



Just Like Me *A Man of Like Passion...*

Dear Lord,
forgive our yielding to
temptation;

Forgive our pride, our love
of worldly things.

Have mercy on our love of
sensual pleasure,
Compassion on the sins that
self love brings.

It must be hard to
understand us
sometimes;
So very different is your
heart and mind.

But wait, I just
remembered that you do
know
What it's like to be a part of
humankind.

You suffered just like we
do, and you were tempted.
You lived with us so you
could comprehend
The things that we go
through each trying day,
So you could give us mercy,
and be our friend.

Thank you for compassion
and forgiveness;
Thank you for your love
and empathy.

Thank you, Lord, for
coming down from heaven
To experience life's
trials, just like me.

By Joanna Fuchs

James wrote a very curious portion of Scripture concerning one of the greatest of the Old Testament prophets. In James 5:17, the bishop wrote these words, *Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain...*

As I have often pondered this verse I believe I have come to some conclusions concerning prayer.

Prayer is the key that unlocks the doors and windows of heaven. Throughout the Scriptures it is prayer that connects mankind to the Throne Room of heaven.

Much like a child that has pressed his face to the glass and is separate from all the wonders of the bakeshop, so we, press our faces to the splendors of the heavenly realm.

And like that that child, as we press our faces to the heavenly glass, see the promises and we have even at times had a touch and a taste. But we have never enjoyed the richness and the full satisfactions of the promises.

Child of God, did you know that it is His desire for us to know spiritual fulfillment? God has designed and planned that we would enjoy this life.



Elijah the prophet

Not that there would never be a bump in the road or a hiccup from time to time. But, those bumps and hiccups are not meant to be the norm—they are to be only temporary. It is God's desire that our victory walk would increase and our spiritual defeat would decrease.

It is clearly God's pattern and design that man would be involved with the management of the affairs of this earth.

In our Scripture we see that Elijah prayed and the rain ceased. According to James 5:17 there was no rain for a space of three and a half years. To the Jews a drought meant the judgment of God. They believed that drought meant God had turned His back on them and had rejected them.

Yet, in the midst of drought it is clear that God

had not left. God still loved His people. For God sent Elijah to stand before them. Elijah was to be God's voice and proclaim God's word.

James also reveals that Elijah was a man of passions like we are. Elijah had to deal with his anger, the rejection of men, false worship, hunger and even thirst. Elijah even faced the personal question we all face *where is God?* At times Elijah felt alone, overwhelmed and under powered. And yet he prayed.

When Elijah prayed he saw results, not necessarily the first time. The Bible states that Elijah sent his servant back seven times (I Kings 18:44) to see if there was even a hint of a rain producing cloud. On the seventh trip the servant responded, *I see a cloud the size of a man's hand.*

A man *subject to like passions as we are.* What would have happened if Elijah would have given up on the third try or the fifth.

How many times have we given up? The Apostle Paul said, *...and now I see through a glass darkly.*

I believe God has cleared up the glass just a little. Keep hope, keep praying and keep believing. Don't let your human passion *stop* you—let your God passion *move* you.



Pastor Nate Mullen

Pastor Nate Mullen will be our special guest on Sunday evening, September 6, 6:30 PM. Nate is the brother of Chris Mullen and son of sister Rose Mullen.

Pastor Mullen, along with his wife Gail, founded Victorious Life Christian Center in Seattle, Washington in 1993. Their congregation is affiliated with the Assemblies of God.

From the inception of the church, the Mullens have desired to raise up a multicultural congregation to minister to their city, nation and the

world.

Pastor Nate states, "Our passion is to impact our community and the world with the message and love of Jesus Christ as well as to help people fulfill their potential in God and live their purpose. Victorious Life Christian Center is a church of worshipers, a discipleship center, and a community of believers living their faith together in



Rev. Gail Mullen

community."

You are invited to hear Pastor Nate's heart. A free-will offering will be received.

Some Great Summer Reading...

Often I am asked, *What books are you reading right now?* I thought this might be a great opportunity to share with you three books that have really inspired me.

The first is the Gospel of John. I was invited to teach a Wednesday evening class on the Gospel of John this summer. I cannot tell you how many times I have read this Gospel over the years. And yet, this time around is just as refreshing and motivating as the first time I read the book. If you are floundering in your Bible reading, may I suggest to you the Gospel of John? Go through the *I AM* sayings, revisit the twenty-five *verily, verily* statements of Christ. These are such important foundational truths.

Next I recommend *When Heaven Invades Earth*, by Bill Johnson. How I have enjoyed reviewing God's purpose for the Church and a renewed call to holiness. If you have been looking for some outside

reading that will build your faith I highly recommend *When Heaven Invades Earth*. This can be found or ordered through your local bookstore.

Finally, I recently heard a young evangelist by the name of Carl Wesley Anderson. I sat spellbound as the power of the Holy Spirit washed over me in waves. I cannot explain nor can I fathom the depth of God's power that was being demonstrated.

Brother Anderson has written a book for the group of people born between 1960 and 2000 called *Generation X*. Although I am far from that age group what has impressed me is the desire of this young man for a modern day Pentecost. God is certainly moving in Carl's meetings. I recommend *Changing of the Guard* *The Raising of Generation Extreme*. Contact Born to Blaze Ministries, P.O. Box 46105, Plymouth, MN 55446.



The September Men's Breakfast will be held in the Church Fellowship Hall at 8:00 AM on Saturday, September 12.

Every month we enjoy a wonderfully prepared breakfast cooked with care loving kindness.

Following breakfast Dr. Kramer brings an encouraging word from the Bible and all the men share their prayer needs with one another.

A free-will offering is received for the breakfast. And again, the food is always first rate.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

God, if it's true our treasures are in Heaven.. could I take a low interest loan while stuck here on Earth? Ya know.. us being family and all.



but lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal, **MT, 6:20**

Rejoice Newsletter

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Teen Challenge Ministry Institute... September 27

On Sunday evening September 20, 6:30 PM we will host some of the students of the Teen Challenge Ministry Institute.

Our speaker for the night is Brother Cooper Kurdziolek. Cooper is from the LeCenter—St Peter area of Minnesota. And has been changed by the power of God.

I know you will enjoy this outstanding young man as he shares from God's Word.

Often, if you want

to find Cooper, just go to a local park and he'll be there leading someone to Christ, bring them into the fullness of the Spirit or believing for the healing of the sick.

We will also enjoy another Human Video presentation by Tawnya Marsh.

A free-will offering for the Ministry Institute will be received during this service.

Bring a friend—you will not be disappointed.

Our guest speaker on Sunday evening September 27, 6:30 PM will be Brother Jeremy Jones. Jeremy is presently a second year student of Bible Way Institute, Shakopee Branch.

The call of God is very evident in Jeremy's life and family. His testimony includes two times his life had been spared by the power of God. Jeremy along with his wife Sharee are an exciting young couple and desire

God's best in their lives. They are expecting their first child this November.

These services are always so special. We have been so blessed to have the students of Bible Way Bible Institute on Sunday evenings.

If you think God is dead and there is no god in the upcoming generation – you really want to attend these Sunday evening services.

Maria Woodworth Etter

Maria Woodworth Etter is often called the Grandmother of Pentecost in America.

Maria was born in Lisbon, Ohio, July 22, 1844. Her parents were not Christians but they were invited to a small local Disciples Church in 1854. Tragically, her father died from sunstroke doing fieldwork in 1855. This required that Maria and her seven siblings work to support the family.

At the age of thirteen Maria answered the first call of God in her life and accepted Jesus Christ as her Saviour. However, Maria sensed a continual stirring in her spirit and an additional call. Maria said, *I heard the voice of Jesus calling me to go out into the highways and hedges and gather the lost sheep.*

This was very disturbing to Maria as the Disciples Church did not allow women to preach from their



pulpits. In fact, the whole idea of women preachers was rejected by most congregations in America.

Maria thought that she could only fulfill her call by marrying a man and go into missions. While she was very young Maria married Philo Harris Woodworth. The Woodworths tried to farm and failed. During their years on the farm Maria gave birth to seven children. This proved to be a great

personal burden. Not only was she in an unhappy marriage, on a failing farm but six of their children died.

One day a pastor in a local Friends Church heard Maria's heart and realized her call to preach. When Maria stood to preach the fire of God fell, people rushed to the altar and many repented of their sins.

From that one service Maria was invited to preach nine revival meetings. From those early meetings two churches were started.

Since the farm had failed and the way was opened for revivals, Philo & Maria started a traveling ministry.

From the beginning Maria had large meetings, often estimated at up to 25,000 with many powerful demonstrations of God's Spirit. However, the early years of ministry were not easy. Maria was ridiculed and arrested for claiming to

be able to heal the sick. In 1891 Maria and Philo's marriage broke apart because of his infidelity.

Following the divorce her fellowship withdrew her credentials. On one hand it seemed God was with her and on the other there seemed to be no victory.

One year later, 1892, Philo died. Maria continued to sense the call of God. She never once wavered nor did she give in and quit. Maria continued on.

In 1902 Maria met Samuel Etter. The Etters traveled extensively. There is no record of Maria attending the Azusa Street Revival in Los Angeles. There are plenty of documented occasions in which Maria spoke out very favorably of the Azusa Street Revival. Maria became such an advocate of

Continued on page 4...

THE CHURCH WHERE JESUS IS REAL

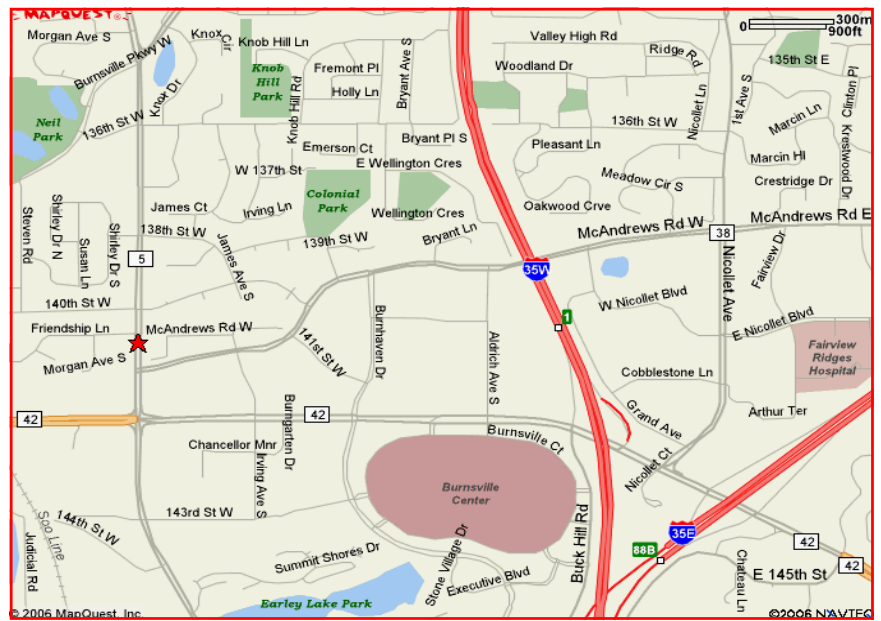
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Continued from page 3...

the Pentecostal movement that John G. Lake called her *Mother Etter*.

To Maria this outpouring included the doctrines of Divine Healing and the Second Blessing or speaking with other tongues. In 1914 Maria and Samuel became very sick. Samuel died of the Spanish Influenza. When

Maria recovered in 1915 she was on the road again preaching and ministering.

In 1918, at the age of 74, Maria opened a church in Indianapolis, Indiana. The original name of the church was Maria Woodworth-Etter Tabernacle. Today it is a thriving church called Lakeview Church.

Maria died September 16, 1924. She was greatly loved by her congrega-

tion. History says that when she could no longer walk to church the elders would carry her in a chair from her house to the platform. When they set her chair down the power of God would come upon her and she would stand and preach with power and great anointing. You may read more about Maria at www.healingandrevival.com.

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 6:30—7:30 PM Prayer 7:30—8:30 DVD & Discussion	3	4 No Women of God International in September	5
6 Sunday School—9:15 AM Hour of Power—10:15 AM Evening Service—6:30 PM Rev. Nate Mullen Speaking	7	8	9 6:30—7:30 PM Prayer 7:30—8:30 DVD & Discussion	10	11	12 Men's Breakfast 8:00—10:00 AM
13 Sunday School—9:15 AM Hour of Power—10:15 AM Evening Service—6:30 PM	14	15	16 6:30—7:30 PM Prayer 7:30—8:30 DVD & Discussion	17	18	19
20 Sunday School—9:15 AM Hour of Power—10:15 AM Evening Service—6:30 PM Cooper Kurdziolek Speaking	21	22	23 6:30—7:30 PM Prayer 7:30—8:30 DVD & Discussion	24 Bible Way Institute 6:30 PM	25	26
27 Sunday School—9:15 AM Hour of Power—10:15 AM Evening Service—6:30 PM Jeremy Jones Speaking	28	29	30 6:30—7:30 PM Prayer 7:30—8:30 DVD & Discussion			