

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

*Psalm 36:9*

# *the* LifeWord

with Michael Green



September 12, 2008

Dear Friend:

## **STORM WEARY**

The lead story on one of the local media websites said, *"Storm Weary Residents Deal with Stress and Anxiety"*.

Over the last two weeks, folks around here have had a series of difficult flashback moments; the stress and anxiety levels are clearly evident. We also thought we'd get a double barreled blast from another storm that was churning near Cuba.

Before Ike found Tina and went elsewhere, most everyone kept their bags packed and one eye on the storm track while mechanically going through the daily motions. We just kept in prayerful agreement.

The tired and weary mindset permeated as returning tired and weary people began to assert, *"Whatever Ike does, I ain't leaving again!"* Our leaders were quite concerned at such attitudes because it is foolish and dangerous to make such pronouncements without sufficient information. Weariness can be very convincing and deadly.

That's the way it is in every part of our lives. Storms are inevitable and we must always be alert. We can't succumb to weariness.

Whether it is a thunderous hurricane along the coastline or a tormenting, hellish roar in our minds and hearts, we must remember, storms will come and we must take the proper and wise precautions.

This week, I talked to a friend in despair. My friend was in a *"Cat 5"* storm of discouragement. A really great soul, who loves God and serves Him, but is weary and storm battered. I listened and thought, *"I know a bunch of folks, a lot meaner, who deserve this pounding but not my friend."*

I spoke love and encouragement knowing that only God could bring the relief needed here. I told my friend something profound, *"Keep Standing...Keep Walking...Keep Speaking Faith"*.

I realize, many are storm worn in their everyday walk. Jesus reminded us not to grow weary. David said that when he was *"overwhelmed"*, he needed to run to high ground, the *"Mountain that (was) higher"* than he was.

It's good to remember, storm prep never goes out of style and until this whole thing is over, we will always live in the *"cone of uncertainty"*. Prudence, patience and preparation must rule the day.

And, in every storm, run to the High Ground!

*Michael*

PS: This week, the regular North Shore 9am and South Shore 11:30am service schedule resumes. This will be the last Sunday at the Clearview Room on the South Shore. The following week, September 21st, we will have a new South Shore home. In a few hours, you will receive all the new info.

Also, **this week**, Linda and I will welcome our friend and music guest, **Joy Hill**. Joy is part of TD Jakes' worship team, she is anointed and effervescent. Pass the word and bring a friend.

*The* LifeGate

**"Building Christ Into Every Life"**