



The VINE & BRANCHES

The Newsletter of WORKERS TOGETHER WITH HIM, Inc.

Jesus said, "For without Me, ye can do nothing."

INCORPORATED SEPTEMBER 28, 1999

CHARTER 01552809-01

Post Office Box 4217 Brownsville, TX, USA 78523-4217

Office (956) 574-9475

E-Mail: WorkersTogether@AOL.COM

God bless you!

I count it a joy to greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is my first formal letter to you since Workers Together With Him was founded in September. In many ways, I am astonished by the changes that have taken place in my life in the last few months. God was good to me, and let me know a few years ago that a change was in store for me. However, one thing has NOT changed — my commitment to the furtherance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I heartily believe that Workers Together With Him will provide a means by which my ability to serve God and you will be enhanced.

The decade of the 1990's draws to a close with a solemn reminder of how relentlessly time marches on. I am thankful for all the things that were accomplished this year, and sorry for all that was not. However, I will turn my regrets into determination that nothing will deter me from pressing ahead with the things of God.

This ministry, "Workers Together With Him" takes its name from Paul's second letter to the Church at Corinth.

II Corinthians 6:1-2:

We then, as **workers together with him**, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

This is a ministry of Gospel **workers**, laborers in the fields of the Lord.

Matthew 9:37-38:

Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest

truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

We are workers **together with Christ**, for without Him, we can do nothing.

John 15:5:

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: **for without me ye can do nothing.**

As workers together with Christ, we realize that there is no time for procrastination or excuses. We will either get the work done NOW, or we will not get it done at all. **NOW is the accepted time. NOW is the day of salvation.**

John 4:35:

Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

Since the founding of Workers Together With Him, I have had the joy of presenting my class **THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE** in two countries, translated into two languages. This newsletter contains my reports on those classes. Also included in this issue are contributions from two of my co-workers, Marty Durbin and Todd Pekel.

Thank you for your prayers and letters of encouragement, which have been very uplifting and encouraging to me. I will endeavor to show myself worthy of your support. God bless you. I hope you enjoy this issue of The VINE & BRANCHES.

Rev. Tim Sullivan



BY REV. TIM SULLIVAN

Have you ever faced problems so overwhelming that you felt like you were sinking in deep mud? The Psalmist knew this experience all too well.

Psalms 69:1-3:

Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul.

I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me.

I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God.

Anyone who has ever been stuck in the mud knows that the more you struggle to get out, the deeper you sink. This is true whether the mud is physical, psychological or spiritual. You need a helping hand, someone to lift you OUT of your situation.

Psalms 40:1-2:

I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.

He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

This is not a message about **ELIMINATING** your problems. Sure, we might wish there was such a thing, some secret formula or “ten-step solution” guaranteed to eliminate all turmoil from your life. But as long as the devil is free to roam this world, as long as man is burdened with a sin nature, there is no “cure-all” for eliminating problems.

This is a sermon about **OVERCOMING** your problems. That is, of course, something altogether different. That is something **REAL**.

We have all seen the pictures small children draw of their moms and dads. These drawings all have one thing common: The eyes are always drawn on the **TOP** of the head! Children draw what they see. From their perspective – looking **UP** at a taller person – the eyes look like they are on the forehead! Try it yourself!

The first step in overcoming **ANY** problem you may face is knowing how to look at it. How you

look at your problems depends entirely on your perspective. Are you stuck in the mud, looking **UP** at your problem, or are you standing **ON THE ROCK**, looking **DOWN**?

When you are stuck in the mud, even the smallest problem seems overwhelming. When you are standing on the **ROCK**, even the biggest problem seems small. When you are stuck in the mud, it seems like your problems will last forever. When you are standing on the **ROCK**, you realize how temporal your problem really is. **Yes, it is all in how you look at it.**

Years ago, I was employed as a high rise window cleaner. Hanging off the side of a building, the people on the streets below looked very small, very insignificant. I was certain that like all people, they each had their share of problems. But from my heavenly vantagepoint, their problems looked oh so very small.

How small our problems must look to God! How we insult His Holy Name when we think that our problems are bigger than He!

It is not **WHO** Christ is that makes the difference in our lives. Jesus Christ is the Savior, whether or not **ANYONE** believes it. It is what you and I believe **ABOUT** Christ that determines whether you are stuck in the mud or standing on the **ROCK**. Matthew 16:13-18:

When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

He saith unto them, **But whom say ye that I am?**

And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and **UPON THIS ROCK** I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

What do **YOU** believe about Christ? Who do **YOU** say that He is? Do you believe Jesus is your “help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16), or do you believe that He is waiting for you to climb out of

the mud yourself?

It all comes down to this: Who is bigger to you, your PROBLEMS or your GOD?

Psalms 27:1-3:

The **LORD** is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the **LORD** is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

We all face times in life when we are tempted to be afraid. In an odd way, I have learned that my fears can actually be a great help to me. My fears tell me when I am trusting in myself instead of trusting in God. My fears tell me that I am stuck in the mud, and that it is high time to get back ON THE ROCK. When I am standing ON THE ROCK I

have confidence, because I know there is NO problem greater than my GOD!

John 16:33B:

In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

1 John 5:4B:

And this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith (*our faith, that is, in the One Who overcame the world!*).

The next time you face problems so overwhelming to you that you are tempted to be afraid, call upon the Lord, your everpresent help in time of need. He alone is able to pull you out of the mud and set you on the ROCK. And, as I am sure you will see, things look very different when you are standing on the ROCK!

Psalms 27:5:

For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; **he shall set me up upon a rock.**



Greetings and God bless you all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Our move to the U.S. has been full of surprises that only God could have thought of, namely, my work here in Brownsville at Valley Christian High School. This has been an exciting opportunity for me to grow and minister. I've been teaching the Bible, English and Physical Education.

One of the great things that has happened is that the doors have opened for me to teach about spiritual gifts in my Bible class. Many students have received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and are now walking in the use of the utterance gifts. It is a very exciting time for us as God continues to lead us and teach us concerning the use of ALL the gifts of the Spirit. It is God's desire (mine too) to lead them into the use of ALL the gifts of the Spirit.

An exciting incident happened in my Physical Education class that brought about the open door for me to teach regarding spiritual gifts. During a football game a boy fell down twisting his ankle severely. All of the boys were standing around looking at him. I was a little ways off and started

towards him. By the time I reached him I knew I was to minister to him. I boldly declared that I was laying hands on him in the name of Jesus Christ to heal him. He looked at me through his tears and I knew that we had the victory! When I concluded, I took him by the hand and lifted him up to his feet. His tears had changed to shouts of joy as he said over and over "I'm healed, I'm healed," "The pain is gone." Well, the rest of the boys were standing around with their mouths hanging open and I just said, "What's the matter? Haven't you ever seen a miracle before?" Then I praised God and told them to do the same.

Needless to say we finished the game and it was a special time for us all. As a result of this many children in school ask me to pray for them and their families.

I want to thank those of you who are praying for me, my wife and my work here in Brownsville. God bless you and thank you because God knows it is needed and greatly appreciated.

Love in Christ,
Todd W. Pekel

Positive News Flash!**GOD'S RICHES IN GRACE**

BY REV. MARTY DURBIN

This is a subject in which we all need to hear at one time or another, and then at different times in our lives, to remind ourselves once and again that it is by His grace, and His grace only, that we are saved and called. Sometimes when a person could be really doing something for God, they may feel that they are not good enough, for example when a believer is faced with ministering healing to someone, and thinking they don't have the faith to see them delivered, or believing for a prayer to be answered, they might think about something they did in their life that was wrong making them not worthy to receive.

We must remind ourselves that in Christ we are absolutely good enough, and remember that it is by grace, and after accepting Jesus Christ the Son of God as our Lord, we can do all things through Him who strengthens us.

I know in my life I still do things that I know would not please God, (can you believe that? Ha, yes I still mess up and probably too much) so I go to prayer and ask Him for forgiveness, remembering that it is by grace and grace alone that we are saved. Then sometimes I need to take another look at His grace and mercy.

Ephesians 2:1-3:

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Every time I read these last two verses, it reminds me of a guy I used to hang out with in Key West, Florida. Talk about living in the lust of the flesh! I can still picture him and myself on our bicycles flying down Duval Street. That's the main

strip where all the bars are, and of course, we had already been in a few of them. We were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. Quick, let's get back to God's Word!

Ephesians 2:4-5:

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

Perhaps even some of you have done a few things in your life that are not exactly the Christian sort of thing. Come on, think hard now. Maybe you know of someone who thinks they are not good enough for God. You should let them know God's Word tells us that it is by grace that they can be saved, and walk with the power of God.

Ephesians 2:7-8:

That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

Thank God for His riches in Grace!

Rev. Marty Durbin

(To receive a forty-five minute audio recording of this teaching, please write or call Marty at: 7157 Spanish Grant, Galveston, Texas 77554; Phone (409) 737-5231. A donation would be appreciated).



**The Weapons of our Warfare
Seminar presented in
Kaub, Germany
October 9th to 17th, 1999**

"Gottes Segen" (God Bless You!). This is my report from the beautiful land of Germany, where I had the joy of teaching my course **The Weapons of our Warfare** in Kaub along the river Rhine.

I left Brownsville on the afternoon of Monday, October 4, flying first to Houston, and then

direct to Paris, arriving about 9 AM Paris time. There was some problem – I think the baggage handlers at the Charles DeGaulle Airport were on strike, and so my connecting flight to Heathrow was delayed by three hours. My friends Jerome Lucas, Claygone Jackson and Estefan Charles met me at the Heathrow airport, and we made a mad dash off to the train station, literally running the last few steps to get aboard on time. Two hours later, we arrived in Manchester, where I ministered to two gentlemen, who were brothers both in the faith and in the flesh. I was pleased to meet Robert and Barbara Wilkinson at this time, and they both blessed me very much during my short stay.

We were in Manchester all of two hours, and then we returned to London for an evening fellowship meeting at Jerome's house. I taught and we made plans for my return to England (should the Lord tarry) when, from April 15 to the 23rd, I will present my class on **The Weapons of our Warfare** in beautiful Cornwall, in the south of England near Lands End. I understand that the accommodations will be fantastic! If you are interested in getting more information, please contact Jerome Lucas at < Jerome-Lucas@breathemail.net. >

The following evening, we gathered for a second fellowship meeting. This was a wonderful night of healing, ministered both by the spoken Word and the power of the Holy Spirit. Physical, spiritual and emotional wounds were healed.

Just this morning, I received a letter from London a wonderful report from that meeting. Estefan Charles wrote, "On our meeting night, we ministered to Brenda for cancer. Shortly after being ministered to, she fell ill for two weeks, then recovered to an amazing healing performed in her. The doctors scanned her to see how far the cancer had progressed, but to their amazement, there was not a trace of any cancerous cell in her body. Praise God for His healing!"

Amen! Praise God! Praise God! Praise God!

I am proud of and delighted by the work these three men of God are doing to further the Gospel message in London. Claygone is boldly testifying of his deliverance from Multiple Sclerosis, from which he was delivered under my hands by the wonderful power of God last Easter. Now he is

bringing that same deliverance to others.

I arrived in Germany late Thursday night. I was a guest at the home of Seigfried and Dagmar Wegert and their three beautiful children in the town of Neuhaeusel. For the first time since I left home I was able to get a good night's sleep – it always takes me a while to get used to the time change. I woke to the phone call of a believer whose aunt was hospitalized with a dreadful disease and desired to be ministered to. (It is almost hard to believe, but this was the fourth such case I had encountered in less than 48 hours. Thank God that He has, in His Grace, given us the weapons of the warfare with which to fight such battles).

On Friday afternoon, we drove to the beautiful village of Kaub, where the class was being presented at a chapter of the YMCA called the Haus Elsenburg. This was a fantastic location. Some had private rooms, others shared rooms. We were served three delicious meals a day, and the overseer went out of his way to make us feel welcome.

From the start of our first meeting, when the messages brought forth by inspired utterance set forth the text of the message I had prepared for that hour, the hand of God was mightily upon this class. I taught eight 50-minute-sessions a day; three in the morning, three in the afternoon, and two in the evening. It was amazing how quickly the time passed. My friend Ray Beard taught me that it has been proven that students are at their most attentive when they are taught in fifty-minute sessions. The fact that this class was presented "live" and I was able to minister the Word to the students as I was led, made this a very fruitful presentation.

I had a team of four translators to help me: Gabe Helmer from Germany, Rudi Illavsky from Austria, Beatrice Scherer from Switzerland and Meike Wetzling, who is also from Germany and was my class assistant. Jan Pudil helped as well, especially with some of the medical terms needed for teaching on healing. Beatrice worked for weeks before class began, translating my teaching notes and preparing manuscripts for the translators. She checked the King James Version translation against the Luther translation we used as our primary text in the class. Because of her great help, we were prepared ahead of time to explain any differences

in the texts. This of course made it much simpler for my translators.

Having my friend Rudi Illavsky there to help made a big difference for me. His own special ministry in music was very instrumental (pardon the pun) in the success of this class. He led the worship and praise portion of each meeting, leading the congregation in lovely German hymns (and some in English as well) before each session.

We returned to the same church that had welcomed us in April for the water baptism service. This was about a ninety-minute drive, but well worth it, for this was one of the most wonderful baptisms I had ever taken part in.

On the final Saturday evening of the class, we had a special evening session where we turned down the lights, sang songs and heard sharings from the students and workers.

I had nine students, six from Germany and three from Switzerland. Each was a mighty blessing, making their own special contribution to this class. They each took giant steps forward in their ministries during this course, and I look forward to working with them in service to the Lord.



Books by Rev. Tim Sullivan

By The Grace of God I Am What I Am

Featuring: Precepts and Premises; A Fountain of Life; The Evidence of Things Not Seen; But Ye Say; and By the Grace of God I Am What I Am.

If Ye Do These Things, Ye Shall Never Fall

Inspiring messages on: Faith; Virtue; Knowledge; Temperance; Patience; Godliness; Brotherly Kindness; and Charity.

Walking On The King's Highway

Including: A Time of War; The Prosperity of the Lord's Servant; Discretion Shall Preserve Thee; The Generation of Jesus Christ; Disappointed in God; Holistic Christianity; and Walking on the King's Highway.

Suggested Donation: \$10.00 ea. plus \$3.00 for shipping and handling. Please make checks payable to: Workers Together With Him.

The Weapons of our Warfare

Seminar presented in

Mexico City, Mexico

Oct. 31st to Nov. 7, 1999

Dios les bendiga!

The presentation of **The Weapons of our Warfare** class in Mexico City was a tremendous success, with all fourteen new students moving forward in their ministries, in their understanding and in their use of the gifts of the Spirit.

My wife Nelly and I were hosted by Bro. Samuel Presa, pastor of the Iglesia Quiero Servirte (The "I want to serve you" Church). We will always be very grateful for his service to us during our trip, and the work he did to make this event so successful.

We arrived in Mexico City on Friday, October 29th, and settled into our room at the Aragon Plaza Hotel. The next day, Saturday, we drove with Pastor Samuel to the city of San Martin de las Piramides, home of the famous Teotihuacan pyramids. We were brave enough to climb to the top of the "Pyramid of the Moon", and smart enough to observe the "Pyramid of the Sun" from down below. Saturday evening I preached at the church pastored by Bro. Martin Palomares, who was one of the students in my class. After the sermon, Nelly and I ministered healing to well over thirty people.

Nelly did an wonderful job translating for me during our stay in Mexico. Not only did she alone handle the entire responsibility of translating the class, but she also translated the ministering service, the Blessing of the Lord over each student, and any time anyone wanted to converse with me, since none of the students spoke English.

The class officially began Sunday afternoon with fourteen students: Samuel, Martin, and Antonio Velazquez Santiago (the co-pastor of Iglesia Quiero Servirte), Maria Sánchez Peñaloza, Angelica Araujo Bazan, Maria Antonieta Castro García, Rosalba Paredes Baena, Alicia Vilchis, Julián Juarez Quintero, Maria de los Angelos de la Rosa, Maria de los Angelos Farfón, Maria Elena

Sanchez Pantoja, Maria Arvizu Rosas and Javier Villseñor Licea. Even Nelly had trouble with some of these names, so you can imagine how I did!

As we were beginning our class, Mexico was celebrating the annual Dia de los Muertos, or the "Day of the Dead" festival. This morbid celebration lasts for three days, first for the departed children and then for the departed adults. The children go out to collect candies, but instead of saying "trick or treat," they say "Dame mi calaverita" which means "give me my skull." On Monday evening we went to the Zócalo, the main Plaza in the city, to see the celebration.

We ran the class from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and then from 3:00 to 7:00 PM, again teaching in 50 minute segments. Some of the students traveled up to two hours EACH WAY to be a part of this class. Originally I requested a small donation, but it became very obvious that even this was beyond their means, and I was determined that no one would be left out simply because of money. Thanks to each of you who helped make this trip possible by your generous contributions. As the Scriptures say: "But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality" (II Corinthians 8:14).

I thank God for your help, and for your abundance that supplied their need. I hope to continue to serve the peoples of Mexico, and with your help, I will make sure that matters of finance never stand in the way of someone receiving instruction in righteousness.

Most of my students had been baptized with the Holy Ghost and walked in the use of the gift of tongues, but had not been instructed further. Two were new Christians. All were very receptive to the plain message of the Scriptures, and the instruction they received concerning how to receive and use ALL the gifts of the Spirit, decently and in order, in service to God and His people.

On the evening of Sunday November 7th, we finished the class with a healing service. Nelly and I ministered to another forty or so people, and the new graduates ministered to many as well. The deliverance was very real and very exciting, but

best of all was seeing the joy on the faces of my new graduates as they walked confidently in the use of the gifts of the Spirit. Diseases were cured, evil spirits cast out, marriages were healed and hope was restored. Praise the Lord!

Nelly and I had a wonderful time, and we look forward to our next trip to Mexico. Thank you so much for your prayers that were so vital to our success. I thank God that I can be a WORKER TOGETHER with HIM and with YOU.



The following testimony was written by Pastor Samuel Presa of Iglesia Quiero Servirte in Mexico City, Mexico, upon completion of the Weapons of our Warfare seminar. This letter was translated from Spanish by Nelly Sullivan:

*Matthew 10:8
Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers,
raise the dead, cast out devils:
freely ye have received, freely give.*

Beloved brethren, Tim and Nelly Sullivan of the ministry "Colaboradores Suyos" ("Workers Together With Him"), we have received and we have literally taken from you what this verse of the Bible says. The grace of God has been given to us everyday through your teachings, which were a great blessing to our lives. There is no way to humanly repay you for what we now have in our heart and in our spirit.

The Church "Quiero Servirte," the pastors and all the members want to send you their love, and their prayers to our God that you continue fervent in spirit, so that your light will continue to shine before men, and the Father will be glorified by your good works; always freely giving to the others what you have freely received.

There are no other words to embrace all that you have sowed, but thank you very much. Thank you for everything.

*Pastor Samuel Presa
November 1999*

Y2J?

Will this be the year
of our Lord's
Second Coming?

*And, behold, I come quickly;
and my reward is with me,
to give every man
according as his work shall be.
Revelations 22:12*

GET READY!

Happy New Year
to all
"Workers Together With Him"

Workers Together With Him is an international Christian ministry dedicated to the furtherance of the message of Salvation and the education of Christians to the end that they be a living testimony of God's love, power and glory. Teachings are distributed via congregational meetings, seminars and tapes, retreats and various publications. This ministry is financed entirely by the tithes and offerings of its supporters.

Workers Together With Him
Post Office Box 4217
Brownsville, Texas USA 78523-4217

Phone: 956-574-9475
E-Mail: WorkersTogether@AOL.com

THE VINE & BRANCHES, the newsletter of Workers Together With Him, is published six times a year and is freely distributed to our supporters. If you would like your name added or deleted from our mailing list, please let us know. Written contributions are encouraged and may be submitted to our office for publication upon approval.