

“Teaching The Younger”

By Mrs. Sojourner



Recently I witnessed The Sojourner conferring with another minister. At one point the other minister acknowledged that he was considerably younger than The Sojourner, and thanked him for being willing to work with someone so much younger. He appreciated The Sojourner’s willingness to impart into his life.

Listening to their conversation, I enjoyed their mutual respect for each other. Despite the age difference, both men’s passion for the Lord and for the work the Lord had given them to do was evident. It was refreshing to see the wisdom beyond-his-years that the younger man showed as he gleaned wisdom from The Sojourner and told of the teachings he himself had given that were very similar to teachings The Sojourner has been giving. The same Holy Spirit guides them both.

Witnessing this conversation reminded me of the scripture that tells the older women to teach the younger women.^[a]

Now let us set aside both

Notes:

[a] Titus 2:3-5

age and gender for a moment. Think about something that you are especially good at doing. You may be an intercessor, or you may meet and relate to people well, or you may make the best pie around. In that area you may be the “older” that needs to teach others who may not know as much about that topic or have as much experience in that area as you.

Your area of expertise may not seem spiritual at all, but God can use seemingly ordinary gifts to bring glory to himself. Your melt-in-your-mouth brownies may be just the thing to start a conversation with a neighbor, that will turn into a friendship, that will draw that neighbor to Christ. Let us not just be open to learning, but also open to teaching those who are “younger.”

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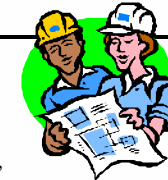
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...with The Sojourner

“Keeping On!” (Teaching Sketch)

Luke 14:25-34



A new focus has begun in many lives, perhaps yours. Have you found when you reach a new year, a birthday, or an anniversary there is a tendency to resolve to do more of or better at a particular thing or relationship?

Anyone who has chosen Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, if they truly understand the Gospel, knows salvation is a free gift from God. Jesus Christ paid the price. It is Christ’s work on the cross, after living a sinless^[1] life, he became the sacrificial lamb which took away the sins of the world. All, as I said before, we needed to do was accept the salvation and Lordship he offered us. There are no works, other than living a sinless—never missing the mark or falling short—life, ourselves which could bring about our own salvation. The never missing the mark or falling short life we are not capable of accomplishing, period!

Kingdom Plans & Goals
God’s goal in bringing mankind back to him was to have his only begotten Son pay the price, the cost, of restoration. When we were born, in the natural, we

were citizens or subjects of at least one country. There was nothing, no work, we could have done to have brought that condition about. It was simply ours by birthright. When a person accepts Jesus Christ as both Lord and Savior there is a new birth; “Behold all things become new, we are a new creature,” the scripture informs us. The first “Kingdom Goal” God had was to restore mankind into his Kingdom!

Notes:

[1] never missing the mark or falling short

[2] Matt. 6:31-33

Kingdom Works
God has always done Kingdom works from before the beginning of time. Mankind was always to receive the benefits of being created to live in God’s Kingdom.

The believer, once restored to The Kingdom, is then a full part of carrying out The Kingdom’s goals. The carrying out of these “works” is then the obligations of dwelling within The Kingdom. You see these are not works to gain The Kingdom but to fulfill one’s obligations to carry out the functioning of The Kingdom and expansion of God’s Kingdom.

Please note: This is a teaching sketch only and not the complete teaching.

Scripture:

Luke 14:25 – 34 (NIV)

The Cost of Being a Disciple

²⁵Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: ²⁶"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸"Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? ²⁹For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'

³¹"Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. ³³In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything

he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴"Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?"

India



Rufa Pal

The Peter Pals celebrated their 7th wedding anniversary on Friday, Jan. 11th. If you would like to send them best wishes, give your cards to Mrs. Sojourner to be sent in one package. They have 2 daughters, Keziah & Karen.

“Keeping On!” (Teaching Sketch)

Luke 14:25-34

Kingdom Come

The Kingdom comes with a cost in time and in effort. Why is this, because our lives are no longer our own but they belong to Christ! Believers are the physical body of Christ in the world today and as such are to continue carrying out the restoration of the planet to God's Kingdom.

Believers Keeping On

Keeping on requires a plan, God's plan. You and I must calculate what is required in the following of God's plan and then bear the cost of laying aside our petty plans for the one only perfect plan, God's. Many, foolishly, think this means they are to get rich to fund The Kingdom or do some other great deed they see as worthy of Kingdom restoration. Not so! Jesus made it clear we should not get things backward. Jesus said, "So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your Heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."^[2] Keeping on with God's plan for The Kingdom is to seek his plan and provision first! He promised the Kingdom things are ours here and now!

Just so you'll know:

Our service is informal. We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
 - Testimonies are often a part of the conversation.
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Praise & Worship**
- **Words of Prophecy or Knowledge** if they have been given during "Praise & Worship" (other times as the Spirit moves).
- **The Pastoral Message**
- **Prayer Requests**
 - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- **The Blessing**

