



## Biblical Restoration Ministries

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Dear Friend,

This letter is being written as I am recovering from knee replacement surgery. Thank you for your prayers. My healing is going great. I've had a lot of time to pray and read scripture plus other books. I have had great times with the Lord, and I will share what I have been learning.

I believe prayer is one of the most neglected gifts God has given to His children. A question some may have in the back of their mind is, "Is prayer really that important for my Christian growth?". I am not talking about the "give me" prayers or hurried prayers of desperation. I am talking about intimacy with the Father, a closeness in His presence. To Jesus prayer was so important that in the midst of the busyness of ministry He spent all night in prayer. Jesus' prayer life was an expression of His relationship with His father. He wanted to be alone with the person He loved.

In your prayer journey, you may feel, as I did, that something is missing, that your time with God needs something. I needed to add two elements to my quiet times. I knew they would be difficult for me because I am a "people person". Those elements were solitude and silence. Blaise Pascal said, "All the unhappiness of man arises from one single fact, they cannot stay quietly in their own room". Dallas Willard wrote, "Solitude and silence are the most radical of the spiritual disciplines because they most directly attack the source of human misery and wrongdoing. To be in solitude is to choose to do nothing. For extended periods of time all accomplishment is given up. Silence is required to complete solitude, for until we enter quietness, the world still lays hold of us. When we go into solitude and silence we stop making demands on God. It is enough that God is God and we are His. We learn we have a soul, that God is here, that this world is my Father's world".

"If you would really like to know the 'rest appropriate for the people of God' (Heb. 4:9), then make the decision to leave all outcomes to God and enter the practice of solitude and silence. As you do so, call upon God to be with you and trust Him. Eventually you will come to know the 'rest unto your souls' promised by Him who is meek and lowly of heart. He will become the easy and unshakable foundation for your life and death. Silence is frightening because it strips us as nothing else does, throwing us upon the stark realities of our life. It reminds us of death, which will cut us off from this world and leave only us and God. And in the quiet, what if there turns out to be very little between us and God? Entering into solitude and silence also moves us into a realm where we are not in control. Practice of silence in particular honors the reality that it is God who initiates in the spiritual life. He is the One who calls forth in His way and in His time." *(Introduction to Invitation to Solitude and Silence by Ruth Barton)*

I knew when God called me into a deeper intimacy with Him that to answer that call I needed to find a place and time to sit quietly before Him, to give me the guidance I was seeking. I started with a worship verse and maybe read a hymn. I wanted to focus on Him and shut off all distractions. I read the scriptures. As I read through the Bible I asked God to speak to my heart from the passage. I read and waited quietly for Him to speak. "Speak, Lord, for your servant is

President Dr. Jim Logan

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Galatians 6:1 • Restore Such a One...

listening.” ( I Samuel) My prayer life today is more listening than speaking. If I am going to pray for a person or a situation, I sit quietly and let the Holy Spirit place thoughts in my mind and share my prayer thoughts with God. I take notes and record insights God gives me from scripture. I expect God to speak. That’s why I have pen and paper ready.

As I began to spend more time in solitude and silence, I looked up what it meant to “Be still and know that I am God” from Ps. 46:10. To “be still” according to Strong’s Concordance (7503) is to:

1. Let go    2. Cease from something    3. Relax    4. Let go of your grip.

Let go of your grip on your own understanding and trying to figure everything out. Cease striving at the human level and effort and in so doing open yourself to a new kind of knowing. Stand in the presence of God with mind and heart without divisions, totally one before Him. There God’s Spirit dwells, and there the great encounter takes place. There the heart speaks to heart because there we stand before the face of the Lord. You can close with a prayer of thankfulness.

Rosalind Goforth wrote, “When God asks for and receives our all, He gives in return that which is above price - His own presence”.

After my surgery, in the middle of the night my blood pressure dropped so low they couldn’t find my pulse. They were very concerned that I might not live through the night, but God had other plans for me. I have been seeking Him, and His response is what this letter is all about -- to call people to the secret place. I have a burden to do what I can to encourage people into a deeper encounter with God through scripture and prayer. A wonderful book to help you on this journey is *In The Secret Place With God* by Clift and Kathleen Richards. It is available on Amazon.

This week during my prayer and Bible reading time, followed by being still before God, I had a request. “Father, I would like to have a verse for our web ministry.” God brought to mind Ps. 105:1 “Give thanks to God. Call upon Him. Make known among the nations what He has done.” I knew that was the verse God wanted us to use. Our web ministry is truly global. In a little over two years we have reached 188 nations and well over 300,000 people. Just last week over 8,000 people from 108 countries watched our web site. My associate Paul Jordan had a vision for how we could reach the nations through the web. He is a very special person and dear friend. He will be representing our office in India and Nepal in October. He will be speaking to pastors and in Bible colleges. He needs to raise the cost of his expenses for this trip. If you would like to share in this special ministry, send a gift payable to Biblical Restorations Ministries and designate it for his “India trip.”

“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Jim and Marguerite Logan  
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