

LWORD LIVING

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OUR PURPOSE

Our purpose is to offer help to families with budgeting and planning. We assist families in obtaining knowledge and awareness of all human resources/ services available to them. We sponsor FREE seminars that coordinate various services to meet changing needs. For more information on events we sponsor visit us on FACEBOOK or our website: www.stewardinaction.com



The dawning of a new year is before us. 2016 is only a few weeks away.

We give thanks to our God for he has and continues to bless us and provide all of our needs. Even as you read this humble writing, the ability to see is a gift from God.

Over the years, we have written many newsletters and always seek to follow God's lead. Many of the subjects he has given has proven helpful to many beginning with me.

This year, as with years prior, we saw changes: Many were sick; the loss of life in the ongoing war on foreign soil, and the war that has invaded our nation and local cities; financial struggles; loss of jobs; increase in the number of families facing poverty; discord in high places and even among believers; family and friends who have answered the final call, leaving a void that cannot be filled; and the list continues. Yet there is unfailing hope.

We close this year with a Word Living Newsletter written December 2000. The letter was written from notes taken in 1994 from a sermon titled, "Challenge the Darkness" by Pastor Clifton Rhodes, Messiah Baptist Church. The words are prevalent, even today and supports Ecclesiastes 1:9, there is nothing new. Our God brought us through. He cannot fail, and because of this, we have hope.

If darkness is the absence of light and the light of God within us has the power to eliminate the darkness, then let the challenge begin.

Original letter dated December 1, 2000

It is hard to believe that the year is in the closing month. It was only yesterday that we heard about Y-2K and other issues of concern. This year the Lord has moved mightily and called many family members and friends to the joy of eternity. In your prayers, ask God to grant comfort to those who are sick and those who are bereaved.

As I stop and consider the many blessings that God has provided, His mercy and grace, and the opportunity of another day, I rejoice and give thanks. For God is good.

This week, as I struggled to arrange the lights for the celebration of Jesus' birthday, I was reminded that there are many types of lights. For example, there are indoor lights, for use inside where the elements and varied weather conditions/temperatures cannot harm them. There are automobile lights. They are made to withstand all weather conditions but not for indoor use. There are soft lights, which give a romantic effect. There are indoor/outdoor lights, which can be used for either area. There are street lights, which are designed for outdoor use and a feeling of protection.

There are big, tall, fat, and small lights. There are clear, various colors, white and amber lights, various lights for various usages, yet all are lights.



Lights, lights, so why am I putting up these lights? To remind myself of that unusual light that glowed as the star the night Jesus was born. To remind myself that God is light and in Him is no darkness (I John 1:5). To remind myself that light changes the darkness. But most of all, to remind myself that God has called me to be a light that reflects His light to a lost world. (Matthew 5: 14 – 16)

What a wonderful time to remind us all that we, who claim to be children of the King, are called to be lights. In Matthew 5:14 and 15, we are called to be outdoor and indoor lights.

Note we are called to be the light of the world. In this position, we must be able to withstand the elements – winds of hate, rains of abuse, the storms of

destruction and death, the valleys of despair, and the mountains of pain and suffering. And through it all we must reflect the light of God to this lost world.

As an indoor light, we must be the path that shows the way to God so all in the house may see His light. We must be a vessel that can be used (I Corinthians 6:18-19) and willing to be used (Isaiah 6:8).

A city that sits on a hill is vulnerable to various types of visitors with various backgrounds. Some come to visit the city, some to learn, and others to destroy and kill. Yet the city stands firm for it is grounded in the word of God and maintains its reason for existence that is to invade the darkness with its powerful light.

In the house, the candlestick is used to assist in finding lost items, avoiding danger by lighting the way and casting out shadows of fear that lurk in the darkness.

What am I? I am an indoor/outdoor reflection of God's light. I am to shine so that the world may see the light and glorify God.

There is fear in darkness, but God has called us to give light – Psalm 23:4.

Invaded by evil doers that come to destroy, God has called us to give light – I Corinthians 15:58 and Romans 8:35-39.

The next time you travel out to see the many displays of light, remember there are all kinds, colors, and sizes of light used to make the display beautiful.

God uses all who are willing to shine a glow for Him.

Your light is so important – Let it shine!!

Begin now and into 2016, “Challenge the Darkness” in yourself, your home, on your job, in your community, and among the body of believers.

Until next time...

His steward, Karen



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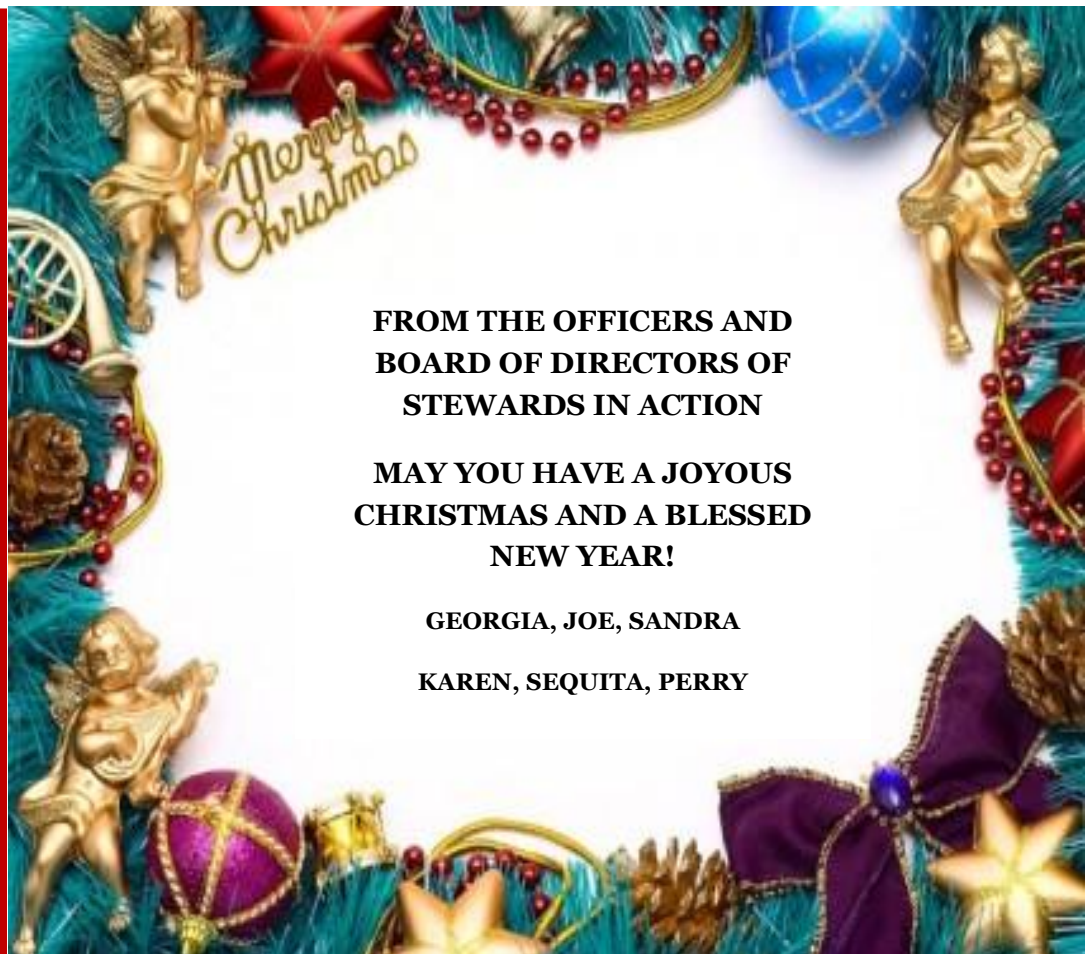
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Financial Freedom”***



**FROM THE OFFICERS AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
STEWARDS IN ACTION**

**MAY YOU HAVE A JOYOUS
CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED
NEW YEAR!**

GEORGIA, JOE, SANDRA

KAREN, SEQUITA, PERRY