



ALUMNI NEWS SUMMER 2004 INTERNATIONAL BIBLE SCHOOL

So far, this has been a fantastic summer! While I was preaching in my hometown, "Sweet Home Alabama," I also spent time riding jet skis (wave runners) out on my beautiful Tennessee River with "The General," Mike Lee. What a blast it was for me riding the jet ski for the first time; the experience was so sweet.

On another occasion, after I finished preaching at Pastor Littzie's church in Pennsylvania, I went white water rafting (level 3) in the Pocono's. I had never been white water rafting before but I cannot wait until I go again. I will tell you something, being on the river for four hours will surely get the kinks out!

The Bible tells us that those that "wait on the Lord shall renew their strength" (Is. 40:31.) I believe that! God is setting people free and restoring what the enemy stole from them. I trust that you are experiencing the same in your life. The Lord has been taking me back to the very basics of faith. It is so easy to have the knowledge of faith but we must be careful that it is not just head knowledge but rather let it be knowledge that has been birthed and acted on in our spirit. Get your schoolbooks out, review them, and let revelation knowledge flow in you and let it renew you. Do not let yourself get lethargic, dull, and listless, but you must stir yourself up. Start by setting goals for yourself and then reach out to others and share the goodness of God. For He is good. He is just waiting to show Himself strong for you. There is nothing, absolutely nothing, that is impossible for God. That ought to have you shouting! This means that nothing concerning you is impossible for God. Think on these things. It does not matter what other people say or what kind of situations you are facing, it is still not impossible for God.

Begin to pull your dreams and desires out of your heart and then start to pray over them. Let the Spirit of God wash over those dreams and desires; let the Spirit cause them to be revised; let Him bring them to pass in your life or at least let Him show you if there is something better in store for you that will help you fulfill your life successfully.

The Lord says in Ephesians 3:10, the Amplified Bible, that you are to have the good life. This means you should be enjoying your life. I enjoyed white water rafting in the Pocono's. I have always wanted to go but something was always in the way. I decided not to let anything stop me this time so I called and made a reservation. Now, I had never even paddled a canoe much less a raft but I did not let this stop me; I decided "I could do all things through Christ that strengthens me." At one point of time, when I was on the river for four hours paddling, we had to turn around and paddle up stream to help our guide, who had fallen out of the raft. After that whole experience I had to drive a long drive home. I am here to tell you that my body was not sore, not one bit! Glory to God! I could have listened to the negative things others were telling me and never gone. After all, I am not 20 anymore! It would not have affected anyone else if I did not go, but it would have affected me because I would not have tasted of the good life. Now, I am not telling you to go white water rafting, but I am telling you to begin to taste the good life that the Father has provided for you. If the good life for you is a walk on the beach, or just simply waking up in the morning with a smile on your face, just because you can, then I encourage you to do so. I love you and have a great summer.

In His Love
Rev. Barbara A. Thorne

