

BE A BRINGER

"40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus...." John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

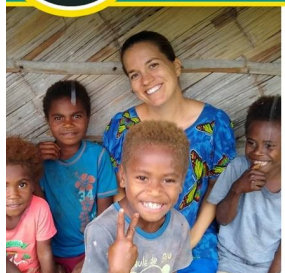
PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

"Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;...." I Samuel 12:23a



MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Sharon Mihill | Papua New Guinea



PRAISE

- Praise the Lord for the encouragement, love, and support for Sharon in the recent loss of her mother.

- Praise the Lord for the ability to come home and for his timing and for all of the people who steps in to continue to minister while Sharon was away.

PRAY

- Pray for Sharon as she travels back to Kavieng.

- Pray for the Madak Church. Benton is struggling and it looks like some of the New Ireland elders will need to step in. Pray for Benton and Gloria. Pray that God uses this opportunity for growth.

Thyatira: Growing In Purity

In Revelation 2:18-29 Jesus sends His message to the church of Thyatira. Thyatira was a wealthy town on the Lycus River in the Roman province of Asia (modern-day Turkey).

The message was from the Lord Jesus Christ through an angel (or "messenger"): "To the angel of the church in Thyatira write . . ." (Revelation 2:18). This was not John's message to the Thyatiran believers; it was a message from the Lord. The description at the end of verse 18 verifies the author of this message is Jesus Christ: "The words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze." This description removes any doubt of the identity of the One giving the message.

After identifying Himself, Jesus affirms the church's positive actions: "I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first" (Revelation 2:19). Five qualities are listed: 1) love, 2) faith, 3) service, 4), patient endurance, and 5) greater works.

Next, Jesus notes their sin: "Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols" (Revelation 2:20). Apparently, a false prophetess was leading believers into compromise. The church was engaging in sexual immorality and dabbling in idolatry. It is possible that "Jezebel" was her real name, but it is more likely the name was a metaphorical reference to the Jezebel of the Old Testament—another idolatrous woman who opposed God's ways. Rather than rebuke this false teacher and send her out of the church, the believers in Thyatira were allowing her to continue her deception.

Jesus pronounces judgment on this "Jezebel" and calls the church of Thyatira to repent of their sin: "I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. I will strike her children dead" (Revelation 2:22-23).

Then Jesus encourages those who had remained faithful: "Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): Only hold on to what you have until I come" (Revelation 2:24-25). The faithful believers did not fall into Satan's trap, and they only needed to remain faithful until Christ's return.

Jesus lists His promises to the believers in Thyatira: "To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations—'He will rule them with an iron scepter; he will dash them to pieces like pottery'—just as I have received authority from my Father. I will also give him the morning star" (Revelation 2:26-28). These blessings would include 1) authority over the nations, 2) victory over all enemies, and 3) the morning star. This morning star is Jesus Himself, as Revelation 22:16 reveals. Jesus will give Himself to His church, and they will fellowship together forever.

Resource: Gotquestions.org

KEY VERSE

Revelation 2:21 (NKJV)

“And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent.”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Rev. 2:18; Hebrews 4:13; Hebrews 13:4; John 8:11b

Be Mindful That God Sees And Judges Your Actions

1. Hebrews 4:13 assures us that *“no creature is hidden from His sight”* and we all must *“give account.”* How does this impact our walk as believers?
2. What warning do we need to heed in Hebrews 13:4 regarding marriage and choosing to be counted with the *“fornicators and adulterers”*?

Tuesday: Revelation 2:19; Genesis 2:24, 4:1

Obey God’s Standard Of Sexuality

3. What example did the Thyatirans walk for us as modern day believers according to Revelation 2:19? Do YOU model this obedience to God?
4. Genesis 2:24 and 4:1 lay a very clear foundation for our sexuality and the “ground rules” that are involved. Are we all “clear” as to what they are?

Wednesday: Rev.2:20; Rev. 2:21-23; I Pet. 4:17; Psalm 51:2-3a

Know The Sinfulness of Immorality And Repent Of Sexual Sin

5. Revelation 2:20 tells us a tale of sexual immorality and it’s effects on the surrounding people. What do we need to look out for as believers?
6. Revelation 2:21-23 tells us of what happens to those who refuse to repent. What action does God take in this verse against those who refuse to obey?
7. What hope does Psalm 51:2-3a offer those of us who choose to repent?

Thursday: Rev. 2:24-25; Philippians 4:13; Job 31:1; Pro. 6:27-29

Hold Fast In Purity

8. How does Revelation 2:24 and the faith of Thyatira encourage us as believers? How should this verse impact our faith and our walk?
9. Proverbs 6:27 asks: *“Can a man take fire to his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?”* How does this statement relate to the sexual sin in verse 29?
10. Why is Philippians 4:13 so crucial to our faith and overcoming temptation?

Friday: Revelation 2:26-29; Revelation: 20:4a; Revelation 22:16

Overcome Sexual Sin And Be Rewarded

11. *“And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations? As overcomers, why are WE promised this?”*
12. Who are those in Revelation 20:4a that are sitting on the thrones? To whom was it that *“judgement was committed to”*?
13. How has sexual sin impacted your life through the years? What testimony can you give about how turning to God helped you to be an overcomer?