

NSD Notes

For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. (1 Cor. 9:19)
Volume 3 No. 4 July 26, 2009

Services

- Bible Study 10 a.m.
- Morning Service.....11 a.m.
- Evening Service.....6 p.m.
- Wednesday Meeting.....7 p.m.

News @ NSD

WELCOME VISITORS!

Prayer List

- **Ernest Peeples** - deployed in Iraq.
- **Jason Henderson** – travels often for work.
- **Dema Franklin** has been visiting family in El Centro.
- **Martha Holloway** - recurring back and heart condition.
- **Jana Wells** – recurring respiratory condition.
- Marie Adams – had her hip surgery last week; recovering at home.
- **Vicki Barton's** mother, Lisa – recovering well but keep praying for her full recovery.
- **Ken Holloway's** brother, Chuck.
- Also keep **Cassandra Fredrickson** and **Samantha Wilson** in your prayers.

NURTURE PERSEVERANCE

In the book of Revelation, chapter two and verse three, the message to the church in Ephesus is, "you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary." But this message is not limited to the brethren in Ephesus, for the appeal to not grow weary is repeated to each one of the seven churches in Asia. In short they were being called upon to hang in despite the severe oppression directed at them. Then again, the Scriptures are replete with the injunction for children of God, both then and now, to have spiritual tenacity. Which broaches the question as to how one can learn to nurture perseverance or stated in a little more directed way a "gritty nature"?

Inasmuch as one is not born with a "gritty nature" it stands to reason there are steps that must be put in place in order to fully develop it. First it is imperative for one to be passionate about what they believe. In fact the brethren in Ephesus were challenged to rekindle their 'first love'(Revelations 2:4). It is so much easier to overcome obstacles if you are truly avid about you are doing and defending.

*And you have persevered and have patience,
and have labored for My name's sake
and have not become weary*

Be willing to accept criticism when it is being offered in order to instruct. As well, look at such from the standpoint of how it can make you stronger and more courageous in the future than you were in the past. The brethren in Corinth seemed to embrace this attitude after they had been confronted by Paul as seen expressed in both of his epistles to them. The first where he challenged them, and the second where he praised them for the changes brought about.

Pay attention to the examples seen in the lives of others who manifest a "gritty nature". Make careful note of what you see in them that might be lacking in you. But always against the backdrop of what Paul penned in **1 Corinthians 11:1**, "Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ."



