

VICTORY VOICE OF THE KINGDOM

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1 – JAN/FEB/MAR 2020 NEWSLETTER

Putting God First in 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Putting God First...cont.	2
A Strategy for... cont.	2
Waiting on the...cont.	2
Upcoming Events	3
More About VCK	4

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Articles by the Pastors
- Article by Stacey Gardner
- Upcoming Events



Eric Susberry
Pastor

God must be our supreme priority in everything! The secret to a successful, fulfilled, and blessed life is putting God first. Jesus said in Matt 6:31-34: *Do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?...for after all these things the gentiles [unsaved folks] seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things...seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and*

these other things shall be added to you.

This is a statement by Jesus that will determine what happens and what you get out of this new year. It is the deciding factor of whether you will experience success, well-being, breakthroughs, blessings, favor, grace, increased anointing, and victory. All these blessings and many more hinges on putting God first.

When I look back over my life, I can truly say that one of the major keys to my victory and success has been putting God first. Whether it was

choosing my wife, giving up my desire to build a construction company, become a pastor of a church, raising my daughters, purchasing a home, purchasing the church building, managing money, giving to the work of the Lord, or making day to day decisions. It has all been by putting God and His concerns first!

God deserves to be first place, He purchased us from the penalty of sin by His death on the cross and we owe Him everything, including prioritizing His desires over ours. A lot of people ~continued to page 2

A Strategy for Change



Caren Susberry
Assistant Pastor

God has placed you in a family, in a community, in a region of the country, and most of all in the family of God, and all of these things need your prayers. Whatever else God has put you in, needs your prayers. We need to be strategic in prayer for our families, the people God lays on our hearts, our church, community

and nation if we expect things to change.

By being strategic, I mean making time to get a calculated purpose or method in prayer for accomplishing a specific goal or result. Where the church is concerned, our pastor gives us the strategy for the church; but where your family and other things are concerned, God will give *you* the strategy. Jeremiah 33:3 says, "Call to me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

As newlyweds, pastor and I moved into a

rundown community. The neighborhood was rundown and our block and building was the worst in the area. I remember we struggled with living there. One day we were in prayer and received a strategy for changing our neighborhood; the environment we were living.

The strategy was simple; make a commitment to pray consistently for the neighborhood, specific emphasis on what we wanted to see changed on our block.

~Continued to page 2

VICTORY VOICE OF THE KINGDOM

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1 – JAN/FEB/MAR 2020 NEWSLETTER

"Therefore do not worry saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." (Matt 6:31-34). NKJV



"Call to me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know. (Jer 33:3) NKJV



Putting God First...cont.

assume that because they are not directly worshipping idols or engaging in evil acts, that they do not have other idols or gods. However, if there is a thing, person, or activity that is taking the position that only God is to take, then that is a god. Anything you do in the time that you're supposed to be serving the Lord and being in the house of the Lord, is another god.

Making God less than first place, could be doing something that seems quite innocent like not

first praying and seeking the Lord before making or acting on a decision. When you don't make God first place, it's like you think that you are smarter than Him. If you do this, I guarantee you that this year will be one of disappointments, frustration, and confusion.

As your Pastor, I would hate to see you experience that. God will never force Himself on or into your life. That's your responsibility. You have the ability to make God first place in your life. Many Christians

who don't put God first are trying to answer their own prayers, trying to find their own solutions to things ONLY GOD CAN RESOLVE! If you make "All Things God First," you can expect this year to be one of success in tribulations, guidance by the Holy Spirit, doors opening that you didn't even know a door existed, blessings, joy, and peace, beyond your wildest imagination. In closing, putting God first will not be always easy, but I guarantee you it will be rewarding!

A Strategy for Change...cont.

We decided we would pray once a week for an hour for change in our neighborhood and we prayed very intentionally about specific things that we wanted to see changed. Because of our deliberate prayers over a period of a few years, there was a marked change in the neighborhood; especially on our block. We stayed in the neighborhood for six years. Before we left we prayed a liquor store off the corner, we prayed an abandoned building down,

those who broke into our home were arrested, and the selling of drugs in front of our building was stopped.

We saw the neighborhood positively influenced by our presence and prayers. Our building went from being the worse on the street to being the nicest looking building on the block and fully rented out. We did what we could to bring about a change but the marked difference came when we began to pray strategically for the

neighborhood. The whole area of Bronzeville has changed a lot. Today it is a different community from when we lived there many years ago. I'm sure we were not the only ones praying for that area but I do know our strategic prayer of asking for God's help had much to do with the change.

If we are going to bring about change in our family, in our communities, and the lives of others, we must get God's strategy and pray.

Waiting on the Lord ~Stacey Gardner

Wait: a word you do NOT want to hear in certain situations! Wait is defined as remaining inactive or in a state of repose, until something expected happens. I don't know about anyone else, but to me that sounds like it could be a long time. We are living in times that can be considered as a

"microwave generation" meaning, when we decide we want or need something, then "boom" we got it. I'm here to tell you, it doesn't always work out that way. There are some instances where our prayers are answered quickly and there are other times when we must wait on the Lord. There

are two ways that you can wait on the Lord: you can wait with joy or you can wait in despair. Which one do you think will be more profitable for you? I choose waiting with joy. The word lets us know the benefits on waiting on the Lord in Isaiah 40:31: "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their

VICTORY VOICE OF THE KINGDOM

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1- JAN/FEB/MAR 2020 NEWSLETTER

Waiting on the Lord...Continued

strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

There are things that will come that will cause you to waiver in your faith, but you have to stand with confidence, assurance and know that the Lord is going to come through for you concerning your situation. In the times when your faith is challenged you need to pull out your "spiritual resume" and let the enemy know about all the times the Lord moved on your behalf in the past. You must speak and encourage yourself. We

are told in Eph 5:19 that you should speak "to yourselves in psalms and hymns...in your heart to the Lord". After doing that, there is no way the enemy will be able to stay. We must be as trees planted by the rivers of waters.... Not being moved!!

Waiting is not always a negative thing. The Lord may be holding something back to protect you, you may not be ready to receive what He has for you, or He may be preparing something great for you. Whatever the case may be, you have to trust God and make sure you are in a place to receive when it happens. You don't want to

spend your entire waiting time mumbling and complaining. When the manifestation of what you've been waiting for finally comes to fruition, you won't be in a place of gratitude to receive it. You want to be found in a place of joy and thanksgiving so that you know that your labor and wait was not in vain. In closing, you must know that the Lord has your best interest at heart. He knows what you have need of before you even ask. If He knows how many hairs are numbered on your head (even if you are bald) He knows your needs, wants and desires. Just trust him and WAIT.

Upcoming Events

Pastor's Appreciation

April 5th
2020

More Details to
Come!

Don't Miss it!



Guest Speaker:
Dr. Victor Morgan



African Heritage Sunday



February 23, 2020

Women's Ministry Senior Outreach



March 7, 2020

2020 Annual All Church Business Meeting



March 8, 2020

Dear Mother Eunice, I have two children, ages 9 and 6. Both of them want a cell phone. Is there a right age to give a child a cell phone?

I don't think there is a right or wrong age to give a child a cell phone because the reasons as to why a child might need a phone are as varied as the phones themselves. However, I do think that there are certain limitations that need to be in place. When they're still in elementary school, it is my belief that if they have a phone, that phone should only be able to make and receive phone calls and/or texts. No social media. No internet. And if possible, the only numbers on those phones need to be of those people whom you trust.

As they enter high school, here is where things get tricky. As much as you might like to, you can't escape social media and the internet. Therefore, be smart and set up boundaries. Here are a few I recommend: (1) Follow all of your children's accounts. (2) Know who they are following. This will tell you more about your child's then any conversation you have with them. (3) Check every day. Comment. Let them know you're there! (4) Limit their time spent using their phones. (5) Put in place software that does not allow for certain websites to be accessed on their phones.

These are only a few suggestions. I'm sure there're even better ones but regardless of age, the important thing is that you are parenting in this area. You cannot afford to be lazy about this. Social media is huge. Be vigilant. In this day and time, you can't afford not to be.

VICTORY VOICE OF THE KINGDOM

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1 - JAN/FEB/MAR 2020 NEWSLETTER

VICTORY IN CHRIST KINGDOM CHURCH

2735 W. 79th Street
Chicago, IL, 60652

Phone:

(773) 436-8850

Fax:

(773) 436-8845

We're on the Web!

**victoryinchristkingdom.
org**

Twitter: @ecctoday

**Facebook: Victory in
Christ Kingdom**

Please visit us!

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Service*

at: 10:00 am

Sunday School

at: 8:45 am

Midweek Service

Wednesday at 7pm

*The Nursery is open during
Sunday & Midweek Services.

Want to Know More About Our Church?



**Praise God we paid off our
church last year and now we can
do some much needed repairs to
our church building!
Don't forget to finish your
Building Fund Pledge!**

**Coming in 2020:
Bookstore**

Weekly Intercessory Prayer Schedule:

Every Sunday 8am

1st and 3rd Tuesday
10am-12pm

Every Tuesday
6:00-7:00pm

Fast Day Every Tuesday
Fast until Noon

Every other Wed at
6:15pm

Every 1st Wed. at 10pm-
6am

Every Saturday 7-8:30am

Sunday Bible School has classes for everyone!

- *Be Alive- St John 1-12*
- *Every Young Man-God's Man*
- *Watch This-A Getting There Guide to Manhood for Teen Guys*
- *This is Me: A Teen Girl's Guide to Becoming the Real You*
- Classes for children of all ages!

It's not to be missed!



***Victory in Christ Kingdom a place
where you can walk in total success in
all areas of your life!***