

Father's love mobilising thousands to rescue Muslims

Mahabba love in action: responding to Muslims in prayer and action

Eph 3:14-21: my response is to get down on my knees before the father, this magnificent father who parcels out all heaven and earth. I ask him to strengthen you by his spirit—not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength—that Christ will live in you as you open the door and invite him in. And I ask him that with both feet planted firmly on love, you'll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of god. God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his spirit deeply and gently within us.

Eph 6:10: finally, be strong in the lord and in his mighty power. 11 put on the full armour of god, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 for our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

The essential purposes of this letter to the Ephesians:

- Kingdom faith, seeing the nations as their inheritance
- Knowing their authority - seated with him
- Reconciled and bonded in unity with a revelation of love
- Repaired, rebuilt and restored
- Walking right in all their attitudes, lifestyles and relationships
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- Finally, clothed with his mighty power
- Ready to take a stand against the demonic realm
- To take up spiritual warfare to rescue people
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this is a training manual for rescuing people from false ideologies

- So many jump straight into chapter 6 and get hurt!

Most important lesson: we don't fight people! People are never our enemy!

- Ephesians is the training manual for the church as it faced massive harvest and massive opposition at the same time
- We have to have an encounter first with father's love
- Otherwise we focus on fighting Islam, rather than loving people into god's family
- Be a lamb to people...and a lion to the devil!
- We fight spiritual forces at every level...personal to territorial
- This is why we need protection
- But don't single out Islam, and demonize it
- All religion stinks! There's as much demonic in Christianity!

- Remember Jesus said to Peter: you're the man!
- Then "get behind me, Satan!"
- Religious spirits of deception, fear and control operate with us too!

This is a spiritual battle: don't try to be clever and win an argument

- Academics, theology, dialogue, apologetics, polemics are all great...
- But that is not where the battle is!
- We have to refuse to be intimidated by the devil
- Having done everything Paul has mentioned...
- We can stand and go in the opposite spirit...that's warfare!

the second lesson: our greatest battle will be against fear and unbelief

- Prayer is not enough: the issue is faith!
- Not saving faith... I mean kingdom faith
- Knowing how to hear the word, come to faith
- Then you are shielded, but also armed and effective
- Too many are locked up in fear and unbelief
- Luke 18: 7-8. However, when the son of man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

It is a prayer battle: we lose when we fail to engage in the warfare

- Josh 1:3 I will give you every place where you set your foot (to string your bow)
- This means "every place you engage in the fight – I will give you"
- It takes faith and love....
- But then time, perseverance, willingness to sacrifice
- 1 Pet 4: arm yourself with the willingness to sacrifice and suffer
- Rev 12:11: our victory is through his blood, our testimony, our willingness to sacrifice

Isaiah 45:2-3: God is breaking down the iron gates of Islam

- Muslim people are different from the spirit of Islam
- We are dealing with two separate issues here
- One are precious treasures, the other systems of darkness
- We must.... "face the facts but not fuel the fear – find a friend"
- There you have ...head, heart, and hands: prayer is the activator of all three
- Fear is the greatest hindrance to reaching Muslims
- Second hindrance: pastors who think it's the domain of specialists

Major challenge.... Hearts, minds and hands of the church

- Is 59: God's hand is blocked by our fear and unbelief
- We have so many misconceptions of Muslims....
- Fear stops us inviting them into our lives and homes.
- Malaysia: "what they fear will come upon them"
- Watford: reconciliation/9-11

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- My bible says... Faith works through love... Hence "mahabba"
- Love never fails...this is our ultimate weapon
- Most converts through Christians loving them.... after visions, and miracles

We have to come to faith and love through prayer

- Local prayer networks will mobilize the grass roots
- it's time to devote ourselves to prayer...
- There is a spirit behind every religion...even Christianity!
- No point evangelizing without prayer warfare!...
- Prayer is the detonator of the explosive of evangelism
- For god to remove fear and unbelief and fill us with love
- Ordinary Christians loving these treasures in darkness