

THE PRESENCE AND POWER OF THE WIND

April 25, 2020

This week we are going to give our attention to wind - the wind of God's Spirit and how God is moving in Berkeley, in our neighborhood, in our church family and in our personal lives. As I recently read from the book, *Red Moon Rising*: "We would like Christianity to be the kind of white-water adventure that we read about in the book of Acts; the kind of great adventure upon which you embark with friends and about which you will one day tell stories to your kids without boring them stupid." Greig, Pete. *Red Moon Rising: Rediscover the Power of Prayer (Red Moon Chronicles Book 1)* (p. 25). David C Cook.

This is our time to rethink church - to rethink what it means to serve the mission of God - to be the people of God, listening to His voice, discerning His purpose at a time when the world is on pause with a dreaded virus and people are even more isolated than we already were in our video games, chat rooms, Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok, You Tube, Twitter and Netflix. Will Zoom save us? Not a chance! But Zoom can help us sync up, connect with one another, pray and seek God together and share what God is still up to in spite of a world pandemic.

It's time to listen, feel and breathe in the refreshing wind of the Spirit and chase the movement of God among us. The church has always achieved the most when it had nothing but each other and the Spirit of God moving them along. What will God say to us? I don't know. How will God lead us? I don't know. How will LIFE Church be different after this period of mission reflection? I don't know - but God does and we need to seek Him together to learn how He is moving and working in Berkeley at this time.

One day I was riding my bike on a path around Point Richmond. I stopped to rest, pray and reflect. Up until I sat down and was still, I was oblivious to how things were moving all around me. I saw the water splashing up against the beach. The wind was whistling through the weeds. Birds were flying and singing songs. Insects were buzzing all around me. The world was in motion, but while I was speeding along I was unconscious of these movements. That's when I began to reflect on how God is also moving and for the most part I am completely unaware of His presence.

This Sabbath we are going to pay attention to God's movement around us and we invite you to join us. This will primarily be a message for members of LIFE Adventist Church, but you are welcome to listen in on Facebook Live. If you want to join the discussion then you will need to click on the Zoom link.

However you decide to join, in is perfectly fine with us. You are welcome! I leave you with this verse from Paul to the Ephesians: *"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!" Ephesians 3:20, 21*

Some questions for us to consider

1. When and where are you most aware of God's presence?
2. Where and how are you noticing God in your life right now?
3. How important do you think it is for God to be the conductor of our mission?
4. What steps will be necessary for us in order for God to lead us in unison?