

CHIEF

MINISTRIES

November 2021

Greetings in the name of the Lord,

Thank all of you who have continued to reach out and offer condolences on the loss of Chief. My heart is still heavy but with each passing day I continue to thank God for the time that we had together over the last 20 years. I'm not going to lie and say it's okay that he's gone, because we wanted, and expected many more years together. In ministry, in winning souls to the Lord, in praising and worshiping, in growing old together, and in life. There have been so many letters come in talking about the impact that he made on each of your lives. Not only from people that knew him in white, but from people around the world, throughout his whole life. They have reached out to share their love and memories of him. For all of you that knew him, you know that his "first love" was the Lord. The Lord should be ALL of our first loves. When He is, we can get through all other things.

When one experiences a loss or tragedy we have one of two choices, we can either run from God in which case we usually blame God for our circumstances, or we run to God, and we thank him for giving us the opportunity to be a part of our circumstances. The word says we are to offer up a sacrifice of praise, and just being real with you, sometimes it is a sacrifice to praise. But, I and I pray you, will do just that any time you are faced with less than favorable circumstances. Many years ago a prophet spoke into my life, and he said: "I pray for you every day, continue to pursue God's will, no matter how 'gray' the area seems now, you will soon see the 'reasoning' in what God's hands have wrought....be not dismayed for you are not alone, you shall reap a prophet's reward. The illumination that is coming will lighten all the grayed, shadowy areas yet untouched, shut in with God in the secret place, you'll gain New power to run in this race. Long for it. Yearn for it. Rise up Intercessor....Rise Up!!" That was an email sent to me on 11/29/2004. and it was signed love, Rob (aka Chief).

You know many times we are given a word and it doesn't make sense at the time and yet years later, in this case 17 years later, I see it coming to fruition. One may ask, "Why?", why does it take so long sometimes for God's word to come to fruition. Unfortunately, I don't have an answer for that, what I do know, is over the last few months the Lord has brought to my remembrance many things that He, and only He, could have put together so many years ago to be reality now. Chief told me how the Lord had been opening his eyes to the working of His plan in us, through us, and for us all these years. I can see things so much clearer now, of course you know they say hindsight is 20/20! But truly, if we would have known in 2004, and actually even before that, what 2021 would have brought, would we have been as obedient and faithful as we were? Even the difficult things we went through, the Lord was taking us through them together. Working in both of us to perfect each of us for His service and for each other. I'm saying this to encourage you that God's promises and His faithfulness is beyond reproach. Do we always understand → No! Many times, understanding comes years later. More to the point though is that we never know how much time we have, so we must keep the first thing first...God should be first in each of our lives.

So let's get back to the Lord being our "First Love", Revelation speaks about this. The NKJV reads: *To the Church in Ephesus. v1 To the angel of the church of Ephesus write: He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands, says these things. v2 I know your works and your labor and your patience, and how you cannot bear those who are evil. And you tried those pretending to be*

apostles, and are not, and have found them liars. v3 And you have borne, and have patience, and for My name's sake you have labored and have not fainted. v4 But I have this against you that you left your first love. v5 Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent, and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and will remove your lampstand out of its place unless you repent. v6 But you have this, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. v7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat of the Tree of Life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. (Revelation 2:1-7 NKJV).

So, what does this mean? According to William J Seymour, in his commentary he wrote: Jesus said, God knows our works. He knows our hearts. That word is more than many churches today could receive from the Master. Jesus commended them for what they had done. He is not like men. He knows our hearts, trials, and conditions. Jesus does not make allowance for sin. He hates sin today as much as He ever did. Yet he does not come to destroy or condemn us but to seek and to save us. The Lord does not want anything to come between Him and us.... Jesus, You are my first love. Keep me burning passionately for You.

Jeanne Mayo wrote: If revival is going to happen in my life, what conditions must be met? I must come back to my first love. In the first letter of the churches in Revelation, the risen Christ shared an invitation that all of us must respond to in our hearts to stir personal revival. The letter was to the church in Ephesus. Jesus commended them for their hard work, hate for evil, and perseverance when times were tough. But they had one lethal imperfection... they had lost their first love experience with Christ.

If true revival is going to happen in my life, then I must go back to the most basic of conditions in my walk with Christ... my first love experience. Do you remember the feelings you felt when you first began a friendship with Jesus Christ? The excitement, the love, even the dedication to keep the relationship alive no matter what the personal cost.

Paul in 1 Corinthians 13:13 states, *“And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”* In any relationship that continues over the course of time, keeping love fresh is one of the greatest of challenges.

If I work so hard at keeping my friendships, family relationships, and work acquaintances alive, then why do I allow the most important relationship in my life to seem dead? I must go back to what is most crucial, what is most important—the true love relationship I have with Almighty God. It is there that I am most vulnerable to do whatever He asks and not allow my spirit to quench personal revival.

We can do that by keeping God first in our thoughts, decisions, relationships, and as a priority in our very existence. We must actively cultivate our relationship with the Lord in order to maintain Him as our first love. In the natural, when we meet someone, and want to get to know them better we spend time with them, we talk to them, we visit with them, we ask questions and answer questions, and as that relationship grows we become more vulnerable and transparent in that relationship. That is how trust is developed. That same pattern occurs in our relationship with the Lord, one big difference however is that he KNOWS us, completely and totally, even more than we know ourselves, so although we ask questions of Him and yes, He answers and even asks us questions, it's not because he doesn't know the answer (remember, He KNOWS us), it is part of our relationship growing to know him better. Because the revelation that He gives us about ourselves, allows us to get even closer to Him. We need to always be cognizant of what the Spirit is saying to us, and also what He wants us to do in any given situation. The closer the relationship we have with the Lord, and the more obedient we are in that relationship. We come to realize what a good, good Father He is, and that we truly are the apple of His eye and in the palm of His hand. We TRUST Him, with everything that concerns us and even our very lives, and the Lord will use us even more. My personal desire, is to always have the Lord as my “First Love” and to be so close to Him that as He speaks in His still small voice, I will hear, and immediately obey.

What about you? Are you ready to return to your “First Love” ...Jesus!

One of the guys who wrote to share what Chief meant to him and who encouraged me to continue on with Chief Ministries wrote these words of encouragement for you: (rewritten with permission):

The time is short. Chief leaving us so suddenly is a reminder of just how sudden we can be taken back home with Jesus. It seems that everywhere I look I'm reminded of just how fragile life can be.

What is it you've always said to yourself that you wanted to do for Christ? I know for myself, I often look around at these men, and I often get a sense of how much love and mercy the Lord has for them. My heart will yearn for them to know the love of Jesus and I will feel a sense of the Lord wanting me to "Go tell them that I (the Lord) loves them and I'm here waiting for them." But I don't always do it. Sometimes I do, but too often I will be too timid about it, I do it, but not with the boldness, mercy and love that I would like to. Time is short, that's not who I want to be in the Lord. Who is it you don't want to be? I don't want to be the guy that misses what the Lord had for me. Chief was an encouragement to me that I can live daily and passionately for Jesus. That's the guy I want to be. And don't get me wrong, I struggle with my flesh. Prison is painful and difficult, I know it. But time is short, I don't want to miss my calling. That is what Chief was doing, encouraging us to our calling. I am called to love Jesus first, and gracefully love the men around me! How do we do it? A kind word, a soup freely given, merciful and graceful attitudes and actions. Ask the Lord to lead you into some special interactions with the guys. "Those who are led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God."

Pray with me right now, "Lord Jesus, draw me closer to your heart. Let me know your love more deeply, for myself and the men around me. As You do this, give opportunity for me to pour Your love out on these men. Grant us boldness and power to accomplish Your goals in these last hours. Thank you for loving us so freely and deeply Lord. In Jesus name. So be it."

So what is the Spirit speaking to you now? What is that passion burning in your heart? What are you afraid to do in the Lord? Is our God big enough to handle our frail little lives? Of course He is....more than able. Above and beyond able. So, men, be bold, move in the direction the Spirit is leading you. Time is short. We are almost home. Just a little while longer. Dig in, dig deeper. Chief may have beaten us home, but now he is there rooting for us. It's time to take up the mantle that he left us and touch men's hearts with the gifts Christ has put in us. Don't miss it. Don't miss the chance to speak life to that one guy that drives you crazy. Just plain rubs you wrong. Men are desperate, desperate for the truth we have, and they don't even know it. Speak out. Do it with the way the spirit moves you to do it. Like David, don't try to wear someone else's armor to a battle God has already outfitted you for. God has an anointing on you for this very hour, this very day.

As I receive letters from the men in white, and they share a timely word, I too will share accordingly.

As we keep the Lord in the number one position in our life, as our "First Love" He will direct and place people around us to minister to. He will also give us the words to say, and His words are always timely.

Remember keep Him first and ALL things will be given unto you!

Ms. Chief (aka Ms. G)

If you want to know more about CHIEF Ministries or would like to be a part, please go to www.chiefministries.com

Christ's Heart In Every Felon