

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

January 16, 2012

The Ministry Of Discipleship (Pt. 3) (Standing On His Word!)

DISCIPLE – One who helps spread another's teachings.

MATTHEW 4:1-4 NKJV – (1) Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. (2) And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. (3) Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." (4) But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

Speak only what God gives you. (Not our opinion.) Here are some tips I use when spreading the teachings of Christ....

- 1. Avoid a critical tone when witnessing to others.** The Bible says that "*an offended brother is more unyielding than a fortified city*" (Proverbs 18:19.) It's difficult for someone to receive information when he/she is offended. Therefore, it's better to speak in love even when it's clear that the nonbeliever is in the wrong.
- 2. Being kind doesn't mean remaining quiet.** Pray for boldness to witness to your friends even when you're afraid that they'll get angry or make fun of you for your beliefs. You never know how God will use you to help someone!
- 3. It's always okay to set limits and boundaries.** You can end any conversation if things become too extreme. Try not to get drawn into arguments.

But know this, at times we will experience persecution. Don't lose your focus. There is work to do and you are not alone. Christ said Himself, I will never leave you or forsake you. He said He would always be with us even to the end of age.

The Bible tells us in **1 Peter 3:14-15 NKJV** – (14) But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled." (15) But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

Always stand and speak what, how and the Spirit speaks. 'Stand on His word!'"

SCRIPTURE READING

1 TIMOTHY 3:16-17 &

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Our responsibility is to plant and water the seed, its Gods responsibility to grow it!

