



FRANKLIN ROAD

baptist church

51 North Franklin Road • Indianapolis, IN 46219 • 317.897.1298

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1, 2018

I'M WITH HIM



IN 1987 SHERRY AND I HAD THE RARE PRIVILEGE OF STANDING ON THE BRIDGE OF THE USS AMERICA (CV-66) SUPER AIRCRAFT CARRIER WHEN IT WAS IN DRY DOCK IN THE NORFOLK, VIRGINIA NAVAL SHIPYARD BEING OVERHAULED. WE HAD MANY NAVY MEN AT OUR CHURCH IN VIRGINIA BEACH, AND ONE OF THEM ASKED IF WE'D LIKE A TOUR OF HIS SHIP SO WE JUMPED AT THE CHANCE. WHEN WE GOT TO THE BRIDGE AREA OF THE SHIP, THE HEADQUARTERS FOR PROPULSION AND WEAPONRY, A MARINE GUARD WAS STATIONED AT THE DOOR. WE WERE ALLOWED TO ENTER ONLY BECAUSE WE WERE WITH HIM, A FAIRLY HIGH-RANKING SHIPMEN (AND BECAUSE THE AREA WAS TOTALLY GUTTED WITH NOTHING TO SEE). BEING WITH HIM GOT US ACCESS.

THINK WITH ME NOW ABOUT II CHRONICLES 15:2. THE PROPHET AZARIAH SAYS TO THE GOOD KING ASA, "THE LORD IS WITH YOU WHEN YOU ARE WITH HIM. AND IF YOU SEEK HIM, HE WILL LET YOU FIND HIM; BUT IF YOU FORSAKE HIM, HE WILL FORSAKE YOU." CONSIDER THREE REMINDERS. FIRST, WE CAN HAVE GOD'S PRESENCE. WHEREVER WE GO WE CAN BE ASSURED THAT HE GOES WITH US. SECOND, GOD DOESN'T HIDE FROM THE SEEKER. I PREACHED FROM JEREMIAH 29 LAST SUNDAY NIGHT AND NOTED VERSE 13 WHICH SAYS, "YOU WILL SEEK ME AND FIND ME WHEN YOU SEARCH FOR ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART." A PASSIONATE PURSUIT OF GOD WILL NOT BE UNSUCCESSFUL. A THIRD REMINDER FROM II CHRONICLES 15:2 IS THAT GOD WON'T STAY WHERE HE'S NOT WANTED. HE WON'T FORCE HIMSELF ON THE ONE WHO FORSAKES HIM.

WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE ARE TRULY WITH GOD, GREAT THINGS HAPPEN. IN II CHRONICLES 15:4 WE READ THAT WHEN ISRAEL WAS IN DISTRESS, "THEY TURNED TO THE LORD GOD OF ISRAEL, AND THEY SOUGHT HIM, AND HE LET THEM FIND HIM." CALM ACCOMPANIES GOD'S PRESENCE. PSALM 119:165 TELLS US, "THOSE WHO LOVE YOUR LAW HAVE GREAT PEACE, AND NOTHING CAUSES THEM TO STUMBLE." ANOTHER RESULT OF BEING WITH GOD IS COURAGE. "WHEN ASA HEARD THESE WORDS . . HE TOOK COURAGE AND REMOVED THE ABOMINABLE IDOLS FROM THE LAND . .". (II CHRONICLES 15:8) GOD'S PRESENCE INSPIRED THE KING TO REMOVE ALL ELEMENTS OF ANYTHING THAT WOULD COMPETE WITH GOD. COURAGE ACCOMPANIES GOD'S PRESENCE.

SO, WHO'S WITH YOU AND HOW IS THAT AFFECTING YOU?

LOOKING UP,
PASTOR CHUCK CIRCLE