The SPN

The SPN

April 1, 2003

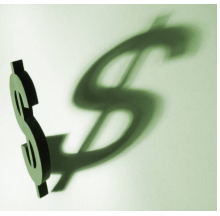
Volume 1, Issue 3

'The' Dollar

This has been the month that we have been waiting for, for quite some time! Unfortunately, as most of you already know, Gospelrama 2003 (G-03) has been postponed until next year. We are now planning for G-04 and Silent Praise has so much time to pray, raise money, and get support. As we plan for next year we persistently ask the community to help get involved with this event by sponsoring and or sending donations.

Penn State does not bring in Gospel artists or groups to the community whatsoever. You can always catch a rap, R&B, or rock concert either for FREE or SPONSORED by the University, but not Gospel. I have learned that if you wait on the University, you are going to be waiting for a long time. But we can only continue to have the Gospelrama on the level that it was presented in 2002, if we can get your support.

I remember an e-mail that I got from a Penn State student who managed to send out a mass e-mail to everyone at Penn State asking for 'a' dollar. I am not sure how much she came out with after that e-mail, but if everyone would have given 'a' dollar, she would have had $40,000+ for college. Saints, that is tuition and a Ford Escort.



Since we cannot wait for the University to bless us with a Spiritual gift, we have to come together to do it ourselves. Can you imagine G-04 the outcome is everyone gave 'the' dollar.

It's Easter...Church Time

As a boy attending church with my family, I was always surprised to see people at services on Easter Sunday who didn't come any other time of the year, not even at Christmas. Embarrassed and somewhat fearful, a few of them told us they hoped that God would forgive their sins and absences because they made the special effort to come to church on Easter Sunday, which to them was the most sacred time of the year.

Others felt that a special measure of sanctification, purification and holiness was imparted to them by their attendance at Easter services.

Under normal circumstances, most people who believe in God and the Bible want to attend church services because they wish to worship God together. But we live in a distrustful age that has created suspicion about religion and religious bodies—sadly, much of it well earned.

Scandals revealing the bad moral examples of church leaders have made many wary. If that weren't enough, many people are confused about which doctrines and practices are truly biblical. They are also uncertain about which, if any, church organizations are truly of God. Many are turned off by the lack of spiritual nourishment—or

Inside this issue:

The Dollar	1
It's Easter...Church	1-2
Gospel Flava	2
Don't Stop Praying	2
Yes to Jesus, No to Relationships	3
Shop In Heaven's Grocery Store	3
Remarks	4

Upcoming Events:

- 4/6 Silent Praise Ministers at UCJC 10:30am.
- 4/6 Daylight Savings Time
- 4/13 Palm Sunday
- 4/15 Tax Day
- 4/18 Good Friday
- 4/20 Easter Sunday
- 4/26 United Soul Ensemble Gospel Concert, 4pm, Heritage Hall.
- 4/26 Blue and White Game
- 5/3 Joy Night 7:30pm, Place: TBA
- 5/2 Classes End
- 5/5-5/9 Exam Week
- 5/11 Mother's Day
- 5/26 Memorial Day

It's Easter...Church Time cont.

Bible—they encounter in some denominations.

Consequently, a growing number of people are becoming disillusioned with their church but don't know where to turn. Others simply try to worship God by themselves, apart from any group affiliation or fellowship.

What would God have us do? Should we stay where we know things are not right, or take the path of spiritual isolation, or have confidence that there is a better alternative? Could there be dangers—possibly even unrecognized —in some of the courses of action we might choose? How does the Bible answer these important questions?

Christians attending such a religious body, or striving on their own without active church affiliation, miss many benefits resident in the spiritual body where God is working. Consider all the important knowledge available and the marvelous opportunities to grow in godly love and character. The personal interaction, service, offerings and prayers of God's true people demonstrate a level of godly concern that we all need, especially in times of difficulty and personal trials.

For those who are wondering what to do, please consider carefully the matters presented in this article and set your heart to seek out God's Church and His people. Such affiliation and fellowship is commanded by God, who blesses and rewards those who respond to His instructions.

-www.ucg.org

Gospel Flava

Billboards—Donnie McClurkin remains atop the Billboard Gospel Chart. Gold-certified **WOW Gospel 2003** still at number 2, **Kirk Franklin** at number 3 and **Smokie Norful** at number 4. **Shekinah Glory Ministry** vaults to number 5 with Praise Is What I Do.

3/21/2003

New Artist—Gospo Centric to Introduce **J3**, a young female trio with an urban flow. The label plans to introduce the group to the industry during their late night showcase at the Gospel Music Association (GMA) week in Nashville in April 2003.

3/11/2003

New Project—Stellar-winning vocalist **Marvin Sapp** is gearing up for his next project, a live audio / video recording on Verity Records slated for a July 2003 release.

"Putting You Inside the Gospel Music Industry."

3/07/2003

Artists Update—R&B veteran **Brian McKnight** is readying for the March 25th release of his new album, *U-Turn*, on Motown Records. The project includes the song *"One of the One's Who Did,"* a musical prayer that bring in **Kirk Franklin** as a guest artist.

2/24/2003

-www.gospelflava.com

Please Don't Stop Praying

I was going to do an article on the War with Iraq, but I know that most of you are tired of hearing it, well at least I am. But I do want to ask this one question regarding the war. Are you still praying???

Saints, I know sometimes we pray for something one time and never pray for it again because our faith is so strong that we don't have to pray twice. But I remember reading in Luke 11 when it said to be persistent and to keep asking. There is a lot of praying that we need to do daily...for our families, for the lost, for our friends, for our co-workers, for our pastor, for our church, for our government, and so on. If you haven't already done so, I ask that you add one more prayer request to your list; for all the soldiers who are fighting on our behalf, whether you believe we should be fighting this war or not.

Smoke rises into the night sky over Baghdad
-CNN.com

My prayers are with you all who may have a family member or friend defending our country.

-God Truly Bless You!

Yes to Jesus, No to Relationships

For a long time I have heard people say that you should not desire to be in a dating relationship or marriage, but that you should focus on developing a relationship with Jesus Christ. There is some truth to this statement; however, some of the information is twisted.

Yes, God does desire for us to develop an intimate relationship with him, but he also made us to yearn for other relationships. Have I surprised you yet? ***Yes, good.*** Everyone needs to understand that it is natural for humans to yearn to be in an intimate relationship with the opposite sex and to have a desire for marriage. The only way for us, as Christians, to take hold of the guidelines for being single is to accept the fact that human beings want to be in an intimate relationship with the opposite sex. God does not desire for us to deny part of ourselves that he created to be present. This is not to say that you do not place the flesh under subjection, because you do. You are able to desire to be with someone and not be in sin. Do you understand what I mean by that? ***No, then let me explain***.

It is a sin to be consumed with the idea of being in a dating relationship or being married. To be consumed means to fantasize about being in a relationship with someone that you are not dating or married to. For example, I often hear women who desire to be married talk about their wedding plans. Everything is planned for their wedding even before they have met their partner. My question to those women who have planned their wedding is this, what is more important planning a wedding or becoming a virtuous bride? If you answered yes to becoming a virtuous bride, then I believe that all of your energy should be on being shaped and molded into that person. I guarantee you that God will begin to speak to you about marriage when you are focus on the right things. If we as Christians would spend time fasting and praying about how to become the comparable person for our mate, God will begin to move in our lives.

God is not going to give you something that you are not in the right position to receive. God is not here to break us but to make us into strong women and men for His Kingdom. We are not good to God if we are only concerned with the world's perceptions about life. God's ways and thoughts are different from the world's ways and thoughts. This is why we must spend time in God's word, in His presence, and in prayer. If you think that you are not able to become the woman or man of God that God is calling you to be, ask God to send you a mentor. You are never too old to have a mentor. God allowed others to experience your problem so that they may be of help to you. Not only should you learn about how to become a woman or man of God, but you should also learn about the opposite sex and about God's definition of a Christian relationship.

"Please do not lose out on your blessings due to ignorance. So, I encourage you to sit at the feet of Jesus and receive from Him."

If you do not remember anything from this piece, remember this, God wants to see you receive every blessing that he has in stored for your love life. Please do not lose out on your blessings due to ignorance. So, I encourage you to sit at the feet of Jesus and receive from Him.

Here are some books about relationships and about the opposite sex: "I Kissed Dating Goodbye" Joshua Harris, "Boy Meets Girl" Joshua Harris, "Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus," John Gray. If you are interested in learning about yourself, I encouraged you to get "The Book of Myself: A Do-It-Yourself Autobiography," Carl & David Marshall.

-Jessica

Shop In Heaven's Grocery Store

-I was walking down life's highway a long time ago. One day I saw a sign that read Heaven's Grocery Store. -As I got a little closer, the door came open wide, And when I came to myself, I was standing inside.

-I saw a host of angels; they were standing everywhere. And one angel said, "My child shop with care." -Everything a Christian needed was in that grocery store. And all you couldn't carry you could come back the next day for more.

-First, I got some *patience*, *love* was in the same row. Further down was *understanding*, you need that everywhere you go. -I got a box or two of *wisdom*, a bag or two of *faith*. I just couldn't miss the *Holy Ghost* for He was all over the place.

-I stopped to get some *strength* and *courage* to help me run the race. By then my basket was getting full, but I remembered I needed some *grace*. -I didn't forget *salvation*, for *salvation* that was free. So, I tried to get enough of that to save you and me.

-Then I started to the counter to pay my grocery bill. For I thought I had everything to do my Master's will. -As I went up the aisle, I saw *prayer* and just had to put that in. For I knew when I stepped outside, I would run right into sin.

-*Peace* and *joy* were plentiful, they were on the last shelf. *Song* and *praises* were hanging near so I just helped myself. -Then, I said now how much do I owe? He just smiled and said, Just take them everywhere you go.

-How much do I really owe? He smiled and said, My child, Jesus

The SPN

Silent Praise Ministries
308 C-3 Hetzel Union Building
University Park, PA 16802

Phone: 814-880-2833
Email: admin@silentpraise.org

SILENT PRAISE MINISTRIES

Silent Praise is a Non-Profit Organization devoted in raising money to expand the ministry to help with unification of the community through the teachings of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The purpose of the Ministry is to utilize physical interpretation and movement with our bodies to touch various ages by praise and magnification to the Lord through the ministry of mime.

Silent Praise was founded in May of 2000 at Penn State University. Penn State is where Silent Praise operates and ministers from.

We want to hear from you. Write us at SPN@SILENTPRAISE.ORG and tell us how we can be a further blessing to you!

"Let Everything that Hath Breath, Praise the Lord. Praise Ye the Lord." *Psalm 150:6*

Remarks

Advisor—Mrs. Lydia Abdullah
Founder/Manager—Vaughn Hill
President—Darah Glover
Vice President—Christina Ransome
Treasurer—Tabitha Jarrett
Secretary—Nicole Fisher
Historian—Tiffany Richardson
Chaplain—Darah Glover
Narrator– Christina Ransome
Audio/Visual Engineer—Jarred Smith
Gospelrama Correspondents:

- Vaughn Hill
- Damien Brooks

SPN Editor– Vaughn Hill

Gospelrama 2004!!!
Stay Tuned for More Information.

The SPN reaches out to a broad span of Saints. If you have **Any:** Corrections, Remarks, Suggestions, Questions, Comments, Advertisings, and/or Complaints, please direct them to SPN@SILENTPRAISE.ORG. Send articles to this address as well.

Gospelrama 2002

Browse our web for information, ministry updates, our calendar, future engagements, and Gospelrama information, and much more.

Browse our web at www.silentpraise.org

Let's no longer cling to fables such as Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Instead, as Jesus instructs us in John 4:23-24, let us worship God "in spirit and truth."