

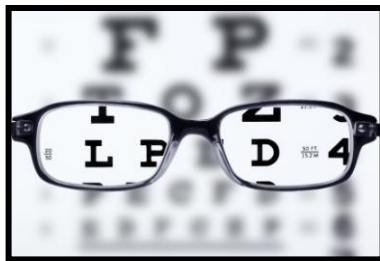
THE VOICE

DAYSPRING CHRISTIAN CENTER
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2014

The Real 20/20 Experience

By Ki Hughes



Look closely and tell me what do you see in this life? What do you see becoming of your own life? Is it power? Esteem among the high rankings of a corporation? Is it your name in the bright lights? Could it simply be peace and happiness in the years to come?

Well whatever it is we have as our focus in this life is going to be what we work hard to achieve. If we put our best foot forward to gain accolades and accomplishments in this life, we may reach them – then again we may not. That's one of the issues of focusing on something that we can't predict nor, for certainty, cause to happen. Our efforts are expensed by focusing on a hope of something that is really left up to chance.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

02.16.14

2013 4th Qtr Financial Meeting

02.22.14

W.O.W. Ministry Outing

02.25.14

Pastor Charles' Birthday

03.02.14

Church Movie Outing

03.09.14

"GOD vs Evil" Event

None of us can make our dreams come true, but focus on them helps us be content with sufficient results based on our best efforts.

What about in the spiritual realm? Once focused on spiritual things it's always a better investment and more fulfilling life. The best part about having a dedicated spiritual focus is that we have promised outcomes; specific benefits of our hard labor and focus on the things of God. One of the most notable items is heaven! Imagine if your whole life you only focused on doing what it took to get to heaven. How would that look? Your every concern in this life was only to get to the next life. No high paying job, no award ceremonies, no 20-bedroom home, and no celebrity list of friends, just the diligent desire to see God's commands lived out in your life in obedience. Can you see it? Unlike our aspirations in the world, which are ever changing and never certain, when we focus in on heaven we have a promised place of rest, restoration, and rejoicing that we are 100% certain to take hold of. The outcome is never bleak nor is our focus on achieving its rest ever in vain.

Think about every person you know who was focused on a particular thing or dream. What would you say were the odds of success? 50%? 60%? 80%? I challenge you today, that if you put that same focus into trying to please God for the promise of heaven, you have a 100% chance of achieving your goal! What better odds could you ask for? Let's get focused on that which has a guaranteed return on investment. Focus in on heaven and reap the benefits of your spiritual investments in the end! In Jesus' name, AMEN!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DAYSPRING MEMBERS...

- Please plan to attend the 2013 4th Qtr Financial Meeting held on **2/16/14 at 1:15pm** in the Sanctuary.
- February is the **MONTH OF PRAYER**. Please be sure to pray for...
 - 1. Church healthiness.** That we fulfill God's vision for DaySpring, and that we continue to grow in unity and love.
 - 2. Our members.** God meets every NEED, that we each are committed to serving our church and supporting/encouraging our Pastor.
 - 3. Our friends, family and coworkers.** That they may come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

Psalms 31:1

In You, O LORD,
I put my trust; Let me
never be ashamed;
Deliver me in
Your righteousness.

Are You Trusting?

UPCOMING EVENTS

"W.O.W. (Women of the Word) Ministry"
Saturday, February 22nd @ 4:00pm
Golf-N-Stuff | 10555 E. Firestone Blvd.,
Norwalk CA 90650

Ladies, please join the W.O.W. Ministry for some fun and bonding at Golf-n-Stuff. The cost is \$15.00 per person for 2.5hrs of fun... if we have a group of 10 or more. Please RSVP with *Shan* at 323.965.0568 by **2/18/14**. For information about Golf-n-Stuff, please visit www.golfnstuff.com

Please check out the W.O.W. Ministry at www.dayspringcc.org/wow-ministry

"Pastor Charles' Birthday Celebration"
Tuesday, February 25th @ 7pm
DaySpring Christian Center

Join us to celebrate Pastor Charles' birthday! What better way to help our Pastor have a happy birthday then to celebrate with him in church.

"Son of God" Movie- Rated PG13
Sunday, March 2nd Time: Estimated 3pm
AMC Southbay Galleria 16
1815 Hawthorne Blvd, Redondo Beach, 90278
Ticket Price: \$9.00 (must be purchased by 2/25/14)

DaySpring, we're going to the movies! Join us to see The "Son of God", a movie that chronicles the birth, teachings, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. There has been no movie released like this since the Passion of the Christ 10 years ago. Don't miss it. To buy tickets see or contact **Tinaya Hughes** at 562.208.5023.

"GOD vs Evil"
Sunday, March 9th @ 11am
DaySpring Christian Center

Join us for DaySpring's 3rd Annual, Defending the Faith event. This year our topic is "GOD vs Evil". Invite your skeptic friends, family and co-workers to hear a thought-provoking message from our favorite apologist, Greg Koukl from *Stand to Reason*.

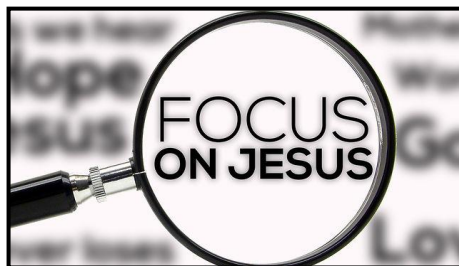
SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

H.U.G. (*hospitality, usher & greeters*) Team
Prayer Team

If interested in serving, please see or contact Ministry Director, Ki Hughes at 323.608.9586 or md@dayspringcc.org

Focus of Christ. The Model to Follow.

By Ashley Smith



If you were to ask the average person what Jesus Christ was focused on, what He taught and demonstrated, most likely, you would hear this: "Jesus taught about love. Love each other, and even love your enemies." Hmmm. Not a bad answer. In fact, in Matthew 22:34-40 the Pharisees ask Jesus which commandment in the law is the greatest? Jesus responds with two directives: to love the Lord with all heart, mind and soul, and to love your neighbor as yourself. Such is the "Great Commandment," so love is definitely important, but if it is true that the central focus of Jesus' message was love, explain this: why was He persecuted, tortured and sentenced to a violent death on a Roman cross?

More accurately, Jesus was focused primarily on doing God's Will. This required him to proclaim controversial truths about the Kingdom of God and challenge religious and political leaders. Although Jesus taught to be loving, honest, and humble the part that infuriated his adversaries the most was that he made it clear that entering the Kingdom of God relied on a transformation of one's spirit by accepting and following Him. He would be the sacrifice for man's sins and re-establish our relationship with God. This truth went against the belief that one's works and religious sacrifices/rituals were the way into God's Kingdom, and got him into contentious encounters with individuals whose principles and popular influence he undermined.

Jesus fearlessly and theologically made known the Gospel when and where God placed Him. He was tactical in his mission; sharing with men and women from every walk of life, making disciples of men who were pivotal in continuing to spread the gospel after his death and resurrection. Jesus provides the perfect demonstration of how to humbly serve God and do His Will, and this is the greatest example of how we should model our lives as Christians.

After accepting the gracious gift of salvation, we must seek God's Kingdom wholeheartedly; repent and turn our lives around. In order to understand God's Will we must learn the Bible, so that we may demonstrate and articulate the Gospel authentically. Like Jesus, we should be obedient to God's Will. Allowing our words and display of loving godly character to proclaim the reality of the Gospel and draw people to Christ, salvation, and eventually heaven.



Members Corner

By Tinaya Hughes

Hey Fam!!!!

I hope everyone is having a great month. If not, remember that's a good thing. The testing of your faith produces perseverance and we are ALL in this for the long hall...

I also want to acknowledge Jessica Chavez who not only gave her life to Christ, but also became our first 2014 DSCC member. Let's give it up for Jessica!!!!



This month's **HIGHLIGHTED** member is KI HUGHES (the one with the big SMILE). Here is his perspective of being a biblical church member

When you consider yourself a biblical church member you have to consider what that looks like in everyday life. As a basketball player, I embodied what it meant to be a star athlete. I worked out daily, I exercised regularly, I ate the proper foods and I looked like a ball player in the way I walked. Now with that in mind if I call myself a Christian, what characteristics, habits and lifestyle should I embody?

As a general principle, I need to be doing something daily that works out my dedication to what I profess. Without a serious work ethic daily to get stronger and better equipped in the faith, I won't be ready for the spiritual warfare that I'm set to encounter. I have to exercise that faith and get more confident in it and have it be second nature just like my jump shot. I have to continually feed myself the spiritual substance that will fuel me through strenuous days and it has to be evident to everyone who sees me that I'm a Christian. My lifestyle, the way I talk and the way I walk showcase a distinct characteristic that lets people know I really do this life and don't just talk it.

What does that say to you? How do people see you when you say you're a Christian? Are you proud to let people know that about you? I submit to us all today, if you claim to be something that you love and want others to know you for, make that very thing be having others know you as a true worshipping, biblically obedient child of God. I know I am!

Being a biblical Christian is an act that you can follow up by a good second performance. It's a lifestyle; a regular way of living that shows itself no matter where you go or in what you do because it is 100% apart of and so authentic, people can only attribute it to being just who you are!

Pursuit of Godliness

By Kesha Griffin



Chasing the things of this world is exhausting. For no matter how much we strive to do what the world tells us to do; make money, get a high-paying job, get married, buy a house, buy this kind of car, wear this name brand clothing... and my favorite (I'm being sarcastic), live it up because "YOLO" (You Only Live Once). Yet, the world fails to mention, that chasing stuff really is an endless pursuit that produces emptiness and discontentment.

Sadly many of us Christians have bought the lie that the world has told us, that the more stuff we have the happier we will be because our value comes from stuff. However, the Word of God gives Christians a completely opposing perspective on how to obtain true contentment, happiness and value. A Christian is told to *not* love the things of this world (*1 John 2:15*), do *not* love money (*1 Timothy 6:10*), and to *deny* our selfish desires (*Titus 2:12*). I know many of us are thinking, God does not want me to do anything. But the Bible is filled with many things that we are told we can do. The question is do we want to do what God says we can do (tongue twister), and do we actually do them?

We are told we can seek first the Kingdom of God (*Matthew 6:33*), seek God wholeheartedly (*Jeremiah 29:13, Matthew 22:37*), store ourselves Heavenly treasure (*Matthew 6:20*) and to pursue godliness (*1 Timothy 6:6-11*). Now how many of these can do's are on your to-do list? Any at all? Ironically, these are the very necessary actions needed for us to obtain our goal of contentment, happiness and to find our value. Reason being, God is in the center, and we know that God IS the center of our joy and our peace.

It's time for Christians to stand out from the rest of the world. No longer just being "good" people. Rather godly people. People who are fully devoted to God and seeking to please Him. And when we do this, God says we will gain much. "*But godliness is a means of great gain, when accompanied by contentment*" *1 Timothy 6:6*

Pastoral Thought

Many of us struggle to keep Jesus first in our lives. To make Him a priority. Yet when we fail to do so, life seems to overtake us. Remember, our peace comes when our minds are focused on Him. (Isaiah 26:3)

DaySpring Christian Center

Location:

16115 S. Denker Ave, Gardena, CA 90247

Service Times:

Sundays-11am | Tuesdays Bible Study - 7pm

Contact Information:

PO Box 3505, Gardena, CA 90247 | Tel/Fax: (310) 853-8477 | Email: info@dayspringcc.org | Website: www.dayspringcc.org