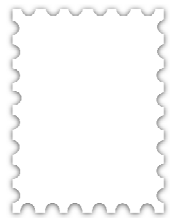


Jubilee Music Enrichment

A NJ Nonprofit Corporation
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Merchantville, NJ 08109

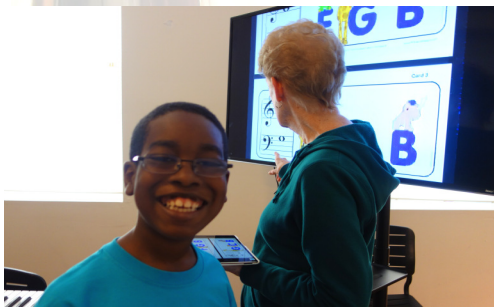
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Serving Camden, NJ
www.jubileeringers.com
(856) 796-0153
Prayer Letter, May 2016

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

Ephesians 6:11

Cultivating Young Leaders Through The Discipline Of Music Training



Annual Scholarship Performance & Banquet

Sunday, June 12, 2016

3:30 PM (Seating begins at 3:00)

Malandra Hall

1200 S. Merrimac Rd., Camden NJ 08104

RSVP for Reserved Seating

(865) 796-0153 or music4youth@hotmail.com

Admission Free - Donations Appreciated

Checks made payable to Jubilee Music Enrichment,

P O Box 1705, Merchantville, NJ 08109

Directions can be found at www.jubileeringers.com



This Means War

The initial intent was to title this article, I See Monsters. Over the years, and even recently, youth have expressed how they cannot sleep at night because they see monsters in their bedroom. Some have talked about the voices that they hear. Parents have been troubled and exhausted by the uncontrollable behavior of their children - behavior that remains unaffected despite years of therapy and numerous doses of medication. Although some of these experiences can be contributed to serious illnesses, we cannot overlook the fact that much of it is caused by a serious spiritual warfare.

Jesus had many encounters with those who were fighting a spiritual warfare. Reading the accounts of his ministry, we see in most instances when crowds gathered before him wanting to experience his miracles, he not only healed the sick and diseased but he also cast out devils. There were those who could not talk, but when the devils were cast out they could speak. There was the man who lived amongst the tombs for many years. He had no self-control. He was so wild that no one dared cross his path. No one could contain him. He cut himself with stones while roaming about unclothed. He was afflicted by many monsters. When Jesus commanded them to come out, the man was found sitting at the feet of Jesus, healed, clothed and in his right mind to the astonishment of many who knew him. We recall the father that came to Jesus pleading with him to heal his son who was pathologically classified as being a lunatic, often throwing himself into fire and water. Jesus commanded the monster to come out of him. The devil departed and the child was immediately cured. Today, children are fighting the same afflictions – different time, different scenery, but the same monsters.

Sometimes there is the perception that children we minister to are raised in difficult and challenging environments which are conducive to the entrance of monsters. Many of them are, but this is not always the case. We must not be ignorant of the monsters (and there are many) in the lives of children that

come from a, “good home” by the world’s standards. They too must fight spiritual battles that are just as intense as those in homes and environments with severe deficits. The spirit of feeling accomplished and successful through our own efforts, without Christ, is a strategic and dangerous device of the enemy. It is like ants eating sugar mixed with borax – an undetected but deadly concoction.

This brings us to the encounter that Jesus had with the rich young ruler who came to him and asked what he must do to earn eternal life. He boasted that he was the perfect young man, and claimed that all of his life he never did anything wrong. He was probably waiting for Jesus to shower him with a myriad of commendations and to tell him “you’re in.” Instead, Jesus confronted him with the monsters, he could not see, that were warring against his soul - self-righteousness, and his riches/achievements. He walked away sad. This young ruler was fighting against vicious, spiritual enemies – rulers of the darkness of this world. Unfortunately, he lost the battle because he was unwilling to give up his pride, position and the temporal pleasures of life to follow Christ and gain eternal life. What does one profit if they gain the whole world and lose their soul? What can one give in exchange for their soul?

There are monsters whose sole purpose is to destroy our youth. These monsters need to be defeated and “this means war.” Ephesians 6 warns us how serious this situation is and what we must do to be victorious. This war is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Paul wrote this to the church that professed to know Jesus. Paul also told the servants of Christ to fight against the fleshly lust that war against their souls. If those that know Christ have to fight such a spiritual warfare imagine the fierce battle and the spiritual affliction of a child who does not know Jesus? They are losing the fight. There is no way they can win without Christ.

Ministering at Jubilee Music Enrichment means being committed to the war and complying with the dress code - wearing the whole armor of God. We must put on salvation and be clothed in righteousness. We must protect ourselves with the truth. We must carry and know how to use the Word of God. We must always walk prepared to share the Gospel of Jesus that can deliver and give peace from the monsters. We cannot be distracted by being entangled in the affairs of this world - collaborating with agendas that are not Christ centered. We must fight for our children and we must do everything to stand and win.

Jubilee Music Enrichment does not exist solely for the cause of getting kids off the streets and providing fun and enriching activities that will elevate them in this life. This alone will not make the monsters disappear. Yes, we seek to cultivate young leaders and see them succeed, however we realize that it is all in vain if Christ is not the center and the cause of their success.

When children enter the doors of Jubilee Music Enrichment, it should be a place where the Spirit of the Lord is. For, where the spirit of the Lord is there is freedom. We want children to be free from seeing monsters. We want them to see the glory of the Lord. So, “this means war.” Pray with all prayer and supplication for us as we fight the battle.

At our first choir rehearsal, each child was given an opportunity to sing their favorite song. It came time for our most petite student to sing. She opened her mouth, put her head back, closed her eyes and out came this big voice expressively singing:

I got Satan on my trail, But I'm singing all is well
He's attacking every day, But I'm watching while I pray
No matter the attack I won't turn back
This means war.

I have been humming this tune ever since. It is one thing to see monsters: however knowing how to defeat them is what really matters. This Means War!

Prayer Requests

“That from a child you have known the Holy Scriptures that are able to make you wise unto salvation...” (2 Timothy 3: 15) Learning scripture is an important weapon for winning the war. The Jubilee Ringers are given scriptures and are challenged to memorize and recite them. Pray that the power of the Word would convert the souls of those who say them and those who hear.

We have encountered youth who are eager to participate; however they cannot get their parents to register them. Please pray for these parents and that the Holy Spirit will move through the neighborhood and bring families to Jesus.

We have circulated a second round of tracts throughout the neighborhood and in a few weeks will start another round of door to door distribution. Please pray that these tracts will minister and convict of the need for Christ. Anyone who has on their “Gospel of peace” shoes is welcome to join us.

Pray that the Lord will meet our need for volunteers. This would enable us to increase our hours and programs. Knowledge of music is not necessary but would be helpful. A commitment to serve Christ and being clothed in the whole armor of God meets the eligibility requirements. We are thankful for longtime supporter Arlene Curran who volunteers several days during the week. She is a retired school teacher, committed to Christ and a true blessing to us. We especially need help on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Pray for the safety of our children. While taking request in our prayer circle, one child asked for safety at his school because there has been shooting around it.

Pray for the Jubilee Ringers as they prepare for the scholarship banquet. A lot of discipline and practice is needed for them to achieve their goals and receive their scholarship. Pray that the Lord would give their parents godly wisdom as they raise them.

Pray for wisdom and guidance as we plan our summer programs. Pray that we will be steadfast and vigilant in battle.