

Jubilee Music Enrichment

A NJ Nonprofit Corporation
501 (c) 3 Tax Exempt Organization



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«AddressBlock»

Serving Camden, NJ
www.jubileeringers.com
(856) 796-0153

Prayer Letter , May 2018

Youth Leading Youth Leader Conducting



**And Jesus looking upon them said, With men it is impossible,
but not with God: for with God all things are possible**

Mark 10:27

*Cultivating Young Leaders
Through The Discipline Of Music Training*

It's Hard

At Jubilee Music Enrichment, this is the time of year called “crunch time.” It is a time when some youth who have stared at their music all year, suddenly realize how much extra practice and hard work they have to exert if they are to receive their scholarship award. Often, in an attempt to justify their lackadaisicalness, they expressively groan the words, “it’s hard.”

Some of the ringers ask, “Why can’t we get scholarship for just playing the bells?” “Isn’t that good enough?” Everyone enjoys playing the bells and our ringers quickly become proficient at ringing them. The challenges are miniscule compared to playing the piano. The piano demands much more discipline and focus. When this question is posed, they are quickly reminded that the programs at Jubilee Music Enrichment are offered at no cost, so rewards are not given without a sacrifice of commitment, hard work and discipline.

It reminds me of Jesus’ account of the rich young ruler who wanted a great reward without sacrificing anything for it. This young man came to Jesus and asked him what he had to do to obtain the free gift of eternal life. Jesus told him to keep the commandments. The young man thought he had it made because keeping the commandments was something that was easy for him. He claimed that he had done so since he was a child. It can be assumed that he was the son of a wealthy religious leader and his elders handed down the family tradition of teaching the law and prided themselves in keeping it. It was expected that he preserve the family’s honor by continuing in its traditions. He came to Jesus expecting that his current efforts were good enough and he would not have to sacrifice anything to gain the reward of heaven.

The young man was not prepared for what was coming next. Jesus told him, “You lacked one thing, sell all that you have and give to the poor,” “come, take up the cross, and follow me.” Although Jesus gave him assurance that he would gain treasures in heaven, he was too content with life as it was. He was too comfortable with his current state and was not willing to give up everything he valued to contend for the ultimate reward. It was not worth the

Annual Scholarship Performance & Banquet

Sunday, June 10, 2018

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



sacrifice. It was too great a cost. He chose to walk away sad because, “it was hard.”

At Jubilee Music Enrichment, we are presenting our children with the same challenge that Christ gave the rich young ruler - sacrifice all that you have, take up the cross, follow Jesus and gain eternal life. While our children may not have the ability to physically leave their family, following Christ will demand that they make a spiritual separation from generational traditions, culture and ungodly lifestyles within the homes where they live – and that’s hard. It means that they will have to take a stand for righteousness in opposition to a society that calls good evil and evil good – and that’s hard. Like the rich young ruler it will require them to take up a cross. This means they will have to suffer, be rejected and hated by their peers and family like Christ was – and that’s hard. They will often be lonely as they carry their cross on the narrow road where few seek to enter – and that’s hard. Indeed, following Christ is harder than learning a piano piece.

After listening to Jesus tell the story of the rich young ruler, the disciples also expressed that it’s hard to obtain eternal life. If the rich young ruler, who had everything he needed and was raised knowing the law, was not good enough for heaven and had to sacrifice all he had then, who could make it? Jesus acknowledged that “it’s hard,” when he responded “with man it is impossible.” If that is the case, then what hope is there for the child who does not come from the background like the rich young ruler? They have not been instructed in righteousness. They do not have elders who will teach them right. Many of our children are immersed in circumstances and situations that are hard. I still hear the cry of the child who asked, “What if your parent makes you sin?” That’s hard! Like the disciples, we are inclined to say, “How can they make it?” The hope only comes through Christ. Jesus answered his disciples by saying, “With God all things are possible.”

Learning a piano piece requires much discipline. It takes time, focus, and determination. Each line must be practiced over and over – many times - in order to become accomplished. This is a sacrifice our children must make if they are to receive an award. When they complain that “it’s hard” we ask them to read the verse on the wall, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:11”

If we expect our children to do something hard, then we must also be willing to do something hard. We must be willing to sacrifice of ourselves to support them in achieving the reward of eternal life. One of the most important things we must do is pray for them. If we don’t, who will? We must weary the Lord with our prayers. Hannah prayed so hard that she was taken to be drunk. Jesus told of the woman who repeatedly prayed to the judge to avenge her adversaries. She kept asking and asking until she wearied the judge into granting her request. Likewise, we must continually take our children before the Lord. We must pray repeatedly until our request are answered. We must ask the Lord to put a hedge of protection around our children. We must ask the Lord to remove them from people and circumstances that would harm and hinder them. We must pray for the salvation of their parents, and families. We must pray their strength in the Lord. This will require sacrificing our time and energy. We must be consistent, focus and determined. We cannot be lackadaisical. We can never use the excuse “it’s hard,” even if it is.

I am reminded of the prophet Jeremiah's cry for the children of Israel, “The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved. Jeremiah 8:10.” Our cry must be the same for the children of Camden. We want them to receive their award. Their salvation is urgent. It’s crunch time. As they work on the piano keys, we have work to do on our knees. It’s hard but we have the assurance, all things are possible through Christ.

Please Pray

- The story of the rich young ruler was shared with the Jubilee Ringers. At the end of each session we hold hands in a prayer circle and each child has an opportunity to share their prayer request. This day, one of the ringers raised their hand and requested that he put his desires aside and do the things that Jesus would want him to do. Please pray that he allows the Lord to fulfill this request in his life. Pray that this be the desire of all of our children
- We are teaching our children to pray and to extend their prayers beyond the doors of Jubilee Music Enrichment. Pray that they know the power of prayer.
- Pray for the protection of our children. Pray for the child who asked, “What if your parent makes you sin?” Pray for her siblings and the salvation of her family.
- Pray as we prepare for our Scholarship Banquet. Pray that our children will be able to focus on their goals and succeed.
- Pray for our Summer Enrichment Program. Pray that we are able to reach many children, in the community, with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The children have asked to go on trips like the other summer programs in the city. We would like to do this by taking them on a day trip to a Christian Camp once a week but we need transportation. Pray that the Lord will provide.
- Continue to pray that the Lord send Volunteers. We especially need volunteers who can teach music. The ability to read and play a basic hymn, a love for following Jesus, and a love and patience for children qualifies.



Pastor William Waltz, Cinnaminson Baptist Church - enjoying a music theory game with the Jubilee Ringers during our Open House. We thank the Lord for all the things they do to support Jubilee Music Enrichment.