



Welcome & Intro :: newbie

newbie - posted by redboy (), on: 2007/2/2 21:42

I'm a newbie from the inner streets who has been through a lot of personal struggles. I recently got married in 07/06. I hope to find strong spiritual friends who I can converse with because I'm starting my journey to be a pastor. I used to be a rapper and a music producer of hip-hop but I put all that down and picked up a bible. My background is African American but we're all brothers and sisters that's what I love about God's family.

Re: new walk - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/2/2 21:50

Congratulations on getting married! Welcome to SermonIndex; this place is a blessing from God. I pray you'll glean much from the treasury here, and that the saintly fellowship you'll find will greatly benefit your growth in Jesus Christ!

Brother Paul

Re: newbie - posted by dohzman (), on: 2007/2/2 21:51

Welcome! I'm here to pray for you brother, if there's anything I can help you with just ask. I will be out of town for the next 3 weeks though so any response to this will take some time. When I'm on the road I avoid all forms of media including the internet. But as soon as I'm back I check this site first thing. Enjoy the materials here. God Bless. Bro. daryl

Re: newbie - posted by CJaKfOrEsT (), on: 2007/2/3 6:19

Quote:

redboy wrote:

I'm a newbie from the inner streets who has been through a lot of personal struggles.

Praise God for struggles;-)

Welcome aboard. This place has been a catalyst for deep change in so many of our lives. I pray that you'll find what you are seeking here.

Re: I need a little help - posted by redboy (), on: 2007/2/3 15:00

There are so many audio files and I'm just wondering if you can help me. Who are some of your favorite pastors that you listen to on sermon index as far as audio goes. I know everyone has a different preference, but I'm just curious. Take your time and send me a list when you're ready. God bless you!

Sermons - posted by crsschk (), on: 2007/2/3 15:56

Welcome redboy,

Try the "Top 20 Downloads" on the lefthand side of the main page for starters.

Leonard Ravenhill
A.W. Tozer
Keith Daniel
Zac Poonen
David Wilkerson
Devren Fromke
Art Katz
T. Austin Sparks

Are not really favorites, far too many for that, just what comes to mind in short order...

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You really cannot go wrong here, dig in and explore!

Re: - posted by HomeFree89 (), on: 2007/2/3 16:20

Corrie ten Boom
Keith Green
Derek Prince

Re:, on: 2007/2/3 16:34

Keith Daniel
David Wilkerson
Paul Washer
Gerhard Du Toit
Paris Reidhead

There's a few. :-)

Re: newbie, on: 2007/2/5 8:47

Brother redboy,

I was a 'newbie' a short time ago. I have since learned a lot by sitting back and reading, but also by putting my thoughts 'out there', too.

I have a feeling that you and I have quite a bit in common. I will be getting married soon. I came looking for strong spiritual friends to help me on my journey, not only to be a pastor, but for life!

I came from a rough childhood and put down a lot of things including sex, drugs, alcohol, and other worldly things to become a christian. I am not 'African American', actually, I am 'Caucasian Canadian' (sorry, play on letters..), but believe it or not, I was saved over four years ago in an all 'African Canadian' Baptist church, where I was the only 'white' guy.

In my neighborhood, color was not an issue, for me anyway. So, if you ever want to chat, send me a message. I have been on here a lot and will be in the future because there is great information to be had, especially listening to sermons.

God Bless and Keep on,
Brian

Re:, on: 2007/2/5 8:52

Like I said, I am new and most of these people are as new to me as well, but since I have been here I have taken to ...

Leonard Ravenhill - i only heard a couple
A.W. Tozer - i enjoy his underlying humour
Keith Daniel - very strong willed

But like you said, there are soooooo many...
take your time, they are not going anywhere...

God Bless Truth,
Brian

Re: newbie - posted by UniqueWebRev (), on: 2007/2/11 3:56

I too am new to this site, and delighting in the wealth of spiritual information posted here.

You say you seek to be a pastor. Since this calling is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, you can do no better than to consult with Him.

You say that you used to be a rapper, and music producer of hip-hop. Why stop entirely, except to distance yourself from the past associations? To reach the hearts and minds of the young or the old there is no better way than to use music. It is only the focus of the music that needs to be changed, from the things of the world, to the things of God. My greatest joy is to turn on Air 1 Radio, or log onto Air1.com, and luxuriate in worship.

Yes, you need to focus on God alone for a time, and delight in Him, in His word, in His peace and joy. You also need to focus on your marriage. In fact, getting your priorities straight is what your first task should be.

Forget your past weaknesses and failures. Forget today's mistakes. The one thing I have learned is that our inability to be perfect is why we need Jesus so much. Learn to forgive yourself as well as others, because God has not only forgiven, but forgotten your imperfections. And if you sin again, well, so do we all, and we go to the Father in Jesus, and apologize, and ask for help to do better.

Always remember that your gifts, your knowledge, your experience are to be used for the glory of God, not shorn and tossed away as if the gifts were evil. Your past focus may have been worldly, but that is easily changed.

God will change those things about you that need to be changed as you work to learn about Him and follow Him. Turning yourself inside out is not your job, but that of the Holy Spirit.

Yes, your past friendships will have to undergo a good deal of pruning for you to remain in the Lord, but there is a great use for music to support the Word.

Don't put down your bible, but don't deny who you have been, what you have done, or the gifts of business management and music production that can carry a message about God to those who will not hear a sermon. Use them all.

As for becoming a pastor, all I can say is you will need to stay centered in Jesus, and follow His desire for you. To pastor a flock requires a great deal of love, of patience, kindness, long-suffering, and a wellspring of joy that only comes from the ripening fruits of the spirit. It won't happen all at once, and beating yourself up for not progressing farther and faster than the Spirit leads you is a trick of the devil.

You mention a good deal of recent personal struggle, countered by the joy of your recent marriage. I can only imagine the struggle within yourself to get out of the worldly music business, and into God. I can also guess that your struggles have been between the worst of yourself, and the best of yourself.

Be a little kind to yourself. Don't expect big changes. Look instead for little ones, for it is how we learn, little by little, bit by bit. Take pleasure and rejoice in these small victories even as you look for the greater ones to come.

You will learn, as I have, and all Christians do, that what you think about yourself, and what God thinks about you are two different things. You will set the bar too high, too fast, then mourn over your failures when God is delighting that you are pressing onward again and again.

Remember that in Christ you are a child of the Most High, and like a Father, God is delighted just to see you take your first steps toward Him.

Blessings,