

Fanning it into Flame
Sunday, March 28, 2010

Would You Like to Dance?

The title of Pastor Rosey Andrews' message this morning comes from a word she received from the Lord inviting her into a deeper and more intimate relationship with him. I (Pastor Ray) recently watched an old movie from the thirties or forties with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. I don't have the most fluid movements on the dance floor and only find myself doing a slow dance with my wife at a wedding now and then, looking more like Steve Martin than Fred Astaire. However, I was caught up in the beauty and grace of this legendary dance team of the silver screen. In Scripture the psalmist exhorts us to dance before the Lord. Jeremiah the prophet also spoke it. I was taught in my early years as a Christian that dancing was taboo because it could lead to inappropriate behavior with the opposite sex. While there may be an element of truth in that, the greater picture is that if we had a deeper walk with the Lord our affections would be on him and his grace would teach us to say no to ungodliness and worldly desires. (Titus 2:12) The law never produces righteous living, just the desire to do the very things it's telling us not to do. Someone recently told me something funny. "Do you know why the church doesn't want to spend intimate times of worship before the Lord? Because it could lead to dancing." Ha! I thought that was pretty funny. I believe God is calling us to a deeper relationship with him that will affect every area of our lives.

The relationship Rosey has with the Lord has opened the door for miracles in her life. Her trust is that if she is in the center of God's will, he will fund what he's calling her to do. She lovingly calls Jesus her bridegroom and makes her requests known only to find that he comes through every time. It's awesome. Her ministry to the poor and hurting is inspiring. ***Northeast Gateway to Freedom*** feeds about 350 households every week. She just rented a storefront at 104 Broadway, Newburgh, NY and will be having church services for her congregation made up of the people she's ministering to. She is teaching them life principles and how to trust in the Lord. Rosey doesn't believe in giving "hand-outs," but is teaching them to have "hands-up," directing them to trust in the God who supplies our needs. She requires their participation to some extent. Did you know that God does the same with us?

Rosey says that for the dance to be successful you must let the leader lead. If you try to lead it throws it off balance. Let's take this word from the Lord and embrace him as he leads us into deeper waters of utter dependence on him. Another word that she got for this year was ***Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.*** As we put our trust in the Lord we can walk in confidence, knowing that God is in control. God is moving and we will do well to move with him.