Something needs to change...

By: Sam Snider, Spiritual Director

I John 4:7,8 "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love."

given us of His Spirit."

vs. 19-21 "We love because He first loved us. If someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother as well."

I finished reading John Piper's book concerning the Corona Virus and the cross. I highly recommend it. I am now in the middle of David Platt's book, "Something needs to change". I am grateful when God uses people to express what needs to be said during times like these. Something does need to change. I have enjoyed a few sermons by Mark Porado stating that the TIME IS NOW for us to share Jesus. We are to be a peculiar people. We are to be sharing the only answer for our sin issues, Jesus. As we face disease, unrest, violent protests, shootings, lawlessness, and huge levels of division what is our answer? God is speaking through the pandemic. Platt is right, something needs to change. Pastor Porado is seeking the presence of God because the TIME IS NOW. It is time to love like never before. It is time to share I Jesus like we truly believe He is at the door. He is coming back.

But how can we really love like the Bible says to love? How can we stop talking about the latest news feed and present the love of God to a world which so desperately needs the cross and the resurrection? We need the power of God's Spirit to continue to change and empower us. In our flesh we cannot love the way the Bible says to love. We need the help of the Holy Spirit.

David Platt's book, "Something needs to change", is about his trek to villages in the Himalayas. As he goes from village to village he is faced with absolute poverty and human need. In one village he faces people who have seen their children die from preventable diseases. In

another village he finds that there are very few girls between the ages of 7 and 16 because they have been taken by sex traffickers and sold to serve the evil lusts of men in cities and other countries. He finds family after family who have never even heard the name of Jesus and yet they light candles and pray to a statue of Buda in hopes of a reincarnation. Platt experienced children grabbing his hand in hopes of getting food and then angrily spitting on him when he could not give them all they vs. 13: "By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has I needed and wanted. He relates how children who are born with a deformity or who are simply not wanted are chained up in animal barns and mistreated. And then he asks the missionary he is with how he became involved. The missionary is named Aaron. Aaron arrived 20 years earlier to hike the himalayas with college friends. After one day of seeing what he saw he wept all night and went back down the mountain and committed to helping this part of the world.

> Platt then asks God what to do. And basically he asks for the Holy Spirit to help him love the way God wants us to love. There is no way we can love the way God wants us to love unless He empowers us with Himself.

> So how does this apply? It is not easy. How do we love in the midst of all the chaos around us? How do we react when there are violent protests burning down buildings? How do we respond with so much anger and vile dialogue running through the news and the world we live in. We must be empowered by God's Holy Spirit to have a love that is life changing. The answer for this time is Jesus. What this nation needs is Jesus. We have a calling to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus to love a lost world.

Are we going to change a world by arguing politics? Are we going to change a world by fear and anger? Of course not. We need to have God's love working through us in the midst of every day. We need to share the hope we have in Christ. We desperately need to be empowered by the power of the Holy Spirit every day. Something needs to change and it needs to change now. Let it begin with me. How about you?

Des Colores!

Announcements & Reminders

GMTD SECRETARIAT

The next secretariat meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 7th at 7 p.m. The meeting's location is TBD.

Be a SPONSOR!!!

Sponsoring a candidate is easy. Visit the website gmtd.org, click on the application tab, and click Online Application. Fill out the application and submit. It's that easy! If you can't do an online application, you can also download an application to print using the same links from gmtd.org. after you fill out the application, you can scan it or take a picture of it and email to gmtdapps@gmail.com. And, if all else fails, you can put the application in an envelope and mail USPS to:

Stephen and Beth Dacus ATTN: GMTD 8340 Waldrip Rd Gainesville, GA 30506

Please call Stephen at 678-469-1035 or email at gmtdapps@gmail.com with any questions.

GMTD weekend fee is \$130 per person.

PALANCA GUIDELINES

(Burning CDs of copyrighted music is a violation of copyright laws, and burned CD's of copyrighted music cannot be accepted as palanca.)

Table Palanca - 6 tables, minimum of

65 individual items.

Bed Palanca – 45 for candidates and 81 for team. Team members may receive individual bed palanca. Palanca for specific candidates will be placed in their Sunday bags.

Kitchen Palanca – 125 place settings.

Oven Palanca – Please drop off at the Palanca room, not the kitchen.

Palanca Letters – Write the candidate's name on the letter and in the left upper corner write who the letter is from: sponsor, husband, wife, friend, etc. Letters from family and friends need to be at the camp no later than Saturday night. The earlier the better.

PESCADORE'S PROGRESS

Subscribe to the Pescadore's Progress at www.gmtd.org. To receive your Pescadore's Progress in the U.S. mail, please send your name, address and weekend attended to:

Kim Echols 95 Crystal Creek Way Jasper, GA 30143

SPONSORS

Please remember to stay with your candidate until they have been completely checked in during their weekend and all information and fees have been provided.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO!

If your address, phone number or email has changed, please notify GMTD Database Manager, Greg Purcell at gregcpurcell@gmail.com

The database is confidential and for GMTD use only to contact sponsors, team members, rector nominees, secretariat nominees, and for general GMTD purposes.

REMINDERS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Weekend rosters are confidential and are not to be used for solicitations or anything other than Tres Dias. The Secretariat would also like to remind you that it is inappropriate to bring children to send-off, closing, serenade, or secuelas. We appreciate your understanding and compliance with these Tres Dias requirements.

GMTD Secretariat Members

Chairman	Kevin Hill	706-768-5301
Database	Greg Purcell	706-768-6897
Food Supply		
Fourth Day	Raymond & Donna Posey	706-973-0757
Fourth Day (In Training)	Dan & Jerilyn Harder	404-509-2460
Leaders-A	Randy and Marla Flake	706-344-8338
Leaders-B	Rick & Mary Martinez	470-248-8719
Newsletter	Kim Echols	678-378-5335
Palanca	Darryl & Eileen Payne	770-894-2708
Pre-Weekend	Stephen & Beth Dacus	678-469-1035
Secretary	Linda Towns	770-654-3702
Spiritual Director		
Treasurer	Brian & Diana Cartwright	706-244-4173
Webmaster	Angie Stocker	404-518-5176
Weekend		
Worship Director	Todd Pealock	706-949-4251

Find e-mail contact info at www.gmtd.org

Georgia Mountains Vida Nueva

Vida Nueva is a weekend retreat for young men and women ages 15-20. Vida Nueva is Spanish for "New Life" and like the Tres Dias, VN weekends are intended as an encounter with Jesus Christ. The weekends are similar to the structure of a Tres Dias weekend with certain changes to make it more relevant for teens. VN weekends begin on Friday evening and end on Sunday evening. The cost to sponsor someone on a VN weekend is \$100 and is \$100 for team members. If you have a teenager who you would like to sponsor, you can download an application at the web-site www.gmvn.net. A group of teens who have

made a Vida Nueva weekend recently put together a video to tell what VN has meant to them. The video can be found at www.youtube.com/watch? v=8DNV99f2Hko. Georgia Mountains VN currently holds two sets of weekends a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. The next set of weekends are TBD for Young Women (Director Chrissy Owenby) and TBD (Director Preston Fowler) for the Young Men.

