

Hearts of Love

Tom & Debbie Tillman "to touch the world for Jesus Christ"

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Hearts of Love is a non-profit ministry, dedicated to spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ whenever and wherever we find open doors. Our first priority is to glorify God and lead whomever possible to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Please pray for us faithfully. We need your prayer, and we appreciate it more than we could ever say. Please consider us an extension of your ministry in this world, and support us with your prayer as such.

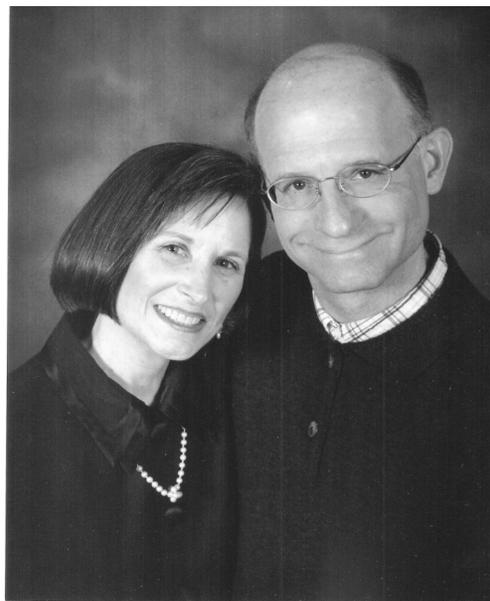
**May God richly
bless you!**

Tom & Debbie

Poor Mister H

Every Sunday night from 10 pm until 1 am we host our live, call-in radio ministry. We are now in our 30th year which turns out to be about 1560 Sunday nights with about 4680 hours of ministering to the needs of so many people, praying with them and for their many needs. Also, as we model caring for people, speaking with people and praying for each other, all of our listeners are learning to care for, listen to and pray with those they know.

Parents are aware that they are modeling life before their children but all of us... we are modeling the Christian walk before all we know, whether spouse, children, parents, friends, employers and employees. How do we conduct ourselves before all of those? Paul wrote about this very thing when he wrote: 'Do we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some others, epistles of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you? Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men: Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart. And such trust have we through Christ to Godward: Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.' 2 Cor3:1-6 Paul is saying that he needs no letter or commendation from anyone. God is the One Who called him, saved him and commissioned him to his apostleship. The proof of what he teaches are all the many believers and churches he has led to Christ while



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Sphere of Influence:
**To touch the world for
Jesus Christ!**

*He has committed to
us the word of
Reconciliation.
Therefore, we are
Ambassadors for Christ.
2 Corinthians 5:19,20*

establishing churches. We find it easy to understand that we are the living epistles who prove the truth of God's Word. We are modeling the truth and effectiveness of the Gospel. We are not the Gospel as some erroneously teach but, rather, we are modeling the effect of the Gospel. But wait... there's more! What is not so easy to understand is that those before whom we model the truth and effect of the Gospel are, actually, our living epistles. Parents are God's living epistles before their children but the children, then, become living epistles, before the World, of their parents. We show forth the truth of God's Word... our children show forth our faithfulness before God to work at parenting how God 'parents' us. We are taught, countless times throughout Paul's letters, that we have the responsibility to love one another and especially our spouse and our children. Are we faithful to discipline our children; do we truly love them; are we patient, kind, long-suffering; are we careful to not keep account of their 'wrongs;' do we believe the best, hope for the best, and

believe for the best in our children? Our children will never fail to show forth our effectiveness in parenting. That brings us back to the radio: we are God's living epistles before the thousands listening and calling in. Are we patient, are we kind, do we love? That brings us to 'Mister H' who is one of our regular callers; in fact, he is often one of the first to call in and is waiting, on hold, before we even begin at 10 o'clock. His girlfriend, years ago, was another of our callers but she died. Since then, he calls in but he doesn't really want prayer; however, we do pray with him at the end of his call. Mister H wants one thing and one thing only: he says he wants and needs a woman: someone with a car and money and a house with a basement large enough for him to set up a huge model train. He fixates on a girl he knew in high school. She was beautiful and smart and he is certain that she would have married him and so made his life perfect. But mister H is always angry at God because God doesn't fulfill his needs and wants so as to bring him perfect

happiness. He is angry that the state has been shut down due to Covid. He is angry about many things but most of all, he's angry that God hasn't brought him a woman. Before everything was shut down he would always start his call with, 'I went to church today...' and I would say, 'That's good.' He was hungry for approval and we were the only ones in his life to voice approval but now, he only expresses anger and negativity while our main focus is to turn his heart back to God and to being content with his life. That is a most important truth to embrace and to teach to others. 'But godliness with contentment is great gain.' 1Tim 6:6. Mister H can try our patience and love but we try to never forget... many others are listening. They hear our patience and longsuffering. We are living epistles, before all of them, and we are modeling God's love and patience toward every one of them. We realize that as we are faithful to be patient and kind, others will be more willing to call in with their heartfelt needs, knowing we will not condemn them.

But there is even more for us to learn from H. All of us have, at times, have acted just like H but we would never call in to a public forum such as the radio in order to reveal it to any and all who are listening; we've far more sophistication than that. How, you ask, are we like your H? First, it's always so important to remember that God is constantly putting us through trials in order to bring about patience: 'My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.' James 1:2

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God always hits us where we are in most need of the transforming work of His Holy Spirit to form in us, Godly character. God is love, He is patient and kind and so much more. And yes, often-times it feels just like God has hit us and even wounded us but He will never give us that which we cannot successfully walk through with the strength and guidance of His Holy Spirit. Discipline and spiritual growth are not pleasant and easy: 'For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.' 2 Cor 4:6 So... How, you ask, how am I, like H? I'm sorry you asked. Think of a time when you wanted something, needed something, thought that you would be happier if you had that thing: if only I could have a raise in my

job... if only I could have that new car, if only I could get married, then I'd really be happy! If only God would give me my dream house, then I would be so happy! If only I could have been a famous singer or actor... If only I could win the PowerBall, then I'd really, for sure, without any doubt be happiest and most content Christian ever! I'd even consider 'tithing' 1% or even 2% but I'd have to really seek the Lord about that... after all He will have given me that money so I could do many great things that people would see and, for which, give me honor, glory and praise... but, it goes without saying, I do want the Lord to put off His coming back for us so that I can enjoy all my new wealth.

Whatever it is... if we believe we need it to be happy and content, then the truth is, we are guilty of idolatry; we are entertaining another god before God Almighty and idols, no idol will ever satisfy. That is why some of the richest, most famous, most admired people in the World are also some of the most miserable, unsatisfied and discontented people on Earth. That's why so many of them turn to drugs: boredom and dissatisfaction.

We are the Spiritual children of God. We were created to live forever, enjoying God's gifts and rewards; if we throw away even the 'smallest' eternal

reward for even the largest earthly reward... we are being most foolish. Love God. Serve Him in every way He places before you. Be content, knowing that God is in complete control and He is causing all things to work for your good and His glory. If we can do that, there will be no end to His eternal rewards for us as we rule and reign with Him for 1000 years and then forever. 'If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.' Col 3:1

'I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.' Eph 4:1 We might think, we'd be happier if we didn't have to take H's calls but that would be standing in the way of what God is doing in each of us and in our other listeners and callers.

As God leads and comforts us, we are to then lead and comfort others. We can only accurately teach what we know and practice our selves.

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The Harvest is Great, but the laborers are few. Matt 9:38

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