

## The Power of Recharge

### Greetings and welcome home from the Feast,

Wow, what an incredible Feast! I pray and trust you too have already said that. Anyone remember the phrase repeated year after year, ""this was the best Feast ever?" Before I say "this was the best Feast ever," I'd like to share with you some insights I've learned over the years after returning home from the Feast in this newsletter.

God has blessed me with the opportunity to complete my forty fourth Feast of Tabernacles. When I look back, I can honestly say there have been many Feast that had powerful ups, and a few that really wasn't the best Feast ever. I remember one year in particular in the early 1980's struggling to overcome issues affecting my life that it seemed impossible to "keep the faith once delivered." Somewhere in the middle of the Feast I felt I couldn't do this anymore, I said, "what's the point, I'll never make it." I packed up late one night and began my drive home. It was one of the longest loneliest drives I can remember. After hours of driving, tears, and meditation I stopped in some very small and seemingly lifeless town. No one moving, nothing open, no one in sight and the town was covered in fog. Honestly, it reminded me of one of the early Twilight Zone TV Shows. I actually thought that. I even remember thinking this is where God will send some creature to eat me. It's funny now looking back to think that way, but honestly I did.

To this day, I don't know what town it was, I don't even remember seeing the town sign; though it was probably there. I saw a park in the town square, got out of the car, sat on a bench and cried out to God for help. What I'm about to say here is funny, but true and goes to show you my state of mind. I expected at any minute to be arrested and locked up in this little country town never to be head from again, simply for being there. Why would I think that way? Because I had just turned my back on my calling, and forsaken God. I look back and felt somewhat like Jonah, running from my responsibility. When you reach that point you feel there is no use in going on, God may as well just take my life.

### Why Am I Telling You This Very Deeply Personal Event?

Please bear with me for a little longer before I answer that question. It was somewhere in that dimly lit, quiet little, fog covered town, with no one around that I began to ask, where will I go? It was one of those turning points in my life. God helped me realize I really had no where to go, no where to run.

I sat in that park in prayer and meditation, realizing I really had no where to go. To come to the understanding that without God, I might as well just go to the grave. I didn't know then how I would make it, but I prayed for forgiveness and began my trip back to the Feast to get back into the fight to overcome. Somewhere still a few hours away from the Feast, I saw the sunrise coming up. I now prayed with quiet thankfulness to be going back and a humble hope to start all over again. I actually made it back in time to get cleaned up and go to church. Except for a few that I spoke to and told them I was leaving, no one knew the life altering change that took place that night.

### You Too Have Probably Had Life Altering Experiences

If you have been in the church for many years, you too have probably experienced events in your life that are life altering. If you are new to the truth, be ready for God to alter your life. We have a loving merciful God that challenges us and carefully and powerfully takes us along a journey to bring us into His Kingdom. Sometimes we don't realize it, but those longest loneliest battles and struggles to overcome, He is actually there, walking side by side, and yes even carrying us to bring us to a new level of growth.

Over the past few years God has blessed me with the opportunity to meet many people who have also been experiencing personal struggles in their lives and their personal relationship to God to their calling. What a blessing to see and hear the wonderful stories of the rekindling of the spirit in so many. We need to always keep in mind, that God will do all He can to get us into His Kingdom, as long as we don't quit. Personal struggles is a part of the growth process. Remember the scripture: "*Now no chastening for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.*" (Heb. 12:11)

### Something Bigger Is Going On

Additionally, there is something bigger and extremely important that is beginning to take place that I want to address here. I'm seeing more and more people that had once been in the church for many years of their lives. Who were dedicated and faithful to their calling and supportive of the work; but due to a failed church the leadership struggles, the numerous splits, the double standards, the attacks, the lies and on and on it goes; then finally and ultimately the WCG

going back into the world; thousands had just “STOPPED” attending; and just like I did many years ago, just decided to go home.

But, here’s the exciting news, many are now taking the road back to the first love of their calling. And just like I did after coming to peace with our Father and Elder Brother in that dark, fog covered, lifeless park, are returning to God.

I began noticing this revival when I traveled to the Feast sites over the past couple of years. However, I didn’t quite understand what I was witnessing. However, what I did see was the joy in the eyes of those returning and the hope from their words through the inspiration that God was instilling.

This year God helped me to see the depth of what is taking place. What people are saying is that through the messages God has blessed us to share, and the vision God has given us in our mission. God is helping us to rebuild “TRUST.”

### **The Rebuilding of Trust**

This is incredibly important to understand. Trust once lost, is nearly impossible to restore. When the loss of Trust comes from the church, what is a person to do, and where is a person to go. We all know the scripture where God says: “Forsake not the assembling as is the manner of some”; (Heb. 10:25); but where are you to go when the church you attend lives a double standard, or no longer teaches the same “faith once delivered?”

This year more than in the past more and more people are finding their way back into the church, and slowly rebuilding trust in the work. This is imperative to our personal calling and the future of the work in fulfilling the commission given to the church.

God willing, I’ll be covering this aspect next month in more depth than I have space here to cover. I believe you will appreciate it because it directly relates to God’s people, their calling, and the work God has blessed our work to accomplish through the rebuilding of trust.

One final point here in reference to the church. God tells us through the prophet Jeremiah in numerous places how God is going to hold the pastors accountable for what they

are doing. To this day, I hear the horror stories from members of their experiences of the past. They come to us with tears thanking us for the restoring of hope and their calling. I’ll talk more about that next month in the Quarterly and in future messages. What a blessed and wonderful opportunity God is granting us to play such a vital role on the restoration and rebuilding of trust! Praise God.

### **The Power of Recharge**

Following the Feast we all come home slightly worn out, some with loss of jobs, and our youth having to catch up with schooling. Over the years I’ve seen that it is during this period where the church would normally go into hibernation so to speak.

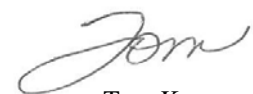
This is the period where the ministry would take vacations to recover from... ? That’s where I got confused in the past? I noticed over the years that it was usually the volunteers doing most of the set up, cleaning, tear down, etc. The church seemed to go to sleep and get ready for the next Holy Day season. Is that what God wants? Please note: This will be another subject to be covered in the rebuilding of trust for the church. It is not my point here to attack or belittle, but simple to focus on what God wants of us.

The Bible talks a lot about the incredible power of recharge. There came a day when Jesus was walking among the crowds and a woman touched His garments. *“And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any, came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanchd. And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and say thou, Who touched me? And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.”* (Luke 8:43-46)

When we return home from the Feast we are usually tired, while at the same time we are also refreshed and recharged. It is in the recharging of our Spiritual batteries that God sends us back to work, not into hibernation. We’ll talk more about that next month.

From all reports, it was a powerful and very uplifting Feast for all. Please accept our special thanks to all of you at all of the sites that made this Feast so special to so many.

God’s blessings to everyone.



Tom Kerry

**Coming This Fall, Our New TV Special**  
*We’ll have more information next month. Be on the look out. This is our most important special yet*



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