*June 4, 2017: Ministry With Christ / 2017 Theme / Peace in the Midst of Suffering / Communion Sunday*

**“…I AM SENDING YOU”**

***John 20:19-22***

In **2014**… **We must make the of Christ our CORE Competency.**

In **2015**… **We must make the GLORIFICATION of Christ our Highest PRIORITY.**

In **2016**… **We must make the Gospel of the MINISTRY of Christ our Sacred .**

In **2017**… **We need the WITNESS of The Spirit of Christ and the FLOW of His Grace.**

* **We exist to do the MINISTRY of Christ; in the LOVE of Christ; for the GLORY of Christ; by the POWER of Christ!**

***Acts 1:8 NIV - “****But* ***you will receive power*** *when the* ***Holy Spirit*** *comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...”*

***Romans 1:16 NKJV -*** *For* ***I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone*** *who believes...*

***John 20:19-22 NIV78 -*** *On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with* ***the doors locked for fear*** *of the Jews,* ***Jesus came and stood******among them*** *and said, “****Peace*** *be with you!”* ***20****After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were* ***overjoyed*** *when they saw the Lord.* ***21Again*** *Jesus said, “****Peace*** *be with you!* ***As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.****”* ***22****And with that* ***he breathed on them*** *and* ***said****, “****Receive the Holy Spirit****.”*

1. **Legitimated By His RESURRECTION.**
* ***John 20:19-20 / 1 Corinthians 15:2-4***
1. **Motivated By His LOVE.**
* ***John 20:19 / John 3:16***
1. INCARNATIONAL (John 1:14; 15:19)
2. RELATIONAL (1 John 1:3-4)
3. TRANSFORMATIONAL (John 13:34-35)
4. **Captivated By His .**
* ***John 20:19 / Hebrews 13:8 / John 14:1-3 / Colossians 3:15***

Jesus LIVES + Jesus LOVES = Our PEACE!

***1 Peter 5:7 AMP - Casting the whole of your care*** *[all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all]* ***on Him****, for* ***He cares for you affectionately*** *and* ***cares about you watchfully.***

1.
* ***Isaiah 9:6 / Romans 8:6***

***John 14:27 NIV*** *-* ***Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you****…*

***Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV -*** *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the* ***peace of God, which surpasses all understanding****, will* ***guard*** *your* ***hearts*** *and* ***minds*** *through Christ Jesus.*

**Dr. Rebecca Skaggs…**The Problem of Suffering

* **.**
* Universal.
* .
* Allowance (Redemptive).
* Choice.

***John 6:66-68 AMP -*** *…Many of His disciples abandoned Him, and no longer walked with Him.****67****So Jesus said to the twelve [disciples], “You do not want to leave too, do you?”****68****Simon Peter answered, “Lord,* ***to whom shall we go?******You [alone]*** *have* ***the words of eternal life [you are our only hope].***

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***1 Peter 2:21 NLT -*** *For* ***God called you*** *to do good,* ***even if it means suffering****, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and* ***you must follow in his steps****.*

***2 Corinthians 1:3-7 VOICE -*** *All praise goes to God, Father of our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One.* ***He is the Father of compassion, the God of all comfort.******4He consoles us as we endure the pain and hardship of life******so that*** *we may draw* ***from His comfort and share it with others in their own struggles****.****5****For even as* ***His suffering continues to flood over us****, through the Anointed we experience the* ***wealth of His comfort just the same****.****6****If we are afflicted with such* ***trouble and pain****, then know it is so that you might ultimately experience* ***comfort and salvation****. If we experience* ***comfort****, it is to* ***encourage*** *you so that you can hold up* ***while you endure the same sufferings we all share****.****7****Remember that* ***our hope*** *for you stands firm,****unshaken*** *and* ***unshakable****. That’s because* ***we know that as you share in our sufferings, so you will also share in our comfort.***

***Philippians 3:10-11 NIV84 - I want to know Christ and the power of the resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,****11 and* ***so****, somehow,* ***to attain to the resurrection from the dead.***

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***Romans 8:28 AMP -*** *And we know [with great confidence] that* ***God [who is deeply concerned about us] causes all things to work together [as a plan] for good*** *for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan and purpose.*

***John 16:33 AMP -*** *I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have****[perfect] peace****.* ***In the world*** *you have* ***tribulation****and* ***distress****and* ***suffering****, but* ***be courageous****[be* ***confident****, be* ***undaunted****, be filled with* ***joy****];****I have overcome the world****[My conquest is* ***accomplished****, My* ***victory abiding****.]”*