

HOPE TO HELP YOU COPE P. 2 – 1 PET. 1:6-25

Open discussion - What helps you most when going through a trial? (Discuss at tables or give suggestions all together and have them raise their hands):

talking to someone about it

Reading the Bible

Praying

Going to the movies

going to your Community group

Having a beer?

Working out

Serving?

Getting outside?

All of the above?

Other suggestions - this is church!

TEACHER APPRECIATION

INTRO. LEFT OFF LAST WK. – CHRISTIANS UNDER PERSECUTION FOR FAITH IN ROMAN PROVINCES FROM EMPEROR NERO. USED AS SCAPEGOATS LIKE HITLER DID WITH THE JEWS AND OTHERS TODAY ARE STILL DOING. BUT THEY ARE STILL HERE. WE ARE STILL HERE BECAUSE GOD IS TRUE TO HIS PROMISES!

WE SAID ROME WENT TOO FAR AND PEOPLE BEGAN TO SYMPATHIZE WITH BELIEVERS. GREAT SPIRITUAL AWAKENING LATER IN ROME DUE TO THEIR FAITHFULNESS, AND SAME MAY BE TRUE IN OUR COUNTRY AT SOME POINT (4 ALREADY). SATAN GOES TOO FAR. GENOCIDE IN MIDDLE EAST MUST BE ADDRESSED AND ACTION TAKEN. PRAY FOR THIS – THOUGHT OF A LOT W. NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER THIS PAST WEEK.

1 PETER 1:6 In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. – PETER THE FIRST GEN. APOSTLE OF JESUS REMINDS THEM THEY CAN GET THROUGH IF SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO (Mentioned at beginning?). SEEMS REJOICING IN THIS WORLD IS ALWAYS MIXED W. TRIALS. NOTHING IS PERFECT YET!

- **REJOICING IS LIKE THANKSGIVING AND WILL HELP YOU GET THRU TRIALS!**
- **WENT TO SEE KIDS AND UNCLE GRIEVING OVER LOSS OF MY AUNT. GREAT TRIP, BUT DAY WE LEFT – TORNADOS. TOOK US 24 HRS. TO GET HOME BY PLANE FROM ATLANTA. HAD TO SPEND THE NIGHT IN DENVER AIRPORT SLEEPING ON PADDED BENCHES. THEN GOT TO ONTARIO AND TIRE WAS FLAT. REJOICED AND THANKED GOD IT STARTED. THANKFUL DIDN'T GET DELAYED 2 DAYS LIKE. MANY. SEEING OUR SONS = EASILY WORTH IT.**
- **MY 92 YR. OLD UNCLE GRIEVING WOULD SAY EASILY IT IS WORTH IT TO HAVE THE 68 YEARS WITH HIS BEST FRIEND AND WIFE ON THEIR FARM IN TENN. COULDN'T HAVE THEIR OWN CHILDREN, BUT REJOICED IN BEING SPIRITUAL PARENTS TO OTHER CHILDREN**
- **ATHLETES WILL TRAIN FOR YEARS TO WIN A PRIZE THAT WILL PERISH. PEOPLE WILL GO THROUGH CHEMO IF HOPE OF BEING CANCER FREE!**

***IDEA HERE = IF WE KNOW THERE IS SOMETHING BETTER AHEAD WE CAN ENDURE. PETER REMINDS PERSECUTED BELIEVERS OF THEIR ETERNAL INHERITANCE BASE ON CHRIST'S DBR.**

A. 1 PETER 1: 7. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. – THERE ARE TRIALS FOR EVERYONE (WORLD INTERPRETS AS “MURPHY’S LAW”), BUT FOR THE CHRIST FOLLOWER GOD WILL EVEN USE FOR OUR BENEFIT WHEN WE ARE FOCUSED ON HIS PURPOSE FOR OUR LIVES.

***GOLD = MOST PRECIOUS OF METALS. TRIALS REVEAL QUALITY OF FAITH NEEDED TO MOVE FORWARD. PROCESS OF “SANCTIFICATION”/ DISCIPLESHIP = BECOMING MORE LIKE CHRIST IN OUR CHARACTER OVER TIME – MOVE THROUGH “SPIRITUALLY DEAD” TO SPIRITUAL INFANT (NEW BIRTH – MORE ABOUT THIS ON MOTHER’S DAY!), SPIRITUAL CHILDREN, YOUNG ADULT, PARENTS (mentoring/discipling a friend or someone on your ministry team)**

B. 1:8-9. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. - PETER MAKES CONTRAST BETWEEN SELF AND READERS – HE HAD SEEN THE RESURRECTED CHRIST (AND HAD DENIED AT ONE TIME) – THEY ACTUALLY EXERCISING GREATER FAITH. JESUS’ WORDS IN LUKE 10:23-24 Then he turned to his disciples and said privately, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. 24 For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.”(WE NOW KNOW HOW STORY ENDS W. BOOK OF REVELATION NOT WRITTEN YET THEN – SO WE SHOULD HAVE GREATER FAITH/HOPE THAN THEY DID!)

Why believe in what we cannot experience with our 5 senses? like Hazen on the Will.

****Old joke about college professor - Your 5 senses conclude, there is no God! Student later - your 5 senses conclude - you don't have a mind!**

C. 1:10-12. Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, 11 trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow. 12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things. – SPIRIT OF CHRIST = POINTING THE O.T. PROPHETS TO WHAT GOD WOULD FULFILL IN N.T.

- 1. (ISAIAH 53:5. But he was pierced for our transgressions,**
- 2. he was crushed for our iniquities;**
- 3. the punishment that brought us peace was on him,**
- 4. and by his wounds we are healed. AND VERSE**
- 5. 11 After he has suffered,**
- 6. he will see the light of life[a] and be satisfied[b];**

7. **by his knowledge[c] my righteous servant will justify many,**

8. **and he will bear their iniquities.**

9. ; **PSALM 22:16-18 Dogs surround me,**

10. **a pack of villains encircles me;**

11. **they pierce[a] my hands and my feet.**

12. **17 All my bones are on display;**

13. **people stare and gloat over me.**

14. **18 They divide my clothes among them**

15. **and cast lots for my garment.)** IDEA: IF GOD FULFILLED HIS PROMISES FROM THE PAST HE WILL SURELY FULFILL HIS FUTURE PROMISES TO YOU! THEY NOW KNOW WHAT THESE PROPHETS AND ANGELS HAD LONGED TO SEE. AGAIN REMINDER OF THEIR IDENTITY AND PRIVILEGES THAT GO ALONG W. BEING A CHILD OF GOD. THESE NEW BELIEVERS NEEDED THIS!!

****A NEWER CHRISTIAN OR SOMEONE WHO HAS STAYED IN THE "NEW CHRISTIAN" PHASE OF GROWTH FOR YEARS NEEDS TO BE REMINDED THEY HAVE A NEW IDENTITY IN CHRIST. THEY ARE IN A SPIRITUAL BATTLE ON A DAILY BASIS, BUT GOD HAS GIVEN THEM ARMOR TO PICK UP AND FIGHT**

WITH. OTHERWISE WHEN THINGS GO WRONG, THEY FAIL, OR PEOPLE LET THEM DOWN THEY EASILY GET DISILLUSIONED.

***I WARN NEWLY BAPTIZED IT MIGHT GET HARDER BEFORE IT GETS BETTER.**

****GO TO PIE CHART TO SHOW WHERE MOST OF OUR IDENTITY NEEDS TO COME FROM. THIS IS A BATTLE BECAUSE OF OLD WAYS OF THINKING THAT GET INGRAINED!**

2. ALSO IDEA HERE THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT REVEALS GOD'S TRUTH AND INSIGHT TO THOSE WHO *SEARCH AND SEEK*. (WHY I SUGGEST HAZEN'S STUFF, OR STROBEL, OR "KNOW WHY YOU BELIEVE". GETTING IN WORD FOR YOURSELF VS WAITING TO BE FED MOSTLY BY SOMEONE ELSE!

MY BRO. – EDV AND HOW THE LIGHTS CAME ON THAT LED TO A CHANGED HEART. HE SOUGHT AND FOUND.

LOVED “CASE FOR CHRIST” WHEN STROBEL TRIED TO DISPROVE CHRISTIANITY BUT COULDN’T. PRAYED W. HIS WIFE THE NIGHT THE LIGHT CAME ON FOR HIM. GOT CHOKED UP AS I REMEMBERED BY BROTHER AND MOTHER PRAYING THAT SAME PRAYER.

****WHEN ANSWERS TO PRAYER TAKE TOO LONG, KEEP SEEKING AND ASKING. JOURNAL THE JOURNEY. THEN WHEN GOD DOES ANSWER IN HIS WAY, WE CAN LOOK BACK FOR THE NEXT TIME WE HAVE TO WAIT!**

3. WE ALSO LEARN HERE THAT THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST HAS ALWAYS BEEN OPERATING IN THE WORLD SINCE BEFORE CREATION. (More later on this).

D. 1:13-14. Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. 14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. – “Therefore”, SINCE WE

**HAVE PROMISE OF SALVATION/NEW BIRTH/
FORGIVENESS OF SINS, NEW IDENTITY AS
GOD'S CHILD, GREAT INHERITANCE RESERVED
IN HEAVEN. . .*LIVE A DISTINCTIVE LIFESTYLE
THAT REFLECTS WHAT YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN.***

***"ALERT/SELF CONTROLLED" – LIT. A SOBER MIND –
BASICALLY 2 MEANINGS IN GREEK:**

**1) REFRAIN FROM DRUNKENNESS. YES FREEDOM
IN CHRIST TO HAVE A BEER OR A GLASS OF WINE –
BUT DON'T NEED TO FLAUNT IN FRONT OF WEAKER
BRO. OR SIS WHO MAYBE CAN'T STOP AT 1 AND WE
UNKNOWINGLY TEMPT THEM BACK INTO AN
ADDICTION. MAY BE OUR KIDS. MOST ACCIDENTS,
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, ESCALATING ANGER, BAD
DECISIONS, SUICIDES = WHILE SOMEONE WAS LESS
THAN SOBER.**

**2) LIT. – "Steady of mind" – SHOWS BALANCED
JUDGEMENT (FIRST TO GO WHEN DRUNK – GET IN
CARS AND DRIVE – WHY DUI'S SO COMMON IN OUR
CULTURE – YET CAN BE SO SERIOUS). ALSO CAN
BE INTOXICATED OF MIND - BY TEMPTATION,
GREED, PORN.**

NEED TO REFOCUS. IN CASE OF PORN – CAN TEAR DOWN YOUR RELATIONSHIP W. GOD AND SPOUSE LIKE A DRUG. “It’s not fair to compare.” AFTER A WHILE, A REAL PERSON CAN NO LONGER SATISFY YOU.

COLOSSIANS 3:2-5 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your[a] life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

– “HEAVENLY MINDED ARE ACTUALLY THE MOST EARTHLY GOOD!”

***WHEN YOU FOCUS YOUR MIND ON CHRIST DURING TRIALS, YOU HAVE A SENSE THAT IT IS ALL LEADING SOMEWHERE! THAT WAY YOU CAN ENDURE! (MY EXPERIENCES AS A PASTOR BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ARE PREPARING ME TO MENTOR OTHERS EMOTIONALLY THROUGH “STANDING STONE”. MY PARENT'S DEATH, EVEN YOUR LONELINESS, BREAK UPS, ETC. HELP YOU**

LEARN HOW TO HANDLE DISAPPOINTMENT, SETBACKS, ETC in a Relationship and be a better person. ICING ON CAKE = YOU GET TO HELP OTHERS AS YOU DISCIPLE/MENTOR)

****IT TAKES A CLEAR STEADY MIND FOCUSED ON PLEASING GOD FIRST TO BEGIN TO THINK LIKE THIS!**

E. 1:14-21 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”[a]

17 Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. 18 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. 20 He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. 21 Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. – (ROMANS 12:2)

1. AS BABY CHRISTIAN, JUST FOLLOW WHAT GOD SAYS VS POP CULTURE AND YOU WILL BE OK. SOME STILL NEED THIS ADVICE AS OLDER BELIEVERS.

PETER UNDERSTANDS WHEN PERSECUTED OR DISRESPECTED FOR OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH = EASIER JUST TO CONFORM AND FIT IN. (WENT THROUGH 3X5 CARDS – FEAR = PRETTY DOMINANT AS WELL AS NOT FINDING TIME TO GET INTO WORD. TUFF COMBINATION - THE PROMISES IN THE WORD ARE MEANT TO HELP US WITH OUR FEAR – **1 JOHN 4:18. PERFECT LOVE CASTS OUT FEAR.*

2. SCRIPTURES ARE MEANT TO HELP US KNOW GOD AND GET PAST OUR “IGNORANCE” OF HIM AND HIS WILL FOR US. (DIFF. THAN STUPID!) ANCIENTS BELIEVED IN GOD, BUT THOUGHT = UNKNOWABLE LIKE AGNOSTICISM OR BUDDHISM TODAY. THOUGHT GOD WAS DISINTERESTED IN HUMAN BEINGS.

3. GREEK AND ROMAN CULTURE = DOMINATED BY DESIRE. VERY “HEDONISTIC”

WASN'T THAT UNUSUAL FOR WOMEN TO HAVE 10 DIFF. HUSBANDS OVER A PERIOD OF 5 TO 8 YEARS.

SOME GUYS RECORDED TALKING ABOUT THEIR 21ST WIFE, ETC.

***IN GREEK AND ROMAN CULTURE HOMOSEXUALITY WAS SEEN AS NORMAL AND NATURAL. (THE EMPHASIS IN OUR CULTURE ON THIS IS NOTHING NEW)**

MORE A MARK OF HEDONISTIC SOCIETY AS A PROGRESSION TOWARD NEWER AND DIFFERENT WAYS OF GRATIFYING DESIRE – WE SEE THE PATTERN IN OUR STARTING WITH THE FREE LOVE MOVEMENT IN THE 70’S ("The Open Marriage" , THEN TODAY WITH MOVIES LIKE “50 SHADES OF GREY” FOR VALENTINES DAY DATES MOVING TO “DARKER GREY” AND GOING PRETTY MUCH UNNOTICED. ONE THING HAS TO TOP ANOTHER.

****IN MIDST OF A CULTURE LIKE THIS PETER WRITES – “BE AS MUCH LIKE POP CULTURE AS POSSIBLE OR NO ONE WILL WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY ABOUT CHRIST.” NO, WE LOOKED LAST WEEK HOW JESUS PRAYS IN JOHN 17 FOR HIS DISCIPLES TO BE IN THE WORLD BUT NOT OF IT. PAUL IN ROMANS 12:2. Transformed vs Conformed.**

- PETER SAYS, BE *DISTINCTIVELY DIFFERENT* LIKE A MISSIONARY TO YOUR SOCIETY. “BE HOLY AS I AM HOLY”**

**- "WITH PRIVILEGE COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY".
SOUNDS LIKE A SPIDERMAN MOVIE!**

**“HOLINESS” LIKE “SANCTIFICATION” = A LIFE
PROCESS.**

**HOLY DOESN'T NOT MEAN, “HOLIER THAN THOU”
OR SELF RIGHTEOUS. GK. WORD = HAGIOS.**

Holiness = different.

**TEMPLE – HAGIOS; SABBATH – HAGIOS; CHRIST
FOLLOWER – HAGIOS – DIFFERENT KIND OF
PERSON - SOCIETY MIGHT CALL YOU A FREAK, BUT
IF NOT DIFFERENT WILL CALL YOU A HYPOCRITE
(ACTOR). BETTER TO BE DIFFERENT IN A GOOD
WAY THAN A HYPOCRITE!**

- 4. “FEAR” = REVERENCE/AWE BECAUSE OUR
LIVES COST GOD SO MUCH – NOTHING LESS
THAN THE DEATH OF HIS SON! IT CANNOT BE
WASTED OR THROWN AWAY ONCE YOU
REALIZE THIS.**

****WHY I LIKE CHURCH PLANTING VS “SLIPPING IN
AND OUT”. JOEL IS CATCHING THIS.**

- 5. “REDEEMED” – WORD USED BACK THEN FOR
BUYING BACK SOMEONE FROM SLAVERY. THEY**

WOULD USE SILVER OR GOLD, BUT OUR FREEDOM FROM OUR PAST HABITS AND HANG UPS = BOUGHT BY BLOOD OF CHRIST. SO IN VIEW OF THIS, WHY RETURN TO A LIFE OF SLAVERY?

- 6. V.20 – GOD’S PLAN TO REDEEM US THROUGH CHRIST WAS ALREADY IN PLACE BEFORE THE CREATION.**

****VERY FREEING WORDS FROM A FRIEND/ MENTOR A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO WHEN GOING THROUGH VALLEY IN CHURCH PLANTING = “RICK, GOD IS NOT SURPRISED BY THIS. HE IS FULLY PREPARED TO WORK IN IT AND THROUGH IT FOR GOOD”.**

V. 21 – GOD DRAWS US INTO BELIEF – UP TO US TO RESPOND. (JOHN 6:44)

F 1:22-25 GIVES THE BALANCE OF BROTHERLY LOVE WITH TRUTH

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each

other, love one another deeply, from the heart.[a]
23 For you have been born again, not of
perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the
living and enduring word of God. 24 For,

“All people are like grass,

and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;
the grass withers and the flowers fall,

25 but the word of the Lord endures forever.”[b]

And this is the word that was preached to you. -

1. TRUTH HELPS US LIVE ON TARGET

(GOD’S WORD WORKS BECAUSE IT IS TRUE –
TAKE THE TIME TO SEARCH AND SEEK!)

2. LOVE = FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IF GOD’S SPIRIT
LIVES IN YOU. (ROMANS 5:5). Love balances
out truth. 1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-4 If I speak in
the tongues[a] of men or of angels, but do not
have love, I am only a resounding gong or a
clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy
and can fathom all mysteries and all

knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.
3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast,[b] but do not have love, I gain nothing.

3.

4. **4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.**

WORD FOR LOVE USED HERE I 1 PETER = GK.

"PHILEO"

****WHEN SOMEONE WANTS TO PULL YOU INTO AN ARGUMENT FOR ARGUMENTS SAKE**

- **THE ISSUE IS NO LONGER THE ISSUE. IT IS ABOUT WHO WINS**
- **JASON WHEN I LIMITED HIS PHONE – ONE OF YOU CAN KEEP THINGS FROM ESCALATING**

(LIKE ON FACEBOOK) LET LOVE WIN OUT. REFUSE TO BE HOOKED. SOME EGR PEOPLE DON'T REALLY WANT AN ANSWER, THEY JUST LIKE TO ARGUE. LIKE "THE JOKER" THEY LIKE TO CREATE CHAOS.

****NOTHING WRONG WITH REASONING FROM THE SCRIPTURE WITH A REASONABLE PERSON IN A MARKET PLACE OF IDEAS.**

- **WHY LOVE = BETTER THAN MODERN DAY DEFINITION OF "TOLERANCE" AS DEFINED BY THE ELITE OF OUR CULTURE (ANGRIEST VERSION OF "TOLERANCE" I'VE EVER SEEN DISPLAYED!). IF YOU DISAGREE – CONSIDERED A HATER. BIBLE BEING LABELED AS HATE SPEECH ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES. NOT SO MUCH BECAUSE OF WHAT IT SAYS, BUT BECAUSE OF WHAT SOME THINK IT SAYS!**

****THEY GET SO ANGRY. WHY DO THEY THINK OUR MOTIVE IS ALWAYS HATE? MAYBE OUT OF LOVE FOR THE WELL BEING OF THAT PERSON, WE DISAGREE.**

THE BIBLE TEACHES TO LOVE EVERYONE. IT DOESN'T SAY THAT ALL BEHAVIORS ARE HEALTHY ONES. IT DOESN'T SAY TO IGNORE FACTS AND JUST BELIEVE WHAT YOU FEEL.

***WRITTEN BY AN ALL KNOWING, LOVING GOD WHO MADE THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JESUS**

WHO ROSE. HE KNOWS HOW IT WORKS BEST. IT IS OUR JOB AS BELIEVERS TO MODEL THAT, AND EXPLAIN THE "WHY" BEHIND WHAT GOD SAYS IN HIS WORD. (MORE LATER IN CH. 3)

SO LOVE AND ALSO FOLLOW GOD'S WORD. WE KEEP PLANTING SEEDS OF TRUTH IN LOVE, TRUSTING GOD TO WORK IN SOIL OF PEOPLES HEARTS. IF SOIL IS HARD, BACK OFF AND CONTINUE TO LOVE. DEMONSTRATE TRUTH IN YOUR LIFE VS TRYING TO ARGUE SOMEONE INTO ACCEPTING CHRIST.

****ENGLISH TEACHER WHO TAUGHT BIBLE WAS DOWN ON WOMEN.**

OUR PURPOSE = TO GROW IN GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE – HELP OTHERS DO THE SAME. PEOPLE NEED DIFFERENT THINGS AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE. NEXT WEEK WILL SHOW HOW TO HELP OTHERS AND OUR OWN KIDS GROW UP IN THEIR SALVATION.

1 PETER 2:1-2 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander

of every kind. 2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, FOR MOTHER'S DAY. NO ONE CAN STAY THE WAY THEY ARE FOREVER AND NEVER GROW UP IF THEY ARE HEALTHY. THERE ARE STAGES OF DISCIPLESHIP WE CAN WALK EA. OTHER THROUGH. START AS SPIRITUAL INFANTS W. GOAL OF BECOMING SPIRITUAL PARENTS. PLUS ENCOURAGEMENT FOR MOMS. HOW TO TELL WHAT YOU, GOD, AND OTHERS = RESPONSIBLE FOR. SHOULD BE HELPFUL TO THOSE PRONE TO GUILT!

CONCLUSION:

SHARE THE WORD OF TRUTH AND LOVE IN EVERY CULTURE. GOD'S WORD IS AS TRUE IN THE 21ST CENTURY AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING. IT COMES FROM GOD. LET PEOPLE SEE CHRIST IN YOU MORE THAN YOUR POLITICAL VIEWS. LIVE IN AWE OF GOD AND DON'T WASTE YOUR LIFE. HE GAVE TOO MUCH FOR THAT.

**MAYBE WHEN PEOPLE SEE FUTILITY OF LIFE
APART FROM GOD WE WILL SEE ANOTHER
SPIRITUAL AWAKENING IN AMERICA LIKE ROME
DID. BETTER I HOPE. IT WON'T HAPPEN
OVERNIGHT, BUT WE CAN PREPARE THE SOIL.
BETTER YET, WE CAN "PRAYPARE" THE SOIL.**

LET'S START TODAY.

PRAY