

Pentecostal Churches of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.

The Messenger



National Missionary Auxiliary Newsletter

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A Word from our Auxiliary Bishop



**Sister Shirley Dew
Chairlady**



Bishop D. Rayford Bell

What Drives Your Life?

Eccles. 4:4

Again, I considered all travail, and every right work, that for this a man is envied of his neighbor. This is also vanity and vexation of spirit.



**Evangelist Emma Lewis
Assistant Chairlady**

The man without purpose is like a ship without a rudder— no man is a waif.

What is driving the force in your life? There are hundreds of circumstances, values, and emotions that can drive your life.

Here are five of the most common ones:

- I. Many people are driven by guilt. They spend their entire lives running from regrets and hiding their shame. Guilt driven people are manipulated by memories. They allow their past to control their future. They often unconsciously punish themselves by sabotaging their own success. When Cain sinned, his guilt disconnected him from God's presence, and God said, "You shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth" (Gen. 4:12). This describes most people today wandering through life without purpose. We are products of our past, but we don't have to be prisoners to it. God's purpose is not limited by your past. He turned a murderer named Moses into a leader and a coward name Gideon into a courageous hero, and he can do amazing things with the rest of your life.
- II. Many people are driven by resentment and anger. They hold on to hurts and never get over them. Instead of releasing their pain through forgiveness, they rehearse it over and over in their minds. Some resentment driven people "clam up" and internalize their anger, while others "blow up" and explode it onto others. Both responses are unhealthy and unhelpful. Resentment always hurts you more than it does the person you resent.

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While your offender has probably forgotten the offense and gone on with life, you continue to stew in your pains, perpetuating the past. Listen, those who have hurt you in the past cannot continue to hurt you unless you hold on to the pain through resentment. Your past is past! Nothing can change it. You are only hurting yourself with bitterness. For your own sake. Learn from it, and let it go.

III. Many people are driven from fear. Their fear may be a result of a traumatic experience, unrealistic expectations, growing up in a highly controlled home, or even genetic predisposition. Regardless of the cause, fear driven people often miss great opportunities because they're afraid to venture out. Instead they play it safe, avoiding risks and trying to maintain the status quo. Fear is a self-imposed prison that will keep you from becoming what God intends for you to be. You must move against it with the weapons of faith and love. The Bible says, "Perfect love casteth out fear" (1 Jn. 4:18).

IV. Many people are driven by materialism. Their desire to acquire becomes the whole goal of their lives. This drive to always want more based on the misconceptions that having more will make me more happy, more important, and more secure, but all three ideas are untrue. Possessions only provide temporary happiness. Because things do not change, we eventually become bored with them and want newer, bigger, and better versions.

It's also a myth that if I get more, I will be more important. Self-worth and net worth are not the same. Your valuables do not determine your value, and God says the most valuable things in life are not things!

The most common myth about money is that having more will make me more secure. It won't. Wealth can be lost instantly through a variety of uncontrollable factors. Real security can only be found in that which can never be taken from you. Real security is "Christ in you, and your relationship with God".

V. Many people are driven by the need for approval. They allow the expectations of parents, spouses, children, teachers, or friends to control their lives. Many adults are still trying to earn the approval of unappeasable parents. Others are driven by peer pressure, always worried by what others might think.

Unfortunately, those who follow the crowd usually get lost in it. I don't know the keys to success, but one key to failure is to try to please everybody. Being controlled by the opinions of others is a guaranteed way to miss God's purpose for your life. Jesus said, "No man can serve two masters" (Matt. 6:24).

Conclusion

There are many other forces that can drive your life, but all lead to the same dead end which is unused potential, unnecessary stress, and an unfulfilled life.

Nothing matters more than knowing God's purpose for your life, and nothing can be compensated for not knowing it—no success, wealth, fame, or pleasure. Without a purpose, is life in motion without meaning, activity without direction, and events without reason? Without purpose, life is trivial, petty, and pointless.

Coming Soon

In the next newsletter First Lady Tecola Moore will share an article with our readers.

UPCOMING Events

**PCAF
National Convention
Los Angeles, CA
July 31 - Aug. 7, 2009
Come be EQUIPPED**

**National Missionary
Auxiliary Services
Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2009**

Director

Dr. Lula M. Sullivan

Auxiliary Bishop

Dr. D. Rayford Bell
Former Presiding Bishop

Staff Spotlight

Featuring two team members per quarter.

Evangelist D. Jeanette Owens



I would like to give you the opportunity to join the Missionary Choir as we sing to the glory of God.



My name is Sister Diane Randolph. I am the secretary for the National Missionary Auxiliary.

If you have any information that would enhance the National Missionary Newsletter forward your items to amstone@mtzionchurch.org.