



NightLight

A NEWSLETTER OF McLEAN MINISTRIES

"take heed....as to a light that shines in a dark place." II Peter 1:19

Volume 375 • August 2024



THIS ISSUE:

Refreshing Your Memory	1 - 2
Movie News	2
Correcting Wrong Concepts	3
Closing Thoughts	4

Dear Friends,



*So I will always remind you of these things,
even though you know them
and are firmly established
in the truth you now have.*

*I think it is right to refresh your memory...
II Peter 1:12,13*

It is very difficult for me to be limited to a monthly newsletter format. I am a prophetic teacher. My particular gift is not a gift to the practical-minded who are satisfied with immediate simple answers. For good or bad, my calling is to communicate the very difficult (sometimes painful) wrestlings that Scripture and life present. I strive to unpack these truths in order for you to grasp their meaning, not only with your head, but ultimately with your heart. Hopefully, a conclusion is reached. But if not, may I impart to you the grace to bow to the unanswerable Mystery with humble childlike submission. In the absence of any immediate conclusions, may we both find increasing rest and childlike faith in God until the full revelation is one day revealed. Religion hates that!

With its shallow systems of belief, many believers are left with unspoken frustrations and suppressed torments that have deeply damaged their relationship to the real God. I long for us to progressively come to know the true heart of God in the face of these many and increasingly demanding struggles.

*For we know in part and we prophesy in part...now we see but a poor reflection...
I Corinthians 13:9,12*

Mary has cataloged hundreds of hours of our recorded teaching for over forty years. We are trying now to focus on what of all that truly matters, and to make that our final focus. Yes. It all has some import in a certain context or we would not have spent time in the past giving place to it. But in this present time, in the face of this present demand, what should be our present communication to you? That is our daily prayer.



Are you aware of how truly limited we are in our immediate perceptions? What we have on our minds at any given moment, whatever it may be, is merely a tiny flash of reality. And almost immediately, it is supplanted by another such flash. Our thinking is a flood of various concepts, memories, interests, attractions, frustrations, temptations, irritations, and interests - all jumbled up in a tumbling wad. Those who study this say the average human mind thinks somewhere between 50 to 70 thousand thoughts per day. That is about 30 to 40 per minute. And unless that fact is willfully perceived by an informed mind so as to demand some degree of wise control of the flow, it can become an out of control flood of trouble for many. How and when does the Holy Spirit have any opportunity to speak?! Just because He is God does not mean that He will sovereignly break in to the flow when He wants to say something to you. No. He waits and watches to see if He will be invited in. He waits and watches to see if any time will be set aside with Him. May what we offer you in each **Nightlight** edition be part of that invitation to come and stay awhile in His Presence.

So, bottom line for this present moment is this: I need to do more than address topics. I need to unpack issues that I know deeply trouble many people. The subject of *The Last Days* is one we feel led to delve into for the next few months. Our prayer is that these teachings will not only inform and equip you in this present darkness, but also draw you ever closer to our Blessed Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



Movie News



Since *COVID*, it seems we have emerged with a better and increasing crop of positive film options. I will only take time here to name two of them that I suggest you check out.

INSIDE OUT was an exceptionally good film that creatively addressed the inner workings of the developing brain of a child. We knew it was a perfect setting for a sequel, but was not confident that such a follow-up story would be handled well. Thankfully that has not been true. The continuing story of the little girl turning into a budding teenager in *INSIDE OUT Part 2* was written and produced with a loving and wise treatment that is worth your support.

My grandchildren kidnapped me to *GARFIELD*. In spite of the hyper-cartoon action, it was ultimately a good story! It has a solid foundational message of forgiveness, reunion, and the restoration of family. If your children or grandchildren kidnap you to see it, play along! You will be pleasantly surprised.



Correcting Wrong Concepts from Childhood

When I was a small boy around four, I was taken in my imagination by an image communicated to me by my mother, when I asked her where my father was going. He was going to work. But she said simply, "Your dad is going to make some money." That more vivid phrase immediately painted in my mind an entire scenario of vivid images. In them I saw my dad standing at a tall desk, taking small pieces of metal, and putting them together like puzzle pieces into a round larger image called money. He was making money! That inaccurate but vivid picture remained with me for several years whenever the subject of earning a living was brought up. It forever formed concepts related to the entire scenario of earning a living for me - crazy, mixed up, and often a bit negative. This illustrates how our very earliest mental concepts can be very inaccurate, yet continue to persist as a deciding element in our inner ideas of reality.

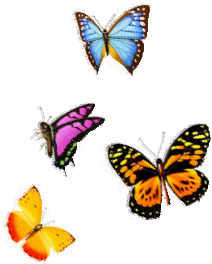
I see this played out in many other more serious forms. How many of us have allowed our own imaginative early ideas of how life works to wrongfully overshadow what is real and true? Consider how you see God. Is it colored over with an inaccurate picture from your childhood? What about the idea of marriage? Of family? Of home? Of church? Of the Last Days? Often something that is good, that should have produced hope and joy, instead, is marred beyond recognition by our image we carry from childhood. Take charge of your inner world. Let the Holy Spirit paint true and accurate pictures of reality. Our God is not only a Restorer of broken walls, but in Jesus Christ is the Redeemer of our broken ways of how we perceive reality.

Closing Thoughts...



A vivid imagination, especially one that is a bit negative, can keep us almost constantly on edge. We may think we are being vigilant when actually we are simply fearful. Yes. We are told to watch and be on guard. But we are also told to be joyful, thankful, loving, helpful, and hospitable. If the watchful element negates the hopeful element, there is something off kilter inside our hearts. Let the Holy Spirit order this within. You will be happily surprised at the helpful adjustment it will make.

Abandoned to Him, Mary & Clay



McLean Ministries

P.O. Box 2088 • Hickory, North Carolina 28603 • 828.322.5402
website: www.mcleanministries.org • email: claymcleanministries@pobox.com