

The following letter was written by Charlie Williams, Ministry to Men Director. After many requests for him to write a book about *Ministry to Men* and after several attempts to do just that, someone suggested he simply write letters sharing some of the truths God has been teaching him during the years.

We will be posting his letters on the Ministry to Men Web site. **This letter was posted on June 6, 2011.**

Letter 39 I Thessalonians 5:2

I remember hearing a song one time titled 'Long Distance Eyes'. As I thought about it these thoughts came to my mind. Long distance eyes look back to learn from the past but not to live there. Long distance eyes look at today because that's where God has me right now and Long Distance Eyes look to the future only to see their reward in eternity with God. The future between now and then is in God's hands. He says 'So do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will care for itself, every day has enough trouble of its own. Matt. 6:34; James 4:13-14

When Abraham needed to go to war the bible tells us 'He led out his trained men born in his house, 318 men. Gen. 14:14. Whenever I see these verses I see what God is doing in the ministry He's called us to. When we need soldiers to follow God's directions in what He has us doing we look to the men He has brought into our family of men who are there for one another. God has so richly blessed us.

Who do you take with you when you have to go to war?

'Halftime' is a book that does such a great job of showing us the difference of pursuing success instead of significance. If I'm looking for success alone I've probably left God out of what I'm doing. If I give myself to Him and pursue Him not results then He blesses me with contentment. The results are always God's not mine. Col. 1: 29

Back in 1983 when I was encouraged to go on staff with CBMC I began learning a lesson that has encouraged and blessed me and many other godly people who financially support us in the ministry. I began to see that the dollars they sent made the ministry possible but the prayers they prayed for us made the ministry profitable

There's a small verse in the bible that God used to turn my life from life to death and then to real life. It was James 2:19. In my bible it says 'Charlie, you believe that God is one, you do well, and the demons also believe and shudder.

You see every time someone mentioned God or the bible to me my defense or my answer was always 'I believe'. When the truth of this verse set in I realized I may have known about God but I didn't know Him. Then John 1:12 brought it all together 'To as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name'.

Do you believe? Have you received?