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Which Faucet Are You Drinking From?

Without God and a life of intimate fellowship and dependence on Him, our soul becomes like a parched and thirsty land, thirsty for the refreshing waters of intimate fellowship where God is our prime source of life and happiness. We must recognize that most of our human strategies for quenching our thirst are centered on what is fleeting or passing away in a temporal world. – Keathley



Which faucet are you drinking from? The faucet of God's Word or the faucet of the world? If the faucet to God's Word is just a dribble and the faucet to the world is turned on full blast, which one is going to impact your life the most? We need to drink deeply from the living water, where **our thirst is quenched, our fears are dispelled, and our hearts are drawn into sweet, intimate fellowship with our Savior.**



You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. Psalm 63:1

The LORD recently convicted me that I was reading the news first instead of reading God's Word. It grieved my heart that the faucet of the world was on full blast, but God's Word was only a dribble. I decided not to look at any news (fasted from the news) and instead began getting back into God's Word. What a rich time it's been! I long to spend time in HIS presence reading God's Word and praying. Now it's become a priority each day! 😊

We Facebook more than we seek His face. We text more than we study The Text. And our eyes aren't fixed on Jesus. They're fixed on our iPhones and iPads – emphasis on "I". Then we wonder why God feels so distant. - Batterson

"Learning to pray doesn't offer you a less busy life; it offers you a less busy heart. If you are not praying, then you are quietly confident that time, money, and talent are all you need in life. You'll always be a little too tired, a little too busy. But if, like Jesus, you realize you can't do life on your own, then no matter how busy, no matter how tired you are, you will find the time to pray." - Paul Miller

Gene's strength was God's Word and mine was prayer and I tell people that we cross-pollinated one another! I got my love for God's Word from Gene. He faithfully took time every day to be in God's presence. Even during the five weeks following his stroke, **he was still reading God's Word!** He read through the entire Bible every year and I have 10 of his journals of his walk with the LORD.

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Hebrews 11:6. I want to challenge you to take the next four weeks and set aside time every day to read God's Word and Pray. It will make a difference in your life! As you quiet your heart before the LORD, He will speak to you and give you directions. **As you give Him your time, He will multiply yours!!** I promise! 😊

I have been consistently spending time with the Lord, and He has been faithful to give direction and continually encourage me through His Word! This was especially true as I was praying for the message He wanted me to share at LIFT.

He brought some things to my mind that I had not included. It was as I was quieting my heart before Him on my knees that He brought this to my mind. Every morning, I slip to my knees by my bed and give Him my day. Each night before going to bed, I again slip to my knees and review the day, thanking Him for His faithfulness and asking if I missed Him anywhere in the day. I love these times with the Lord – they are so precious to me!



I shared about the importance of being plugged into the power source and gave the example of our cell phones. If they are not plugged into the power, no matter how long the cord is, they won't charge. Similarly, we can't function well if we're not consistently connected to our power source, God.

Too often we try to do "life" apart from God's power, often leading to frustration and defeat. By ourselves, we have only human abilities to call on. We cannot do God's will without God's power. But we can do whatever He puts before us with His power!

God's power is short-circuited when there is unconfessed sin in our lives. The key to walking in victory in the Christian life is confessing our sin the moment we become aware of it. Regret focuses on something that cannot be changed. Repentance focuses on what needs to change. When you plant a garden do you reserve a spot for weeds? Absolutely not!

We are to be the sweet aroma of Jesus, but sometimes we have spiritual BO. We need to confess our sin, not make excuses for it. If we continue to ignore His conviction of sin, that's a very dangerous place to be. We can begin to drift, and our hearts can become cold to his promptings.

I likened it to the cancer I recently had removed from my hand. It had to come out or it would have kept spreading. That's the way it is with sin. Dire consequences if we let it go unchecked!

It's not that the night is so dark, but that our lights are so dim. – Blackaby

"Amidst the darkness of our age, the church is called to be like a lighthouse. In foggy weather or on dark nights, lighthouses warn ships of danger and help guide them safely through treacherous waters.

Because you and I have the light of God's Holy Spirit within us, we have a responsibility. We are to send out a beam of truth into the circle of our family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors.

A malfunctioning lighthouse can mean danger and destruction for ships seeking safe harbor. What causes a lighthouse beam to grow dim or go out completely? If the glass is dirty, the light will be muted. If there is no power, there can be no illumination.



Why is the church not operating as the lighthouse should be? Sin has lessened our ability to shine for God. We've cut off the power of the Holy Spirit, who desires to work through us." – Charles Stanley

LIFT Summer Refresher – June 15

Last Saturday at our LIFT Summer Refresher, we were blessed to hear Sara share on the topic of “Chosen & Called for Purpose.” She reminded us of the importance of spending time in God’s Word (our power source) and always being ready to share His life-giving message with others.

She referenced scripture throughout as she shared; how God has a purpose and plan for every life, how waiting is often an essential part of developing Godly character in us and that God determines the seasons of our lives.

She encouraged us not to compare ourselves with others whom He gifted differently than us or are in a different season and reminded us not to grow weary of serving Him. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. (Galatians 6:9)

Sara transparently shared personal examples that we too, could relate to of how faithful God has been through the years and how He still is growing her in her daily walk with Him. The Biblical truths she shared with her contagious smile and humor left us all wanting more! Thank you, Sara!

The LIFT Team



I loved ALL the women I met at LIFT! Such precious hearts. I also showed them my new t-shirt which they loved!

HEAVEN IS MY HOME! I’M JUST HERE RECRUITING!



I love to laugh and have fun! I shared how when Gene would drop me off at the store for one item, he would say with a twinkle in his eye: **Don’t make eye contact with anyone!**

My goal is to get rid of 20,000 words a day! That means in one year, a Chatty Cathy could wind up speaking 4.7 million more words than a member of the quieter sex, or the rough equivalent of narrating War and Peace in its entirety... eight times. I’m so glad I now know that! 😊



An invitation was extended to anyone who wanted to grab lunch together at Valle Luna Mexican Restaurant. Many women came and we had a great time together!



Vicki

Grateful for Vicki’s incredible leadership for LIFT!



You prayed . . . God answered abundantly!

I am humbled by the opportunities the LORD gives me to be involved in His harvest field. I spent much time seeking the LORD for the message He wanted me to share at LIFT. He was faithful and gave me incredible joy as I shared what He had put on my heart. My desire is always that everything I say and do will bring Him honor and glory!

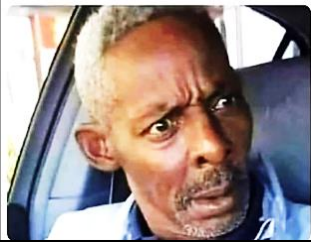
It was such a joy and so encouraging to hear you speak on Saturday. I've already passed on several of your insights and encouragement to others! So just know ... you are in the ministry of multiplication!! "And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also." (2 Timothy 2:2) Thanks again for your ministry. God is definitely using you to teach, inspire and encourage others!!

Just wanted you to know God spoke thru you to take me to a deep level of repentance of something I have held on to since my husband died. GOD KNEW!!!! Thank you for your powerful presentation. The Love of the Lord shines thru YOU!

I truly enjoyed your presentation. I thank God that you are using the gifts He has given you to lift up and encourage all women. Imparting God's Word and encouraging laughter is so therapeutic! You are truly a blessing! Praying continued blessings for you and yours.

You are a true joy and delight for the Lord. I have repeated several times over this past week things that you shared with us. I just adore your steadfast love of the Lord. Thank you for your faithful example to all of us. I appreciate you sharing your story. To God be the glory today and forevermore. Amen!

Next time a stranger talks to you when you're alone just look at them shocked and whisper "You can see me"



My daughter Jennifer, and a dear friend, Pam Lyons, sent these to me.

I have **NO IDEA** why they thought of me when they saw these! Hahaha! 😊

I made large posters to share with the women. Much laughter erupted throughout the room!

I'm at the age where I won't make eye contact with someone because they look like a "talker"



Thanking the LORD for the joy and laughter He brings into our lives!!

Jesus is not part of my life . . . He is my life!

May He find us trusting Him and may we be so preoccupied with walking in HIS presence, that when Jesus returns, we can say . . .

I was just thinking about YOU!

Sara