. Being in fellowship with others, I have learned of how God has been working in their lives. Often, I am astounded by the trials and tribulations that those around me have endured through the strength of God. All of these things deepen my faith.

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. Romans 15:4

Scriptures are the tool to the learning. I must confess, my memorization skills are very much lacking. Although I can recount much of the scriptural content, I cannot tell you the book, chapter and verse. In my office, I have verses tacked up everywhere. I read them almost daily, and still, I can't always remember. The years of weed, speed and alcohol has definitely killed brain cells.

What I do, is to carry the tool with me. In my purse is a pocket Gideon New Testament. With the marvels of the electronic age, I have the bible at my fingertips by way of my smart phone and tablet. No, these do not excuse me from my lack of biblical reference, but they are my "sword" against Satan. And, I have found when I am witnessing, God gives me the words I need and the scripture to back it up.

You may find it appalling to learn this about me, but it is part of who I am, part of my imperfection as a human. Yes, what I write comes from the scriptures and is God inspired. He inspires me to write and directs me to the scripture. Sometimes the scripture come first, other times the thoughts come together and the scripture follows. Either way, every word is true and pulled from my accumulated learning.

Being a Christian is not just the ability to quote scripture. (You can teach a parrot to recite the Bible). Being a Christian is many things working together. Knowing the Word and **living** the Word. Knowing that Christ is our savior and living our lives as He instructed.

These things command and teach. Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

1 Timothy 4:11-13

Learning is the key to maintain life. Whether the learning comes from books, from listening to others or from our own life experiences, to cease learning would be to cease living.

Take a few moments and learn something today.

May you be blessed in the knowledge of our Savior,



Cindy Lee Nonnemacher
Author