

The Liberating Secret

Newsletter

July 2005

Volume

Coming Events

Steve Pettit is coming to Louisville, Ky.

to do a seminar July 29th and 31th. The conference will be held at the Old Methodist Church in Old Middletown, Main Street. The church is currently owned by the city of Middletown, and leased by a The Unity Church, on Sunday's. Please don't confuse Christ, Our Life Ministries with the Unity movement. Entirely different. We will start on Friday evening at 7:00 PM, continue all through Saturday beginning at 9:00 AM-12:00, break for lunch, with workshops in the afternoon, and another meeting after dinner. and end at noon on Sunday. There will be counseling time, share time, and talk-it-over groups as well.

Steve's leadership and ministry opportunities, seeks always to enlarge the church's awareness of "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27), so we as Christians may learn to live from our oneness with Christ.

Here is a short bio describing this dynamic man of God: Steve Pettit was born in Covington, Kentucky (b.9/2/55) and has received academic and theological education from Northern Kentucky University (1973-1978), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (1978-1979), and Luther Rice Seminary (1989-1991).

Steve is married (6/6/80) to Ella and they have five children – Rebekah (b.5/15/83) married to Jeremy (5/24/03), Joshua (b.5/15/83), Leah (b.7/24/84) married to Kevin (5/8/04), Rachel (b.6/6/86), and Gabriel (b.6/6/86). As a family, they wrote the monthly devotional for "HomeLife", a national family life magazine (SBC) for three years. Steve has also written numerous other articles for Christian publications.

After serving in volunteer missions in Israel (1976-1977), Steve worked in the local church as both associate pastor and pastor in Kentucky (1978-1988). Since December of 1988, Steve has served as Director of a counseling and teaching ministry

based in Florida.

As Director of One In Christ, Inc., Steve travels throughout the United States leading 20-25 discipleship, renewal, and family conferences per year. Throughout the week, people come to the One In Christ counseling center for personal and family counseling. In 1997, Steve also planted a new church start in Gainesville, Florida. Center Point Christian Fellowship, SBC, targets international students at the University of Florida. He is currently their pastor.

Steve has a counseling ministry to ministers throughout the south. He has weekends where ministers come together to be refreshed and renewed in Christ.

Whether leading Bible studies, family conferences, leadership training or in the counseling room, Steve is personally committed to the maturing of all believers through his gifts as teacher and counselor.

For more information please call Sylvia Pearce 502-245-4581. Don't miss this opportunity to be blessed by Steve.

For travel arrangements and accommodations please call Norma Mouser, at 1-800-223-7100 or e-mail her at norma@traveloptions.net. She is our travel agent and she can find you the most reasonable rates.

Ministry News

July is always hot and folks are always leaving town and going on vacation, but the Pearce house is still buzzing with people. We have every other Tuesday nights a bible study at Diane's, our daughter, across the river in Indiana. We also are doing a book study on Thursday nights here. We are studying, "The Law of Faith." It's been glorious and faith provoking at the same time. Sunday morning is a special time for worship, fellowship, reflecting on scriptures, and coffee. And of course, mornings with Dad and I sitting on our back porch watching the birds, listening to the water fountain, drinking coffee, and talking about Jesus.

Monday nights have picked up again at Charlene Brown's condo

pool. Norma Mouser, Charlene, Claudia Carter, and Margo Sanders are meeting to swim and do a book study/bible study.

I am back again working on my new book, since we are not doing too much traveling this summer. The book is called, "What Is Man? Commentary. Someone told me not to call it a commentary, but I don't know what else to call it. Any suggestions? I just finished a chapter called, "Co-Saviors," and I'm working on the next chapter called, "Intercession." Scott, my husband told me that he was glad that I put these chapters in the back of the book, because no one would ever buy the book with such strong stuff in the beginning chapters. It's not for the faint of heart, but it is for all who want to know intercession in a deeper way other than just praying intensely for people. Rees Howells once said that, "Prayers may be answered, but intercession must bring transformation in others."

I just sent my Romans 7 chapter to Jim Fowler, (we are musing Romans 7 together) and he loved it. We are theologically wise, on the same page again. That's great!

Prayer Request

There is not any new prayer request this month, it is all being covered by faith. Just one thing, pray for the Steve Pettit conference.

Praise Reports

Hi Fran.

It's great to hear from you. The drug demons were expelled out of me on the Sunday at Mom and Dad's house. The "want to" left me that day. I don't know what has been said or thought but I have been clean of all drugs except cigarettes and a few beers for several months now. Only that the Lord keep me as I can't. But the "want to" is gone. I got married since the last time I saw you. She is in recovery as I am. The neat think about all this is her "want to" has been gone since that Sunday also. I have been working on computers to make some money for us to live on. We

are renting an apartment from a friend but still looking for something more permanent. I also have been looking for a job as the computer work has been slow. We have been living day to day but now we are starting to live week to week, as normal people. The Lord is taking care of us as He has said he would. We have been looking for a church home and have visited a few. It looks like Southeast Christian Church might be where we end up. I hope to get Spirit Radio up and running again as soon as we can find a more permanent place to live.

I had a great Fathers day. The kids and I as well as my ex-wife and current wife all went to the movies together. The Lord has blessed me. Well I've got to go now. I'm at my in-laws using their internet and have their phone tied up. Send this to whoever might be interested if you want.

I love you loving me
Dave

A letter from a fan of "The Treasures of Darkness."

Dear Sylvia.

Wow! I have finished your book, and want to give it to even more people.... last Sunday's preacher, even yesterday's "preacher", a young missionary to Bolivia on his first return trip with his family to the US. THEY ARE STRESSED, but are seeing their experience as being purposed, as in the point of your book.

Perhaps it would appear that I deem your book to be appropriate for anyone else but me. Not so. You did write it for me. Thank you. I am overwhelmed by it. It will take me more than the present reading to wrap myself around and to get wrapped around me. It is not that the concept is new either from Scripture or from other Christian books. It is as if I have been hanging onto only the outer edge. Yah, a fringe Christian! Like the rest of mankind, I have always wrestled with sufferings in my life....in my case mostly psychological, even from preschool happenings. A few things are beginning to get sorted again. "Again" because I don't think I had some things sorted rightly.

God knows; you and I know why: "I" was doing the sorting.

I am struck by the fact that your book is so theological, but one a theologian could probably not write. I already told you on the phone that I loved the fact that it was filled with scriptures....thus its power, that the references being written out as they are is crucial to its impact. I can't tell you how many times I read a "Sylvia statement" and said to myself, "What!!!!" It turned out that every time it was a Scripture truth that I had never seen before for what it really had to say. Most of the verses were so embarrassingly familiar that I did not even have to trust in the accuracy of their transcription.

Thank you again,

Love,
Bette

Faith is always in praise, because we do see it already done. Praise is powerful, and like Helen Overly says, "Praise removes the fear so faith can step in and declare the victory!" If you have any praise reports, please send the to me at sylviap@theliberatingsecret.com.

Testimonies

Dear Sylvia,

Good morning from sunny and cool NC. I have been reflecting on our time with you at the conference. It was just a wonderful time of refreshing. Not only is Union Life liberating initially, it is Liberating in very practical ways day by day. I'll find myself beginning to walk down the "old" path and then be caught up in remembrance of The One who is my life, my true self, and smile.

We loved meeting all of you. We loved seeing where you live. We loved seeing a small bit of Kentucky (a state we have never visited). We loved the experiences of "getting there". We

loved hearing so many versions of the same story. Jesus is truly lovely and we saw Him in each of you.

I am reminded that when we moved to Wilmington (and the beach), my thought was that, as a child I always hated to leave the beach where I felt so free and alive. We were on vacation and it was wonderful! Now that I lived here, I would never have to leave the beach again. That's what it's like knowing where I live in Jesus. I'll never have to leave and come back again. I can live always in the reality and refreshment of His presence within me.

Perhaps we will be able to come again to hear Steve Petit in July. If Jesus wants to come as us, we'll be there.

God bless you and your family. You all worked so hard to make all of us feel comfortable and welcome. Jenny and all who helped with the particulars, fed us and watered us and took care of all our needs. Please extend our thanks to all who served. We thank our God for every remembrance of you and our time together.

Our love and blessings to you, Marion and Gray Dixon

Dear Fran & Jenny,

I personally want to thank you both, from the bottom of my heart, for taking the time to help us have a successful prayer retreat. I for one received a tremendous blessing from it and I think I can speak for all the other ladies present. I just don't know how two ladies can possibly be as filled with the Holy Spirit as you two! Such good, good Christians. As your neighbor lady in SC stated, I want what you have too! I wanted to ask what happened with her?

I just cannot imagine having the positive attitude you girls show, Jenny, I believe made the remark that you took the wrong road coming up, who else would say well, it must be for a reason! I hope I can remember that one instead of going off the deep end the next time something like that happens to me. I'm am so

lacking in patience, but I do believe I brought home with me some thoughts today that just might help.

Again, thank you for taking time from your busy schedules to visit us in the mountains, I hope we have the opportunity to meet with you again.

Bless you both

Hi Jenny,

I just want to tell you how much I enjoyed the women's retreat last week. You and Fran were so inspiring.

You spoke a truth very clearly that I never gave much thought to until last Saturday. You spoke of Christ living in us and through us. And when he sent the Holy Spirit that the Spirit need the skin to continue to live in the world to do His works. And the skin is us. Wow! What an awesome responsibility. And you went on to say that the Spirit is Light and the Light is in me. Wow, again.

Jenny, what you said was life changing for me.

I once had a pastor that told us that it is easier to love all people if you look through the eyes of Jesus. Jesus loves us all. That forever changed the way that I see people. When I get frustrated with someone I try to remember to look through the eyes of our Lord Jesus and see somebody He loves. It make it a lot easier for me to love. Thank you for coming to see us and thank you for speaking the truth and revealing it to me. I am forever grateful.

I love you and your ministry.

Prayerfully yours,

Words of Faith

My Dearest and Beloved David, I am writing this note to tell you I love you with all of my Jesus Heart. I know Jesus has you in His Strong Hold. I will not leave you nor forsake you . I Fought Satan and his drug demons for your life that day in your Mama and Daddy's house and I will not give you over to them. Jesus told

me that you are in the belly of the whale for 3 days. David hear me Jesus is in the belly of the whale with you. Plead with Him to spit you out on Holy Ground, and if need be tie you to a tree to keep you away from the addictions that scream "You belong to us David". They are liars and have the smell of Hell, they cannot have you! David they meant to kill you that day. Come to the Mercy Seat and scream "I belong to Jesus Christ and Hell shall prevail against me, for I am held by my true Master Jesus Christ." David my son, the Mercy Seat is in the belly of the whale, available to you
I Love You David.

Your Spirit Mom, Fran "Love' Giles

This Months Article

What is the "call of intercession?"

Sylvia Pearce

God said to Moses, "I will send you to Pharaoh (Ex. 53:12); God said to Isaiah: "Go, and tell this people (Isa. 6:9); God said to Jeremiah "This day I have set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant; God said of John the Baptist, "There is a man sent from God" (John 1:6); and God said of Paul, "He is a chosen vessel to me to bear my name before the gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: For I will show him how great things he **must suffer** for my name's sake" (Acts 9:15).

All intercession starts with a call from God. The call usually is so overwhelming that you immediately know that only the Holy Spirit Himself can fulfill the intercession. Sometimes it is so overwhelming that you like Jonah want to run from it, or like Jesus Himself have it removed from you "take this cup from me." That is normal, because it **is** impossible for you to undertake. The impact of its immensity is scary and too big for anyone. Why me, and how can I? is our first questions. Sometimes the Holy

Spirit doesn't even show you what He is going to accomplish through you. I've had Him say to me, this is none of your business. Looking back, if I had known, I couldn't have taken it anyway. The last point to consider is that we need not look for our intercessions, it or they will find us.

How do we know that we are being called? It all starts with desire, God's desire in you. He/you desire someone to be saved, He/you desires for this situation or our marriage to be healed, or He/you wants someone to be set free. Or maybe it is bigger than your loved ones, maybe He/you desire for people to know the truth of union, or maybe your church is still preaching legalism and you want more for them. It will be suited just for you, for it is the Holy Spirit groanings in you desiring transformation, and liberation.

For me it was my husband. He was not a free man, he was bound by **his** ferocious temper, **his** total control over the family, **his** flirtatious lust towards women and young girls, and **his** total control over **his** hard earned money. Does that sound like your husband, or someone you know? All this is pretty common behavior for un-discovered independent-self.¹

He was a Christian, that was for sure, but he did not operate from who he really was, as Christ. Nor did he see anything wrong with his behavior, at least if he did he surely wouldn't tell me. But I got glimpses of how much he lived in self- condemnation. Every problem that he had, he blamed me. It is pretty typical of people who condemn themselves to take their frustrations out on others. But you know, I just loved him--I know, that kind of love had to be supernatural, and it was. That didn't mean that I escaped the pain of dark days, and restless nights, no intercessor does that. Pain is apart of it. "If you suffer with me, you will reign with me." That did not mean that I was a doormat either. No, Christ as me is no doormat. Jesus said that, "No man takes my life from me, but I will lay it down of myself." I wouldn't let Scott take my life from me, I couldn't. One day, he was reprimanding me for loosing a renter's check. I took the responsibility, but he wouldn't stop preaching at me. I didn't

¹ My precious husband has given me permission to say all this. His comment was, "I never say no to God." "This might help others to know how to believe the impossible." I believe I have a miracle man for a husband.

need to take that so I said, "The only reason that you condemn me like this is because you condemn yourself, I don't deserve this kind of treatment, and neither do you." "Stop taking condemnation from the devil." He stopped immediately. My job is just to tell him the truth, nothing else.

What did I tell myself? I told myself that Scott was perfect for me, just the way he was. I based that on the fact that God ordains all things in our lives for our good, not because God ordains evil for evil's sake that would make God sadistic. God means all things to work together for our good. As I took my husband's behavior as God's very best for me. Then I had peace with God, and peace about Scott. Some would say, "Well then that justifies Scott." Scott is responsibility for Scott. My faith stand doesn't justify any of his wrong behavior. And if he would dare say that I am perfect for him too, there wouldn't be much fight left.

One of the first thing I had to learn was that I was not his Holy Spirit. He was really strong willed and prideful so thankfully he wouldn't let me be his Holy Spirit anyway. Actually, I always say that the greatest gift God ever gave me was a man who I could not even in the slightest way change. He was my impossible brick wall. However this impossibility is the perfect condition for producing desire in me. A desire so strong that I cried out one day, "Lord, you have to set Scott free, whatever it takes, he must be set free. If it takes my life, I will give it, if it takes our children's lives, then take them. If we all need to suffer, then let it be, but set my husband free."

The intercessor, the Holy Spirit has to do a cleansing work on the one who is called to intercede. That meant that I had to be transformed first. I had walked through my own dark night of the soul some years earlier. I was set free from fear, uncontrollable jealousy, self-hatred, and deep insecurities. Christ was my realized life now and, He filled all the holes of insecurity, and scares of self-hatred with the presence of Himself and I knew it. My life was complete in Christ, I was satisfied beyond my wildest dreams, it was a miracle. But, I reasoned with the Lord, "what good is it if I have all the glory and my husband is still bound?" I want the same thing for him. But how?

My own journey had been a journey of faith. When I was in

my craziest darkness, I began to just confess who I really was. That was absurd in the condition of madness that I was in, yet it was my only hope. I spoke, and I spoke, and I spoke the Spirit's truth about myself, and by the law of faith, what I took by faith, took me and Christ and I were one. A law or principle only means, "How a thing works," All of life works by faith, and my life certainly proved that. All my fears, insecurities, jealousies, and self-hatred were swallowed up in Christ who was my life, my breath, my food, my mind, He as me was the new me, and I experienced glory.

Now if the way for me was simple faith, then that was the way for Scott. Except he couldn't believe for himself, I had to believe for him in his place. I remember thinking at one point, "The only way for me to be free was for him to die, and I pictured him in a casket, dead. But little did I know that I had the wrong person in the casket. I had to die. Actually there is a verse in Romans 6:7 that says, "He that is dead is freed from sin." The only way for me to be free is for me to die to how I saw him which had been in unbelief. It is a real death because all my flesh would scream out to me, he is the problem, not you. Yet, if I hadn't died to looking at him in separation, he would never be free. Sometimes I think we hold people in their place of bondage because we refuse to see them as God see them. So it began there, I had to die to my own understanding, my own hatred of his actions, my own rights, I had to die to my self reactions regarding him and his behavior.

Scott was a junk collector. Not by trade, but simply due to childhood fears of losing and not having. The junk was everywhere. I won't bore you with the details. Needless to say, I hated it. One day I cried out to the Lord, why does he have to have and save all that junk? The Holy Spirit said to me, "**The junk is in you.**" What? The junk is in me? I didn't understand, but I was open. Several months later, I was going to paint some cabinets with his stuff in it. I knew better than to move his stuff, so, I asked him very carefully to please put all his stuff in boxes and place them on our back porch, and after I painted the cabinet, then he could move it all back. He went nuclear, I thought that reaction was totally uncalled for in the face of my reasonable request. I was crushed, and went to my room. I

declared to the Spirit, "His identity is his stuff." When will he see who he is? The Spirit quickly answered, "When will **you** see who he really is? Is that stuff really his identity?" Oh, I see, no, it isn't. So, I am the one who gets to sweep away the cobwebs of unbelief in myself, and clean up the junk in me. Ok, I will confess who he is, and not who he is not.

Another problem was his uncontrollable temper and uncompromising demands which he used to control the whole family. I believed that he would even scare God with his threats and temper tantrums (just kidding, but it was that bad). The first thing that happened to me was I was no longer afraid of him, and that was a total miracle. Christ took away all my fear. Scott would scream, and I was calm and fearless. I was not trying to get back at him acting like he did, I was loving him in the middle of his fits, and they were ferocious temper fits. It almost made him madder when I wouldn't react in fear, because he was beginning to see that I wasn't being controlled by his fits of anger. I would quietly say, "Scott this is not who you are." He would stop almost immediately and get humble and sorry, but I would never hold any of this against him, or condemn him for his behavior. How could I, I had been the same way in my own crazy time. God didn't see my fits, he saw who I really was, how could I do any thing less for Scott.

Once, Scott told me that I would no longer have his money to travel with, he was tired of having me gone ministering to others. Quickly, I said, "Oh, Scott, you **really do** want to give me the money, I couldn't bless others without your part." He stormed out of the room. Two weeks later without any other words said about it, we were in Sam Club shopping. He said to me, Mom, I have a surprise for you. "What is it"? I said, "I have opened up a savings account in your name. Money will be taken out of my check each week for your travels." The Holy Spirit transforms in His timing when we dare to believe what we do not see, and call into being that which doesn't exist in the visible.

There became a rod of strength in my back given to me by the Holy Spirit. The rod helps me not take what the devil was pouring out, but speak the truth in love and God would defeat the devil's activity in him. I love the verses in Psalms 149:6, "Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword

in their hand." When all goes crazy, let praise be in your mouth, but do not give place to the devils lies, cut them to pieces with the truth of who we really are in Christ.

All this faith for Scott has been wonderful and it has taught me what intercession is about, but the day came for him to see it for himself. I was carrying him on eagles wings, but he must fly himself. Final deliverance comes when we personally take the truth about ourselves against all that we see, all that we do, and stand on the truth of who we really are in Christ.

That day has come for Scott, it began by him seeing that all must come to the light, all must not be denied anymore. The Holy Spirit is doing that in stages, too much would make any of us want to commit suicide. The exposures must come to us by the Spirit, and the inner revelation must then say, "Yes, it was me doing the sinning, and acting out independent-self, but praise God, independent-self isn't the real me, it is Satan disguised as me." "My true identity is Christ!" Scott has done that and seen that, and I am amazed at the transformation. He is now a partner with me in Christ, Our Life Ministries. We travel together, we bear the same burdens, we believe together for fruit, he personally began my radio ministry, which by the way is reaching thousands into 6 different cities, he is all that I could have ever wanted, and even more.

Recently Scott apologized to us all on Father's day, he said, "I am sorry that I didn't know that Christ was my life when I was raising you all, but I do know it now. Forgive me." The children were so loving and forgiving to him, I know that some real Holy Spirit healing came into being that day.

Does the old still pop up occasionally? Oh, yes, but it is now our opportunity to see the glory of God come through these slips, not to justify anything, but see that God is greater in us than any of our puny flesh slips. We don't major on the slips, they happen with both of us, we major on who we really are.

Actually God uses these weaknesses in Scott as God's calling card of faith. Now he can co-create with the Lord, as God rightly uses his weak humanity-filling weakness up with strength (II Cor. 12: 11) and creating opportunity for his glory to be manifested. What the devil misuses, God rightly uses for His glory. (A fuller presentation is developed on this mysterious, but glorious

point in the chapter called "Strong Negatives," number 34.)

By the way, this year we will be married 45 years, and it is greater than ever before.

A word to all you Dr. Phil buffs: Yes, Scott was an adult child of an alcoholic, and that is why he was so controlling, and yes, I was not loved by my mother and was withdrawn and co-dependent and that is why I tried to get my identity from Scott. Well so what, who doesn't have dysfunctional beginnings. Jesus had to die for something, it might as well be dysfunctional families. Knowing all the psychological reasons for our behavior does help us to understand our behavior patterns, insights concerning our behavior doesn't heal us, nor does our ability to change ourselves (impossible anyway). By the way, self-change is the recommended method used by most Psychologists.

I'm not knocking Psychology, nor Dr. Phil. Psychology is God given and God used, but it is not the healer, or can we heal each other, nor ourselves. Jesus in his own body took all the sinful dysfunctional behavior patterns and died to them at the Cross, and in His resurrection we are made free from all family dysfunctions (Bible calls them iniquities)--"He was bruised for our iniquities" (Isaiah 53:5). Apprehending these facts by faith alone, heals all our dysfunctions and makes manifest in us, as well as in our family members this reality today.

Thank you, all our supporters for your prayers, your faith, your love support, and your financial gifts. Without you this ministry wouldn't be possible.

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