

Empower Ministries

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We need your help to point people to the Living and Written Word. Please donate generously to our ministry. Without you, we would never have come this far.

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Visit us at:

empowerministries.org

EMPOWER MINISTRIES

P.O. Box 61677
Reno, NV 89506

empowerministries@gmail.com Sep 2012 (Pacific Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 3rd Annual 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 4pm Greek 101 11am - Taping	27 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	28 24/7 KBSC-FM 11am - Taping 6pm - WebStudy	29 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	30 24/7 KBSC-FM 11am - Taping	31 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	1 24/7 KBSC-FM 1pm - WebWorshi
2 24/7 KBSC-FM 4pm Greek 101 11am - Taping	3 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	4 24/7 KBSC-FM 11am - Taping 6pm - WebStudy	5 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	6 24/7 KBSC-FM 11am - Taping	7 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	8 24/7 KBSC-FM 1pm - WebWorshi
9 24/7 KBSC-FM 4pm Greek 101 11am - Taping	10 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	11 24/7 KBSC-FM 11am - Taping 6pm - WebStudy	12 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	13 24/7 KBSC-FM 11am - Taping	14 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	15 24/7 KBSC-FM 1pm - WebWorshi
16 24/7 KBSC-FM 4pm Greek 101 11am - Taping	17 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	18 24/7 KBSC-FM 11am - Taping 6pm - WebStudy	19 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	20 24/7 KBSC-FM 11am - Taping	21 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	22 24/7 KBSC-FM 1pm - WebWorshi
23 24/7 KBSC-FM 4pm Greek 101 11am - Taping	24 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	25 24/7 KBSC-FM 11am - Taping 6pm - WebStudy	26 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	27 24/7 KBSC-FM 11am - Taping	28 24/7 KBSC-FM 7:30am - CuppaJ 11am - Taping	29 24/7 KBSC-FM 1pm - WebWorshi
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From a Christian Friend



ENCOURAGEMENT

You don't have to be alone in your hurt! Comfort is yours. Joy is an option. And it's all been made possible by your Savior. He went without comfort so you might have it. He postponed joy so you might share in it. He willingly chose isolation so you might never be alone in your hurt and sorrow.

Joni Eareckson Tada



From the Vege-Kitchen

CAROB FUDGE

2½ c. carob chips, 1 c. peanut butter, ½ c. raisins or craisins, ¼ c. shredded coconut, ¼ c. nuts

Melt chips and peanut butter in a double broiler, while stirring the entire time. Add raisins, nuts, or coconut. Make sure consistency is smooth. Chill in fridge.

ENJOY

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EmpowerNotes

Empower Ministries Foundation/406.529.8820

JESUS' WAY TO SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

Do you recognize the following evangelistic program? You should. With a few variations, it's the popular way churches try to fulfill the Great Commission and grow:

drinking what they provide. Don't hesitate to accept hospitality, because those who work deserve their pay."

In a nutshell, those who evangelize:

- Door to door methods of attracting an audience (surveys, mailings, media advertising, etc.)
- Campaign style meetings (sermons by an evangelist, altar calls, baptisms and membership)
- Follow-up Studies (to ground new converts and integrate them into the life of the church)

- Enter places where Christ plans to follow (that is, they prepare people, like John did, to welcome Him personally)
- Don't spend a dime. Rather those they evangelize pay for everything.
- Evangelize in people's homes, not in some meeting place or on the street
- Bond with those who offer them hospitality (who peacefully share their home and meals with them)
- Stay in that home, instead of going from door to door—to establish a house church that serves as a base for winning the community. This is far more effective than working with individuals.

Now, here's an even better question:

Did you know that Jesus *never* authorized this type of evangelism? *In fact, He actually ordered disciples to conduct evangelism in an entirely opposite way!*

You'll find His detailed instructions in Luke 10:1-7, where He told His disciples:

The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit. These were his instructions to them: "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields. Now go, and remember that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves. Don't take any money with you, nor a traveler's bag, nor an extra pair of sandals. And don't stop to greet anyone on the road. "Whenever you enter someone's home, first say, 'May God's peace be on this house.' If those who live there are peaceful, the blessing will stand; if they are not, the blessing will return to you. Don't move around from home to home. Stay in one place, eating and

The apostles carried out Jesus' exact instructions after Pentecost with the following results:

They "gained the goodwill of all those around them, so the LORD added daily, those who were being saved," through their home-based efforts (Ac 2:47).

The LORD's plan explicitly calls for His disciples to evangelize—by establishing house churches, rather than rounding up people for meetings at some central place. Besides the obvious financial benefits, this strategy also puts the homeowners in a position to keep nurturing converts.

By a strange coincidence, house churches will also finish the work. Makes you wonder, "Did Jesus know this at the time? Hmm

Special Retreat Edition:

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The Great 3rd Annual Retreat Make the Bible Come Alive, 2012



The weekend of August 24-26, CuppaJ Café patrons and a number of Virtual Home Church attenders either converged on our home in Reno, NV or joined us online for Make the Bible Come Alive—our 3rd annual Empower Ministries Retreat. Folks flew in from Southern California and Northeastern Idaho, and drove up from the California coast and Bay area—to pack our home. More of them joined us online for a series of meetings designed to bring scripture to life.

While all the presentations offered practical instruction, the retreat opened with two hands-on sessions that equipped the folks to:

1. Find Timeless Truth in the Bible (Friday evening, August 25, 2012)
To tell the difference between precepts and principles, the timeless truths behind every text in the Bible, and how to find them in stories and explanations (the two book formats in the Bible).
2. Apply Timeless Truth, Today (Saturday morning)
To tell whether Bible writers endorsed or opposed what they wrote about, to know whether writers inform, educate, or persuade—so they will know whether to adopt, adapt or adjust to the timeless truth. We also showed them how to revise what they already think in the light of what they have just learned, and to develop an action plan to make it come true in their lives.

Anyone can download the videos and player by clicking on the link on the Empower Ministries home page.

As New Testament people, we paused to praise God with New Covenant worship on Saturday afternoon at our weekly, Virtual Home Church service. Then, we quickly resumed the theme of our retreat from another angle with two additional presentations:

3. How to Serve the LORD's Supper at Home (Saturday night)
Includes the four views of the Supper, a history of house churches, and a step-by-step guide to serving the Supper in the home setting—just like the early church did.
4. How to Launch a House Church (Sunday morning)
Includes why the institutional church should reorganize itself into house churches, plus 13 practical consequences of the house church set up, and 6 practical issues associated with the house church approach.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

The retreat was wonderful. We tasted the fellowship modeled by the early Christian church—everyone giving to meet the needs of their brothers and sisters in Christ. It was amazing. — April, Reno, NV

Sharing the encouragement & praise that was raised in me after the wonderful fellowship, scripture sharing & hymn singing! Thanks to those that played piano & sang praises. Many blessings to all. — Peggy, Alexandria, MN

This year's retreat was better than last year! Although we are decades behind, we must look forward and go from where we are today! As we learn, we must also cooperate with the Spirit of God to live lives that comply with God's ways and plans. We have had a very good time of fellowship and talked about how to help and support everyone as much as possible to start home churches. The apostolic home is very biblical and the only way to match the success of the apostolic church. —Lyll, Vallejo, CA



WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT, SEPTEMBER 1ST



After visiting with our Pastor, Lonnie and I will be using the new Worship & Praise Journal you gave us as the lesson guidebook for the Sabbath School class. The members have seen the Holy Spirit lead each week as they come together to compare what each person has been studying. It was really amazing when the Pastor's sermon fell right in line with what each one had been studying personally. — Rachel, Quitman, MS

Mom and I were using my Internet on Sunday morning to do some work for a college class. We had discussed how important it is not to block God from blessing us. It was time for the last Retreat presentation, but when we tried to sign on, my super fast Internet went down for the first time. So I quickly ran to the airport to use the Internet before my shift. I called mom that night to say I realized how hard Satan worked to keep us from the Retreat, but God is greater. —Jeramie, Brainerd, MN

The Retreat was a real joy—lots of Jesus' love to go around plus an awesome LORD's Supper. Jesus called His church the light of the world. By following Him, we won't stumble around in the darkness because we will have the light that leads to life (Jn. 8:12). The Retreat convinced me that house churches are the best way to share the full truth about our Savior Jesus Christ. —Billy, Lompoc, CA

I came straight from Intensive Care through Sacramento bumper-to-bumper traffic to the Retreat. We missed the Friday meeting, but enjoyed the Saturday morning presentation on applying timeless truth. After the wonderful worship service in the afternoon, we celebrated Communion. I believe the LORD healed me after I drank the wine. Sunday we worked on how to launch a home church ministry. I have learned so much at this Retreat that I strongly suggest you don't miss the next one! —Hank, Suisun City, CA

This Retreat has been a real eye opener to me. It is so hard to get past habits and traditions and let God lead. —Judy, Sebeka, MN

We praise God for providing the funds to attend the Retreat. It was worth the trip. The Bible really came alive through the presentations and the fellowship. We definitely want to start a house church and to attend Virtual Home Church, weekly. We now believe we can serve the LORD's Supper in our home, and more than once a quarter. God really led out the entire weekend. —Carmela, Lompoc, CA

Grace in time of need

Prayer Journal



Praises

- So many attended and enjoyed the Retreat
- The LORD intervened to help Dennis close one
- David fixed our plumbing for FREE
- Lyall needs divine guidance
- God softened Jeff's stepson's heart
- David has a job at Roundtable Pizza
- Aubrey and David made it safely home

Petitions

- Dawn may need surgery or treatment
- Rebecca and Daniel, to parent their children
- Amos, Nancy, Lisa and Tina's kids salvation
- Praise the LORD for Hank's restoration
- Kent has another week of doctor appointments and another back injection in a week
- Sringara needs divine guidance
- EMF's cell phone apps
- That people we invite will attend our studies