## **Testimony**

Only God can turn ...A Mess into a Message, A Test into a Testimony,
A Trial into a Triumph, A Victim into a Victory.
God is good...all the time!

"The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy" Revelation 19:10. Testimony is a tool used by God to further His Kingdom here on earth. The word testimony means, "do it again". Jesus' testimony is anything spoken or written that He has done. His testimony continues today through what He does in and through us. Testimonies reveal God's heart. Our testimonies are any accounting of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit helping us deal with our own circumstances.

Deuteronomy 6:17 says "You should diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and His testimonies and His statutes which He has commanded you". The word, "keep" here means, "to watch, or to preserve". Testimonies show us what to expect, reveal God's acts and reveal His ways.

Psalm 78:40-43 (NIV) <sup>40</sup> How often they rebelled against him in the wilderness and grieved him in the wasteland! <sup>41</sup> Again and again they put God to the test; they vexed the Holy One of Israel. <sup>42</sup> They did not remember his power—the day he redeemed them from the oppressor, <sup>43</sup> the day he displayed his signs in Egypt, his wonders in the region of Zoan. Psalm 78:40-43 shows what happened to Israel, spiritually, when they forgot His works.

Testimonies of people set free from strongholds are particularly important to focus on. Just listing the remaining strongholds can cause us to give the devil credit for what he is doing currently. Hopelessness can follow from that if we aren't careful. The testimony of one person overcoming a stronghold through the power of God can cause His kingdom to invade further and push other strongholds aside.

## As you pray:

- Ask God to reveal and remind you of the testimonies of His work in your life, your church, this Annual Conference and the United Methodist Church. Thank Him again for those blessings! His supernatural power can be released again and again through this remembrance. Listen for God to speak to you!
- Ask God to help you "keep" the testimonies by preserving them and recognizing the significance God wants you to apply to your life, your church, this Annual Conference and the United Methodist Church.
- Ask God to use the remembrance of these testimonies of God's work in your life, your church, this Annual Conference and the United Methodist Church to remove any hopelessness you are dealing with in your current circumstances.
- With a thankful heart, praise God for His blessings on your life, your church, this Annual Conference and the United Methodist Church

## -- By Rich Fetzer.