

# The Good news of My Emanuel

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[www.myemanuel.com](http://www.myemanuel.com)

31<sup>st</sup> edition

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**Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (Isaiah Chapter 7 verse 14 KJV)**

## Life is but a vapor...

As I watched the news in horror I could barely begin to believe or even understand the reports that I saw... over a dozen children and over five adults in a school murdered... how could this be? Not just children but babies... what kind of terrible monster could do such a thing? I must admit as I watched the terror unfold in Connecticut I cried like a baby thinking about the families ripped apart and crushed by the coward who without remorse ripped through the lives of so many so quickly... as I watched the news a commentator asked former Governor Mike Huckabee "people often wonder where God is at a time like this" to which the Governor pointed out... "people tend to force God out of the public life on the front end and then question Him when things go horribly wrong"... this nation doesn't need more "gun control" we need more Jesus. This nation doesn't need to explain away this evil, we need to explain the value of life. We need to understand that as we force God away things are only going to get worse. Place your trust in Him, place your family in His hands, stand strong for Him and know that He is our only hope: **Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (John 14:6 KJV)**



## Recommit

We all find our selves hurting and lost at some point in our life and by the grace and mercy of the Lord we are given redemption of sins as we are "born again" by the blood of Jesus Christ when we accept Him as Lord and savior. Its hard when after you know you've been born again and that you have accepted Christ when you find yourself fighting a struggle to understand how you've gotten back to a defeated feeling. Never forget the devil is a roaring lion looking for a soul to devour and he will relentlessly peruse this goal. You must remember once you are sealed by the Holy Spirit and washed by the blood of Christ you do need to be born again... you need to repent and return to Christ!  
[Http://www.myemanuel.com/recommit.html](http://www.myemanuel.com/recommit.html)

## 30 day challenge

I pray you would visit [www.myemanuel.com/prayer](http://www.myemanuel.com/prayer) and seek out God's purpose for not only your life but your marriage, your children, and all those you love! If you are hurting and desperately seeking the Hope... I can show you where to find Him! His name is Jesus Christ, you may not know Him but He has known you since creation! Will you rejoice eternally when you know Him?

**And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (Luke Chapter 2 verse 9-14 KJV)**

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# Weekly Sermon

Timothy Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

## City on a hill

“Did you hear of the city on a hill? Said one old man to another “the one shining brightly and it would be shining still but they all started turning on each other.”

In today's world there are many proclaiming Christians. Many that say they follow the Truth and that they love their brothers and sisters. But they are lying. They deny the truth. They hate their brothers and sisters and think they are always right and that they are wise.

**8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. Matthew 15:8 (KJV)**

**20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? 1 John 4:20 (KJV)**

**19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. 1 Corinthians 3:19 (KJV)**

In this entire world there are 41,000 reported denominations of Christians!! Who do YOU think you are to divide what God has joined!

**9 What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. Mark 10:9 (KJV)**

**10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 1 Corinthians 1:10 (KJV)**

Do you belong to Mary? Do you belong to Moses? Do you belong to Paul? Do you belong to Apollos? Do you belong to any other disciple? NO! You are not their bride! YOU BELONG TO CHRIST! HE BOUGHT YOU WITH HIS BLOOD! BY NO ONE ELSE ARE WE SAVED!

**13 Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius; 15 Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name. 1 Corinthians 1:13-15 (KJV)**

**12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12 (KJV)**

We as a church cannot forsake our family and believing brothers and sisters just because of disagreements! We NEED this entire Church family to win this battle, to fight this war! We bicker and stand idle while the enemy continues to rip souls apart!! He is sending this world to hell in a hand basket and you cant grow up and stop being PROUD.

We are an army that needs to be united. United we will stand, divided we fall.

**24 And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. Mark 3:24 (KJV)**

**12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.**

**13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be**

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bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

14 For the body is not one member, but many.

15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?

16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?

17 If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?

18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

19 And if they were all one member, where were the body?

20 But now are they many members, yet but one body.

21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. 1 Corinthians 12:12-21 (KJV)

Let no one tell you denominations are correct. The bible never tells us to divide ourselves. It purposely tells us NOT to.

25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. 1 Corinthians 12:25 (KJV)

If we fight amongst ourselves how can we fight our enemy? We are not the enemy, your brothers and sisters are not your foe. The devil is!

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Ephesians 6:12 (KJV)

There is only one Jesus, only one church and only one bible.

6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.** John 14:6 (KJV)

Until this foolishness is broken, forsaken and removed we will not be as strong as we are made to be. These divisions, these schisms, these false Christian doctrines, and these itching ear teachers cripple the effort of the Church!

**Work out your salvation with fear and trembling before  
All Mighty God Jehovah!**

**If not us Christians, who will be like Jesus?**

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## Life impacting scripture

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

**And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. (Luke Chapter 5 verse 31-32 KJV)**

I was blessed to take part in a musical in which my son performed with the other kids of our church and re-learned an important lesson that God often reminds me of and I want to share it with you now. As my wife and I set in the audience waiting for the musical to get started we were in the sanctuary of the church and there were many people from the surrounding community that came to watch. It was amazing to see the church so full to share in the worship and I was a bit surprised by the language and joking that I heard from the family behind us. Without ever turning around I thought to myself “these people shouldn't be here in church” and as the Lord often does He instantly reminded me **“these are exactly who need to be here in the church”**. As I sit here writing this now I can truly tell you that I wish I had turned and introduced myself to these men instead of judging them like this...

I can only pray that performance by the children of our church touched the lives of these men and pray that seeds have been planted that will be grown and harvested soon by the Lord. As you move throughout the week and the next few weeks I pray you would ponder the truth: at some point in time haven't we all been “that person” that shouldn't have been in a hundred miles of a church? We didn't start coming to church because we knew all the answers... we came to church seeking the truth. Now that we share in the truth of Jesus Christ we must remember that the world is still a dark and painful place... so many people are hurting and much like the men sitting behind me we are all looking for true love. “They called me a fag” one of the men behind me said obviously hurt and ashamed of how his friends and family were treating him... “I know someone who will always love you and never want to hurt you” is what I wish I would have said. Isn't the truth that at some point in time we have all be hurt or ashamed of our lives? The truth is the peace and joy I have and I pray we share now is found in the truth and this weeks life impacting scripture: Jesus did not come to call the righteous but the sinners to repentance!!

Moving throughout this week share the love of Christ with someone you see hurting, you don't always have to know how to start but trust the Holy Spirit will guide you and never forget: there are two types of people in this world: sinners and sinners saved by the grace of Jesus Christ!

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## Testimony

Timothy Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemaneul.com>

*Do you have a testimony that you would like to share with our readers? We would love to hear what the Lord has done in your life that has provided you with a testimony to glorify his name! Please contact us at [dhigginbotham@myemaneul.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemaneul.com) if you would like to share your testimony! You may remain totally anonymous!*

In life you have to put effort to get something back. You have to work hard at things, you have to practice, and you have to fall and get back up. Sports, Jobs, family life, and relationships. You live, you learn. You grow, you get better, you become more advanced and things that used to be very difficult get easy. But it takes training and repetition.

I'll give you an example. I lift weights and enjoy it very much. But if I don't stay consistent I lose muscle, I lose strength and I grow weak. I have to train constantly, I have to continue to challenge myself or I plateau. I have to increase resistance, increase weight, find what keeps me from making progress and change it. I have to eat correctly and have to be constant minded of my goals. I know that you cannot lift enormous amounts of weight without practice and you don't get big overnight. "If it was easy everyone would do it." This is what most committed weight trainers say. It took years of consistent training to get strong, and to gain size. I had to MATURE. My body had to change and I couldn't give up or grow discouraged.

Our spiritual walk is EXACTLY the same. You cannot just read your bible for ten minutes or pray once a week. You have to be consistent even when you don't feel like it, when you don't have the energy and you are just exhausted. If you don't stay consistent you will lose spiritual muscle. If you don't fill your life with good Christian conversations with brothers and sisters you will lose spiritual endurance. If you don't pray, you will grow cold and you will drift from God. Do you call your wife once a week? How about talking to your son or daughter just once a week for about two minutes?

You have to act in the spirit, and act in faith. You have to work your spirit and increase your strength! If you read your bible for 5 minutes this week, read it ten next week. If you prayed once a day, pray twice. Increase, do not grow complacent. In the gym world there is a truth. If you are not making progress, if your not going forward, you are going backward. You cannot stay in the same place! You either climb the ladder or descend. Do you think Paul moved in Gods spirit by going to Church just on a holiday? Or maybe he just fasted once a year? No, he fasted very often. If you don't put in effort you will be a child christian in an adult body. You cannot mature if you don't put away childish things that have no good in them. Shows, books, and movies with filth, and music with evil lyrics. What you put in you will get out! You have to strengthen yourself in the Word, in Gods Spirit, in his love and his power. A man cannot strengthen you. You must do it yourself with Gods help. A man cannot increase your strength because he is strong. He cannot lift a weight for you, or run a race in your name. He cannot pray your prayers and he cannot memorize scriptures for you. You have to work, you have to run in this race.

Rome wasn't built in a day and you wont become mature in Christ over night. A plant takes watering, and feeding and time to grow strong. Keep fighting the good fight!

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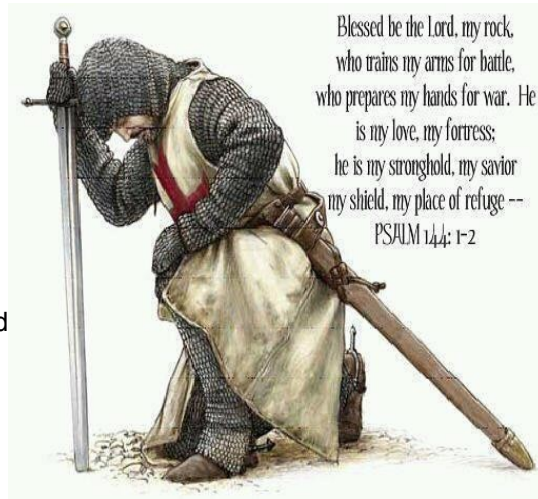
## Outreach

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

### Warriors for Christ

Have you ever noticed how the majority of this nation have been drown out by the battle cries of the minority? We aren't talking race here we are talking about politics and moral views. Its sad to me that the body of Christ has become so weak and scared that a vastly smaller minority can cause the massive majority to sit down and shut up just by yelling and screaming... abortion? Gay marriage? Support for Israel? All things that the vast majority of American's and Christians recall God has set the standard... God has said "thou shalt not kill" and "I knew you in your mothers womb" and so the vast majority of Christians and therefore American's know that abortion is a terrible sin. God says "homosexuality is an abomination" and "homosexuality is unnatural" and of course the vast majority of Christ loving people know that this sin is against nature and against God... are you starting to get a picture? We know its wrong... we know God's word says its wrong... we know that the pain and suffering that our open rebellion against God causes and yet? Silence.

Warriors for Christ mount up! The time has come to boldly proclaim "I will not sit down and shut up, I love you to much not to share the truth: Jesus is the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE and there is no way to the Father but THROUGH HIM! Those who love Him will obey Him! And I will never surrender or conform to this world!" Are you prepared to make that proclamation? Join us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/myemanuelprayerteam](http://www.facebook.com/myemanuelprayerteam) and online at [www.myemanuel.com/warriors.html](http://www.myemanuel.com/warriors.html) to mount up and fight along side us in prayer and in proclaiming the truth and Good News of Jesus Christ with everyone you love!



Blessed be the Lord, my rock,  
who trains my arms for battle,  
who prepares my hands for war. He  
is my love, my fortress;  
he is my stronghold, my savior  
my shield, my place of refuge --  
PSALM 144: 1-2

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## Prayer and praise request!

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

*Are you in need of prayer? Do you know someone who is? Please e-mail us today at [dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com) with any prayer needs and feel free to also post them on our Facebook page for our prayer warriors at <http://www.facebook.com/myemanuelprayerteam>.*

**Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not to temptation but deliver us from evil, for the glory and the power of Your heavenly kingdom. Father we pray that you would lift up these prayer request and allow all who seek answers in prayer to receive You, for truly we know Father if we ask we shall receive. We ask that you would allow all those who read these words and prayers to pray for their brothers and sisters in Christ. Father we glorify and praise your name for these praise request and know that just as you answer our prayers we glorify your name even in the dark places! Praise you Father! In Jesus Christ beautiful name we pray, Amen.**

Please be in prayer for the families and friends that lost children and family in the tragic murder in Connecticut. Lord may you comfort those in desperate need of your truth and the Only Hope, our blessed Redeemer and the only way back to you.

Please be in prayer for this nation and this world as the evil has accelerated as the world and the body of Christ sleeps idly allowing the enemy to make massive gains as we push our only hope farther and farther from public view. Lord may you feel welcome in my life, in my family, in my church, and everywhere I am for if you are not welcome neither Lord will I be.

Please be in prayer for My Emanuel, Timothy, and I that God would reveal to us His desire and His direction for this ministry and that God would place us both in a position to carry His word and His hope to whoever is in need of this wonderful truth.

Please be in prayer for all those who are fighting the losing battle of trying to pretend God does not exist. Father may you roar forth and leave no doubt in the hearts that are struggling for your truth.

Please be in prayer for Israel and the Jews around the world that God would open their hearts and eyes to the one they've pierced. Father may your people come to know your Son and understand that He is the only way to salvation and a personal relationship with you.

Please be in prayer for all those families that are desperately hurting this CHRISTmas season that God would bless them and remind them of the most wonderful and fully free gift: salvation.

Please be in prayer for all the missionaries around the world as they carry the truth and the Gospel of Jesus Christ around the world. Father may you word return 100x fold and may you bring the increase!

Please be in prayer for those children in desperate need of food, clothes, shelter, and the truth about Jesus Christ. Father may you remember your children and may you strongly convict the body of Christ to share abundantly as you have blessed us may we bless those around the world.

Please be in prayer for all those who are lost and on there way to an eternal hell that God would open their hearts and their eyes. Father may you make your Son known for the time truly draws near.

Please be in prayer that God would open the hearts and minds of everyone including the body of Christ to the painful and scary truths that are to come to pass. Father may you increase our faith and bring us the victory through our Lord and savior Jesus Christ.

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## Reviews and newly found ministries

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*Are you a leader or member of a God fearing ministry that puts the Lord Jesus Christ first in all they do? Do you have a website or blog that you post Christian messages or provide any type of ministry? Contact us at [dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com) to request that we add you to our bi-weekly newsletter.*

### **Ministries:**

World Missionary Press – This wonderful ministry shares the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a powerful way through donations and will provide many wonderful Bible tracts to use as you share the Gospel of Christ.  
(<http://www.wmpress.org/>)

Have any requests for you ministry to be given a shout out? Let us know and give us some brief details about it!  
[dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com)

**Please visit [www.myemanuel.com](http://www.myemanuel.com) for more information about our ministry and how to help!**