

Mark This Day! Remember It!

October 25, 2007 Event

Now and then it seems that I can hear God speaking to me. Sometimes more frequently than others. He probably is speaking to me everyday... I need to pause to listen more.

And then there are times that I hear God speaking in the middle of the night! I wake up abruptly with something clearly in my mind – and often I will get out of bed to go write it in my journal.

But every now and then I can hear Him speaking VERY clearly. **Extremely!** Those are the **exciting times!** And now it seems like it is time to tell you about one of those times. And this story truly is exciting. To read the story and see the photo-card ...

Let's go back to Thursday, October 25, 2007. I woke up that morning and heard God speaking to me clearly, probably the clearest I've ever heard Him. And this is what I heard Him telling me:

This is the day!

Mark it!

Remember it!

OK ... I have learned that when I hear something from God, I should just do it right away. His plans are WAY better than any I might come up with ... and I won't be able to "*touch up*" his plan to make it a bit better. So ... as the saying goes, "*just do it*".

And so that began my **dilemma**. What was it that I was marking and remembering?

YIKES! I didn't know!

So, I began praying ... Lord, what am I remembering? Why am I marking this day? I wanted to begin marking the day right away, but how could I do that when I didn't know what was being marked?

And so a frantic search began ... I was searching for what I was supposed to be marking and remembering. I even asked some of my best friends to help me figure this out... for it was **IMPORTANT!** If God wanted this, and spoke this clearly to me about it ... it was **IMPORTANT!**

First I looked into ways of "marking" a day... setting a marker. I came up with these:

- **Mizpah** "watchtower" – heap of stones (Genesis 31:44-49)
- **Ebenezer** "thus far the Lord has helped us" – stone (1Samuel 7:12)
- **Tassels** with a blue cord " – obey / be holy" (Numbers 15:38-40)

Cool that one of the three I found was in my favorite book, Numbers! Warning though – Matthew 23:5 – don't make the tassels a show-piece! (*so probably not that one*)

OK ... at that point I still did not know why the day was to be remembered ... and none of the ways of marking the day that I found seemed applicable to me ... possibly the tassel, but it doesn't give me a peaceful feeling that I use as a means to know it is God's idea too. So next I flipped through my journal entries over the past month to see if there was something that would jump out at me regarding MARK THIS DAY – got 9 things from that review ... and here is what I wrote in my journal (*sorry, but the cross-references to dates are for entries in my journal that aren't part of my story today*):

1. I have arrived at a new place in mind and heart
2. Remain calm in the midst of storms
3. I'm feeling like a normal person (*see Oct 22*)
4. Kindness is a potent weapon (*see Oct 23 & a friends China blog*)
5. I have One Foot In Heaven (*see Oct 6, 18, 24*)
6. O The Bliss song (*see Sept 20, 19, 25, 26, 26, 27, Oct 10, pulled me out of my mind crash*)
7. Excited by God regularly talking with me
8. I have a REAL LIFE with REAL FOCUS (*see Sept 25*)
9. Accused & Confused tactics recognized (*Sept 25, 25, 28 – refuting the lies is KEY*)

So ...at this point I didn't really understand why the day was to be remembered – and didn't know how to mark it. So, to start with I made the journal entries STAND OUT so it was marked that way. I also circled the date on my three calendars at work. I put yearly calendar entries in my GMail calendar and my Outlook calendar too.

At this point, most of the day had already gone by. I'd scanned over my journal, talked with friends and still had not determined what I was marking.

And then it hit me!

There it was, right before my eyes in my journal. It seems that I DID get up in the middle of the night to write down something I was hearing God speak to me. But I dated the journal entry with the date of when I went to bed, even though it was a bit after midnight when I had gotten up to write the journal entry (*so I hadn't connected it with THIS day*)! Here is the journal entry:

WED OCT 24 MIDNITE

Woke up and got out of bed to write this note:

** My life is hidden in Christ*

** Christ is in heaven (seated at the right hand ...)*

*** Therefore ... one foot in heaven*

ADD THIS to the last line now ... change it to:

*** Therefore ... Having one foot in heaven seems natural. —FINALLY! [Normal]*

===END OF JOURNAL ENTRY===



Yay! This is the day!

One Foot In Heaven!

[Yes, if you look at item 5 on the previous page you will see that God HAD been talking to me about "One Foot In Heaven" several times in the past couple weeks]

Next I was able to quickly create a nice photo-card to properly MARK the day!

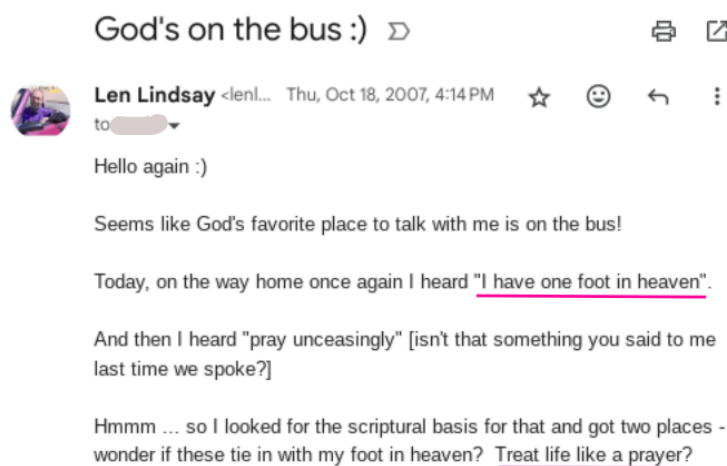
I printed 30 or 40 of these on nice glossy photo paper and took them to church on Sunday and was handing them out and sharing my story if anyone asked. I know I had properly marked the day when one person exclaimed, **"Wow – A Party Flyer"** *[this was the same person that I sent the "God's on the bus" email to! I never realized this until I was re-reading and formatting this story for this book! See the bottom of the next page]*

And what is even better is that God gave me two Scriptures that day to go along with **One Foot In Heaven**. Sure, I've found other Scriptures that confirm it too, but **these are the ones that God gave me:**

*For you died when Christ died,
and your real life is hidden with Christ
in God.
(Colossians 3:3)*

*After the Lord had spoken to them
He was taken up into heaven and
He sat at the right hand of God.
(Mark 16:19)*

And our God is so wonderful ... a year later, he was speaking to me again – asking me to celebrate this day ... **celebrate** One Foot In Heaven... so we did! A couple dozen people came to eat pizza and share **stories of how God had intersected with their lives!**



UPDATE: While re-reading and nicely re-formatting the story for my book I stumbled across an email dated October 18, 2007, just 7 days before the "Mark This Day" event where I told a friend about how God speaks to me while riding the bus. I used to refer to riding the bus as my **"bus rides with Jesus"**. I had not connected this before today (*July 31, 2024*), but it seems that God was talking to me about "One Foot In Heaven" a week before He told me to Mark This Day! Not only that ... but on

that **same bus ride**, God was talking to me about "living my life as a prayer". This is nearly the first time for both (*my handwritten journal mentioned "One Foot In Heaven" a couple weeks earlier on October 6, 2007*).