

Greetings to all! Welcome to the launch of the first Director's Newsletter of the year 2016! As you may have read in the Face to Face Publishing I was recently hired to be the Director here at Peniel. It is with great respect for the past and great hope for the future of this ministry that with The Lord's help I can be effective in this role. I would like to thank all those who have supported, encouraged, and prayed for me to this point. Please keep me in your prayers. The reason for this newsletter is to keep a more constant contact with Peniel constituents as we move forward in the upcoming years. So, here we go!

I would like to share a recent study of mine. I was deeply affected from the reading of Acts 7:54-60. I have read about the stoning of Stephen a few times in my life. I am not really sure how many times, but was really taken hold of by it this time. I know many of us struggle to forgive people and situations in our past that have hurt us. You know, the things that cut us the deepest, and leave huge wounds in our hearts and souls. I have dwelled on these things for years. Burdens that have sat on me with great weight. Affecting my days for years! So God showed me this event in Acts again when He knew it would be the right time. How can I hold on to anger and unforgiveness in my heart when Stephen forgave those who were stoning him when they were in the very act of killing him? I realized that I want to have the grace and forgiveness that was shown by Stephen. How did he do it? It tells us right there in the scripture. He was filled with the Holy Spirit as he looked up to see The Son of Man standing at the right hand of God! I want to be filled with the Holy Spirit! That is how we find true grace and forgiveness.

Some things that are coming up at Peniel. We are now preparing for our winter youth camps. Please pray for registrations to flow in and bring us to our capacity and that God will work through the staff! We are excited for the teaching and the fun we will most certainly have! We hope only that these campers and staff have the opportunity to meet God face to face in these events. Also pray that things will go smoothly with the operations side of these camps. Turning on the buildings is always eventful and challenging. At last pray for snow! Winter camp is not quite as effective without the latter. If you want to send a camper to one of these events go to penielbibleconference.org and register today. Space is limited. We request you use PayPal to register for camps. We are also in the planning stages of a Ladies Retreat in May. Details will be appearing on the website shortly. If you would like to be involved in any way please contact the office at <u>office@penielbibleconference.org</u>. We are excited to be planning annual Peniel sponsored retreats. This is a step towards renewal here at Peniel. We are currently booking private events as well starting as early as March of this year. We are excited that there is a desire for people to have a safe, wholesome, and spiritual place to assemble and make memories. These events help support our ministry.

Keeping this ministry going depends on many things. The first is prayer! Without the power of prayer Peniel would surely have perished many years ago. God is and has been listening. We also

appreciate and need your continued financial support. It is always hard to ask for financial support, but The Prayer Council and Management Team really desire this ministry to thrive if it is God's will. These are tough months here at camp. No income from programming makes winter difficult to survive. We also need to raise funds for Summer Staff. Sponsor a Counselor or the Camp Nurse. We are also looking to employ a Head Chef for the season. Help if the Lord leads you! Make a commitment to help us continue this ministry. We pray that through your giving many blessings will be bestowed upon you!

I will talk to you again in March to tell you about the winter camps! I am confident that I will have testimonies to share. I thank you again for your support of this Peniel. If you need to contact me please use my new email address <u>director@penielbibleconference.org</u>. I pray that you all have a blessed February and that God continues to work in each of your hearts.

In His Service!

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