

## **2025 Sturgis Devotions**

**Monday, Aug. 4      ROGER WILSON      LUKE 21:1      “THE WIDOW’S MITE”**

THE WIDOW GAVE ALL SHE HAD! THOSE WITH MUCH GAVE LITTLE AND SHE GAVE ALL! WE ARE THE “WIDOWS” HERE. YOU GIVE MUCH! YOU GIVE IT ALL TO THE LORD! YEARS AGO WE WOULD HAVE SERVICES HERE AT THE CHURCH AND IT WOULD BE FILLED ABOUT LIKE TODAY. WE HAD THE SIGN UP SHEETS UP FRONT HERE AND WE COULD NOT GET PEOPLE TO SIGN UP AND WORK ANY SHIFTS - “THE RICH!” BUT LOOK AT YOU GUYS! NOW – YOU COME AND FILL UP THOSE SHEETS! ALL I CAN DO IS SAY “THANK YOU!”

THE MAYOR SHARED WITH ME THAT THE FACE OF STURGIS HAS CHANGED...NOT BECAUSE OF THE POLICE, OR THE EVENTS AND SUCH...BUT BECAUSE OF CMA! HE THANKED US ALL. HE SAID THAT WE ARE!

JESUS DIDN'T COME FOR TO BE SERVED...HE CAME TO DIE FOR YOU AND ME! ROGER SAID THAT HE WANTS TO HAVE THE BEST HE CAN TO SAY THANK YOU FOR COMING AND SERVING THE LORD. HE WANTS US TO COME AND BE WHO GOD HAS CALLED US TO BE HERE AT STURGIS. SOMETIMES YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO SAY A WORD. YESTERDAY IT WAS SHARED THAT SOMEONE SAW THIS PERSON'S BACK PATCH AND CAME AND ASKED FOR PRAYER! THE CMA'ER HADN'T SAID A WORD TO THIS PERSON! YOU ARE THE WIDOWS ... YOU GIVE IT ALL – THANK YOU!

WE ARE HERE FOR JESUS – REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE TO ALL THOSE HERE – BE JESUS!

**Tuesday, Aug. 5      DAVID WATTERSON      “THE TESTING OF CHRIST”      MATT. 4:1- ; 3**

DAVID SAID THAT IT'S GREAT TO BE HERE AND TO WORK WITH YOU GUYS! THIS IS LIKE A SUPERBOWL EVENT. IT'S SUCH AN IMPORTANT EVENT. HE'S BEEN WORKING THE FREE LOT AND PRAYING, HANDING OUT RAG TRACTS AND ANGELS. HIS SPEECH HAS CHANGED SINCE HE'S BEEN HERE. HE HAS STARTING ASKING PEOPLE “PRAYER IF YOU WANT IT.” BUT, UNDERSTAND I'M PRAYING TO THE CREATOR! BUT, MANY PEOPLE HAVE SAID “YES”. AT DINNER THE OTHER NIGHT A YOUNG LADY WALKED IN JUST STARVING TO DEATH FOR PRAYER! SHE IS WANTING TO LIVE A CHRISTIAN LIFE.

MATTHEW 4 TALKS ABOUT BEELZEBUB - THE DECEIVER, NOT SATAN. BEELZEBUB IS THE ONE WHO CAME TO TEMPT CHRIST. HE QUOTED JESUS, TRYING TO DECEIVE HIM. WHEN JESUS TOLD HIM TO LEAVE HIM – BEELZEBUB HAD TO LEAVE! THEN, THE ANGELS CAME AND CARED FOR JESUS.

LOOK AT MATTHEW 3 – JESUS WAS BAPTIZED, RECEIVING HIS BLESSING FROM GOD! THIS EVENT IS WHERE JESUS WAS ACKNOWLEDGED BY GOD THAT THIS IS IT... “YOU ARE THE ONE WHO WILL TAKE ON THE SIN OF THE WORLD. THE CHRIST.” DAVID TOLD OF WHEN HE WAS COMMISSIONED AND RELATED IT TO THIS SCRIPTURE. JESUS FASTED FOR 40 DAYS. WHEN YOU FAST YOU GET CLOSER TO GOD, BUT IT DOES MAKE YOU PHYSICALLY WEAK. WHEN DAVID FASTED – HE GOT LONELY, TIRED, WEAK AND HUNGRY. HE CAME HOME WANTING A BURGER! WHAT WOULD IT BE JESUS AT THAT TIME AND TO BE LIKE JESUS!

TESTING IS A PART OF LIFE. NOT TESTING GOD. BUT, BEING GIVEN REASON TO NEED GOD. WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO STRUGGLE AND TURN AND RELY ON GOD. THIS TESTING OF CHRIST WAS HIS KICK-OFF TO HIS MINISTRY – IT HELPED HIM TO UNDERSTAND, FOR US. JESUS FASTED. THERE ARE A LOT OF TEMPTATIONS OUT THERE. MANY ARE PHYSICAL NEEDS. JESUS PAINTED OUT THE IMPORTANCE OF SPIRITUAL FOOD. THE LIVING WATER IS IN US. REMEMBER TO COME BACK TO THAT! TRUST GOD! ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU FEEL WEAK AND HUNGRY.

TESTING OF FAITH. JESUS HAD DIVINE AUTHORITY. WE DON'T WANT TEMPORAL POWER. A LOT OF TIMES IT COMES OUT AS ARROGANCE. VS 11 – SATAN RAN AND THE ANGELS CAME. THE DIVINE DEFEAT OF SATAN.

WE WANT OTHERS TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FORGIVEN. THEY DON'T NEED TO BE HUNGRY, OR THIRSTY ANYMORE. JESUS WILL FILL YOU BETTER THAN ANYTHING! JESUS GIVES US THE KNOWLEDGE AND STRENGTH TO MANAGE TEMPTATION. WE NEED TO SHARE HIM WITH THOSE HERE AT THIS RALLY – WE KNOW...THEY DON'T! TELL THEM THEY CAN'T RUN FROM GOD. HE HASN'T GONE ANYWHERE – HE'S STILL RIGHT BY YOU – JUST WANTING YOU TO TURN TO HIM.

DAVID'S INSTRUCTIONS, WHEN HE IS HEADING A MISSION TRIP:

1. NO PLANS SURVIVE CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY.
2. IT'S NOT WRONG, IT'S JUST DIFFERENT.
3. DON'T BE SURPRISED WHEN THE LOST ACT LOST!

JESUS WENT THROUGH THIS AND STILL WENT AND DIED FOR YOU!

**Wednesday, Aug. 6    BILL SNELL    "GOD'S WORD AND DRY BONES    JOHN 16:33**

BILL IS WITH MISSIONARY VENTURES AND RETIRED THIS LAST JANUARY AS THEIR PRESIDENT. HE SAID THAT CMA AND MISSIONARY VENTURES HAVE BEEN PARTNERS FOR 38 YEARS NOW! IT'S BEEN AN AMAZING PARTNERSHIP! HE SAID THAT AT THE GUATAMALA MISSION TRIP THEY WILL BE GIVING AWAY THE 10,000<sup>TH</sup> MOTORCYCLE TO A PASTOR! THE GROWTH OF THE KINGDOM DOESN'T JUST ADD UP LIKE ADDITION ... IT GROWS EXPONENTIALLY THROUGH OUR MINISTRIES TOGETHER. EVERY YEAR THEY SEE OVER ONE MILLION PEOPLE COME TO CHRIST. SOME PASTORS ARE OVERSEEING 70 CHURCHES!

HE TOLD OF AN APPLICATION THEY RECEIVED FOR A MOTORCYCLE. IT WAS FROM A PASTOR IN NEPAL. HE USED TO BORROW A SCOOTER AND RIDE IT WITH HIS WIFE ON BEHIND HIM. THEY USUALLY TRAVELLED WITH OTHERS. BUT, THIS ONE TIME THEY WENT BY THEMSELVES. THEY WERE AMBUSHED BY A TIGER. IT GRABBED HIS WIFE OFF OF THE BACK AND KILLED HER. IN HIS APPLICATION HE ASKED THAT IF THEY FOUND HIS APPLICATION PLEASING AND ACCEPTABLE, WOULD THEY PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING HIM SOMETHING FASTER THAN A SCOOTER. HE WAS GIVEN A MOTORCYCLE AND IS STILL WORKING FOR THE LORD. WE LEARN MORE DURING THE TOUGH TIMES. WE GET STRONGER THROUGH THE TOUGH TIMES, THROUGH THE RESISTANCE. BUT, YOU WILL FIND PEACE IN JESUS, FOR HE HAS OVERCOME THE WORLD!

A MAN ASKED BILL TO PRAY FOR HIM AND FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD. THAT OPENED THE DOOR FOR BILL. EVEN IN DIFFICULTIES YOU WILL FIND PEACE IN JESUS. ESPECIALLY, AS BELIEVERS, YOU WILL FIND DIFFICULTIES. YOU HAVE A TARGET ON YOUR BACKS AND THE ENEMY WILL ATTACK. HE WANTS TO DIMINISH YOUR ABILITY TO SERVE THE LORD. NO MATTER OUR AGE – WE ARE STILL KIDS GROWING UP. TOUGH TIMES HELP US DO THAT. KEEP LEARNING FROM GOD, DON'T BELIEVE THE ENEMIES LIES. DOUBT IS NOT NECESSARILY WEAKNESS, BUT SOMETIMES IT'S FAITH BEING SIFTED, SORTED AND STRENGTHENED.

C.S. LEWIS – FREQUENTLY BATTLED WITH DOUBTING HIS FAITH. MOTHER TERESA ALSO BATTLED THAT AND LONLINESS. EZEKIEL HE WAS PARCHED AND DRY IN HIS SOUL. HE HAD A SHORTAGE OF FAITH AND WHAT GOD HAD CALLED HIM TO DO. HE KNEW HE COULDN'T DO IT ON HIS OWN. INSTEAD OF THE OASIS THAT HE THOUGHT GOD WOULD PROVIDE HIM – HE FOUND DRY BONES! GOD ASKED HIM – CAN THESE BONES LIVE AGAIN? EZEKIEL SAID ...GOD YOU KNOW! GOD TOLD EZEKIEL TO SPEAK THE WORD OF GOD OVER THOSE BONES, TO TELL THEM TO COME ALIVE. EZEKIEL DID WHAT GOD TOLD HIM TO DO AND THE DRY BONES CAME ALIVE AND SO DID EZEKIEL'S FAITH. GOD STIRRED IN HIM!!!

SOME OF US HAVE "DRY BONES". IT COULD BE MANY DIFFERENT THINGS – DIVORCE, FINANCES, HEALTH, ETC. WE CAN'T SEE HOW THOSE BONES WILL COME ALIVE AGAIN. FEELINGS OF DESPAIR CAN SET IN. BUT – GOD'S WORD SPOKEN OVER THOSE DRY BONES HAVE THE ABILITY TO BRING THOSE BONES BACK TOGETHER AGAIN. CONTINUE TO DO THAT, DON'T GIVE UP. KEEP PRAYING HIS WORD. GOD'S WORD WILL NOT RETURN TO HIM VOID! SPEAK IT AGAIN. THOSE DRY BONES CAN COME ALIVE AGAIN!

**Thursday, Aug. 7 JOHN OGDEN SR.**

**SCRIPTURE: 1. CORIN. 3:4**

JOHN SAID THIS HAS BEEN A BLESSED WEEK FOR HIM. HE'S BEEN TAKING A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE. HE HAS BEEN REMEMBERING THE HISTORY OF THIS EVENT. THIS EVENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANY OF THE THINGS THAT CMA HAS DEVELOPED AS MINISTRY TOOLS. IN 1975 HERB MADE HIS FIRST TRIP TO STURGIS, JUST TO SEE WHAT IT WAS LIKE. IN 1976 HE BROUGHT SHIRLEY WITH HIM. HE HAD A BANNER THAT HE HAD MADE AND HE DID A DEVOTION. THAT FIRST NIGHT THE BIKERS HAD A MOCK SERVICE. LATER ONE NIGHT HERB WAS ROLLING UP THE BANNER, AND A BIKER ASKED IF HE COULD HAVE IT. HERB WAS RELUCTANT, BUT FELT HE SHOULD GIVE IT TO HIM, SO HE DID. YEARS LATER THAT BANNER WAS SENT BACK TO CMA. THE BIKER, THAT HAD GOTTEN IT, TOLD CMA THAT IT HAD HUNG IN THEIR CLUBHOUSE ALL THOSE YEARS, AND THAT EVERYTIME HE LOOKED AT IT...GOD TUGGED ON HIS HEART. HE FINALLY GAVE HIS LIFE TO THE LORD AND DECIDED THAT THE BANNER NEEDED TO BE RETURNED.

THE WHOLE IDEA OF THE GOSPEL CUPS, THE RAG TRACTS, AND EVEN THE FIRST VIDEO THAT THEY DID...WAS ALL FROM HERE!

CMA GOES TO SO MANY EVENTS – AND IT ALL HERE. HE TOLD OF A GUY HE HAD RIDDEN WITH. HE CALLED JOHN AND ASKED HIM IF HE WAS GOING TO STURGIS. JOHN TOLD HIM THAT HE GOES TO STURGIS EVERY YEAR. SO, THEY MET AT A VANOCKER CAMPGROUND. WHEN HE GOT THERE THIS GUY PULLED OUT SOME GLASS BOTTLES OF WHITE STUFF. JOHN DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THEY WERE, BUT HAD A GOOD IDEA. THE GUY DROPPED THEM ON THE GROUND AND STOMPED THEM INTO THE GROUND!

IT WAS SAID THAT THE POLICE CHIEF HAD COMMENTED THAT STURGIS IS BETTER, PARTLY DUE TO CMA. EVERYTHING THAT IS HAPPENING HERE IS BUILT ON THE SEEDS THAT WERE PLANTED YEARS AGO.

JOHN READ 1 CORINTHIANS 3:4 – TAKE HEED HOW ONE BUILDS. WE PRAY WITH PEOPLE. THERE IS NO PRESSURE TO "SAVE" SOMEONE – GOD BRINGS THE HARVEST! WE PLANT AND WATER THE SEEDS. OUR JOB IS TO LOVE AND CARE, AND SHOW THE LOVE OF JESUS. IT IS OUR ROLE TO ENCOURAGE, LOVE, AND PRAY WITH PEOPLE.

JOHN TOLD US OF ONE OF HIS FAVORITE QUOTES:

"WE ALL NEED LOVING THE MOST, WHEN WE DESERVE IT THE LEAST!"

MANY YEARS AGO HE REMEMBERS THAT A LADY AND HER DAUGHTER CAME TO THE MORNING SERVICE HERE. THE LADY WAS A VERY PROFESSIONAL, PROPER LOOKING LADY. THEY CAME IN AND SAT UP FRONT. AT THE END OF PRAYER, THE DAUGHTER GOT UP AND SHARED. YEARS AGO SHE WAS WITH A MOTORCYCLE CLUB GUY. SHE HEARD ABOUT OUR SERVICES AND SHE TOLD HIM THAT SHE WANTED TO GO TO OUR SERVICE. HE TOLD HER SHE COULD GO, BUT HE WOULD NOT COME IN. OUR LADIES TOOK THAT LADY, FROM HERE, AND TOOK HER TO MONTANA AND SHE WAS REHABILITATED. HER MOTHER CAME BACK AND TESTIFIED THAT HER DAUGHTER HAD BEEN VERY LOST AND IS NOW SAVED!

HE TOLD OF HOW GOD GUIDES OUR FOOTSTEPS. NO ONE IS ANY MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANYONE ELSE. THE GROUND IS LEVEL AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS. JOHN SAID THAT LATELY HE HAD BEEN THINKING OF THE SONG "IT IS WELL", AND WHAT IT MEANS. GOD TELLS US HIS YOKE IS EASY AND HIS BURDEN IS LIGHT. JOHN HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION – "IT MAY BE

WELL WITH MY SOUL – BUT I STILL HAVE TO WALK BY FAITH! MY BURDEN IS LIGHT, IT IS SETTLED IN HEAVEN, IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL.”

HE TOLD OF KNOWING PEOPLE WHO LOVE THE LORD, BUT HAVE ADDICTIONS. HE HAS DECIDED THAT IT IS NOT HIS JOB TO “CLEAN THE FISH” – IT’S HIS JOB TO LOVE THEM. A LOT OF TIMES HE SEES THINGS ON THE STREETS AND THINKS – “OH! THAT’S NOT THE RIGHT WAY TO DO THAT!” BUT, HE’S NOT RESPONSIBLE TO TELL THEM. HE JUST NEEDS TO PLANT AND WATER THE SEEDS. GOD REAPS THE HARVEST!

**Friday, Aug. 8      JAY WILBER      II CORIN. 4; 5:11-18   ROMANS 1:14   EPH. 3:14**

NORMALLY, JAY AND JANE ARE ALWAYS HERE FOR THE MORNING SERVICES. THIS YEAR HAS BEEN VERY DIFFERENT FOR THEM. THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING AT THE “FREE LOT”, WHICH WE HAVE DECIDED TO START CALLING THE “MINISTRY LOT”!

GOD GOT HIM TO THINKING...WHY DO WE DO THIS? WHY DO WE COME HERE? THEN GOD TOLD ME TO STOP JUDGING!

AT THE MINISTRY LOT WE ARE TO GO AND GREET EVERYONE THAT COMES IN THERE. MANY TIMES THERE ARE THOSE THAT LOOK ROUGH – AND THEN WE FIND OUT THAT THEY’RE A BELIEVER! ONE MAN CAME AND VISITED WITH JAY AND TOLD HIM HOW HE’S ON A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY. HIS GIRLFRIEND DIED 8 MONTHS AGO – FROM CANCER. HE HAS DONE DRUGS, LOST HIS JOB, AND SUCH. HE SAID I SUPPOSE I NEED TO SAY THE SINNER’S PRAYER. JAY BACKED OFF AND SPOKE SOME MORE SHARING HOW SOMEONE HELPED HIM . AND THEN HE TOLD THAT MAN THAT HE DOESN’T NEED THE SINNER’S PRAYER... “YOU NEED JESUS!”

STOP EVALUATING OTHERS BY A HUMAN POINT OF VIEW. JAY FULLY UNDERSTOOD “BE STILL” YESTERDAY. SHARE – NO MATTER HOW FAR OR WHAT YOU’VE DONE – YOU CAN STILL BE RECONCILED WITH GOD. YOU CAN STILL BECOME AN AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST. WITH CHRIST’S AUTHORITY COMES RESPONSIBILITY TO REPRESENT HIM! WE NEED TO WORK HARD TO CONVINCE OTHERS OF HIS LOVE AND THE RESPONSIBILITY THAT COMES WITH BEING AN AMBASSADOR. SOMETIMES THEY CAN GET OFF THEIR BIKE AND COME TO US BEFORE WE CAN GET OFF OUR CHAIR. MINISTER TO ALL PEOPLE – BELIEVERS AND NON-BELIEVERS. DO NOT BE ASHAMED – HAVE UNWAVERING CONFIDENCE IN ONE’S FAITH, A BOLDNESS. WE’RE CHANGING THE “FREE LOT” TO THE “MINISTRY LOT”. DON’T BE AFRAID, BE BOLD. SAVE THEM FROM JUMPING OFF THE CLIFF. WE HAVE A LOT OF OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE HERE.

CMA’ERS ARE HUMBLE SERVANTS FOR CHRIST’S SAKE. BE THAT! WE MIGHT BE THE JESUS, OR THE ONLY BIBLE THAT THEY READ! HE’S HAD PEOPLE TELL THEM THAT THEY’VE NEVER MET A CMA’ER THAT WASN’T LOVING, CARING, AND HELPFUL.

JAY PRAYED EPHESIANS 3:14. KNOW THAT AND SHARE IT WITH OTHERS.

**Saturday, Aug. 9      LYLE HERMAN      MATT. 10:28; 19:10; JOHN 3:16; 15:13; I JOHN 4:19**

LYLE THANKED ALL OF US FOR WORKING HERE, FROM HIM AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. ROGER IS A PUSHER – HE TOOK LYLE FOR COFFEE ON TUESDAY AND TOLD HIM HE WAS DOING THE DEVOTION ON SATURDAY. LYLE WAS GOING TO SHARE ON THE HISTORY OF CMA HERE – JOHN SR. DID THAT. THEN, LYLE WAS GOING TO SHARE ON “WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO” – JAY DID THAT. SO, HE’LL DO A BIT OF BOTH.

THE FIRST TIME HE CAME HE WAS NEW TO CMA AND THE BIKING COMMUNITY. HE WAS TOLD TO PUT THE BACKPATCH ON AND WALK THE STREETS AND WALK THE WALK. ONE GUY TOLD HIM YOU MUST HAVE 200 PEOPLE HERE!

WE HAD THE BANK PARKING LOT YEARS AGO – BUT THEN THE BANK DECIDED TO RENT IT OUT. WE HAD THE WATER WAGON – THAT GOT STOPPED. THEN THE RAG TRACTS AND ANGELS.

EACH YEAR GOD GIVES US NEW WAYS TO MINISTER HERE. WE TAKE OUR VACATIONS DOING CMA MINISTRY IT'S A COMMAND FROM THE LORD TO GO AND EVANGELIZE. LESS THAN 11% OF CHRISTIANS GO OUT AND EVANGELIZE. (READ THE SCRIPTURES) LYLE BELIEVES WE ARE ALL CALLED TO MINISTRY – BY GOD. Satan DOESN'T WANT US TO BE HERE.

LYLE TOLD OF YEARS AGO, AT A ROUGH ABATE RALLY, HE WAS HAVING PITY PARTY. HE THOUGHT "I COULD BE FISHING". A STILL SMALL VOICE SAID – "HOW LONG WOULD YOU BE HAPPY DOING THAT?" SATURDAY MORNING, CLOSE TO 9AM – A GUY CAME UP CURSING, LYLE JUST WANTED TO "LAY HANDS ON HIM". AT 9AM HE WENT TO PEG AND SAID WE'RE GOING TO LUNCH. THOSE GUYS SAW HIS BACKPATCH AND ASKED WHAT THAT WAS ABOUT. LYLE SHARED. THEN THE GUYS SHARED THAT HE'D HAD AN ACCIDENT AND HIS GIRLFRIEND WAS KILLED. THIS WAS HIS LAST HOORAH – HE THOUGHT. LYLE AND SOME OTHER CMA GUYS TOOK HIM BACK TO THEIR TENT AND PRAYED WITH HIM. HE ACCEPTED JESUS. LYLE KNEW THEN HE WAS RIGHT IN THE MINISTRY THAT GOD WANTED HIM IN.

LYLE PRAYED FOR US.