



Freedom in the Word

Ron Brigmon Ministries

ronbrigmon@aol.com

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PROGRESS IN THE PROCESS

Ron Brigmon

As we make progress in the process of growing up spiritually we must go through three stages: 1. It's all about me (Baby stage) 2. It's all about thee (Others mentality) and 3. It's all about we. (The team Concept)

We can't start our journey to spiritual maturity until we acknowledge that it's not all about me. We then unload the negative baggage of denial, self-justification, and the victim mentality. (Excuses) The great evangelist Dwight L. Moody once said, "I've never had as much problem with any man as I've had with Dwight L. Moody."

Psalm 8:4 says, "What is man that thou art mindful of him and the son of man that you would visit him?" This is God's world and we are just passing through as "vapors." (James 4:14)

To graduate from this baby stage we must pray the prayer in John 3:30, "Jesus must increase, but I must decrease." As God answers this prayer, we will exemplify the fruit of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-23)

Stage two maturity means we have finally discovered the world of "others." Philippians 2:3-5 - ... in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. It's basically just putting others first, but what if they do the same for you. It could be "heaven on earth".

Stage three maturity means we have discovered the team concept of "we." 1 Corinthians 12:14, 21 - For the body is not one member, but many. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee.... We are the body of Christ fitly joined together to promulgate the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost and hurting world. We who may be an apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor or teacher are given for the edification of the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11) We are a team.

At the place of agreement is the place of power. (Matthew 18:19) Everything that the team does is for God's glory and not the individual. (Colossians 3:23-24) We are a team and you have a part, let's grow up in the Kingdom with unity in our heart. Are you making progress in your process? It's time to start!

NO BIG DEAL

Katie Brigmon

John 20:23 - If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained. NKJV

In our twenty-six years of ministry we have tried to be very diligent in our dependability. In spite of that, we have missed two ministry commitments. The first one was very early on and we totally forgot the commitment. The second time happened last year. We had failed to transfer a commitment date from one calendar to another.

We returned from a prison engagement out of town and a chaplain had left us several messages wondering where we were. We felt awful. We dreaded calling him but we definitely wanted to apologize and explain what happened. As a chaplain, he holds the key to letting us come back to minister on his unit. That was important but not as important as being faithful to our word.

His response to our request for his forgiveness was, "**No big deal.**" He continued, "It could have been my fault." We knew it wasn't but his words immediately had the power to unlock us from tremendous shame and guilt. He could have made it a big deal but he didn't.

Proverbs 16:24 says that *words can bring healing to the bones*. I knew full well God would forgive us but when that chaplain was generous with his mercy he set us free from guilt. Find some way to release mercy on someone today. Our Father has certainly released mercy to us.

MINISTRY FOR AUGUST:

- Bartlett Unit.....Aug. 2, 6, 13, 16, 23, 27
- Terrace, Hackberry & Sycamore Units.....Aug. 5
- Travis Unit.....Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27
- Lockhart Unit (Women).....Aug. 12
- FCI Bastrop.....Aug. 19
- Halbert UnitAug. 26
- Hughes Unit.....Aug. 29

Mercy Prayer

Father, according to your word in James 2:13, he shall have judgment without mercy, that has showed no mercy. Father, help me to forgive and show mercy to others, because I don't want to be judged without mercy. In Jesus' name, amen.

Mercy : God's pardon when justice demands a settlement! RR

Forgiving the unforgivable is hard.
But so was the cross: hard words,
hard wood, hard nails

Pray the Word

Phil 2:3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

Real humility is not thinking less of yourself--but thinking of yourself less.
- Rick Warren

It's all about God and not about me, when I serve others that's humility. RR

Last Month your support helped us minister the Word at: Bastrop FCI & FPC, Kyle Unit, Bartlett Unit, Lockhart Women's Unit, Travis Unit, Halbert Unit, Gatesville Units (3), Williamson County Jail, and TCCC

MAIL BAG

Dear Ron & Katie Brigmon: This letter of appreciation is way over due. How can I begin to say how much you personally and the Ron Brigmon Ministries has meant to me and the TCSO. If I could describe you in one word it would be readiness: Readiness to give, assist, pray, and be there for a Chaplain.

Those individuals that make their check out to Ron Brigmon Ministries need to know that the money is multiplied. How much we Chaplains need someone who is there. You all have given equipment to be used in our Chapel services that has enhanced what we do. But the fruit of the Spirit, which is manifested in you all, is what impacts me so much.

You get in the faces of inmates with the truth of the

Lord and come to them ready to lead them to the grace of God. The Kingdom of the Lord will bless you for your passion to speak in the lives of men and women. My dear friends, thank you for being there and being such dear friends. May this ministry capture fresh new vision and continue to have a passion for our Lord. Rev. Tommy McIntosh, Senior Chaplain, Travis County Sheriff's Office

Hello Family: It's truly an honor and a privilege to be in a family where a brother like Ron and my dear sister Katie not only stand in the gap interceding for me, but comes to visit me and always has a word of encouragement for me personally in Christ. Thank you and God bless you. C.D.

MATTHEW 25:36
TEAM MEMBER

...I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU CAME...