

THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD



NOVEMBER 12, 2017

Living Faith Chapel, Calgary (Solution Center)

WORD FOR THE WEEK

SACRIFICE: THE INDISPENSABLE INGREDIENT IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

We praise the name of the Almighty God for His grace and mercy upon His church. One special reason to thank Him for is that we are alive today. Things may not be moving as smoothly as we expect them to, but you have a roof over your head and food on your table. Please take out some moment to thank God for keeping you and your loved ones alive. **“O give thanks unto the Lord for His mercies endureth forever”** (*Psalm 136:1-9*).

The Christian journey is not an easy one, especially things are not working out the way we expect them to. Nevertheless, we could still determine not to give up. We cannot afford to give up our commitment to God because of economic downturn. Sacrifice is required of us all in our call as Christians, and this sacrifice is a choice: we must recognize that sacrifice is not a gift, but a choice. It is the choice of the wise (*Deuteronomy 30:19*). It is a choice that leads to greatness. Imagine Elijah who stood for the truth against the evil reign of King Ahab and his idolatrous wife Jezebel. Elijah sacrificed the fame, power and opulence of being the greatest prophet in Israel and lived in the desert, being fed with bread served by ravens, and he drank from the waters of a brook for about a year. (*I Kings 17: 1-16*). No matter how tough a sacrifice you are required to make, your instructor knows how to sustain you. The Spirit of the Lord knows how to fit men for the occasions. Therefore, Elijah was hardened by the circumstances he faced in his mission because there is a saying that “when the going gets tough, the tough gets going”. In the end, he was the star that stole the show. All the false prophets of Baal were destroyed by the sword of Elijah. Jezebel was equally destroyed and Ahab lost his life in a battle, and Israel was restored to the way of the Lord.

Whatever sacrifice you are called upon to make for God today may seem beyond your power, but it is not beyond the grace that God provides. You may be going through challenges that tend to discourage you from sacrificing the best for the work of the kingdom of God, but the challenge today is to not give up because there is light at the end of your tunnel. The promise before you today is that our Heavenly Father has a way out for you. You may not have seen it, but it is certainly coming. The miracle that will turn you into a superstar is on its way. Only remain committed to your call and the God of providence will turn things around for you and your household! Who in Israel would have thought that Elijah could survive the horrible life in the desert? But our Heavenly Father provided food and water for Elijah from the most unlikely of sources and he survived the difficulty to reign as a superstar. This miracle may have inspired the Psalmist when he said: **“I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread”** (*Psalm 37:25*).

As we meditate on these words, the Lord of providence will lift every heavy burden off our shoulders and cause his light of celebration to shine on you!

KNOCK KNOCK

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

- MATTHEW 7:7 NIV