

*For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light.*

*Psalm 36:9*

# *the* LifeWord

with Michael Green



July 18, 2008

Dear Friend:

## **PROPHETIC or PATHETIC? Part 1**

In our daily *"dividing the vile from the precious"* challenge, we sometimes have to be more fine tuned in the places where we should normally be safe. Case in point, Jesus, when surrounded by the religious folk, always had to be more alert to the snares than when he was having brunch with the *"great unwashed"*. Traps, deceptions and land mines are always in full bloom and it is shocking when it comes from an unexpected, supposedly safe source.

To set the record straight: I believe God's Word. I believe in miraculous provision. I believe that we should prosper and be in health right in line with the condition of our soul. I believe in the power of a creative faith word. I believe in the saving and healing power of our Jehovah Jireh God. Linda and I have been blessed and healed by these truths. These truths have saved our lives and we are living testimonies.

However, I believe God expects us to walk *"not as fools"* and, each day, we have to walk that line when facing that which is just a bit too far out and seemingly off the mark. Sadly though, sincere folks who love God and serve Him are made to feel that they lack faith or the current hot revelation if they don't jump up, ooh and aah, get goose bumps and spin around at everything that comes down the pike. Subtle inquiries are often deflected by raising submission questions or citing the lack of spiritual insight back on the questioner. Sometimes we just have to take a breath and look down at our WWJD wristbands.

We serve a great God who moved in the radical (here's mud in your eye) and not so conventional at times (hey, go dunk in that pond) but, when needed, the unconventional was used to bring deliverance, not to sell something. The magnificence of God's power is a Divine tool to point to a Savior, not to manipulate the potential donor or misuse concepts of Spiritual Authority. The Cause has been hurt by those who are impressed with their titles and the accompanying entourage schlepping their brief cases and carrying their coats.

The worst part of all of this is watching some use their *"gifts"* on folks who sincerely just want more of God in their lives. I read and hear some of the spiels and antics and wonder to myself, *"Do people really buy this?"* Perhaps PT Barnum was right.

## **Next Week, Part 2**

*Michael*

THIS SUNDAY

*The* LifeGate

9AM/NORTH LOCATION-3699 Hwy 59/ South of I-12 in Mandeville  
11:30AM/SOUTH LOCATION-Clearview Room/Metairie

**"Building Christ Into Every Life"**