

# Cecil and Lisa Paxton Ministries

May 2024



## Happy Mother's Day!

While He was dying on the cross, Jesus entrusted His mother into the hands of the disciple John. John was known as the disciple whom Jesus loved, not the disciple who loved Jesus the most. As we celebrate Mother's Day, may Jesus' value for His mother remind us to express sincere love to the one who loved us unconditionally as an expression of God's kind of grace and love.



Greetings to you all, our partners and friends!

### Passivity

One of the subtle dangers in our Christian walk is becoming so consumed with the issues of life that we become spiritually passive. If we are not careful, we can find ourselves busy with all the responsibilities of life and then suddenly experience the devil's attacks, and our first response is a natural response instead of a spiritual response.

**1 Peter 5:8-9 (English Standard Version)**

**8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a**

**roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.**

**9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.**

In 1 Peter 5:8, we are told to be watchful because in a conflict of life, we have an adversary, a spiritual opponent who opposes us. Jesus is with us and in us, making us a direct threat to the demonic realm. John 10:10 expounds on the evil character of the devil, calling him a thief whose motive is to steal, kill, and destroy.

To be watchful requires us to be sober minded, meaning we are serious and on alert anytime we experience adverse circumstances.

If we become passive, then we will let the devil walk all over us or our loved ones by trying to deal with the issues from a natural perspective only.

This word “*watchful*” has the context of a watchman. The watchman in an Old Testament example was one who was assigned the specific duty to be on watch for enemy danger. In Ezekiel 33:6, we are told that the responsibilities of a watchman were so serious that if he failed, his blood would be required.

**Ezekiel 33:6 (Modern English Version)**

***But if the watchman sees the sword come and does not blow the trumpet and the people are not warned...his blood I will require from the hand of the watchman.***

The New Testament example of a watchman is one who is assigned the specific duty of prayer in warfare. This involves being open to the influence of the Holy Spirit for protection, defense, observation, or any warning the Holy Spirit would give us. Some circumstances in life are the devil attempting to steal, kill, and destroy. We need to spiritually wake up and be watchful.

First Peter 5:8 tells us that the devil prowls around *like* a roaring lion. He is not a roaring lion, as Jesus defeated him at the cross, and it is through the cross that we enforce the victory of Calvary.

When it says the devil is like a roaring lion, it is explaining his tactic or strategy, as he does not have the complete ability or danger of a lion.

His strategy is like that of a real lion. He is only able to succeed if we believers are passive and do not use the authority given to us in Christ Jesus. A real lion doesn't attack the entire pack of animals but will only choose one that is either weak or alone, separated from the entire group.

**Ephesians 6:10-11 (ESV)**

***10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.***

***11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.***

We have everything we need in Christ Jesus, so as Ephesians 6:10 says, we can be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

When verse 11 is talking about the schemes of the devil, it has the context of a secret, underhanded plan.

First Peter 5:9 says, “*Resist him, firm in your faith.*” If we resist, we will win the spiritual battle. To resist means that we are fighting against him.

James 4:7 tells us to submit to God and resist the devil and he will flee. In submitting to God, we can experience freedom from any suffering that 1 Peter 5:9 speaks about so that our focus is off ourselves in relationship to the problems in life. Jesus can heal our hearts from any confusion, misunderstanding, hurt, or pain that the circumstances of life bring in our suffering.

With our focus on Jesus, we are prepared to actively fight against the attack of the devil. But we must remember that we just can't successfully fight against the devil if we are part of the problem with unbelief in our hearts.

**John 16:33 (NKJV)**

***These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.***

We are overcomers in Christ!

**Thank You!**

Lisa and I are very grateful to you, our friends and partners of this ministry, as together we are seeing lives changed. We believe that you, our partners, are greatly prospering—spirit, soul, and body—as you experience increase in the seed you have sown multiplying and increase in the fruits of your righteousness. God's richest blessings in Christ are already yours. Believe and establish this truth in your hearts and have open hearts to receive all that God has given you in Christ Jesus.

Happy Mother's Day!

Love and blessings,

*Cecil + Lisa*

## Redemptive Love Ministries



**Pastor Ramin  
& Yasmin Parsa**

### **The House of Worship & Prayer in Jerusalem—Pastor Ramin Parsa**

We are close to fulfilling our commitment of \$10,000 to help Pastor Ramin pay for the church building in Jerusalem, Israel. CLPMI will continue to give monthly support even after our commitment is fulfilled, and you are free to give through us if it is in your heart to do so.

Please pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

## Testimony

Rachael called in with a praise report a few days ago. She said that she called in four years ago for her daughter, Grace, who was six months old at the time and having seizures.

Cecil prayed for Grace, and she had no more seizures after that day. The doctors said that Grace had a rare genetic disorder and would have to undergo kidney and liver transplants.

Grace did not have a kidney or a liver transplant. In fact, she is now a four-year-old who is happy, healthy, and on track developmentally. Praise the Lord!



### **Overseas Travel**

We are looking at traveling for ministry overseas at the end of October, through all of November, and possibly into December before returning home for the holidays.

Based on past travel, we are estimating the financial cost at around \$15,000 above our normal ministry expenses. That is why we are preparing for this trip now. For those who would like to be a part of what the Lord is accomplishing in European nations, you can donate through our website, by phone, or by mail:

[clpmi.org](http://clpmi.org) / 719-243-4100

PO Box 50555

Colorado Springs CO 80949-0555

I believe that in heaven, we will see all the fruit of the lives that were spiritually changed, with so many testimonies of the Lord's goodness.

### **USA Travel**

Lisa and Myself have a packed traveling schedule for most of May and first part of June. Please go to website to see if we are coming to your area [clpmi.org/itinerary](http://clpmi.org/itinerary).

May 5, 2024 - Hubbardston, MA

May 10-12, 15, 17-19 2024 - Mt Ephraim, NJ

May 20, 2024 - Newport News, VA

June 2, 2024 - Camden, AR

June 9, 2024 - Blanco, TX

June 15, 2024 - Colorado Springs, CO

June 12-16, 2024

# CHARIS FAMILY CAMP MEETING



\* MORE THAN ENOUGH \*



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LAWSON & BARBARA PERDUE

PASTORS MARK &  
TRINA HANKINS

PASTOR AARON  
PERDUE



MAX CORNELL



BRIAN CLARK



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CECIL PAXTON

## Venue

Charis Christian Center  
10285 Federal Dr.  
Colorado Springs, CO  
(719) 227-0380  
[CharisChristianCenter.com](http://CharisChristianCenter.com)



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