



SONrise *July/August 2006*
EMMAUS
NEWSLETTER
... Strengthening the Local Church

Do you remember the 14th talk on your Walk? It was about perseverance. You remember a little of it, but you you'll need to check your notes to be sure? Me, too. Probably, the best thing for us to do is go back and look over the notes we took because it is extremely important that we persevere.

The Apostle Paul tells us in I Corinthians 15:58 to dig in and be immovable. We are to hang in there because our work is not in vain.

What work is he talking about and why is it, "not in vain"? He is talking about our Father's business. He is talking about telling others about Jesus and encouraging each other and praying for each other. He is talking about integrity and trying hard to be like Jesus. He is talking about showing Jesus to the world around us. That is the Christian's work and it's a pretty tall order.

It isn't like God gave us our marching orders and then just forgot about us. Remember when Jesus told His disciples He was going to His Father but the Comforter would come? (John, Ch. 14) Well, that Comforter is God's Own Holy Spirit Who has come to live within every believer. That is pretty powerful when you stop and think about it (that's pretty powerful even if you don't stop to think about it). Every believer is filled with The Almighty Power of the universe. More than that, He is The Almighty Power *outside* the universe. It's true, God not only fills infinity, but He surrounds it as well. Give that some thought sometime. You may get a headache, but try it anyway. Do you get an idea of the overwhelming Power we're talking about? That's the Holy Spirit that fills every believer. We get to see God's Spirit at work during every Walk and Flight and Journey, and that is a huge encouragement to every pilgrim and caterpillar we sponsor, not to mention the community itself.

We need to remember that, while it is true that God both fills and surrounds infinity, there are spots where His Spirit is not. Is not? Yes, consider the heart of the unbeliever. God has not been invited there. Maybe it's because that unbeliever has not been shown Jesus yet. Maybe they have not been told that Jesus has conquered death. Jesus has already won that battle, that's why our work is not in vain. We must stand fast. We must be about our Father's work. We must persevere.

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