



The Man Who Repaired Time

Every Thursday at exactly 3:17 p.m., the old clock in the town square would stop. No one knew why. Shop owners would glance up, shrug, and wait for Mr. Alder to shuffle out of his tiny repair shop with brass tools and patient eyes.

He never hurried. He climbed the narrow ladder, opened the clock's face, and whispered something no one could hear. Within minutes, the ticking returned steady and faithful as ever.

One afternoon, a curious girl named Eliza followed him and asked, "How do you always fix it?"

Mr. Alder smiled and handed her a small broken wristwatch.

"I don't repair time," he said gently. "I listen to what's stopping it." Years later, when Mr. Alder was gone and the clock froze again at 3:17, Eliza climbed the ladder herself. She listened. And when the ticking began once more, the town realized some gifts are not taught—they are passed on in quiet moments of care.

BY CALEB THOMPSON



Time is ticking, and it waits for no one. Think about where you want to be a few months from now. Then consider what you can do today to get there and begin.

Days pass quickly as we hope, dream, and imagine. But it is the actions we take and the decisions we make daily that determine our outcomes.

Nothing is impossible, especially with God. Through Him, all things are possible. Life is an opportunity to demonstrate devotion, faith, and gratitude for the gifts we have been given.

God wants us to use our talents, explore the world, and grow in good faith aligned with His word. He will help us, but we must take initiative. Hard work and faith must move together.

Keep going. Keep dreaming. Keep your faith in the Lord.

BY: JANE



By Joseph Richardson

STREET VOICES

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Community Newsletter

Good Morning! This week's collection brings together devotional reflections, poetry, storytelling, and words of encouragement from Darnell Davis, Jae Webb, Rhyan Scorpio-Rhys, L. Davis, Caleb Thompson, Mercedes, Jane, and Rodney Wise, alongside artworks by Derrick Lola and Joseph Richardson. Grounded in scripture and personal insight, these writings and visual works explore faith, perseverance, spiritual authority, friendship, resilience, and the courage required to live with purpose. Through reflection, imagination, and testimony, each contributor offers guidance for navigating life's challenges with hope, discipline, and trust in God.



By Derrick Lola

"For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'Fear not, I am the one who helps you.'"

ISAIAH 41:13



WEEKLY TRIVIA CHALLENGE

Be the first person to correctly answer all three trivia questions and win a gift card!

This Week's Trivia Questions

1. Are there more pyramids in Africa or America?
2. Where is the tallest building in the world located?
3. Who invented peanut butter?

Answers to last week trivia questions.

1. The sixth President of the United States was John Quincy Adams.
2. The planet known as the "Red Planet" is Mars.
3. The largest ocean on Earth is the Pacific Ocean.

FRANCISCAN 360 IS OPEN!

WHAT: Case Management, Computer Access, Mailing Address

WHERE: 144 W. 32nd Street

WHEN: Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 4pm
Scheduled appointments only on Friday from 9am - 4pm

WHO: All are welcome!

If you have any content to share for our newsletter please send content to streetvoicesnewsletter@gmail.com.

We are in need of content such as a poem, lyrics, writing, thoughts, questions, image of your artwork or anything uplifting or informative. Anyone who contributes content for our newsletter will receive a \$10 gift card.

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True Friendship

Today, many people measure friendship by likes and followers on Facebook, YouTube, TikTok, or Instagram. In reality, these are often superficial relationships associations rather than true friendships.

The Bible speaks of a friend who sticks closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24). Jesus demonstrated this through His love, promising never to leave nor forsake us.

No matter how lost someone may feel, Christ does not turn His back. God remains true to His word.

Place your trust in a genuine relationship one rooted in faith with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

BY: RODNEY WISE



I've been reflecting lately on the concept of failure, and I wanted to share some thoughts on why I believe our setbacks are truly the beginning of a journey rather than the end.

In any professional or personal pursuit, it is easy to view a failed project or missed opportunity as a definitive conclusion. However, I have come to realize that failure is actually where the most vital information is gathered. It strips away what does not work and forces a level of redirection that success rarely demands.

When a door closes, it is not simply a signal to stop; it is a catalyst to refine our strategy, sharpen our skills, and approach the next challenge with a perspective only experience can provide.

These moments of "ending" are actually the foundation for future resilience. By treating every setback as a starting line, we allow ourselves space to innovate and grow. I carry this mindset forward into my current work, viewing every past challenge as necessary preparation for what comes next.

Fortitude Is the Courage to Stay

BY: JAE WEBB

Fortitude isn't bravado. It isn't swagger. It isn't the loud kind of courage that gets applause.
Fortitude is quieter courage the kind that shows up when nobody is cheering and you are tired of trying.
Fortitude is what keeps you doing good when it stops feeling rewarding.
It's easy to be kind when you're appreciated.
It's easy to forgive when the other person is sorry.
It's easy to stay gentle when life is gentle in return.
Fortitude is what you need when none of that is true.
Fortitude is choosing not to harden. Not to become cruel because you have been hurt. Not to give up on people because you have seen the worst in them.
Francis practiced courage not by chasing danger, but by choosing vulnerability poverty, humility, and fraternity. He stepped closer to suffering rather than building walls against it, calling people brother and sister even when the world encouraged distance.
Sometimes fortitude is heroic. More often, it is ordinary. It is waking up and trying again.
Fortitude is not the courage to win.
It is the courage to stay.

BY RHYAN SCORPIO-RHYS

WAR!

Scavengers, peasants, outcasts,
undesirables, beggars, drifters,
troublemakers
animals, insects, the bees in the trees,
even the yeast in my bread and inside my
stomach,
discarding their waste.
Hold on wait.
Are you saying these things have been
taking up space?
No wonder it has been so hard to think or
even act.
Look at all that mess.
I simply walk through it with my Michael
Jordan sneakers
the Retro 4s.
But that's just the tip of the iceberg.
Invisible creatures I've never even seen yet.
This means war.

BY: L. DAVIS / RH

PRESIDING AUTHORITY

Having a concrete understanding of the presence and presiding authority of God makes our understanding of life more vivid in perspective. God maintains an unappealable directive in His authority over the heavens and the earth. To know Him is to believe in His presidential authority.

His creation of the heavens and earth was established upon the governing purpose of giving humanity the challenge of choosing to do what is right—or not. He left the fate of our lives within the realm of our own decisions, granting us liberty. Many lack a true understanding of God's presidential authority.

He maintains a will of understanding for people regarding how they navigate their journey through time. The highest level of understanding is recognizing God's presiding authority. To know God is to believe in all His teachings and His authority.

Earning placement among His devoted servants makes the journey meaningful and transformative. God wants us to see and believe in His authority. It is becoming of the people of the world to engage in God's authority, allowing Him to reveal His will in totality.

I fear not His wrath, but live peacefully in understanding His placement as the highest authority. Be true in your knowledge of His will for you. Feel obligated to serve His administration. Be faithful in His timing for your daily endeavors. Respect His presiding authority.

BY: DARNELL DAVIS



Romans

Romans 12:21: "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

The world can harden our hearts. There is much evil and unkindness, and it can be difficult to remain kind and Christlike when faced with negativity. But that is why life is a test it is not meant to be easy.

Christ lived in a world filled with hardship, yet remained the kindest, strongest, and most selfless example of how we should strive to live.

Do not let the world make you bitter. Respond to evil with good. Continue to show kindness, pray for others, and trust that goodness will ultimately be rewarded.

BY: MERCEDES

