

The Spirit Of Truth



By Rev. Madeline Montez Duffany

Dear Reverend,
I used to be so on fire for the things of God, but lately I've been sinking more and more into despair. My husband and I even talked about retiring, but how do you retire from serving God? Although we are older, we still have a passion to serve and minister.

Small Flame

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Dear Flame:

Oh, how I love the Scripture in Isaiah 42:3-4: "A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law."

Listen: my Mom always told me that where there is life, there is hope. Where a tiny ember is burning, it can start a fire! Jesus will never snuff out an ember or break a person who is bruised. Instead, He will ignite the small ember inside you and blow His Holy Spirit on it until it becomes a flame.

You need to have a lot of

fellowship and a lot of people to talk to who are compassionate and loving and caring. Isolating yourself is not going to help. Who told you that becoming older is something negative? God is still using older saints who have a lot of experience in the things of God, knowledge of His Word, and the ability to work in situations which require attention.

The main job of a pastor is to protect the sheep, while the under-shepherds do the ministries needed. Eph. 4:11: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers..." In his Word Jesus himself set this in order. So, if we follow His commands, things will run smoothly and there will be order and room for all to minister in divine callings. It is Jesus who gives gifts to people. As we mature in age and in the Word, we should know our calling. Jesus never stops us, but encourages us and makes a way where it seems impossible. God has a place for

the man or woman who dares to believe. Those whom God has his hand upon are not subject to the opinions of others or even their own opinion of themselves. Romans 4:1: "What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found?" As he heard the voice of God and obeyed, God judged him, but also, wonderful things were manifested! God said to Abraham long ago, "Come out!" And he went out! Gen. 12:1-4. When you come to the hearing of faith, and pay no attention to the natural order of things: taste, desire, affection, and other things happening in the natural world, God can speak to your heart. (Here is an interpretation of tongues in a certain morning meeting:) "Faith is the substance, undisturbed as the waves crash. Teacher, don't you care? Yes, I care; why are you so fearful? I am Jesus, the Author and Finisher of your faith. No one can snatch you out of my hand. Come out of despair, despondency,

and sorrow." Psalm 3:3: "But thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head." Psalm 24:7: "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in." Matthew 17:8: "And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only." Luke 21:28: "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

So, let's lift up our hands and our heads and seek the King of Kings, and hear his desire for our lives – young and old. He is coming very soon for us. Matthew 5:16: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." John 9:4: "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." Let us all, younger and older, who love Jesus Christ, be available to Him who died for us that we might live.

This is God's Truth!
The Spirit of Truth!
Rev. MMD

Write to Rev Madeline at PO Box 14931 Bradenton, FL 34280 or by email at Hesalivenews@yahoo.com. Not all letters are from readers. Letters may be fictitious in person but true in content. We reserve the right to edit or refuse any questions submitted.

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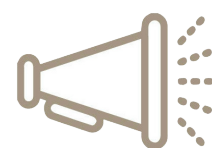
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