

Skep moed en dank God

Hand. 28:15 En die broeders wat van ons lotgevalle gehoor het, het ons daarvandaan tegemoetekom tot by die Appius-mark en die Drie Herberge; en toe Paulus hulle sien, het hy God gedank en moed gevat.

Na 'n baie lang en moeisame seereis, wat met baie teëspoed gepaard gegaan het, het Paulus aan boord van die skip Castor en Pollux die hawe van Rome n. Putéoli, bereik. Paulus het vir baie jare n begeerte gehad om na Rome te gaan en daar die Evangelie te gaan verkondig. Rom. 1:13-16 Maar, broeders, ek wil julle nie daarvan onkundig laat dat ek my dikwels voorgeneem het om na julle te kom nie en ek is tot nog toe verhinder... Teenoor Grieke sowel as nie Grieke, teenoor wyse sowel as onverstandige mense is ek 'n skuldenaar. Vandaar die verlange van my kant om ook aan julle wat in Rome is, die evangelie te verkondig. Want ek skaam my nie oor die evangelie van Christus nie, want dit is 'n krag van God tot redding vir elkeen wat glo, eerste vir die Jood en ook vir die Griek.

Toe hy by Putéoli aankom, was dit vir hom n groot oomblik. Ek glo nie dit was wat Paulus in gedagte gehad het toe hy sy begeerte uitgespreek het, dat dit as n gevangene in kettings sou wees nie en dat hy deur storms sou moes gaan om hierdie begeerte te verwesenlik nie.

Ons lees iets baie belangrik hier! *Ondanks die storms/kettings* het hy moed geskep en God gedank. Hy was dankbaar dat hy die geleentheid sou kry om o.a. die Evangelie te verkondig.

Ons staan aan die begin van n nuwe jaar wat vir elkeen van ons onbekend is en moontlik groot uitdagings vir ons inhou! Ons kan van Paulus leer. Skep moed en dank God. Dank Hom vir Sy getrouheid en almag. Die jaar wat verby is, is nie anders as die jaar wat voorlê wat die nabyheid en getrouheid van die Here betref nie. 2Tim. 2:13 As ons ontrou is, Hy bly getrou; Hy kan Homself nie verloën nie. Matt. 28:20 En kyk, Ek is met julle al die dae tot aan die voleinding van die wêreld. Amen. Die woord "amen" beteken dit is die waarheid; verseker; betroubaar; dit sal so wees ONS FOKUS aan die begin van 2015 "Paulus het moed geskep en God gedank". Kom laat ons soos Paulus God dank en moed skep. God gaan nooit terug op sy Woord nie. Num. 23:19. God het mag om te doen wat Hy belowe. Rom. 4:21. Moet nie jou vrede weggee en moet nie toelaat dat jou getuienis stil word omdat daar dalk moeilike dae en storms kan wees nie! Hou vas aan die getrouheid en sterkte van die Here en *skep moed en dank God* vir wie Hy is. Mag 2015 n geseënde en voorspoedige jaar wees as getuies in diens van die Koning van die konings. Groete in Sy dierbare Naam.

Ds. Jan Keyser



New Year's Day Blues

I'll bet you, like me received many good wishes for 2015.

Of course, this happens every year, doesn't it? We're told to set goals, make new year's resolutions and kick-start our lives.

This is going to be your year, isn't it?

But, if you're like me, you might have the post New Year party blues because you too realise that with all your good intentions of turning over a new leaf and making 2015 the year where you're going to make a difference, just isn't going to happen.

It didn't happen last year, nor the year before that nor 10 years prior. For me at least. I still haven't become this super human who was going to dent the universe (even though I had every intention of doing so).

My quest to become a better human in 2015 faltered around January 3. I realised that my plans for better relationships with my family, improving my financial situation, getting that perfect body, contributing more to my community, learning more and being more were ... well were just words, just good intentions.

I think the challenge for me is that I live in the future and not in the moment. Because if you really think about it, January 1, 2015 is just another day, another moment in time in our journey. Like every other day, it is the only day we have a chance of making a difference in our lives and in the lives of those we love.

Perhaps we should focus more on being the best human we can be on every day that is gifted to us rather than being so future-focused.

Perhaps if we are the best mommy/daddy that we can be on this day, the best employee that we can be on this day and the best leader we can be on this day (every day) we will see a shift happen in our lives.

I believe if we do this, the future will sort itself out. The 'one day I will be ...' will become 'today', the 'I wish I could ...' will become 'I did it' and our dreams for our future will become our reality today.

The Jacques de Villiers Group
082 906 3693

Volksrust/Seme Business Column

Make-or-break factor for the dream of a rainbow nation

"Ethics is a make-or-break factor for the dream of a rainbow nation," observed Professor Deon Rossouw, CEO of the Ethics Institute of South Africa (EthicsSA). Speaking at the Second Annual Ethics Conference in Sandton on Friday, Prof Rossouw further said: "We have to look at where we have made progress, where we are failing and where we need to put more focus in order to build a more ethical, and thus ultimately more just, society. Both individuals and organisations have to take responsibility for their impact on society."

Speaking on the state of ethics in South Africa, Eusebius McKaiser, a political and social analyst at the Wits Centre for Ethics, argued that South Africa had to close the gap between the vision we adopted in 1994 and enshrined in our Constitution, and the reality of what is happening on the ground. McKaiser said that South Africans tended to confuse ethical with legal behaviour.

Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu, chancellor of the University of Pretoria and chairman of Rothschild South Africa, agreed that the problem of ethics lies not in ideological beliefs but in people's everyday conduct. "Those who lead must be the champions of good ethical conduct. The implementation of ethics in an organisation should not be left to ethics officers and auditors," Professor Nkuhlu said. "We need to develop a common understanding of what serving the public interest means."

At the same time, he added, it was the actions of ordinary South Africans that will ultimately make the biggest difference. Both corporate and private citizens must insist that the national conversation be about the values that underpin policies and economic objectives, and should participate in this conversation more actively.

Sipho Pityana, chairperson of the Council for the Advancement of the South African Constitution, argued that an active citizenry could reclaim power from political parties and, in fact, increase the capacity of the state, provided the state recognised citizens as partners and not as enemies or opponents.

We can all be agents of change...

We need to develop our character

Develop families, businesses and communities of character

The above article is a summary of a Conference held on 30 May 2012 on Ethics. Volksrust Business Chamber agrees that for us to make a sustainable change to the future of Volksrust we urge everyone to take a positive stance on Ethics. Ethics is not about being lawfully correct only but mostly about being morally in tune with your environment, people, personnel and family. It is about not accepting or offering bribes but doing things according to the guidelines and procedures set out. It is about accepting your fault if you were wrong and giving thanks and showing gratitude if your perception on service was surpassed.

Let us tune into our moral compasses, and start this year by doing the right things right and not accepting that which is wrong. Let us focus on the positives, and look for the opportunities in our challenges. Like they say, every challenge has an expiry date!!

We pray that this year will be a year of truthful and honest business practices, with growth surpassing our wildest dreams, and let us who experience blessing in our businesses, become a blessing to our society.

For application as member please contact on the following people on the management committee.

Article taken from www.charactermakesadifference.com

For more information contact: Willem Husselmann 082 415 7725, Freddie Kapp 017 735 4444, Johan Botha 082 335 7274, Ashraf moola 082 588 5515 or Ahmed Chothia 082 554 4886