

Jackie Wattnem—A Word from the Lord

This is something God shared with me a few weeks ago and I wrote it down. *I felt lead to share this with the steering committee last Monday night when we met and they asked me if I would share it with you tonight.*

I have been corrected by the Lord for not reaching out to more people here at the gathering. I am a reserved person especially when I don't know someone very well and I tend to hold back. In fact, I to go to those people I know because I feel safe with them.

I believe God wants me to reach out to someone each week and get to know them a little better. Then when I come on Sundays I will feel comfortable and free to be who God intended me to be.

This is what I heard God telling me.

How can the body feel the pain of another part if it doesn't know that part. Do I know each of your hopes and dreams so I can have joy for you when one of your dreams is answered? Being a family is hard and requires me to ask God to remove my fears and be more open with you. I need to want to be a loving person to God and to others.

We are not too large yet, to set that precedent in the gathering, so that as we grow, the same attitude will be carried on as the true mission we are about. The body of Christ loving Him and loving each other.

I know each person is at a different level in their walk with the Lord but the leaders and the mature Christians need to emulate that principle. If I asked each person here the majority would believe in their hearts that they are mature but does it show to everyone else, that is the real question? If we think we are "mature" then we need to learn how to feed with milk or meat according to each individual.

If I don't have God's love for others then I need to ask Him to move me to that place in Him. This has been hard for me because God has shown me how selfish I really am. I hate it, but ultimately God needs to change me.

It is the Holy Spirit's job to convict others and my job to love and point them in the right direction which is to seek God and ask for themselves these questions.

- ◆ How do I hear you Jesus?
- ◆ Will you teach me how to love others and you, Lord?
- ◆ Can you lead me to find my gifts and help me to use them for others?
- ◆ I know many of you have other questions that you want answered and so do I.

God is faithful and He will answer all of our questions!

My tendency to want a magic wand and zap people out of their situations or

THE GATHERING 10-15-11

at the very least for them to have peace about their problems. Only by turning to God and doing what He says, can they truly grow and have true peace.

I need to always lead them back to Jesus and to the fact that it is their responsibility to seek, listen and obey. Everyone here is important and needed to seek the Lord, as to how to keep *the gathering* moving in the right direction.

I am not able to love, like God wants me to, but **HE IS ABLE** and He will let His love flow through me if I let Him because **His Love never fails.**

I see a core group of people here at the gathering who are truly family in God's way. That group will be added to everyday because all of us will be reaching out to others with His love.

When we think of our own families. How much do we love them? What would we do to help them? Do I always jump in and bail them out or sometimes do they need to skin a knee? Do they always feel loved even when corrected? What are God's desires for our families? Do I pray for them?

I think God wants this for all of us and I know we can't get there on our own. We can ask God to do it and obey when He tells us what to do. Does this make you uncomfortable? It does me but do I want **His will more than my own**? Will I be asked too much by God? Probably! He always requires death to self to move forward with Him. My prayer is that God will change me. Thanks for letting me share my heart with you tonight.

I am looking forward to getting to know all of you.

LET'S PRAY

God, all of us here tonight want to hear your voice and to be used by you. I ask you to give us the desires of **your heart** so that we can truly reach others with **your love**. Thank you in Jesus name.